

THE COVENANT VISION.

May/June.
1995.

Contents.

ISSUE No. **60.**

Special Report.	1.
The Feasts of Jehovah.	Pt. 3 7.
The Reign of Righteousness.	22.
Books.	28.
Babylon the Great.	Pt. 2 32.
Power, Politics and Money.	41.
Forty and Fifty Important Days.	50.

**"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)

Special Report.

As most of you are aware, we have just completed what was a very successful tour of Northern Ireland, Canada, and the U.S.A. during which we spoke at no less than twenty two meetings. Although it was physically very gruelling at times, it was a most fulfilling and wonderful experience. But let's start at the beginning.

We left Sydney on Thursday, February 23, accompanied by Betty's sister Mrs. Daphne Ireland who had never been outside Australia before, and whom we decided to take with us, arriving at Belfast the following day after 23 hours in the air. Our route took us over southern Russia, just south of Moscow, where, from a height of 39,000 feet, or nearly 7 1/2 miles, the air was so clear that we could see the roads cutting through the brown slush that completely covered the countryside as far as we could see. We felt very glad that this was not one of the "appointed places" for God's people.

We were met at Belfast airport by Pastor James Connolly, the senior pastor of The Churches of God in Northern Ireland, and went directly to his home where we met his wife Lilly, and where we stayed overnight. Because of the flight arrangements, we were originally to have four days off before my speaking engagements commenced, and four days after they finished in Ulster. But in order to allow us to maximise our time, Pastor Connolly graciously rearranged our speaking schedule so that we had a full week off before our preaching began. So we hired a car, and on Saturday morning left on a week's tour through Southern Ireland. Crossing the border between North and South was quite interesting. Whilst the armed guards and troops had been withdrawn following the 'ceasefire' with the I.R.A., the border posts were still in position, and with their gun towers, road humps, and barbed wire, were formidable reminders of what the people had just recently been subjected to. Our trip took us through Dundalk, and on to Dublin, where we got lost four times just trying to get out of the place in order to find somewhere to stay the first night. But we eventually succeeded, and the following day decided not to go back into Dublin, but to proceed south and see Dublin on the way back. So we continued south-west through County Tipperary to Limerick, and then across to Cork where we spent two nights and a day. From there we went to Blarney, visiting the famous Woollen Mills, and the sight of the 'Blarney Stone'. We didn't visit the stone itself as it entailed climbing to the top of a castle. But it was interesting to find out that one of the accounts of the origins of this stone is that it is the stone

on which Jacob laid his head. So at least, they admit that Jacob's Stone arrived in Ireland, even if the other details differ. From there we went to Waterford, where we went on a guided tour of the famous Waterford Crystal works, which was quite an eye-opener. We then travelled through Ferns, which is one of the oldest and most prominent theological centres in Ireland. Finally we arrived in Dublin, where we spent a day and two nights. We had a most fascinating tour of Dublin Castle, but from what the tour guide said to us, they have absolutely no idea of their real origins, and it was very difficult not to say something. Southern Ireland is a very beautiful place, as is all of Ireland for that matter, and we were struck by the greenness of the countryside and the friendliness of the people. Another very noticeable feature was the amount of work that was being carried out on new roads and bridges. I doubt that the locals have ever seen such prosperity, most of which comes from funding from the European Community. Almost every project has a large sign saying that it is being funded to 85% of the cost from Europe. This means Britain in the main, paying the money out of their profits from the North Sea oil.

But eventually we arrived back in Belfast where we stayed with Pastor Connolly for the next three days. This is where our speaking engagements commenced. On Sunday morning I gave my first message - and sang two solos - at the Church at Glenmachen, with an attendance of some 450 people. This is a fine church, set on 9 acres, complete with a nursing home with 30 or more residents, and a staff of about 60, headed by a fully qualified matron. They also have a large youth centre, complete with their own bus. They have meetings every night of the week, and most days. The Israel Identity message is part of their beliefs, and is preached and taught quite openly and freely. I spoke again at their evening service, with about 370 present, and sang another two solos. Next day Pastor Alistair McComish took us to their home in Shankill where we met his wife Liz, and where we stayed for the rest of the week. We had a great time together. Pastors of the other local churches where we spoke picked us up from here and drove us to their meetings. There were four of these churches, at Shankill, Larne, Dunmurray, and Newtownards. Attendance ranged from 25 to 60, but these were reduced numbers, being week-day meetings. I understand that their usual Sunday numbers were at least twice these figures. The messages were very well received at all these churches, and were all tape recorded. I also sang at all these places, but after the first few, reverted to using the church organist instead of playing the organ for myself as I had done till then. They all have very fine buildings, and most of them also have very good youth centres as well. I think that everyone tried to outdo each other in entertaining us, and how we didn't double our weight I'll never know. Whilst at the McComishes, Betty celebrated her 70th birthday, and

Liz quite surprised her by bringing out a birthday cake with 7 candles. They are a fine couple, and we became firm friends. But time was moving on, and on the Saturday morning we hired another car, and drove to Ballymoney to the home of Pastor Eddie Taylor and his wife Flora, where we stayed for three nights. He is the pastor of the Ballymoney Church, and I had the pleasure of speaking there on the Saturday night as well as both services on the Sunday. They have a beautiful church, complete with stained glass windows depicting on one side verses on the personal message of God's Word, and on the other side, verses relating to our Israel Identity. Attendances unfortunately were down somewhat, mainly because of an epidemic of 'flu which had struck a lot of people, but we had 300 plus at the morning service, and a little less in the evening. From this church we received 12 subscriptions to our 'Covenant Vision', and their interest was particularly gratifying.

The next morning we left Ballymoney for a three-day sight seeing drive. Firstly we inspected the Giant's Causeway, which was quite something, with the giant vertical rocks rising up into the air just like a large set of steps coming up out of the sea. As a matter of interest, a matching causeway is to be found on the west coast of Scotland, where the 'giant' is supposed to have crossed over between Scotland and Ireland. From there we drove over to Donegal, back in the Irish Republic, and were quite amazed at the extent of the peat fields, which is dried and then used in place of fire-wood. We returned through Londonderry, and followed the north coast round, where we struck quite a severe snowstorm. Finally, on the Wednesday, we arrived at Ballymena where we had our final meeting in Ireland. On our way back to Belfast next day we spent a good part of the day going through Carrickfergus Castle, the reputed site of Jeremiah's landing in Ireland with Zedekiah's daughters. So ended the first part of our journey, and on Friday we farewelled Ireland as we returned to Amsterdam, where we stayed overnight in transit to Toronto in Canada.

At 6.00 p.m. we were met at Toronto airport by the President of the B.I.W.F. Canada, Mr. Douglas Nesbit, who made himself known to us by holding up a huge enlargement of a photo of Betty and I which we had sent him. Now Douglas is no ordinary person. Prior to retiring a few years back, he was in charge of the Geography and the Geology departments of the High School where he taught. On top of this, he is an exquisite painter, and he graciously gave us several copies of some of his paintings to bring back with us. His painting of his mother looks just like a photograph. He has a library that would be the envy of any Bible student, and I'm sure, only surpassed in size by the local Municipal Library. He treated us like royalty, and we are very much in his debt for all he did for us whilst in the Toronto area. So after booking us in to a local motel in Aliston, the town in which he

lived, which is about 85 km out of Toronto, we had a good night's rest in preparation for our first meeting on the following afternoon, Sunday, at the B.I.W.F. headquarters in Toronto. We were most warmly greeted, and had a most enjoyable time of fellowship with the 40 people who filled their room. Much to our surprise, we were later told that two of those present had flown 2,500 km. just to attend the meeting. One particularly encouraging aspect of this meeting was that those in charge requested a copy of all my video tapes, which would be transcribed into the American system by Mr. Nesbit, for use in their meetings, and for distribution to others who would benefit by them at their own home meetings. The following night we drove for over an hour to the home of Ron and Karen Mills where we addressed a meeting of just over 20 folk who had come from neighbouring areas. This was a regular meeting night for these folk, all of whom believe in our Israel Identity. On the following night we finished off a days rest with a small Bible study with Eleonor Russel and a few friends in her motel room. The following day we were off again on another hour and a half trip to the Lakefield area where that evening we addressed another meeting of some 20 Identity folk in the home of Edith Guiel and her son Terry. Edith had only just recently lost her husband, and they are having quite a struggle to keep things going, and I know that she and her family would very much appreciate your prayers for them.

Friday was a special day for us as far as sightseeing goes. After breakfast, Doug Nesbit drove us to the home of Malcolm and Inez Moore, who, together with Margaret Wanless, drove us to see the Niagara Falls. This was quite an experience for us and we were truly amazed at the awesomeness of this sight. It was a perfectly clear day, the best we had experienced to date, and at one stage, there were two rainbows arching the Falls. It was almost like an omen. We are most grateful to these dear friends for such a wonderful day.

Saturday was a rest day until the evening when we attended a special dinner organised in our honour. We knew the dinner was arranged, but didn't realise that I was to be the guest of honour. After the dinner, which was attended by some 70 people, I addressed the folk on the subject of "The Very Small Remnant", and we all had a most enjoyable evening together. As a matter of interest, all my talks, both in Ireland, Canada, and the U.S.A., were directed towards the seriousness and potential of these last days, and our personal responsibilities to the Lord God of Israel as we approach that wonderful day of His return.

The following day, Sunday, we bade farewell to Toronto, and our gracious host Doug Nesbit, and Mr. Firth Hubbell, the President of the Canadian British Israel Association, drove us down to London, Ontario, where we lunched and left Eleonor Russell, being where she lives, and we pro-

ceeded across the border into the U.S.A., arriving finally in Detroit. I was scheduled to speak here twice, at The Restoration Bible Church, under the ministry of Pastor Jory Brooks. Unfortunately, we were delayed somewhat during our trip down and we arrived some 45 minutes late for the afternoon meeting. As a result, I found myself in the pulpit literally within minutes of arriving. But everything went well, and after a fine dinner, came back to address the evening meeting. The next morning Jory drove us to the airport where we embarked for Boston, and a few days with my brother Gordon and his wife Helen whom we hadn't seen for several years. This gave me a welcome break from speaking, and a chance to catch up on family news. But schedules had to be met, and on the Thursday we were off again, this time to Spokane in the Western State of Washington. Here we were met by Pastor Karl Schott of Christ's Gospel Fellowship, who together with his wife Audrey, looked after us in a most wonderful way for the next few days. I spoke at his church that evening, and we formed a very close bond with this very devoted Christian couple who have already gone through a lot of persecution for their Identity beliefs which are openly taught in their church. The following day, they drove us to Sandpoint, Idaho, to meet Pastor David Barley of "America's Promise", and we had the privilege of speaking twice at his meetings. They too were a wonderful crowd of dedicated Christian Israelites, and Dave is doing a fine job, following in the footsteps of the late Sheldon Emery. The next day was Sunday, and we farewelled the Schott's to travel to Vancouver where we were due to hold our final meetings. After a quick lunch, we went straight to the meeting held jointly by the Association of the Covenant People, and the B.I.W.F. Vancouver. The afternoon meeting was well attended, and after dinner we returned for a second meeting. We were now in the care of Jim Read, the President of the Association of the Covenant People, and his wife Marjory. Other than a final meeting in their home on the Tuesday evening, our speaking commitments were now concluded, and we drew a real breath of relief. We now had the rest of the week until Thursday night to recuperate and see something of the Canadian country, which Jim and Marjory did not hesitate to show us. We also visited the headquarters of the B.I.W.F. Vancouver, where we met Tom Mitchell, their Bookroom Manager, and then visited the headquarters of The Association of the Covenant People and the dedicated folk there. Unfortunately, both Betty and I had caught severe colds by this time, and Betty had to spend the last few days in bed. But the 'plane wasn't going to wait for us, and on Thursday evening, we departed for Sydney, via Honolulu and Auckland, arriving at our homes right on mid-day Saturday, tired out, feeling very sick because of the colds which had gone to our chests, but extremely happy and thankful for all of God's mercies in protecting us, and having given us the opportunity to spread what He had revealed to us of the Gospel of the King-

dom to so many people throughout the other Israel lands which we visited. It was an arduous, but a gratifying, yet humbling experience for us. We have made some very dear and wonderful friends on our journey, and we cannot say enough of the courtesy and fellowship that was extended to the three of us during the entire trip. I think that our feelings could best be described in the words of a framed verse given to Betty for her 70th birthday by Liz McComish in Ireland.

*"Some people come into our lives and quickly go.
Some stay a while and leave footprints on our hearts,
and we are never, ever, the same."*

* * * *

Covenant Vision Fellowship.

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

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

at

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

Sunday Morning at 10.00. Praise and Worship.

Wednesday Evenings at 7.30. Prayer and Bible Study.

For further information, phone or FAX (02) 623-4691.

THE FEASTS OF JEHOVAH.

by Frank W. Dowsett.

Part 3.

The Feast of Pentecost.

As we look to the next in our series of studies of the Feasts of Jehovah, that of "Weeks", or "Pentecost", let us quickly revise the main principles and purpose of these Feasts.

1. They set the pattern and principles of our worship by;
 - (a) Confirming the head of the household, the man, as the priest of the family with the responsibility to God for the training in, and obedience to, the Word and the Law of God.
 - (b) Their observance totally eliminates the risk of the introduction of the doctrines and traditions of men, and the rise of denominationalism as we now know it.
2. They set down the pattern of God's dealings and Personal relationship with His people Israel. They are split into two major groups, namely;

(a) The **WEEKLY** Feasts, or Sabbaths. This required a day of rest every seventh day. It has absolutely nothing to do with Saturday, Sunday, or any other named day of the week. It established a cycle of rest of one day in every seven days. Furthermore, it is a National Day of observance, not one of personal or denominational choice.

(b) The **SEASONAL** Feasts, or those Feasts, seven in number, which are kept on a yearly basis at their appropriate season. These are kept in three groups of Feasts. These are firstly,

- (i) **Passover;** representing Israel's Deliverance;
Unleavened Bread; representing their Cleansing;
Firstfruits; representing the Selection of the Rulers.
- (ii) **Weeks, or Pentecost;** Representing the restoration of Israel's inheritance in the Kingdom.
- (iii) **Trumpets;** The Coming of the Redeemer;
Atonement; The Work of the Redeemer; and
Tabernacles; The Dwellingplace of the Redeemer.

3. They are not an option. They are a command from Jehovah, the Lord God of Israel.

The full exercise of every one of them places the whole of our Lord's ministry, and the whole of our worship, in its full and proper perspective. They are both our authority, and our responsibility. They are NOT part of the "Laws contained in ordinances" which were nailed to the cross, and thus done away with, and will not cease to exist, or be required to be observed, until the events and principles of which they are a pattern cease to exist.

So with the foregoing in mind, let us turn to our study of this Feast of Weeks, or Pentecost. The account is found in Leviticus 23, verses 15 to 21; (New King James Trans.).

"And you shall count for yourselves from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering: seven Sabbaths shall be completed. Count fifty days to the day after the seventh Sabbath; then you shall offer a new grain offering to the LORD."

You shall bring from your dwellings two wave loaves of two-tenths of an ephah. They shall be of fine flour; they shall be baked with leaven. They are the firstfruits to the LORD.

And you shall offer with the bread seven lambs of the first year, without blemish, one young bull, and two rams. They shall be as a burnt offering to the LORD, with their grain offering and their drink offerings, an offering made by fire for a sweet aroma to the LORD.

Then you shall sacrifice one kid of the goats as a sin offering, and two male lambs of the first year as a sacrifice of a peace offering.

The priest shall wave them with the bread of the firstfruits as a wave offering before the LORD, with the two lambs. They shall be holy to the LORD for the priest.

And you shall proclaim on the same day that it is a holy convocation to you. You shall do no customary work on it. It shall be a statute forever in all your dwellings throughout your generations.”

This Feast is a single Feast Day, separating the first group of three Feasts from the last group, also of three Feasts. It separates the celebration of the deliverance and cleansing from the celebration of the ultimate triumph. It also signifies the restoration of our inheritance, which can only be accomplished by both our personal and national return to obedience to God's Laws. This is exemplified in Acts 3:19-21; (N.A.S.B.Trans.).

“Repent therefore and return, that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord; and that He may send Jesus, the Christ appointed for you, whom heaven must receive until the period of restoration of all things about which God spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets from ancient time.”

We also note the use of the “7” cycle in relation to this Feast. As we have said, it is a yearly Feast, celebrated on a “7 x 7” cycle. It was not celebrated on the 49th day itself, but on the following fiftieth day, that being the first day of the next cycle. This cycle lasted seven weeks, from whence came its original ti-

tle of "The Feast of Weeks". In New Testament times it became known as "Pentecost", that being the Greek word for 'fifty'.

But that is not the only occurrence of the period of "7" within these Feast Days. We have already commented on the first of Jehovah's Feast days being held on a seven day cycle. But as well as the 49, or 7×7 cycle of Pentecost, every seventh year in Israel was "The Year of Release" when all debts were cancelled. We read in Deut. 15:1-5 and 15; (N.I.V.)

"At the end of every seven years you must cancel debts. This is how it is to be done: Every creditor shall cancel the loan he has made to his fellow Israelite. He shall not require payment from his fellow Israelite or brother, because the Lord's time for canceling debts has been proclaimed.

You may require payment from a foreigner, but you must cancel any debt your brother owes you.

However, there should be no poor among you, for in the land the LORD your God is giving you to possess as your inheritance, he will richly bless you, if only you fully obey the LORD your God and are careful to follow all these commands I am giving you today.

For the LORD your God will bless you as he has promised, and you will lend to many nations but will borrow from none. You will rule over many nations but none will rule over you.

If there is a poor man among your brothers in any of the towns of the land that the LORD your God is giving you, do not be hardhearted or tightfisted toward your poor brother.

Rather be openhanded and freely lend him whatever he needs.

Be careful not to harbour this wicked thought: 'The seventh year, the year for canceling debts, is near,' so that you do not show ill will toward your needy brother and give him nothing. He may then appeal to the LORD against you, and you will be found guilty of sin.

Give generously to him and do so without a grudging heart; then because of this the LORD your God will bless you in all your work and in everything you put your hand to.

There will always be poor people in the land. Therefore I command you to be openhanded toward your brothers and toward the poor and needy in your land.

If a fellow Hebrew, a man or a woman, sells himself to you and serves you six years, in the seventh year you must let him go free. And when you release him, do not send him away empty-handed. Supply him liberally from your flock, your threshing floor and your winepress. Give to him as the LORD your God has blessed you” (In other words, when a fellow Israelite leaves your employ at the end of his seven year contract, you are to pay him a share of the profits he helped you to make).

“Remember that you were slaves in Egypt and the LORD your God redeemed you. That is why I give you this command today.”

But beyond this, there was also the “Year of Jubilee” which became operative every 49th. (7 x 7) year, on the Day of Atonement. As with Pentecost, the actual year in which it was celebrated was the First year of the next 49 year cycle, which still retained the “7 x 7” cycle. We will study this aspect more fully in our future study on the Feast Day of Atonement.

Now in verse 17 of our reading from Leviticus 23 quoted earlier, we note a specific reference to “the firstfruits”. In verse 10 of the same chapter where it relates to the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the ‘firstfruits’ are referred to as ‘sheaves of the harvest’, or a random choice of a sample of the harvest. This refers to the deliverance and cleansing of the ‘firstfruits’. But at the Feast of Pentecost, these ‘sheaves’ are now referred to as “wave loaves”. Thus the ‘firstfruits’ are now presented in their completed state, as a finished product. They are no longer a random sample. They are now presented as holy, or separated, to the Lord. They now represent the ‘Overcomers’, or those who will reign as kings and priests with the Lord Jesus Christ over the Kingdom of God. We read in Rev. 14:4;

“These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb.”

But this is only one, and possibly the secondary, application or meaning of the Feast of Pentecost. Passover and Unleavened Bread commenced in the middle of the first month of the Hebrew calendar. Pentecost occurred seven weeks later, that is, in the first week of the third month. Its primary application becomes abundantly clear when we read Exodus 19:1-20;

"In the third month, when the children of Israel were gone forth out of the land of Egypt, the same day came they into the wilderness of Sinai.

For they were departed from Rephidim, and were come to the desert of Sinai, and had pitched in the wilderness; and there Israel camped before the mount.

And Moses went up unto God, and the LORD called unto him out of the mountain, saying, Thus shalt thou say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel;

Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto myself.

Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine:

And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.

And Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and laid before their faces all these words which the LORD commanded him.

And all the people answered together, and said, All that the LORD hath spoken we will do. And Moses returned the words of the people unto the LORD.

And the LORD said unto Moses, Lo, I come unto thee in a thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with thee, and believe thee for ever. And Moses told the words of the people unto the LORD.

And the LORD said unto Moses, Go unto the people, and sanctify them to day and to morrow, and let them wash their clothes,

And be ready against the third day: for the third day the LORD will come down in the sight of all the people upon mount Sinai.

And thou shalt set bounds unto the people round about, saying, Take heed to yourselves, that ye go not up into the mount, or touch the border of it: whosoever toucheth the mount shall be surely put to death:

There shall not an hand touch it, but he shall surely be stoned, or shot through; whether it be beast or man, it shall not live: when the trumpet soundeth long, they shall come up to the mount.

And Moses went down from the mount unto the people, and sanctified the people; and they washed their clothes.

And he said unto the people, Be ready against the third day: come not at your wives.

And it came to pass on the third day in the morning, that there were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mount, and the voice of the trumpet exceeding loud; so that all the people that was in the camp trembled.

And Moses brought forth the people out of the camp to meet with God; and they stood at the nether part of the mount.

And mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire: and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly.

And when the voice of the trumpet sounded long, and waxed louder and louder, Moses spake, and God answered him by a voice.

And the LORD came down upon mount Sinai, on the top of the mount: and the LORD called Moses up to the top of the mount; and Moses went up. . . .

“So Moses went down unto the people, and spake unto them.”

The first verse of the above reading tells us that this event happened in the third month, that is, at the time of the Feast of Weeks, or Pentecost. Thus we see that the Feast of Pentecost celebrated the giving of the Law to Israel, the terms of which were fulfilled through the final implementation of the New Covenant which Jehovah made with the very same people of Israel. (See Jeremiah 31:31-34, and Heb. 8:8-10.)

Thirdly, it was a Feast of rejoicing because of Israel's deliverance from Egypt. We read in Deut. 16:9-12; (New K.J.V.).

"You shall count seven weeks for yourself; begin to count the seven weeks from the time you begin to put the sickle to the grain.

Then you shall keep the Feast of Weeks to the LORD your God with the tribute of a freewill offering from your hand, which you shall give as the LORD your God blesses you.

You shall rejoice before the LORD your God, you and your son and your daughter, your male servant and your female servant, the Levite who is within your gates, the stranger and the fatherless and the widow who are among you, at the place where the LORD your God chooses to make His name abide.

And you shall remember that you were a slave in Egypt, and you shall be careful to observe these statutes."

One cannot help but notice the number of times that these Feasts of Jehovah are dedicated to remembering Israel's deliverance from their captivity and slavery in Egypt. No wonder the Lord inspired the prophet Jeremiah to encourage us with the far greater deliverance to come. We read it in Jer. 23:7-8;

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

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

So much then for the origins of this Feast. But how do we associate it with the record contained in Acts 1:1-8 and 2:1-21? We must realise that nothing in the Bible contradicts itself. Thus, the account of the Day of Pentecost in the New Testament must accord with, and be based on, the original pattern already established in the Old Testament. Whilst the account of the actual Day of Pentecost is recorded in Acts chapter 2, the promise in regard to it is given in chapter 1, and verses 1 to 8 which read as follows;

1 "The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach,

2 Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:

3 To whom also he showed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

4 And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me.

5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

6 When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?

7 And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.

8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

1. From verse 3 we see that the subject was "the Kingdom of God". As usual, this was the basis of all our Lord's teaching. It was in this context that the next statement was made.

2. The command, as given in verse 4 was;

- a) To stay in the place appointed, and
- b) To wait for the promise of the Father.

3. The promise, as stated in verses 5 and 8(a) was that they would be baptised with the power of the Holy Ghost. Now one would have reasonably thought that in view of the fact that this was to them an entirely new and unknown experience, that they would have questioned the Lord about the meaning of this promise. But they didn't.

4. Their question, as recorded in verse 6, was directed to the Lord's teaching regarding the Kingdom of God. So whatever they thought the baptism with the Holy Spirit might be, it is obvious that they fully associated it with the restoration of God's Kingdom. Thus they asked Him as to whether or not the time had now arrived for the restoration of the Kingdom to Israel. Which brings up another very important factor. They were perfectly aware that the Lord had told the Jews that the Kingdom of God was to be taken away from them and given to a nation that would bring forth the fruits of the Kingdom. So firstly, they were not identifying that Kingdom with the Jews, but with Israel, thus clearly indicating the fact that they knew the difference. And secondly, they identified Israel, not the Jews, as the nation to which it would be given. Now, nearly two thousand years later, our present-day teachers have not only reversed the situation, but have completely confused the whole issue.

5. The answer, given in verse 7, was that the times and seasons of this great event was not to be revealed at that time. But it is interesting to note that not much later, the apostle Paul told the people at Thessalonica that they knew perfectly well the times and the seasons regarding the return of the Lord, which would begin this restoration. So in the intervening space of a few years, this information must have been revealed by God.

6. The Lord completed this, His final instructions, with the command to witness to Him in four very specific places. They were firstly Jerusalem, the 'City of God', then the countries of Judea and Samaria, the lands originally occupied by both the southern and northern houses of Israel, and finally to the 'uttermost part' - not 'parts' - of the earth. At that time, the 'uttermost part' of the earth was recognised as the 'tin isles' of the west, the 'isles of the west' referred to by the prophet Isaiah. Thus, the initial commission of witness to the disciples was to the very lands where the people of Israel were to be found. Again, one would think that our modern 'teachers' would recognise the importance of this fact. But there is now no vision of these things, and we muddle along with theological fairy tales which miss the entire point of what our Lord was saying.

It is when we go on to the second chapter of Acts that we find the fulfilment of these promises. Verses 1 to 21 read;

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven.

Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language.

And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans?

And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?

Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia,

Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes,

Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God.

And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another, What meaneth this?

Others mocking said, These men are full of new wine.

But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:

For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day.

But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;

And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy: And I will show wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke: The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come: And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

The first thing we notice from this account is the commitment shown by the disciples.

a). **They were obedient.** They were told to wait in Jerusalem, and although they didn't know what was to happen that's exactly what they did. Unlike many Christians today, they didn't decide to 'do their own thing', or expect God to follow them around. They were in the right place for the outworking of God's purposes in them.

b). **They were of one accord.** The importance of this aspect of fellowship can never be overstated. It has always been a source of constant amazement to me, the number of times we attend a church and find that everyone seems to have a different opinion about just about every topic you can name. Even churches within the same denomination exhibit a notable lack of consistency in their beliefs. The secret of Christian witness and ministry is not freedom of expression, or the right to teach what sounds good and acceptable to us, but a real jealousy for the Truth of God, and a totally united front in its presentation. This is amply demonstrated in Acts 4: 32; "*And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart, and one soul.*" It is only when we achieve this condition of unity that we will fully experience the third aspect, namely;

c). **Fellowship.** Going to church should never be looked upon as some social club where we have the opportunity to meet our friends and have a chat to them once a week. We fellowship together in order to meet God, and this can only be achieved firstly by being obedient to Him, and secondly by being in full accord with each other. It was only when they accepted this commitment that they were then ready to receive the 'power

from on high' and the ability to use it in the spreading of the Gospel of the Kingdom in the manner, and to the places, that God had designated.

The second thing we notice is the result of their commitment. The fire of the presence of God again came down upon them exactly as it had, and for the same reason, as recorded in Exodus 19:7-8; Note the similarities.

a). They were all together in the right place.

7 And Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and laid before their faces all these words which the LORD commanded him.

b). They were obedient.

8 And all the people answered together, and said, All that the LORD hath spoken we will do. And Moses returned the words of the people unto the LORD."

It was only when these two conditions were met that God moved. We read in verses 16 to 20;

"And it came to pass on the third day in the morning, that there were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mount, and the voice of the trumpet exceeding loud; so that all the people that was in the camp trembled. And Moses brought forth the people out of the camp to meet with God; and they stood at the neither part of the mount.

And mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire: and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly.

And when the voice of the trumpet sounded long, and waxed louder and louder, Moses spake, and God answered him by a voice.

And the LORD came down upon mount Sinai, on the top of the mount: and the LORD called Moses up to the top of the mount; and Moses went up."

Thirdly, we have the details of the event recorded for our instruction. In verse 4 of Acts 2, we are told that the disciples "spoke with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance." Now whatever one's personal view of this happens to be, it was obviously quite a shock to those who were listening. Certainly, nothing like this had ever been heard by them before. They were quite confused then, and I believe that most Christians are just as confused today about what happened. Let us set the scene clearly in our minds. There were people there from "*every nation under heaven*". (verse 5). As there were certainly no aborigines from Australia, or Red Indians from America, then the phrase must have a specific meaning other than a literal one. The words 'under heaven' give us the clue. This phrase is used many times throughout the Bible. It is actually an allegorical term referring to the Israel nations that are formed after the pattern of the 'heavenly kingdom', as distinct from 'the nations of the earth' which are formed after earthly patterns. So on this basis, those present were all, or at least in the main, Israelites. This is supported by Peter's remarks in verse 22 where he addresses himself to "*Ye men of Israel*". Then in verses 9 to 11 there are noted no less than 17 different language groups. The main point of this portion of the account is not so much the 'speaking in tongues' by the disciples, but the fact that every one of these people from 17 language groups, heard and understood what was being said. It doesn't say that they were amazed at the 'speaking in tongues', but at the fact that they all heard what was said in their own language. This was not so much a miracle of speaking, as a miracle of hearing.

But of course, you always get the objectors who have to make up some excuse for everything that doesn't fit in with their own pre-conceived beliefs or philosophies. So they promptly accused the disciples of being drunk. Now I know several people who can converse in up to six different languages. In my own younger days I did a lot of professional singing, not only in English, but in French, German, Italian, and several New Guinea dialects. And I can assure you that not once was I, or the other multilingual people I mentioned, ever accused of being drunk. Quite the contrary, it was accepted as a sign of scholarship, not drunkenness. (So that there will not be any misunderstanding, I was not fluent in speaking the languages, but leaned what was necessary for the singing). It is of special interest to note that Paul, a few years later, warned the people of his day about the

misuse and abuse of this gift. Things haven't changed a lot over the years.

What then was the message of Pentecost? What was its significance? Verses 16 and 17 tell us that it was the fulfilment of Joel's prophecy, in that from that time forward, young and old alike would receive the Spirit of God in order to enable them to prophesy and see visions. May I ask, to prophesy and see visions about what? About their own particular slant on the Scriptures, or on how they think God should have written certain passages, or what decisions they reckon He should have made? Certainly not! What was revealed to them was the absolute certainty and assurance that God was about to fulfil, or bring into operation as a result of the sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ, the promise of restoration upon which the remainder of His plan and purpose for Israel, and indeed the entire world, depended. We still await that final fulfilment, so clearly stated in Acts 3:19-21; (NIV).

*"Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord,
and that he may send the Christ, who has been appointed for you—even Jesus.*

He must remain in heaven until the time comes for God to restore everything, as he promised long ago through his holy prophets."

Thus we see that the Feast of Pentecost specifically celebrates the coming restoration of His people Israel as His Kingdom here on earth. It is all a part of the Divine Plan, a plan which the whole creation, and even the angels themselves, are just dying to see.

People often ask me why I am so emphatic about celebrating these Feasts. The answer is quite simple. I celebrate them because that is the way the Lord provided for us to worship Him, and to remember His undying faithfulness. Through them are revealed His plans and purposes for the future, of which every one of us can be a part. Through them, we celebrate this faithfulness, and share in the blessing of doing things God's way.

(to be continued).

THE REIGN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

By the late Rev. WM. PASCOE GOARD

Who can envisage what shall be the experience of the translated and resurrected in the Millennial reign of our Saviour? There are some things which may be known: there are other things of which we are constrained to say "it doth not yet appear". Let us look at a few of the things we may know regarding the translated and resurrected.

Jesus the Head

First, and above all, the whole body of the redeemed will find their supreme head in Jesus our Saviour. We shall not look to Adam, the natural head of the Adamic race; for he forfeited his headship when in him the Adamic race died. We shall not look to our father Abraham as our supreme head either according to the flesh, or according to faith; for he could not transmit the heritage of eternal life. We shall not look to Isaac, the undoubted father of the chosen race; for he could not endow us with eternal life. We shall not look to Jacob-Israel, the father of the twelve patriarchs, for the same reason. But we shall look to Jesus, Who is "the Saviour from Heaven", for He hath "the words of eternal life", and "the gift of God is eternal life through Him".

Therefore, in the Millennial reign of our Saviour, every son and daughter of Adam who enters into life will look to Jesus as the author of that life. He, the Capstone of our being, will be present in person as our Saviour and King during that reign. His court will be the centre of our national life. His Person will be seen and known to us all. Necessarily this means that the glory of His personality will be veiled proportionately to our vision. He who sees most clearly will behold more fully His glory.

His Full Company

Next, we are assured that the Patriarchs and prophets will be present in the Millennial reign of our

Saviour. Among the resurrected they will take a leading part. The twelve Apostles will be present, for our Saviour said to them: "*Ye shall also sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel*".

The Resurrection Body

The resurrection body will so clothe the personality that it will have perfect contact with the earth, and with the generations upon it. Perhaps this is the reason for the re-clothing of the redeemed with resurrection bodies. But that is to meet the needs and limitations of those on the earthly plane. As to our life not associated with the mortal generations, "*It doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him: for we shall see Him as He is*".

Because the manifested glory will be tempered to meet the needs of the mortal generation we may estimate what that glory shall be. But in the immortal assemblies, when the resurrected can soar into the heavenlies together with Jesus, then it becomes "the glory which excelleth". Evidently there will be contact and intercourse, tangibly and naturally, between those who have attained immortality by resurrection or translation, and those who are still living the mortal life. This is interesting and important, and speaks of a condition of things very different to that obtaining now.

Rule and Sustenance

As regards tuition, control and judgment, the new age will excel. For the Elders, Prophets and Apostles will be present to reveal truth, and to lead onward in the mastery of life and of all things connected with it the mortals of earth.

The Apostles will be present, not to preach the Gospel, but to judge the tribes. The multitude of the redeemed will be present, from righteous Abel to the last convert to faith in Jesus. What an uncountable multitude! How will the earth sustain them all?

The mortal generation will still look to the earth for sustenance. This they will find in abundance; for then the

earth shall yield her strength. The curse of the ground will have been removed. Natural crops, sevenfold more abundant than cultivated ones of this period, will yield grain and fruit suited for human consumption. Not by sweat of face shall men henceforth eat bread. To harvest and prepare for food will be the extent of the husbandman's task. To prune and gather the fruits of fig tree and vine will be the extent of the vine-dresser's labour.

The resurrected and translated will not require the fruits of the soil. Their bodies will know neither hunger, thirst nor fatigue. From the elements of the universe they will draw their sustenance, if sustenance they need. Therefore, as now, the mortal generation will be the only ones requiring sustenance from the earth.

The mortal generation will still be subject to earth's gravitational pull. They will be held, as we now are, to the surface of the earth, and will still require means of locomotion.

The resurrected and translated will not be subject to earth's gravitational pull, but will have their dwelling on earth or away from the earth at will, even as our Saviour. At will they will come and associate with the mortal generation. At will they will ascend to the regions above, their natural abode. Their movement from place to place will be by act of will, without means of locomotion.

The Centre of Government

The Court, speaking from the stand-point of the mortal generation, will be at the Jerusalem which is yet to be. What a glorious centre of social life this will be. To it will come the tribes of Israel to worship the Lord in His Holy Temple, and to pay homage to Jesus the Son, the King of Israel and of the whole earth. They will travel by every method of transportation; by land, by water and by air. Means of travel of which we have not yet dreamed, and developments of present means beyond our present conception, will bring the mortal earth-dweller annually to worship at Jerusalem. It will, of course, be impossible for them all to come together, otherwise the city would not contain them. Consequently a marvellous procession will

be arriving daily, and an endless procession departing, from and to the ends of the earth.

The resurrected and the translated, that is to say, the Immortals, will come and go at will pursuing the tasks appointed, and fulfilling the pleasure of Jesus our Saviour. They will not travel by earthly means of transport except by choice, for they will be independent thereof.

The Nations

There will still be distinct nations. Certain nations will still be there, but not all nations. *"When the Son of man shall come in His glory, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory, and before Him shall be gathered all nations, and He shall separate them the one from the other. He shall say to those on His right hand, 'Come, ye blessed of My Father, inherit the Kingdom...'. He shall say to those on His left hand, 'Depart from Me, ye cursed...'"*

Thus the servant nations will remain. The predatory nations will be gone - these are the same "all nations" which will have gathered "against Jerusalem to battle".

The nations which remain occupy their appointed territories, and form part of the Millennial Kingdom. They are all subject to the reign of our Saviour. But they do not willingly submit to Jesus' rule. *"He shall rule them with a rod of iron."*

Around the throne will be a representative gathering of the Kingdom nation Israel. They will be arranged accordingly to their tribes, occupying the territory around the temple and palace of the Prince.

The world will be at rest. There will be no international situation, for "the Kingdoms of this world" will have "become the Kingdoms of our Ever-living One and of His Messiah". "The Lord is in His Holy temple" will be a fact so manifest as to be doubted by none. Jesus our Saviour will be obeyed and known by all, for "every eye shall see him".

Religion - Politics - Finances

The question of religious fact will be settled for ever. That the historic Messiah is true will be demon-

strated by the returned and regnant Messiah. The resurrection from the dead will have been so general as to put the fact beyond question. And thus the great religious controversies will be past, and there shall be one Ruler and one faith.

There will be no political question. Democracy, with its usurped franchise - for all law-making belongs to God - will have given place to direct Divine rule of our Saviour; for He and His ministers will carry on the administration. So political turmoil will be unknown.

The question of finance will not arise; for all shall seek to serve, and none shall seek to make inordinate gain, nor tolerate the practice. Every man shall sit under his own vine and his own fig tree.

The earthly manifestation of the Kingdom will be glorious. The Heavenly "doth not yet appear". God grant that the experience may come to a weary world very soon.

Production

The physical world, known to its most minute detail and controlled in all its forces, will be the servant of the glorified lords of nature. The mental world, understood, developed and energised, will have for its scope the physical universe and the equally extensive psychical universe. In the spiritual world the triumph of life will find its development by growing more and more in the likeness of God and approximately more and more to His character.

The activities of mortal life will be abundant. For the engineer and other worker there will be the whole of the material plane with all its natural forces. For the student, scholar, scientist, the whole realm of knowledge will be as an open book, every fact and truth clearly demonstrated. For the sociologist there will be a universe of personalities with whom to collaborate and to whom to minister. For all there will be the present, active Personality of our Saviour, to lead us in the worship of God the eternal Father.

There will be weedless land to cultivate in which thorns and thistles will not grow, vineyards and orchards which require control only of super-abundant growth. There will be an animal world whose predatory habits will

have disappeared. There will be a climate which will be equitable and advantageous to man and beast. There will be a government, and a service under it, founded on the golden rule. On earth and in the heavens shall be peace and good will.

Darkness or Light

Now, one asks: Why trouble about these shadowy things? Why not stay with realities, the hard facts of the world in which we live?

Well, young man, that is the natural question of youth. But many among us are no more young. Three-score years and more have passed over our heads, and most of the things of life have gone by into the shadow land of memory. What you term the hard facts and realities of life are for us very largely no longer such. The hard things, good and ill, pleasant and painful, are passing. The hard facts and realities of the future are pressing upon us in mind and heart. What are they? Where are they? When are they to appear? These are the questions which come to us now. Shall we ignore them and finally go out into the dark? Or, shall we turn to the illuminating page which lights up the future and make ourselves masters of these things? We will. And we will glory in unfolding facts and abounding certainties which call and beckon us to more than youthful energy, to more than mature judgment, knowledge and wisdom, to greater achievements, larger responsibilities, richer joys and a life abounding in the Kingdom of our Ever-living One.

When the last hour has struck for our mortal life, there will be nothing over which to mourn, for the first hour of immortal life will instantly begin.

We triumph, we glory, in the more abundant life purchased for us by our Saviour, and freely given to us by Him Who declared -

"I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly".



RECOMMENDED READING.

BOOKS BY F. W. DOWSETT.

Revised Price List as from 1st. September, 1993.

CAMEO STUDIES

A collection of short studies of twelve sometimes controversial topics of the Bible, such as "The Gentiles," "The Bride," "The Church," "The Kingdom," "The Law," "The Jews," "Israel," "Israel's Feasts," "Tithing," "Christmas," "Easter," "The Resurrection." 74 pages. \$4.00.

CAMEO STUDIES No. 2.

A further collection of 21 articles originally appearing in The Covenant Vision over the past seven years. Titles include:- Principles of Bible Study; The Birthright Factor; The First Resurrection; The Bridegroom Cometh; The Joining of the Two Sticks; The Sabbath. - Which Day?; Israelites Indeed; Watchmen in Israel; Resurrection & Translation; The End of the Days; Truth; Our Covenant With Death & Hell; A Living Sacrifice; A Matter of Faith; Divorced; The Kingdom Taken Away; Cremation or Burial; What If?; Contending For The Faith; The Shortening of the Days; The Most Wonderful Gift.

120 Pages. \$6.00.

THROUGH JUDGMENT TO RIGHTEOUSNESS.

Discusses the root causes of our present individual and national position in the light of God's judgments as a result of our national disobedience to His Laws, together with an outline of the sure mercies and salvation of God for the ages to come. 55 pages. \$4.00.

THE PROPHETIC MINISTRY OF ELIJAH.

A detailed study of the life and ministry of this great prophet, showing how every major incident in his life was a prophetic preview of the future experience of God's people Israel as found in the Anglo-Saxon Celtic people.

132 pages. \$6.00.

THE RETURN OF ELIJAH.

A new edition of one of the few books available today on this subject. It deals with Israel's great prophet both in the Old and the New Testament, the ministry of John the Baptist, and whether we can expect only an 'Elijah-type' ministry or the actual return of the literal prophet himself.

52 pages. \$4.00.

STUDY IN HEBREWS.

The authorship and purpose of the Epistle. - The Titles and ministries of our Lord Jesus Christ. - Foundation Doctrines. - The High Priesthood of Christ. - Melchisedec, - The New Covenant. - Faith. - Looking unto Jesus.

60 pages. \$4.00.

THE TWO WITNESSES.

A study of the identity and prophetic fulfilment of the Two Witnesses of Revelation chapter 11. 48 pages. \$4.00.

THE ENEMY WITHIN.

A new and revealing approach to the Scriptures relating to "The Man of Sin," "Anti-Christ," "and "The Synagogue of Satan."

88 pages. \$5.00.

THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

An in-depth study of the formation and history of God's Kingdom here on earth, from its formation as the nation of Israel at Mount Sinai to the return of its King, our Lord Jesus Christ, and beyond.

124 pages. \$6.00.

THE 8 MIRACLES OF JESUS.

A study of the 8 miracles of our Lord as recorded in John's gospel with their specific emphasis and relationship to prophecy and present-day events.

100 pages. \$6.00.

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST. Part 1.

Chapters One to Six.

Introduction. - The 7 Churches. - The Throne of God. - The First 6 Seals.

80 Pages. \$5.00.

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST. Part 2.

Chapters Seven to Eleven.

The Sealing of the 144,000. - The Seventh Seal. - The Reformation. - The Two Witnesses. - The Seventh Trumpet.

80 Pages. \$5.00.

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST. Part 3.

Chapters Twelve to Sixteen.

The Woman in the Wilderness. - The Beast System. - The Overcomers. - The Seven Vials.

104 Pages. \$6.00

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST. Part 4.

Chapters Seventeen to Twenty Two.

The Fall of Babylon. - The Marriage Supper. - The Perfection of the Kingdom. - Behold, I Come Quickly.

96 Pages. \$6.00.

Parts ONE to FOUR ordered together. \$20.00.

THE PARABLES OF BALAAM.

Four outstanding prophesies of the history and victory of the Anglo-Israel people.

The 'Doctrine of Balaam' explained.

68 Pages. \$4.00.

THE FAMILY OF GOD.

The basis for the importance God places on the family unit.

28 Pages. \$3.00.

DID JESUS FAIL?

Who is Jesus? The victory of His ministry. The fulfillment of His plans and purposes.

60 Pages. \$4.00

PROPHECY.

A short treatise on the basic principles of prophecy.

24 pages. \$2.00.

GOD'S PLAN OF THE AGES.

Colour chart only. each \$1.00.

STUDY IN MALACHI

Just Released!

An in-depth study of this important prophet.
His message and warnings for these last days.

100 Pages.

\$6.00

Prices include postage, in **AUSTRALIA ONLY!**
For overseas **ADD** seamail 15%, economy airmail 30%.
Payment to accompany all orders.

NO PERSONAL OVERSEAS CHEQUES PLEASE!

25% discount on quantities of 10 or more.



COVENANT TAPE MINISTRY.

NEW CATALOGUE.

Revised **JANUARY 1995** Tape Catalogue now available.

Tapes may be purchased for \$4.50 for single copies,
\$4.00 each for 2 or more copies, posted within Australia,
or borrowed for an offering to cover postage costs.

Special Discount Rates for Study Series
on Various Subjects as listed.

Overseas rates published in catalogue.

Write now for your free copy.

TAPE CLUB: These tapes are also available on a
LOAN basis **IN AUSTRALIA ONLY**, through our **TAPE**
CLUB. For just \$5 per month we will send on loan a set
of four tapes on the basis of one talk per week, on
subjects of your own choice as listed, or of our current
talks at our own meetings. Replacement tapes will then
be sent on receipt of the renewal fee and the return of
the previous set of tapes.

This catalogue also includes our full list of
Video Recordings.

Babylon The Great.

by Frank W. Dowsett.

Part 2.

NIMROD.

FOUNDER OF BABYLON.

In our previous study, we looked at the origin of Babylon, and its various facets. We studied the significance of its name, and its relationship to God's people Israel, as their greatest enemy. Babylon, as we discovered, is no less than the kingdom of Satan in opposition to the Kingdom of God.

But in order to more fully appreciate Babylon's character and purpose, we need to know something of its founder. That founder was a man named NIMROD. He is first mentioned in Genesis 10:8-10;

"And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a mighty one in the earth.

He was a mighty hunter before the LORD: wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD. And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar."

As recorded above, Nimrod was the son of Cush. But earlier in the account we are informed that Cush was the son of Ham, one of the sons of Noah. Thus he was Noah's great-grandson. The meaning of their respective names gives us a very

important insight to their characters, and the affect they had on the history of the entire world. "Noah" means 'rest'. His son "Ham" means 'hot'. He was not, as so many suppose, a black person, and the progenitor of the black races. For Ham to be black, either his father or his mother, or even both, would have had to be black, and this is impossible because the Word tells us that "Noah was perfect in his generations, and that he walked with God". This would not have been possible if he had contracted a mixed marriage, because irrespective of present opinion, that was strictly forbidden by God and he could never have become 'the eighth preacher of righteousness' as recorded in II Peter 2:5. "Cush" means 'chaos', and he became the 'god of confusion'. "Nimrod" means 'a rebel'. So we see how the meanings of the names of both Cush and Nimrod were entirely in accord with both their character and their actions.

The wife of Cush was Semiramis, and she became the mother of Nimrod. Nimrod is subsequently alleged to have married his mother, so that his mother then became also his wife. Truly, a wonderful setup, and probably no stranger than what goes on in the world today. Cush is considered to have been the ringleader of the entire apostasy which developed. It should be remembered that in those days, the leaders, or kings, as Cush was, were also considered to be gods, and they were worshipped as such. The same system still applies in some of our modern nations. Thus, on the birth of his son Nimrod, Cush became known as the "father god", his son Nimrod became known as "the son of god", and his mother "the mother of god", who afterwards became the wife of the "son god". Thus, Cush was rightly named 'the god of confusion'.

This is the origin of the pagan "trinity" which was subsequently adopted by the Church of Rome, with the third Person being "the mother of god", or "the queen of heaven", and applied to Mary, Christ's mother. The prophet Jeremiah speaks of this 'queen of heaven' thus;

"The children gather wood, the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead dough, to make cakes for the queen of heaven: and they pour out drink offerings to other gods, that they may provoke Me to anger." (Jer. 7:18).

"As for the word that you have spoken to us in the name of the LORD, we will not listen to you!"

But we will certainly do whatever has gone out of our own mouth, to burn incense to the queen of heaven and pour out drink offerings to her, as we have done, we and our fathers, our kings and our princes, in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem. For then we had plenty of food, were well-off, and saw no trouble.

But since we stopped burning incense to the queen of heaven and pouring out drink offerings to her, we have lacked everything and have been consumed by the sword and by famine.

The women also said, And when we burned incense to the queen of heaven and poured out drink offerings to her, did we make cakes for her, to worship her, and pour out drink offerings to her without our husband's permission?

Then Jeremiah spoke to all the people; the men, the women, and all the people who had given him that answer; saying:

The incense that you burned in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem, you and your fathers, your kings and your princes, and the people of the land, did not the LORD remember them, and did it not come into His mind? So the LORD could no longer bear it, because of the evil of your doings and because of the abominations which you committed. Therefore your land is a desolation, an astonishment, a curse, and without an inhabitant, as it is this day. (Jer. 44:16-23).

The 'cakes' referred to above mean 'buns' and are presently known as 'hot cross buns', which the great majority of Christians blasphemously - and in many cases knowingly - use to represent our Lord's death on the cross at the pagan festival of 'Ishtar', or 'Astarte', now referred to as Easter. These buns, or 'bouns', as they were then called, were used 1500 years before the Christian era, and the Babylonian origin of this practice can not be doubted.

No wonder the true Christian/Israel nations and people are confused and confounded in their relationship to God. We cannot truly worship God - nor will He accept our worship - if it is contaminated with paganism. Our God is a Holy, or Separated, God. We, as His people, are a holy, or separated people. We are told in no uncertain manner "Be ye holy, as I am Holy". Why then can't we do what God tells us? Are we too frightened

to be seen to be obedient, or too stupid to realise the incredible damage that has been done to our people as a result of our disobedience. Then we have the incredible audacity to put the blame for all our woes upon Satan, or the Jews, or the communists, or whoever happens to be convenient, when the true culprits who are to blame are ourselves. Not that the parties named above are not involved in our troubles. They have been, and still are the major players in our 'time of Jacob's trouble', but their success has been made possible by the fact that we have turned from our God, and no longer have His full protection. In his monumental work "The Two Babylons", first published in 1916, the Rev. Hislop has this to say; "If Britons would preserve their FREEDOM and their pre-eminence among the nations, they should never forget the Divine declaration, 'Them that honour Me I will honour, and they that despise Me shall be lightly esteemed'." Nearly 80 years later we can see the truth of what he said. We are now most certainly 'lightly esteemed'.

The name 'Nimrod', as we have said, means 'a rebel'. He became a hero, or mighty one, to his people. In appendix 28 in the Companion Bible we read this statement;

NIMROD.

"Josephus (*Ant. Jud* i. c. 4. 2) says: "Nimrod persuaded mankind not to ascribe their happiness to God, but to think that his own excellency was the source of it. And he soon changed things into a tyranny, thinking there was no other way to wean men from the fear of God, than by making them rely upon his own power."

The Targum of Jonathan says: "From the foundations of the world none was ever found like Nimrod, powerful in hunting, and in rebellions against the Lord."

The Jerusalem Targum says: "He was powerful in hunting and in wickedness before the Lord, for he was a hunter of the sons of men, and he said to them, 'Depart from the judgment of the Lord, and adhere to the judgment of Nimrod!' Therefore it is said: 'As Nimrod is the strong one, strong in hunting and in wickedness before the Lord.'"

The Chaldee paraphrase of 9 Chron. 1:10 says: "Cush begat Nimrod, who began to prevail in wickedness, for he shed innocent blood, and rebelled against Jehovah."

Nimrod was the founder of Babylon, which partook of his character as being the great antagonist of God's Truth and God's people.

We cannot fail to see, in Nimrod, Satan's first attempt to raise up a human universal ruler of men."

(End of quote from the Companion Bible).

Thus it was Nimrod who put into operation the plans of his father Cush, and considering the perverted sex life they practised, it is no wonder that "sex" has played such an important role in our downfall.

The entire purpose behind all this was to introduce a total apostacy among the descendants of Noah, and to turn them completely from the true worship of, and obedience to, the only True and Wise God, the God of Noah, of whom Noah was the eighth preacher of righteousness.

The instrument, or agency, which he formed and built in order to achieve this purpose was

BABYLON!

On Page 12 Of "The Two Babylons" by Bishop Hislop, we read this comment;

"If there be this general coincidence between the systems of Babylon and Rome, the question arises, Does the coincidence stop there? To this the answer is, Far otherwise. We have only to bring the ancient Babylonian *Mysteries* to bear on the whole system of Rome, and then it will be seen how immensely the one has borrowed from the other. These *Mysteries* were long shrouded in darkness, but now the thick darkness begins to pass away. All who have paid the least attention to the literature of Greece, Egypt, Phenicia, or Rome are aware of the place which the '*Mysteries*' occupied in these countries, and that, whatever circumstantial diversities there might be, in all essential respects these '*Mysteries*' in the different countries were the same. Now, as the language of Jeremiah would indicate that Babylon was the primal source from which all these systems of idolatry flowed, so the deductions of the most learned historians, on mere historical grounds, have led to the same conclusion. From Zonaras we find that the concurrent testimony of the ancient authors he had consulted was to this effect: for, speaking of

arithmetic and astronomy, he says: "It is said that these came from the Chaldees to the Egyptians, and thence to the Greeks." Of the Egyptians and the Greeks derived their arithmetic and astronomy from Chaldea, seeing these in Chaldea were sacred sciences, and monopolised by the priests, that is sufficient evidence that they must have derived their religion from the same quarter. Both Bunsen and Layard in their researches have come to substantially the same result. The statement of Bunsen is to the effect that the religious system of Egypt was derived from Asia, and 'the primitive empire in Babel.' Layard thus speaks of that system:— 'Of the great antiquity of this primitive worship there is abundant evidence, and that it originated among the inhabitants of the Assyrian plains, we have the united testimony of sacred and profane history.'

(End of quote from Rev. Hislop).

From all the evidence available, both Scriptural and secular, it is abundantly obvious that the entire system of Babylon was deliberately designed and augmented to destroy the descendants of Adam through the chosen line of Noah and Seth, those who were to become "The Sons of God", in all aspects of their life and worship. The plan was to be achieved in several ways. Firstly, their religion had to be contaminated. Above all else, their faith and belief in the One True God, Jehovah, had to, at all costs, be compromised to such an extent, and in such a manner, that the people would not even realise what was happening. And this is exactly what happened. Humanitarianism crept in, and gradually, but imperceptively, the people looked more to themselves and their own achievements rather than to their God.

Secondly, their racial purity had to be destroyed. Again, this would, and did, have the effect of introducing into their lives beliefs foreign to their pure Jehovah worship. It is important to note the early intermarriages that occurred with the descendants of Canaan, the brother of Cush, thus violating the position of Noah who was 'perfect in his generations'. At this early stage, this was the result of incest, rather than racial intermarriage, but it had the same effect.

Thirdly, false knowledge was substituted for the real knowledge of God. It had commenced with Eve in the Garden of Eden when she sought knowledge far beyond what God had specifically allowed. Satan took full advantage of this trait with her descendants, and they fell into the same trap. At this very

early stage, the way for the then-future anti-Christ was prepared together with the soul destroying teachings of such things as evolution and a one world system of government and religion. Don't ever fool yourself into believing that what is going on around us today is relatively modern. It isn't. It has been going on for thousands of years. What we now see is the culmination of all these plans being brought to final and devastating fruition by Satan's own arch-agents, those whom our Lord Himself recognised and identified as "the synagogue of Satan."

And fourthly, by substituting man's laws for God's Laws. The devastation that we have suffered just from this one portion of the plan alone is so evident that it is beyond belief that so many Christians, together with their blind leaders, cannot see it.

But note that the last three aspects of the plan could never have been achieved without the success of the first aspect. Once our religious integrity had been compromised, the rest of the plan was a pushover, because we no longer had the necessary power to combat what was happening. And that has been the plan ever since. It is still the major plan today. We have very senior members of our government, such as our Foreign Minister, who are on public record as saying that their entire aim is to destroy Christianity. No wonder they sign all these U.N. treaties that circumvent our own constitution and sell us out to every foreign country and government that chooses to take more and more of our heritage from us.

But whether we like it or not, the greatest traitors, in my estimation at least, are the religious ministers who have so cruelly misled God's people by their constant harping on the alleged Bible teaching that we are no longer required to worry about keeping the Law of God because we are supposed to be under something that they called 'grace'. Paul would turn in his grave if he could know how they have perverted his statement by taking it entirely out of context. But not being satisfied with that, they have also spiritualised the nation of Israel by denying its present literal existence in the form promised by God. Or alternatively, they have applied its existence to a polyglot lot of people who exhibit every identification point of anti-Christ and the man of sin; who are the most anti-Christian people in the world; who, in the main, do not have one drop of Israelite blood in their veins; and who were condemned more than any other people by our Lord Jesus Christ Himself. Pagan feasts have been allowed to replace Jehovah's Feasts, Babylonian customs and beliefs have

been welcomed as part of the “new Christianity”, and multiculturalism reigns supreme.

And we now have the brazen audacity to wonder why everything is going wrong in our nation, with the people becoming more and more paranoid about the necessity of ‘changing political parties’ as the only solution to our problems. We need another political party as much as we need another hole in our head. The only thing we have to do is to elect leaders who are totally committed to re-introducing in all their fullness, the Laws, Statutes, Commandments, and Judgments of God. Our failure to obey our God in this area has resulted in the loss of God’s protection and blessing. It always has, and always will. And God is righteously angry with us because of our blatant disobedience. The concise statements of His Word put the situation much more clearly than I can;

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

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

(Deut. 11:16-17).

“Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse; A blessing, if ye obey the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you this day:

And a curse, if ye will not obey the commandments of the LORD your God, but turn aside out of the way which I command you this day, to go after other gods, which ye have not known.”

(Deut. 11:26-28).

“But if you do not obey Me, and do not observe all these commandments, and if you despise My statutes, or if your soul abhors My judgments, so that you do not perform all My commandments, but break My covenant, I also will do this to you:

I will even appoint terror over you, wasting disease and fever which shall consume the eyes and cause sorrow of heart. And you shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it.

I will set My face against you, and you shall be defeated by your enemies. Those who hate you shall reign over you, and you shall flee when no one pursues you."

(Lev. 26:14-17).

"Should you help the wicked and love those who hate the LORD? Therefore the wrath of the LORD is upon you."

(II Chron. 19:2).

It is no wonder then that God is so opposed to Babylon. And it is no wonder that He is so angry with His people because we sold ourselves to this evil system rather than devote ourselves to His perfect system. The final result, as we can see before our very eyes, has been judgment on a scale that is terrifying, to say the least. We are now well into the period of "Jacob's Trouble". God has allowed us to become captive to the rebellious anti-Christ Satanic system which we ourselves chose!. The system founded by Nimrod, the one who became known as the mighty hunter of the souls of men. He has succeeded beyond even his wildest dreams, but praise God, we are assured that we are to be saved out of this mess, when the Lord Jesus Christ, our coming King, will destroy all this evil with the brightness of His presence, when He will put down all evil authority, and set up the justice and righteousness of the perfect conditions of the Kingdom of God here on this earth. We can only pray that this great day will not be too long delayed. Indeed, we know from all the signs of the times around us that it is indeed at the very door. We are about to experience the day that the Lord has made for His people. Until then, it behoves every one of us to be prepared. We must have the extra oil of the Holy Spirit in our lamps in order that we may qualify for the high calling of God in Christ Jesus, and be selected and appointed as priests and kings, reigning with Him over His Kingdom.

(to be continued).



Under Edward the Confessor, those who lent money with interest were outlawed and banished from England.

POWER, POLITICS AND MONEY

Courtesy "The Living Light"

As long as there have been Kings or leaders, be they totalitarian (like Hitler) or democratic republicans (like USA), no one retains power unless they have money. Call it "the economy" or "finance" or "investments" or "superannuation" or any other name, it is all money, and without it no human being, or government, or nation can live in modern society without money.

It is the same for your own home money management as it is for the nation. If you spend more than you have, you must borrow, and if you borrow you must pay interest on the money you borrow.

You also know that if you borrow more than you can afford, or your interest payments become more than you can afford, then you are in trouble. It's exactly the same with our nation.

Have you been one of the unfortunate people who borrowed money to buy a home at say 8%, and life was fine. But then the interest rates were increased to 15 or 16%. What happened? You could no longer afford to live, the bank was "sucking you dry". You either got a second job, or the mother of the family had to go out to work, or you sold the house. Whatever happened, it altered your life-style dramatically. It is one of the major causes of divorce in our society. Yet none of this is necessary.

The banking industry promotes the thought that the only money that they loan out is that which depositors have placed with them. They say for this reason if they pay the depositor 5%, that when they loan this money to you they must charge you 8 or 9%. Is this true? Let us consider some well known and publicised facts.

First, Australia's present national savings are lower than they have been in many decades, so low that it is causing much concern. Therefore, the money available to be loaned out for housing must be severely restricted. Is that the case? No, it's not, for we see all the banks falling over each other to entice you to take out a housing loan, and they will approve it in 24 hours. The two don't balance out. Has anyone ever received approval for their loan and then been told that there is not enough money on deposit, so you will have to wait until more depositors place more money with the bank before the bank can give you the money? Of course not! The system doesn't function like that, even though the banks want you to think it does.

Consider another historical fact. From 1930 to 1939 Australia went through a devastating depression. There was no work for

people who wanted to work, and no money to create jobs, it was far worse than the recent recession. Then came 1939-45 World War 2, and there were more jobs and more money than our nation has ever seen. Not only that, but when it was all over, Australia was **NOT** deeply in debt to anyone, and there was more money in everyone's pocket than had ever existed in our history. Where did it come from? How did it happen?

In Australia, money was controlled by the Commonwealth Bank Act of 1911. "The Commonwealth Bank acts as Australia's central bank and is charged by statute with the responsibility of preserving a monetary policy directed to the greatest advantage of the people of Australia." (Australian encyclopaedia, page 458.) "to administer exchange control, and fix maximum interest rates that may be paid and charged by banks and others." (page 457.)

In the parliamentary debates on the bill it was decided that money should be made available to farmers, small business and for home loans at a **maximum** of 3% interest. What happened?

Does your experience tell you that the present monetary policy of Australia is "to the greatest advantage of the people of Australia"?

The truth is that the average Australian pays interest on housing and motor vehicles in his 40 years of work, in excess of \$240,000. Any wonder that most of us reach retirement with no money to retire on. But those people who are so good to us and loan us the money, where do they get it all from?

When you get a loan from the Bank, they write a figure in their ledger and you draw on that figure until you reach that limit. The money came from nowhere. Now you must pay interest on it probably for the next 30 years and pay back the loan that they produced out of thin air!

That is where the money came from to fight World War 2. The bank simply wrote out a cheque. That money went into circulation, that is why there was money for everyone.

Who Really Controls the World's Money Supply?

At the end of World War 2, U.S.A. was the wealthiest nation in the world. There was no end to the money that Americans had. The rest of the world was jealous about the huge sums of money that was available from America. Now America has a bigger debt than any other nation. What has happened?

Lindsey Williams had executive status with 9 major oil companies in the U.S.A., and for 3 years worked on the Trans-Alaska oil pipeline. He rubbed shoulders with and talked intimately and sat in on the board meetings of the world's richest men. In his book "SYNDROME OF CONTROL" he makes this statement:-

"There are a small group of super wealthy individuals who consider themselves to have a destiny to control the world. They are not motivated by money. The wealth **OF THE WORLD** is not necessarily their goal. They only **USE MONEY AND WEALTH** as **TOOLS OF CONTROL**. It appears that they are obsessed with the desire for the **CONTROL OF PEOPLE AND NATIONS**.

These Internationalists use people as play toys to accomplish their goal of control. Their only concern is their big banks and continuing control. What is the "mind set" (the way people think) of these Internationalists: control of nations and people at any cost.

Life of others means little or nothing to them. If war can accomplish their purpose, then they will start one and finance both sides in order to gain power. If a great nation, such as America, cannot be controlled by any other method, then they will put it into bankruptcy and bring it to its knees."

These people that Williams refers to as "Internationalists" are the same people who control and give the orders to the New Age Movement, the New World Order.

If you can control the finances of the individual, by controlling wages, rates of taxation, interest rates on housing, and other loans, then you control the individual. In exactly the same way, nations are being controlled by the Internationalists.

Australians Have Been Sold Out

In the U.S.A. in 1913 an act was passed by Congress (government) which gave the power and responsibility to control the American currency, interest rates etc. to the **FEDERAL RESERVE**. Now that sounds as though it is as it should be, except that the Federal Reserve is not what it sounds. It is not as it should be. The Federal Reserve is in fact a privately owned corporation with **"OVER HALF of the controllers of the Federal Reserve NOT even citizens of the U.S.A."**. You have probably already guessed that the **FEDERAL RESERVE** of the U.S.A. is controlled by the Internationalists.

When Labour came into Government in Australia, under Bob Hawke, despite their promises and statements to the contrary, Mr. Hawke and Keating opened Australia to International Banks,

International Stock Markets and floated the Australian dollar on the International Money Markets. We no longer have control of our own money, but are now subject to the control of the Internationalists.

Instead of Australia's development being financed internally through the Commonwealth Bank, as in World War 2, we are being financed by the Internationalists, and your taxes go towards paying the interest on those loans. Have you stopped to wonder why the returns on superannuation funds and other savings and investments in the last few years have not only been poor, they have gone backwards - the worst this nation has ever experienced?

Since the present government has come into power, we have been subjected to lies and misleading statements as we are continually told that Australia's economy is in great shape. Well you decide that after you read the following.

Australia's Debt (and you pay the interest bill)

1983 \$ 23 Billion	1984 \$ 27.9 Billion
1985 \$ 51.2 Billion	1986 \$ 75 Billion
1987 \$ 82.9 Billion	1989 \$100 Billion
1990 \$124 Billion	1994 \$160 Billion

and increasing by around \$26 Billion per year.

Think of your home budget and housing loan. What would happen if you let the bills run like that? Well the result of this situation is that, according to the "Financial Review", and despite the efforts of government to tell us otherwise, Australians are now paying more in taxation than any other western nation.

Still More to Come

With our \$160 Billion debt Australians now owe more money per person, than any other nation in the world. (News Weekly; Jan. 14, '95.) How good is that? And our taxes are going to pay the interest to the Internationalists.

Is Money Evil?

Many people believe, and some have even taught that to be wealthy is evil and to be poor is good. Is that what the Bible really says? *"For **THE LOVE OF MONEY**, is the root of all evil"* (1 Timothy 6:16)

Money of itself is not evil. In our society we cannot live without it.

When God gave King Solomon a wish, he asked God for wisdom so that he could rule Israel wisely. God was impressed, for He said to Solomon "*you could have asked for wealth, or long life, or victory over your enemies, I will give you wisdom plus wealth*". Israel lived through its most prosperous years under Solomon. Wealth was the reward given to Solomon by God.

God also said that if you obey me and keep my commandments, "*I will set you high above all the nations of the earth*" - and make you fabulously wealthy, with "**ABUNDANT PROSPERITY**" etc. (Deuteronomy 28:1-4)

But if you disobey you will be punished with droughts, disease, financial disasters etc. (Deuteronomy 28:16-68)

Money is not evil. When we put money before obeying God, then it becomes our God, and we get punished.

The drain on Australia's wealth is because we disobey the laws of God.

Commonwealth Bonds!

When was the last time you saw our government float a new issue of Commonwealth Bonds? Our government used to borrow money from within Australia so that the interest paid stayed within our nation. Now it borrows from the Internationalists and the interest payments go out of our nation to them. But that is not really surprising? If God is true to His word then what is happening is what He promised.

"If you disobey, the stranger shall lend to you and you shall not lend to him, he shall be the head and you shall be the tail"
(Deuteronomy 28:44)

No Morals Thank You!

The latest jargon among politicians and political debate is that we should remove morals and morality out of our laws and out of public and parliamentary debate.

Before we comment, we should know exactly what we are talking about. Here is Oxford's Dictionary definition.

"MORALS: concerned with character or with the distinction between right and wrong.

MORAL SENSE: the power of distinguishing between right and wrong."

So our politicians and much of society want to make laws for us to live by, and ignore what is right or wrong for us all. Any wonder our nation and government are going crazy. They want to make laws without even knowing what is right or what is wrong. Surely this is the blind leading the blind. Did you see that the Minister for Health has just spent \$250 million of your money, without any "mandate from the people", and without any "morals", to tell our school children that homosexual relationships are enjoyable and how to do it "safely"! How utterly disgusting. That is the promotion of homosexual behaviour. Education has certainly changed dramatically. What does God think of such things? He wiped out Sodom and Gomorrah; but that was Old Testament, what does the New Testament say?

"Do not be deceived: neither sexual immoral (there's that word again) nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders will inherit the Kingdom of God." (1 Corinthians 6:9)

But why is it that the English speaking people of the world, who were reasonably "moral", have in the last 20 years promoted homosexuality into our nation? It's become like a bush-fire. Could it be what Paul spoke about, a self fulfilling prophecy?

"..... men are without excuse, for although they knew God they neither glorified Him as God, nor gave thanks to Him Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their heart to sexual impurity to the degrading of their bodies with one another. They exchanged the truth of God for a lie God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged the natural relation for unnatural ones. In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committing indecent acts with men and receive in themselves due penalty for their perversions." (Romans 1:20-32)

Yet Another Level of Taxation

The United Nations has called it's sixth "World Summit for Social Development" in Copenhagen for March, 1995.

In it's aims, Paragraph 86(g), it calls for a substantial increase in regular income, to be administered and monitored by the "pro-

feminist affirmative action group" within the UN Social Summit. Bearing in mind that to control the money is to control the power, the aims state "to levy international taxation on all financial transactions, air travel and telecommunications".

News Weekly (25/2/95) makes the following comments:-

"It is clear from a careful reading of the document that a great part of these international taxes will be spent on UN administration, on expanding the UN Economic and Social Council, on **NEW MONITORING BODIES**, on expanded consultation and research, and on **PROPAGANDISING MEDIAL CAMPAIGNS**.

The prospect of accountability for these taxes would appear to be grim, if current UN accountability records are anything to go by."

In the UN Women's Forum, Oslo, (25/5/94), while addressing the meeting on the above matters, one of UN's lady top executive said "Our mandate does not entitle us to take up all the issues you ask for. So the more that you can help us to blur these areas and to expand on the notion that all are mutually re-enforced, the more helpful to us."

In other words, we will do just as we decide once we have the money, and we will be answerable to no one.

Once Again, Our Taxes

That meeting to push for the Aims of an international tax was scheduled for March, 1995.

On the 27th February, 1995, that is a month **BEFORE** that UN meeting, I was by chance listening to our national broadcast of Canberra Parliamentary Debates, and what do you think the debate was about? Yes, you are right, it was on a bill to introduce an international tax, to be paid to the United Nations, and levied on all International Financial Transactions from within Australia.

The Liberal speaker opposing the bill was pointing out that the biggest users of international financial transactions in Australia were the Insurance Companies and Investment Managers who handle all the superannuation funds and retirement incomes for the average working person in Australia. Such a tax would come out of the returns that should be paid to the average Australian.

So, before the UN meeting takes place, Australia wants to start paying an international tax to the UN, taking it out of your pay packet without your permission, or without even telling you it is happening, and certainly without any mandate from the people.

The Choice is Ours

God said, "I set before you this day (a choice), **life and prosperity**, (isn't that what we all desire) or **death and destruction**, if your heart turn away and you are not obedient and you bow down to other gods and worship them you will certainly be destroyed." (Deuteronomy 15:17)

Many will say, but that is Old Testament, and we are New Testament Christians, the Old Testament is not applicable to us. Let us look at the New Testament and we will find exactly the same message. God is consistent. God will NOT be mocked. *"This will happen when Our Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with His powerful angels. He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. They will be punished with everlasting destruction506D."* (2 Thessalonians 7:9)

Then there is the parable that Jesus gave of the pounds and He concluded with these words.

"I tell you that everyone who has, more will be given but as for the one who has nothing even what he has will be taken away." (Luke 19:11-26)

In other words, prosperity in abundance is God's reward for those who seek and obey Him.

The Nation of Australia

The Bible clearly shows that God deals with people individually, but to a greater extent nationally. If the nation is blessed the individual is blessed, if the nation is cursed the individual suffers. (See the story of Jeremiah's misfortunes as he served God, not to mention Paul's problems.)

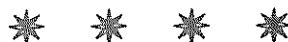
Australia, which used to practice Christianity, can no longer, and does no longer claim allegiance to the Great God who created all things. As a result God will carry out His promises of punishment on the nation for our disobedience. Unfortunately many teach that the God of the Old Testament was a harsh God, while the God of the New Testament is a loving and forgiving God. God is and always has been consistent. Listen to these Old Testament words of God, when He set before His people the choice of punishment for disobedience and prosperity for obedience.

"This day I call heaven and earth as a witness against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessings and cursings. NOW CHOOSE LIFE so that you and your children may live and

that you may love the Lord Your God for the Lord is your life."
(Deuteronomy 30:19-20)

Satan is the God of this present world and we must all make a personal choice as to who we serve. We must also accept responsibility for our part in influencing the choice of our nation. The choice is to follow the God of this world, Satan, or the God of all creation and His Son Jesus Christ.

God commands us to "*Choose Life*", to be obedient to Him and His Laws. Then and only then can He bless us. If not, the cursings that are falling on our nation will continue to fall on us all.
WHO WILL YOU SERVE?



IN FOND MEMORY

Alan John Warren

On March 26, 1995, Alan lost his battle with cancer, and fell asleep in the Lord, aged 82 years.

Alan had lived a full and rewarding life. He was a committed Christian, and continually worked quietly in the spreading of the Gospel of the Kingdom of God. He was a keen Bible student, and for many years he was a member of the N.S.W. Branch of the British Israel World Federation, and a close friend and supporter of the Covenant Vision Ministry.

Alan had been very happily married to Betty for 20 years, and had been both a loving and beloved husband. Each had 3 children by previous marriages, one of Alan's having died early in life.

In his community, he was well known and well loved. Both he and his wife Betty were life members of their local Bush Fire Brigade, members of which were pall bearers at his funeral.

Only a few days prior to his death, he and Betty received the Premier's Award for Senior Citizens.

To Betty and the surviving children, we extend our sincere sympathy and prayers, and we commend them to the love and comfort of the Lord whom Alan and Betty loved so dearly.

"Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted."



FORTY AND FIFTY IMPORTANT DAYS

By Howard B. Rand

Courtesy "Destiny"
(March, 1995)

Following the resurrection came the most interesting fifty-day period in the history of men as the disciples walked and talked with our risen Lord and listened to His instructions. The last ten days, following the Ascension, prepared the disciples for the Pentecost experience when the Church of Jesus Christ was born at Jerusalem. There has never been a more important time in history than the first forty days of that fifty-day period, for during this time physical demonstration was definitely made of the fact of the resurrection: the hope of which, through Jesus Christ our Lord, takes away the fear of death for all those who believe.

Easter is passed and the Church, in celebrating the forty days preceding Easter, selected a time that has no marked significance in Scripture. Had Christendom only chosen the forty days following Easter it would have been worthy of solemn celebration, for our Lord had come forth from the grave and spent the succeeding forty days with His disciples--at the end of which He ascended into Heaven.

While Jesus was tempted in the wilderness for forty days, this time of temptation preceded the beginning of His ministry and had no connection whatever with the Passover season when He was crucified. The forty days *subsequent* to Easter could be celebrated as a fitting memorial, for during these days the foundation of the work assigned to the Church was laid and the disciples made ready to receive the Holy Spirit at the coming Pentecost season. Instead of these forty days ending in the death of our Lord, they would begin with His resurrection and end with the Ascension and the assurance which is the hope of the Church--His triumphant return.

Angels sat at the empty tomb that first Easter morning and announced "He has risen", and forty days later, following the Ascension, two men in white said unto the disciples who stood on the Mount of Olives as He disappeared out of their sight:-

"Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven." (Acts 1:11)

What a splendid ending this statement would furnish to the celebration of the period during which Jesus instructed His disciples regarding many things, even His coming again. Included in this memorial should be the ten days from the Ascension to Pentecost, and on this anniversary of the birth of the Church careful stock should be taken of the purpose for which the Church was originally organised and Christendom should set their standards of teaching in accord with the original Pentecostal spirit.

Modernists would be unable to challenge the significance of the out-pouring of the Holy Spirit as Christendom scrutinised the Gospel Story of that first Pentecostal experience when the disciples of our Lord were endued with power from on high. Some may try to deny its occurrence, but it is impossible to deny the results demonstrating that it did occur. Centuries of Christian living and the experience of Christian men and women have since, through personal experience, proved the reality of what did take place at that time.

Let us follow the events as recorded, that we may know the significance of the fifty-day period following the resurrection of our Lord.

On the day of the resurrection two disciples were journeying from Jerusalem going to the village of Emmaus, some sixty furlongs from Jerusalem. They were discussing the events surrounding the crucifixion and evidently were unaware of the experiences of Mary and others who had met the Lord early that morning:-

"And it came to pass, that, while they communed together and reasoned, Jesus himself drew near, and went

with them. But their eyes were holden that they should not know him." (Luke 24:15-16)

This lack of recognition is easily understood, for had they not witnessed His death, there would be no reason for them to be expecting to see Him on this occasion. He asked them about their conversation and why they were so sad! One of them asked Him if He was a stranger in Jerusalem and, therefore, did not know what had recently taken place. Jesus asked what were the things to which they referred and these disciples proceeded to tell Him all that had taken place, even reporting the account of the woman who saw a vision of angels at the open Tomb, which angels had declared to them that He was alive. Others had gone to the Tomb and found it empty but had not seen Him.

Jesus then said unto them:-

"O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory? And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself." (Luke 24:25-27)

They drew near the place where they were to tarry that night and Jesus made as though He would go on, but they asked Him to partake of the evening meal with them. He took bread, brake it and gave to them and their eyes were opened and they knew it was He, then He vanished out of their sight. These two immediately returned to Jerusalem and found the eleven disciples and told them what had happened to them. As they were relating these events, Jesus stood in the midst of them and said, "**Peace be unto you**".

Monday, March 21, Nisan 18. The fourth day of the feast of unleavened bread: Jesus, having entered the room just as the preceding day ended, the disciples were terrified thinking they had seen a spirit. And Jesus said unto them:-

"Why are ye troubled [terrified]? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts? Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have." (Luke 24:38-39)

This is a most interesting statement, for Jesus had shed His blood for the remission of sins and it is not now mentioned. His resurrected body was not holden by earthly limitations and hence He referred to it as flesh and bone--not flesh and blood. Having thus spoken, He showed His disciples His hands and feet and, while they yet disbelieved, He asked if they had any meat. They gave Him a piece of broiled fish and of a honeycomb, which He did eat.

In this act of eating, Jesus demonstrated that He was an eternal living soul. He was not a spirit, nor in spirit form as some teach was the case after His resurrection. Rather, He was in His human form but Divine and with a glorious body of which type of body Paul could say, a spiritual body but not a spirit, for His body and the body of those in the resurrection who will be like Him shall be flesh and bone.

Thomas was not present at this meeting and, when the disciples informed him they had seen the Lord, he said:-

"Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe." (John 20:25)

Eight days later Thomas was with the disciples together in a room and, after the door was shut, Jesus stood in their midst and said, "Peace be unto you":-

"Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing. And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God." (John 20:27-28)

Jesus replied that, having seen, he believed but blessed were they, who having not seen, yet would believe. There are many other signs Jesus did in the presence of His disciples which are not written in the Book (or parchment roll):-

"But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name." (John 20:31)

The interval of time between Passover and Pentecost was relatively short, but the people who had gathered at Jerusalem for the Passover returned to their homes between the two feasts. The disciples also lost no time in hastening back to Galilee, for there they had an appointment to keep with Jesus:-

"Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them." (Matthew 28:16)

The disciples, no doubt, left Judea as soon as possible, for we find several of them later upon the shores of the Sea of Tiberias or Galilee. John records the events which transpired here as follows:-

"There were together Simon Peter, and Thomas called Didymus, and Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, and the sons of Zebedee, and two other of his disciples. Simon Peter saith unto them, I go a fishing. They say unto him, We also go with thee. They went forth, and entered into a ship immediately; and that night they caught nothing." (John 21:2-3)

When morning came, Jesus stood on the shore but the disciples did not know Him. He asked them if they had any meat and they said no. He then told them to cast the net on the right side of the ship. They did and drew in a multitude of fishes:-

"Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved saith unto Peter. It is the Lord. Now when Simon Peter heard

that it was the Lord, he girt his fisher's coat unto him, (for he was naked), [Peter was clothed only in his under-garments, for one was called naked who failed to have on his outer clothing] and did cast himself into the sea. And the other disciples came in a little ship; (for they were not far from land, but as it were two hundred cubits), dragging the net with fishes." (John 21:7-8)

This account of fishes caught in the unbroken net has both a prophetic and a chronological significance:-

"Simon Peter went up, and drew the net to land full of great fishes, an hundred and fifty and three: and for all there were so many, yet was not the net broken." (John 21:11)

The importance of this number 153 cannot be overstressed. This number permeates the Bible in many of its records, yet it occurs only once upon the surface in this account as given of the number of fishes in the unbroken net. Though appearing only once as a number, it is a dominating factor in this story of the great fishes, literally pervading the entire original text as a common divisor. In the first place, 153 is what is called a triangular number; it is divided by 17 and is the sum of all numbers up to and including 17.

Made up of the first three odd numbers, it would require pages to relate the astonishing factors concealed in this number in its prophetic significance and as it relates to chronology. But let us closely examine the above text of the miraculous draft of 153 fishes, for in the numerical structure this 153 appears 40 times. This is because in both Hebrew and Greek each letter of the alphabet has a numerical value.

The original Greek of the words great fishes, *Ichthyes*, sums up to 1,224 or 8×153 ; The net, *to diktyon*, sums up to the same 1,224 or 8×153 ; The number given is 153 but written "one hundred fifty three of Great", and this sums up to 23×153 , and so 153 is concealed 39 times in the text and appears but once upon the surface, making 40 times in this one account.

When the disciples came to the land they saw a fire and a fish lying on it, and bread:-

"Jesus saith unto them, Bring of the fish which ye have now caught....Come and dine. And none of the disciples durst ask him, Who art thou? knowing that it was the Lord." (John 21:10-12)

Do not neglect to consider the importance of the 154th fish on the coals, under the control of our Lord, for it has a marked chronological significance.

This was the third time Jesus had shown Himself to His disciples. He now asked Simon Peter, "**Lovest thou me more than these?**" Peter replied "**Yea Lord, thou knowest that I love thee**". Jesus said unto him, "**Feed my lambs**". The question is addressed to Peter the second and a third time but Jesus said:-

"Verily, verily, I say unto thee, When thou wast young, thou girdedst thyself, and walkedst wither thou wouldest: but when thou shalt be old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee, and carry thee whither thou wouldest not. This spake he, signifying by what death he should glorify God." (John 21:18-19)

Peter's last days were spent in prison and he died a martyr--not in Rome but at Babylon where he was ministering to the elect. (1 Peter 5:13)



Due to our six weeks overseas tour, we were unable to include some of our regular articles as we had to meet a dead-line with our printer.

However, these articles will be continued, God willing, in our next issue.



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.**

"Jeremiah's Prayer"

I know, O Lord, that a man's way
is not in himself;
Nor is it in a man who walks
to direct his steps.

Correct me, O Lord, but with justice;
Not with Thine anger,
lest Thou bring me to nothing.

Pour out Thy wrath on the nations
that do not know Thee,
And on the families
that do not call Thy name;

For they have devoured Jacob;
They have devoured him and consumed him,
And have laid waste his habitation.

Jeremiah 10:23-25.

Produced and distributed by
THE COVENANT VISION MINISTRY.
P.O. BOX V192 MOUNT DRUITT VILLAGE
N.S.W. 2770 AUSTRALIA

National Library of Australia Number
ISSN 1031-8135

Print Post Approved. PP242587/00039.