

The British-Israel-World Federation Victorian Branch

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British-Israel World Federation
(Victorian Headquarters)

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MONTHLY NOTES

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GOD - OUR REFUGE AND STRENGTH

"The Lord hath prepared (established) His throne in the heavens;
And His kingdom ruleth over all."

How fortunate we are to have the assurance from Scripture that God is in control of the affairs of this world and will intervene to save it from Satanic destruction.

The effects of the gradual abolition of Christian standards and resulting moral decline caused by the ascendancy of Humanist Philosophy and New Age religious teaching, are blatantly evident worldwide, and former "Christian nations" have become tools of evil rather than forces for good. Establishment corruption abounds in the U.K. and has led to a decline in the Legal System and thus in the administration of justice. Bribery and corruption are rife in all Western governments. Behind the scenes in the political and financial arenas the onslaught of evil is relentless as inter-tribal conflicts proliferate and nuclear material is sold on the Black Market.

Looking at world affairs from **man's** point of view there seems to be little hope of world peace and stability for many years to come. Indeed, a rapid deterioration appears more likely.

If continued, the present economic policies of transferring production to cheap labour countries abroad while eliminating the home nations' work forces, will result in multi-million unemployment and a total breakdown of law and order. If Asiatic industry is allowed to export to the West free of tariffs on the present wage basis of 47 workers for the cost of one European or American worker, unemployment in the West will reach 100 million within 30 years and world revolution will result.

Peace moves by politicians involving the P.L.O., the I.R.A. and the A.N.C. cannot be relied upon as their effectiveness depends upon the reactions of the three opposing movements, viz., the Zionist Zealots, the Ulster Unionists and the Zulu-Africaner Axis.

Revolution is seen as inevitable in Russia where the political trend is becoming a mix of pan-Slavism, anti Semitism, pro Iranian, anti Zionism and anti the Atlantic Powers.

Under the title "The Approaching Drama" Special Office Brief of 24th October, 1994, says, "This Office is aware of the powerful undercurrents now significant in America, the U.K., China, Russia, the Middle East, and all over Europe. By the year 2000 almost nothing today observed as Constitutional or Establishment custom will anywhere remain as now. A vast World upheaval is in gestation. Great masses of people have lost confidence in all the main dogmas canvassed during the last 100 years. Those masses feel that all the dogmas have failed them and that notwithstanding the increase in living standards and great advances in technology, the present political hand-outs are false."

This Brief also comments that people do not feel that conventional politicians deserve prestige and are loath to accept the new culture which they consider is cheap in character. They are perplexed by the Churches but will not be satisfied by some vague philosophical mix. The Brief continues, "We think some **spectacular event** will occur which clarifies their minds and points them to a belief and devotion....Then great constitutional, religious and cultural changes will escalate both in America and the U.K..... Amongst the great changes now inevitable are those which will affect the British Crown..... We have reason to suggest.... that it will become necessary to distinguish between the Crown and the personalities of what we call the Royal Family. The Crown (as such) is the vital factor."

From a **Scriptural** point of view we know that "the **Most High ruleth** in the kingdom of men....and He doeth according to His will..... among the inhabitants of the earth..." (Dan. 4:32-35)

He has **promised** to:
"destroy the face of the covering cast over all people, and the veil that is spread over all nations. He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of His People shall He take away from off all the earth...."
(Isa. 25:7 - 8)

The 'spectacular event' will be the return to this earth of our Lord Jesus Christ as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. The Crown will remain: but the Throne of David will be occupied by the King of Kings rather than by a member of the present Royal Family and its power and influence will be worldwide. Let us make 1995 a year of hope as we anticipate the bringing in of the Kingdom of God on earth. A/Ed.

THE RIGHTEOUS AND THE WICKED

Psalm 36 contrasts the nature of God, the fountain of all life and light - His righteousness, loving kindness, His power to protect and provide; with the nature of the wicked whose iniquity, deceit, pride, scheming and love of evil, lead them to be finally cast down, unable to rise again. According to Dr. Bullinger verse 1 should read:

"The rebellion of a wicked one declares as an oracle and convinces me that there is no fear of God before his eyes."
(Refer Romans 3:10-18, Ps. 11:2; Ps. 58:3-5; Ps. 36:2-4)

In verse 4 of Ps. 36 the word "evil" is used. The primary meaning of the Hebrew word so translated is - to break up all that is good or desirable; injurious to all others - often used of moral depravity. Those described as "evil" are fools because they say there is no God as Ps. 14:1 states. On the other hand the fear of the Lord "is to hate evil" (Prov. 8:13); "is the beginning of wisdom" (Prov. 9:10); "is the instruction (or correction) of wisdom" (Prov. 15:33). The lack of this fear makes evil

men fools whereas it is the mark of a righteous person and the reason why the evil hate the righteous. Verses 1- 4, 12 of Psalm 36 portray the lawless, rebellious people of the world - natural men who deny the very existence of God Who made them. These are destined for judgment by the very One they refuse to acknowledge as stated in Jude v.14-15.

In contrast with the wicked, verses 5 - 9 list some of the characteristics of God. He bestows His loving kindness upon His people. He is faithful, righteous, just in all His doings. He is loving and kind to all who seek Him and satisfying to those who find Him. He is the only Living God, the fountain of all life and light.

Psalm 37 contains fifteen admonitions (exhortations or instructions) each one building on the previous ones so that when we have adopted all of them we will become profitable, joyous Christians.

Verse 1 opens with the admonition to **fret not thyself** because of **evildoers**, neither be **envious** against the **workers of iniquity**. We are not to get hot under the collar and filled with envy when we see the lawless workers of iniquity living in the lap of luxury and getting away with murder. Remember the words which conclude Psalm 36 - "There are the workers of iniquity fallen: they are cast down, and shall not be able to rise". Verse 2 of Psalm 37 confirms this: "For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb."

Instead (verse 3) we are to "Trust (confide) in the Lord, and do good." This thought is expressed in 1 Pet. 5:6-7 "Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time; casting all your care (anxiety) upon Him for He careth for you." The phrase "and do good" means "and keep God's laws and precepts". The rest of verse 3 gives us the reason for doing this - "so shalt thou dwell in the land and truly you shall be fed". Here we are promised security of tenure and provision of food.

Verse 4 contains the next admonition "**Delight thyself also in the Lord**" or "make God your chief joy continually". This thought is also expressed in Romans 5:9-11. The next clause in the verse gives us the reason why we should do this - "And He shall give thee the desires of thine heart". Thus if we make God our chief joy and keep His laws and precepts we will know God's will and as His will becomes our will so our desires become the same as God's.

Verse 5 admonishes to "**commit thy way unto the Lord**", that is to repose upon or in the Lord, the same thought being expressed in Psalm 55:22 "Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and He shall sustain thee"; while Verse 7 admonishes us to "**Rest (be silent and still) in the Lord and wait patiently for Him**". The Hebrew word translated 'wait' comes from a Hebrew root meaning "to writhe in pain or fear" and in the context of verse 7 relates to the actions of the lawless ones which are given in verses 12, 14 and 32 -

"The wicked plotteth against the just, and gnasheth upon him with his teeth." (v. 12)

"The wicked have drawn out the sword, and have bent their bow, to cast down the poor and needy, and to slay such as be of upright conversation." (v.14)

"The wicked watcheth the righteous, and seeketh to slay him." (v. 32)

Verse 8 introduces a note of caution - "**Cease from anger, and forsake wrath**: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil." When we are attacked the natural thing to do is to get angry and hit back and so fall into sin but we are to be patient leaving the situation for God to deal with in His own time and way. The forces of evil have no continuing existence but are under the judgment of God and know no peace:

"For they shall soon be cut down like the grass,

And wither as the green herb." (v. 2)

"For evil doers shall be cut off:....

For yet a little while, and the wicked shall not be:..." (v. 9-10)

"Their sword shall enter into their own heart,

And their bows shall be broken." (v. 15)

"But the wicked shall perish, and the enemies of the Lord shall be as the fat of lambs: They shall consume away." (v. 20)

"I have seen the wicked in great power, and spreading himself like a green bay tree. Yet he passed away and lo, he was not:

Yea I sought him, but he could not be found." (v.35)

"But the transgressors shall be destroyed together:

The end of the wicked shall be cut off." (v.38)

On the other hand, the righteous shall inherit the earth and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace: they are upheld by the Lord Who knoweth their days and their inheritance shall be forever (v. 17 - 18)

"They shall not be ashamed in the evil time: and in the days of famine they shall be satisfied." (v. 19)

"The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and He delighteth in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down:

For the Lord upholdeth him with His hand." (v. 23-24)

Verse 25 gives us an insight into the faithfulness of God.

King David says: "I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread."

"But the salvation of the righteous is of the Lord: He is their strength in the time of trouble. And the Lord shall help them, and deliver them: He shall deliver them from the wicked, and save them, because they trust in Him." (v. 39-40)

The righteous?

"But the righteous showeth mercy and giveth." (v. 21)

"The mouth of the righteous speaketh wisdom, and his tongue talketh of judgment. The law of his God is in his heart; none of his steps shall slide." (v. 30 - 31)

In the **New Testament** the "righteous" are those who have made a blood covenant with God and claimed by faith the precious blood of the Lord Jesus Christ as their surety before God. Because the Lord Jesus is seated at the right hand of God where He makes intercession for us we can be certain of His saving grace. Romans 8:35-39:

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness or peril, or sword? in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come. Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

J.W.

THE LAST DAYS

This is what Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem:

In the last days
the mountain of the LORD's temple will be established
as chief among the mountains;
it will be raised above the hills,
and all nations shall stream to it.
Many peoples will come and say,
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob.
He will teach us his ways,
so that we may walk in his paths.
The law will go out from Zion,
the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.
He will judge between the nations
and will settle disputes for many peoples.
They will beat their swords into plough shares
and their spears into pruning hooks.
Nation will not take up sword against nation,
nor will they train for war any more.
Come, O house of Jacob,
let us walk in the light of the LORD.
(Isaiah 2:1-5 N.I.V.)

The theme of the last days is difficult. The *PROMISE* of the LORD is written in the Bible. It is the promise of a Kingdom with Christ Jesus as KING. Isaiah placed the capital city of His Kingdom in Jerusalem, but in Revelation 20:6 we read: *"Blessed and holy are those who have part in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him a thousand years."*

Peter, who addressed his remarks to "Men of Israel", said to them: *"Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins will 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 holy prophets."* Isaiah, in his famous words about the Son born to be king wrote: *"He will reign on David's throne, and over his kingdom"*, while Luke records the angelic message to Mary: *"You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end."* (Isaiah 9:7 and Luke 1:31-33).

We must remember that the Law of the Lord required the evidence of two witnesses before a matter could be established. Here we have the two witnesses, one human, and one angelic. The throne of David was real and literal in Isaiah's day. Preservation of this throne was promised to David and his descendants. The eternal descendant of David is the Lord Jesus Christ, who is to sit on David's throne. This is not the throne of God in heaven - it is a throne on earth. We must note the Israel character of this Kingdom. The catalyst for these thoughts arose

from the recent deaths in Switzerland and Canada of adherents of a mysterious group calling themselves something like the Solar Temple. Apparently they looked not to the glorious Kingdom, but to the "end of the world". This phrase, the "end of the world", comes up frequently these days. Many people expect a cataclysmic disaster which destroys the earth and all in it, but anticipate that they themselves will be saved for the new heaven and the new earth.

A few years ago, I noticed a book on the shelves of a store titled "The Late Great Planet Earth". This idea of doom and destruction is not the scene that Isaiah and Luke and John portray. Admittedly, there is to be judgment of the mystery City called Babylon the Great, followed by the destruction of THAT CITY. Can we ask what that city is today? The Bible (Revelation 11:8) describes that city: *".... the great city, which figuratively is called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified..."*. Also *"The woman you saw is the great city that rules over the kings of the earth."* (Revelation 17:18).

The interpretation is that this city, also called Babylon, is the manmade world system of bondage, of impurity and of domination. The world system of finance wherein private individuals have unique power to grant or withhold credit at their discretion does create severe financial bondage. It is a fact that Reserve Banks world-wide are quite independent of Government, and are theoretically permitted to act in defiance of the wishes of the Government. The discussions this last week about interest rate increases do prove that the Reserve Bank can act independently.

Let us examine just what the Bible says about the time of the end. In the New Testament, three Greek words have been translated "world" - the first means "age", the second, the "created world", and the third, the "inhabited world". When Jesus spoke of the harvest of the field of mixed seed, He said, *"The harvest is the end of the age."* The disciples asked in Matthew 24:3: *"What shall be the sign of your coming, and of the end of the age?"* And He said to the disciples: *"And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

There are further examples. This, however, is sufficient to show that the Coming of the Lord is not to be a time of destruction of the heaven and the earth. It is true that Peter wrote of the passing of the heavens and the earth, followed by a newly created heaven and earth, but this passage must not be taken in isolation, but relative to all other writings about the end of the age, or world. The Book of Revelation locates the new heaven and the new earth AFTER the Final Judgment of God.

That the Lord Jesus is coming again is certain - it is the most often repeated promise in the Bible. The time of His coming is hidden, and it is futile for people to try to calculate this. No one knows the day or the hour. On the other hand, we are commanded to watch always for His coming. This does involve comparing the events of contemporary history with the prehistory of the Bible (which is not always easy). Nevertheless, many observers do see parallels at this time, and are convinced that the end of the age is very near. It will then be a time when man's "Age of Gold" gives way to Christ's "Golden Age", as Isaiah foresaw, or as Revelation states, the Millennial Reign of Christ.

(V.A. PROPOSCH)



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WIT'S END

They that go down to the sea in ships,
that do business in great waters;
These see the works of the Lord, and his wonders in the deep.
For he commandeth, and raiseth the stormy wind,
which lifteth up the waves thereof.
They mount up to the heaven, they go down again to the depths:
their soul is melted because of trouble.
They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man,
and are at their wit's end.
Then they cry unto the Lord in their trouble,
and he bringeth them out of their distresses.
He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still.
Then are they glad because they be quiet;
so he bringeth them unto their desired haven.

(Psalm 107 : 23-30)

We have reached a stage in this planet's history when we are witnessing the fall not just of a mighty empire, as has happened repeatedly in the past, but of a World Civilization. Our ship is indeed in the depths of the sea. Evil is rampant, God is ignored and His Word despised, and as the iniquity of man proliferates the judgments of God are poured out.

He turneth rivers into a wilderness,
and the watersprings into dry ground;
A fruitful land into barrenness,
for the wickedness of them that dwell therein.

(Psalm 107:33-34)

God warned Israel at the very beginning that if they despised His statutes and refused to obey His commandments the result would be disease, wars, defeat, drought, want, pestilence, oppression, slavery and so on (see Lev. 26 and Deut. 28). Today we are reaping the consequences of a century of gradual disregard of God and His Commandments and of replacing His Word with men's ideas and philosophies. Faith in God has almost disappeared and consequent fear of the future is causing large numbers of suicides, particularly among the young.

Instability marks every phase of man's existence. All nations are in bondage to an unjust money system which is contrary to God's Law and has caused increasing economic hardship to peoples throughout the world. Its pressures have led in many instances to severe damage to the environment.

Political instability is also a global problem evident even among Western nations. There is a widespread disbelief in and revolt against politicians showing that the people are now discontented with the results of their own choice of government - **Democracy**. Politicians in the main seek power for themselves and their parties by subservience to the will of world manipulators regardless of the wishes of the people they supposedly represent. Attacks on the British Monarchy, for centuries a stabilizing influence in world affairs, are sowing confusion and discontent among the nations of the Commonwealth.

Belief in all the main religions of the world, each of which has been broken into a complex of splinter groups, has waned. The gradual movement of the Church of England, for centuries the custodian of Britain's Christian heritage, toward liberal permissive concepts is bringing it into increasing criticism and loss of support. Two world wars and the philosophy of multiculturalism have caused the races of mankind to be more widely disturbed and admixed than at any other period in recorded history. This has led to a debasing of cultural heritages and traditions and a weakening of national loyalties. Christian nations have allowed non-Christian beliefs and customs to undermine their Christian heritage and adherence to Biblical Law.

Perhaps the greatest casualty of changing moral values has been the **balanced family unit**, the basis of a stable society. The number of such units is decreasing rapidly as economic pressures and permissive moral behaviour cause marriage breakdown resulting in an increasing number of one parent households. Many children are thus deprived not only of one parent but of the relative grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins which the normal balanced family unit would have provided. The latest attack on the family unit is the suggestion that lesbian and homosexual partners be considered "a family" for the purpose of raising children. Such abnormal "families" would need to obtain children from outside the "family" by adoption or by a heterosexual liaison with a friend or acquaintance. Would such children be given the right to know their biological genealogy or would they be in danger in later life of marrying their half brother or sister?

The quest for world peace has been unfruitful despite endless discussion, and terrorism has reached a new height with Black Market Nuclear Trading. Terrorist organizations rich from drug running and protection rackets have access to plutonium of which 500 tonnes exist in the world today. Such radio active material could easily be deposited and activated in areas which could contaminate cities crucial to established society and commerce. Far from peace in the Middle East Syria, who has recently reinforced relations with Russia, Iran and Libya is now strongly armed with tanks, advanced war planes, air defence systems and Scud missiles capable of deep strike into Israel. The Bosnian conflict also continues regardless of peace negotiations.

Surely men are nearing "their wit's end" (Hebrew - all their wisdom swallows itself)! However, like the sailors who cry unto the Lord in their trouble, and He brings them safely to harbour, so also can we cry unto

Him knowing His purpose is to cleanse this world from evil and restore it to harmony with Himself (see Rev. 21:1-4).

The righteous shall see it, and rejoice:
and all iniquity shall stop her mouth.
Whoso is wise, and will observe these things, even they
shall understand the lovingkindness of the Lord.
(Psalm 107:42-43)

Those who trust in His Word have the comfort of His Promises and the assurance of a future in which evil will play no part.

Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness,
and for his wonderful works to the children of men!
Let them exalt him also in the congregation of the people,
and praise him in the assembly of the elders.
(Psalm 107:31-32)
A/Ed.

NO OTHER GODS

The First Commandment "Thou shalt have no other gods before Me" (Ex. 20:3) establishes where ultimate sovereignty lies, viz., in **God Himself**. The sovereign power in any society is the ultimate source of all law and value standards therefore the establishment of any authority other than God and His Law leads away from true law, morality and justice.

The concept of 'democracy' is that supreme and ultimate authority lies in "**The People**" (the 'demos') but this is man aspiring to be "as gods" or "like God". The oft quoted explanation of "democracy" as "Government of the people, by the people, for the people" was taken from the preface to Wycliff's translation of the Scriptures where he wrote "**This Bible is for the government of the people, by the people, and for the people**" showing that the only right basis of government is the **Word of God**. In 1830 Daniel Webster adapted the quotation in a speech as did Theodore Parker in 1850 and Abraham Lincoln in 1863, when he said: "Government of the people, by the people, for the people shall never perish from the earth." (Ref. Through World Chaos to Cosmic Christ by D. Davidson p.10/11)

But God has the sole right to be supreme - "there are no other gods before Him. Sovereignty belongs neither to individual man, nor to collective man, but only to God. And because the source of law in any society is (in fact) the god of that society, it is plainly obvious that to promulgate any law other than God's law is to commit spiritual adultery.... the alternative to God's law is never no law but **human law**, i.e., **man's law**. And as Romans 1:26-32 records, man's law is ultimately the death of man himself, of his society, and of his history."

"This, then, is the whole point of the First Commandment. God alone is that authority which is answerable only to itself; that authority which is self-sufficient, unchallengeable and supreme; that authority above which there is no other; that authority which determines all right and all value, and that authority which commands our total obedience. All lesser powers, authorities, parliaments, governments, courts, etc., are subject and answerable to Him and to His Word (Psalm 82) for the Lord our God is 'King for ever and ever' (Psalm 10:16) Thus, this Commandment enunciates a fundamental rule which is simultaneously both a religious and political principle namely:

THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD."

(Extract from: National Message Nov. 1978 by Dr. R. F.Graham) A/Ed.

COMMENT BY READER

The following letter was received from a reader regarding the article "Should We Celebrate Christmas?" and we thank the writer for his thoughtful comments. A better title would have been "Should We Celebrate at Christmas" as the usual type of 'celebration' was not intended. The celebration of Our Lord's begetting would take the form of remembrance or commemoration of His whole life and work and a joyous anticipation of His soon return as Israel's King and Ruler of the world.
A/Ed.

Dear Sir,

I would like to respond to your December item entitled "Should We Celebrate Christmas?" Firstly, your article concentrates around the controversy of the correct/incorrect date of Jesu's birth and completely disregards the Title subject. You ask the question but fail to give the answer and until that answer is given, the question regarding the date is irrelevant. But! Thank goodness for Dr.Bullinger's Appendix! this long-lasting controversy is now resolved!

Let's be a little more realistic (and honest) and acknowledge the pile of literature that we have to choose from in considering the date problem and then realise that it is similar to reading the world's history books where one first has to decide (or select) which version suits one's particular sway.

But getting back to your title; the answer to it is either a yes or a no. If the answer were to be 'yes' then the controversy surrounding the date would become a very serious matter for obvious reasons. For me, my personal reaction would be: Why was not the celebration of Jesu's birthday instituted in a way similar to the Passover, and why does the inspired Word neglect to reveal the actual date so that it could be observed in the proper manner? After all, significant dates are plentiful in the O.T. for far less important reasons! However, were the answer to be a 'no', then the date question would lose its relevance altogether.

I am quite convinced that the majority of 'Christians' could not care less as to whether we 'should or should not', they simply keep it because they want to. It has been my observation that there are two classes of Christians: those who are true Truth Seekers, and those who will accept any teaching that is convenient for them. One might term the latter as lazy Christians concerned only in appeasing their own will, whereas the Truth Seeker is concerned in appeasing God's Will!

"Christmas" is FALSE!! With the possible exception (although not entirely so) of the giving of gifts, which was a Jewish custom anyway. I challenge you to name ONE aspect of Christmas observance which does not hark back to paganism. Now if this is true we should remember how God looked, and still does look, upon pagan idolatry. He viewed it as ABOMINATION.

So now let us look once again at your question, "Should We Celebrate Christmas?" from the point of view that it is Pagan. Could it be that those who partake of this error, just *may* be among those to whom Christ will say, "Depart from me" Christmas observance is a "tradition of men". If it is not in the Bible.... why do it? "Christmas" is pagan and we have been warned to "come out of Babylon and partake no more of her sins". The trouble plainly is that Christendom has not come all the way out.

Yours in Jesu's Name
Frank Jeffery

THE ROOTS OF CHRISTIAN FAITH IN AUSTRALIA

Many people these days find that family genealogy is of great personal importance. Few, however, ever think about the origin of the Christian Faith in Australia. The official and recent historical introduction of formal Christian worship in this country was of course the coming of the Rev. Marsden soon after the first settlement at Botany Bay. However, he brought faith not pagans, but to nominal Christians (many of whom might well have lapsed into ungodliness). We must remember that Australia was settled by peoples of Anglo-Saxon-Celtic origin, people of well established Christian nations. The true Celtic origins of the Faith once delivered to the saints are found in Britain. This is especially relevant in Australia today, for at least 75% of Australians are of Anglo-Saxon-Celtic descent. Most of our people have their essential roots in Britain. This is not politically correct these days but it is the truth. Why should the majority be ruled by the ambitions of a minority?

The origin of the FAITH in Britain is a mystery to many. First, let it be asserted that Christianity was NOT introduced into Britain by Augustine in the year A.D. 596. This is a political lie taught since the Middle Ages by the Papacy to justify claimed regal authority over all nations and kings. This has been suppressed in our schools for a long time even to the extent of removing the history of England from the curriculum, unless it be a social study biased towards humanism, or is a reference to the alleged evils of British imperialism and the alleged misdeeds of her Kings and Queens. The truth is that Christianity was introduced into a peaceful and independent Britain soon after Pentecost in A.D. 30. Julius Caesar did NOT conquer Britain - his expedition suffered military defeats as well as victories, and a few months later his army was withdrawn. Britain did not become a Roman province until after A.D. 43, when Claudius Caesar (mentioned in Acts 11:28) invaded the country. He eventually entered into a Treaty with the southern Britons after some years marked by bitter battles. The military campaigns continued until A.D. 74 when Chester, Lincoln and York fell. Caradoc was defeated in A.D. 52 and was taken to Rome. His speech in the Senate was reported by Tacitus.

Far from being a barbarian, he spoke in educated Latin to such effect that contrary to Roman custom he was not put to death but was allowed to live in freedom in Rome. He received Paul in his own house when he visited Rome. At this time, there was a flourishing Christian presence in Britain. There is evidence to prove this. For example, Eusebius c.260-340 wrote that some of the Apostles: "...crossed the ocean and reached the isles of Britain", and Tertullian c.160-240 wrote of "haunts of Britons inaccessible to the Romans, but subjugated to Christ..." There is also evidence that St. Paul himself visited Britain, and that the first church building in Britain was erected at Glastonbury by Joseph of Arimathea soon after the dispersal of the Pentecostal Church in the scattering after the death of Stephen. This evidence is collected by Rev. R. W. Morgan in his book "St. Paul in Britain". In 1931, Pope Pius XI accepted that St. Paul and not Pope Gregory first introduced Christianity to Britain (Morning Post, 27th March, 1931)

Now, this original Christianity in Britain was undiluted New Testament Faith, coming directly through established Mediterranean trade routes

from Palestine to Britain BEFORE A.D. 43. I suppose all have heard of the Phoenician trade with Cornwall - these traders naturally established settlements or trading posts in Britain - and it is now known that before the Assyrian Captivity, people from their Israelite neighbours Asher and Zebulon, and Dan in Joppa were joint venturers with them. The independent British primitive Church was Eastern, and separate from Rome. By A. D. 200-300 the Church was far spread in the land, sending missions to Germany and northern Europe.

As time passed, the Roman legions were forced to return home and Britain fell under assault from the Angles, Saxons, Danes, and Vikings. The works of men were thrown down, lands were settled by farmers. Contrary to popular belief, the newcomers did not engage in wholesale slaughter. Enemies were killed in battle, naturally, but women were seized as wives or slaves - with the inevitable result that children inherited British and other parentages. Anthropologists assert that both the Britons and the invaders descended from a common ancestry. Allegations of a mongrel race are false. This is a very brief outline of the acceptance of Christ within Celtic Britain. The faith was so strong that teachers from Scotland and Strathclyde evangelised Anglo-Saxons almost to the gates of London before Augustine came. This was the real reason why Gregory sent Augustine. But the political ambitions of the Papacy also resented the independence of the Celtic Church, which refused to accept the supremacy of the Pope. The importance of all this is that the Faith in Australia originated on a New Testament basis.

In this day, our people are far from that faith. We face disaster, or perhaps Divine Judgment. There is little we can do about this, individually, but we can recognise the wickedness of our nation. Our governments have sold our native freedoms to foreigners, and we despise the Lord God. We are under both mundane and spiritual bondage, both external and internal. This is plain to see in the ungodliness that surrounds us, in the crime and violence everywhere, in the pursuit of material things, in the delight of so many in immorality, in the pressures to fit into the world as it is, to be modern. There is a deliberate and effective campaign to destroy Christ and His Church, to destroy the independence of the nation, to destroy the Constitution, especially the Throne occupied by a very gracious and concerned lady who is saddened by the state of the Nation. The attacks on the Throne seem to be concentrated on the British Throne! Can one imagine similar attacks on the Japanese throne?

I appeal to all readers to get down on their knees in prayer. May we all pray that the Holy Spirit bring our people to repentance, to humble themselves, and pray and seek the face of the Lord, and turn from our wickedness. The Lord spoke to Solomon as in 2 Chronicles 7:12-14: *"And the Lord appeared to Solomon by night, and said unto him, I have heard thy prayer, and have chosen this place to myself for an house of sacrifice. If I shut up heaven that there be no rain, or if I command the locusts to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among my people; if my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."* We face critical days. We face oppression. Let us humble ourselves, and pray for Revival. May we gather perhaps into prayer groups, or study groups, seeking the will of the Father, and look to the Lord Jesus Christ, Who is the Divine King soon coming to reign.

(V. A. Proposch)



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THE NEO CHRISTIANITY OF OUR DAY

The intellectual ferment of the 18th Century set the stage for the 19th Century when everything was questioned. Mental, moral and spiritual revolutions altered the thinking of society, reshaped its basic concepts, breaking its cohesion and destroying accepted standards which had developed over hundreds of years. This so-called "enlightenment" stemmed from the thinking of a group of European intellectuals who generated philosophies which have been used by Satan in his battle for the minds of men.

The most fundamental of all changes has been to the Christian religion, which has become recognizable only by its outward shell while the life of Christianity has gone from within. That life was derived from the belief that the One Living God has revealed Himself in His inspired and infallible Word, the Bible. No wonder Our Lord is portrayed in Revelation 3:20 as standing outside the Church knocking to come in!

The steady deterioration in the power and influence of the professing Church can be blamed on the introduction of Religious Liberalism which was later developed into Higher Criticism by Julius Wellhausen (b.1844), a German intellectual. He was a rationalist Old Testament scholar and theologian who claimed to present the Christian community with a new and better way of understanding the Bible. Until then the Bible was trusted as the infallible and inerrant Word of God, dependable for doctrine, correction and instruction in righteousness. Wellhausen taught that the Bible, rather than being the Word of God was a collection of human documents and myths compiled to illustrate certain truths and that rather than Divine inspiration, evolutionary thinking was the basis of the Old Testament's development.

From 1878, added to the influences of Darwinism and Marxism, a spirit of doubt, spiritual disquiet and distrust of God spread through the churches, schools and homes of Europe and abroad. From then as David Breese has said on p.84 of his book 'Seven Men Who Rule the World from the Grave': "Revelation (of God) was doubted then denied and rationalism took its place". The change was so fundamental and the results so deadly and long-standing that Wellhausen can be regarded as one of the 19th Century "thinkers" who rule the world from the grave.

Throughout the 20th Century the disease of doubt and disbelief has spread worldwide as a pseudo-Christianity has replaced the faith once delivered to the saints. J. Grescham Machen writing in 'Christianity and Liberalism', says: "The great redemptive religion which has always been known as Christianity is battling against a totally diverse type of religious belief, which is only the more destructive of the Christian faith because it makes use of traditional Christian terminology."

A/Ed.

THE WORD OF LIFE

(Study in John's Gospel Chapter 1 verses 1-18)

Verses 1-2

The Gospel of John opens by introducing the reader to ONE Who is described in English as **THE WORD**. But the Greek word thus translated is "LOGOS" which actually means "**the expression of a thought by a word or statement**". Thus the **spoken word reveals the invisible thought**. In the same way **THE WORD (LOGOS) revealed THE INVISIBLE GOD**.

Scripture goes on to say that this **WORD (LOGOS)** was with God - He was **personally present** with the God of the Bible. It says also that He was God. That is, He was of the **SAME NATURE** as God - infinite, eternal, almighty, perfect, etc.

He was 'with God' in the beginning. What does this mean? Hebrews Ch. 1 v. 2 tells us that by Him God made or prepared the 'worlds' (aions, ages). Hebrews 11:3 says that "Through faith we understand that the world (aions, ages) were framed (prepared) by the **WORD OF GOD**. So **THE WORD (LOGOS) WAS** or **PRE-EXISTED** before the order and time-spans of the aions (ages) were planned.

Verse 3

Verse 3 says that "all things were made by (through) Him. So the **WORD OF GOD** was also **THE CREATOR**.

Verses 4-9

"In Him was life; and the life was the light of men." The Greek word for 'life' is **ZOE** meaning **life as a principle** - life in all its manifestations, life of every sort, including physical life, spiritual life, resurrection life and eternal life. Thus the **WORD OF GOD** is also the **FOUNTAIN OF ALL LIFE** and, as such, is the **LIGHT (OR ILLUMINATOR) OF MEN**. This means that through the spiritual life given by the **WORD** men are illuminated or given light by which to live, and to find the way of eternal life. Psalm 36:9 reads:

"For with thee (**JEHOVAH**) is the fountain of life;

In **THY** light **WE** see light."

In this verse we see the link between **JEHOVAH** and **THE WORD**.

Only through God's illumination are we able to see **TRUTH**. Satan, we are told, can manifest as an 'angel of light' but, when his false light is flooded by the light of Scripture it is found to be as darkness and vanishes away. But when the **LIGHT** that comes from **THE WORD** shines in the darkness, the darkness 'comprehends' it not, i.e. is not able to overpower it. **TRUE LIGHT** cannot be overpowered by darkness. Even the light from a tiny candle dispels the darkness around it. We are told that John the Baptist was 'a light' sent to bear witness to **THE TRUE LIGHT (THE WORD)**, Whose light is not just symbolic. It is real, of substance, and "lighteth (illuminates) every man", i.e., in coming into the world He made His light available to all men, individually and personally, if they are willing to receive it. In Isaiah 49:6 God says of ONE He calls **HIS SERVANT**:

"I will also give thee for a light to the gentiles (nations) that

Thou mayest be **MY SALVATION** unto the end of the earth."

This **LIGHT** was to be for all mankind.

It is not until verse 17 that the Apostle identifies Who **THE WORD** actually is but His identity becomes clear as we read on.

Verse 10-13

Although He had come into the world, the ONE Who had actually created it, yet it did not recognize Him. He had come to His own people but nationally they would not acknowledge or welcome Him, even though His birth had been miraculous as prophesied. He had been born "not of blood, nor the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." (See note on v. 13 in Bullinger Bible) But the individuals who believed Who He was and accepted His salvation, He enabled by His authority (because of Who He was) to become children (sons) of God.

Verse 14-15

"The **WORD** was made (became) **flesh** and dwelt among us". This Dr. Bullinger calls the "new mode of His Being". In the Old Testament we read of Him as Jehovah, Israel's **COVENANT GOD/KING**, the **ETERNAL ONE**, the **EVER PRESENT I AM**, Who **IS** and **WAS** and **IS TO COME**. The O.T. gives a number of titles for Jehovah which showed forth His Character to Israel: Jehovah Jireh (Jehovah Provides); Jehovah Zidkenu (Jehovah our Righteousness); Jehovah Roi (Jehovah my Shepherd), etc.

But there is another name which expresses Jehovah in a very special sense and relation to His People and this is the name **JAH**. It is found first in Exodus 15:2 "The **LORD (JAH)** is my strength and song and He is become **MY SALVATION**." **JAH**, then, portrays Jehovah as "**having become OUR SALVATION**". This links directly with the words spoken by the Angel to Joseph in Matthew 1:20/21:

"... fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call His name **JESUS** for He shall **SAVE** His people from their sins."

"**JESUS**" being the *Greek form* of the *Hebrew* name **JEHOSHUA** or **JAH OSHEA** means "**JEHOVAH (the) SAVIOUR**" or "**JEHOVAH OUR SALVATION**".

In John 8:58 the Lord Jesus identified Himself as Jehovah when He said: "Verily, verily, I say unto you, before Abraham was, I **AM**." Angrily they took up stones to stone Him refusing to believe that He was indeed Jehovah their Covenant God and King manifested in the flesh for the purpose of **securing their salvation** as had been promised centuries before:

"Rejoice greatly O daughter of Zion....behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and **HAVING SALVATION**, lowly and riding upon an ass..." (Zech. 9:9)

"Behold, the Lord hath proclaimed unto the end of the world, Say ye to the daughter of Zion, Behold, **THY SALVATION** cometh; behold, His reward is with Him and His work before Him." (Isaiah 62:11)

How sad it was that He came to His own - His own land, His own throne, His own people but they refused to accept Him. And yet it was in God's great purpose that He should be rejected and give His sinless life in order to secure **SALVATION** not only for His People nationally, but for all men individually, if they will gratefully receive it.

John the Baptist had witnessed to His pre-existence saying:

"He that cometh after me is preferred before me for **He was BEFORE me**."

The elderly Simeon, taking the Child Jesus in his arms in the Temple said: (Luke 2:29/32)

"For mine eyes have seen **THY SALVATION** which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; a **LIGHT to lighten the Gentiles** (nations), and the glory of thy people Israel."

The Apostle John goes on to say:

"And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his **glory**, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father), full of **GRACE AND TRUTH**."

Glory here means dignity, honour, praiseworthiness. Our Lord's 'glory' was manifested by His **character and acts** which were exactly what would be expected of the 'only begotten' or sole representative of God's Being. **He was 'full of GRACE AND TRUTH'**

GRACE AND TRUTH (or **MERCY AND TRUTH**) is a Hebraism meaning **THE TOTAL OF DIVINE REVELATION**. This is found in the Old Testament. Abraham's servant upon finding Rebekah prayed:

"Blessed be the Lord God of my master Abraham, who hath not left destitute my master of his **mercy** and his **truth**..."

(Gen. 24:27)

Jacob when returning to Palestine prayed:

"I am not worthy of the least of all thy **mercies**, and of all the **truth**, which thou hast showed unto thy servant." (Gen. 32:10)

When Moses took the tables of stone up into Mt. Sinai we are told

"... the Lord passed by before him and proclaimed, **The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth**."

(Ex. 34:6)

THE WORD (LOGOS), as the sole representative of God's Being and Character expressed the **total of Divine Revelation**, i.e., He revealed the **NATURE** of the **INVISIBLE GOD** faithfully. Revelation Ch. 1 calls Him "**THE FAITHFUL WITNESS**". In Him, was all the fulness of the Godhead in bodily form.

Verse 16

"And of His fulness (His virtues and excellencies)", says the Apostle, "have all we received and grace for grace" (continuous grace, or everfresh grace) according to our needs.

Verse 17

Here for the first time John identifies **THE LOGOS (THE WORD)**. He says:

"For the law was given by Moses but **GRACE AND TRUTH** came by **JESUS CHRIST**."

This does not mean that there was no grace or truth before the coming of Jesus Christ. Dr. Bullinger comments that "...in the days of Moses there was grace, and the Law itself was an exhibition of truth, but when Jesus Christ came **He was Himself the TRUTH**, i.e., Jesus Christ was the very personification of **TRUTH**, and His life and death were the **supreme manifestation of GRACE**."

The Lord Jesus Himself proclaimed:

"I am the **WAY, the TRUTH and the LIFE**: no man cometh unto the Father, but by (through) **me**."

Those who claim that there are many ways to God and that all religions are of equal value should think again very seriously.

Verse 18

"No man hath seen God (the Invisible God Who is Spirit) at any time; the **only begotten son**, which is in the bosom of the Father (in continuous close relationship) he hath **declared** him."

There is a kindred verse in 2 Cor. 4:6

"For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of **Jesus Christ**."

TO SUM UP:

Our Lord, Jesus Christ, was the **LOGOS**, the **WORD OF GOD**, Who was personally present with God before the ages were planned. He is

The **CREATOR OF THE UNIVERSE**,

The **FOUNTAIN OF ALL LIFE**,

The **SOURCE OF ALL TRUE LIGHT**.

He was the **ETERNAL, EVERPRESENT I AM**, Who was Israel's Covenant God and King Who, by **BECOMING FLESH** was able to be **THE SAVIOUR** not only of Israel but of all mankind. He it was Who **DECLARED** or **REVEALED** the Invisible God to perfection.

What worship, what obedience, what love and reverence is owed to Him Who bore the shame and agony of the Cross, that we, as individuals, might be saved from the just judgment of a Holy God for our sin, and that His People nationally might be perpetuated. The total surrender of our hearts and lives to His Will is but a very small return for what He has accomplished for us.

A/Ed.

COINCIDENCE?

(Source unknown)

BEAT THIS! There is a Latin tag: Contra factum non valet argumentum, meaning "against fact there is no argument. Surely this is proved by the following:-

1. Both President Lincoln and President Kennedy were concerned with the issue of civil rights.
2. Lincoln was elected in 1860, Kennedy in 1960.
3. Both were slain on Friday and in the presence of their wives.
4. Both were shot from behind and in the head.
5. Their successors, both named Johnson, were southern Democrats and both were in the Senate.
6. Andrew Johnson was born in 1808, Lyndon Johnson in 1908.
7. John Wilkes Booth was born in 1839, Lee Harvey Oswald in 1939.
8. Booth and Oswald were Southerners favouring unpopular ideas.
9. Booth and Oswald were both shot before going to trial.
10. Both Presidents' wives lost children through death while in the White House.
11. Lincoln's Secretary, whose name was Kennedy, advised him not to go to the theatre. Kennedy's secretary whose name was Lincoln, advised him not to go to Dallas.
12. John Wilkes Booth shot Lincoln in a theatre and ran to a warehouse. Oswald shot Kennedy from a warehouse and ran to a theatre.
13. The names Lincoln and Kennedy each contain seven letters.
14. The names Andrew Johnson and Lyndon Johnson each contain 13 letters.
15. The names John Wilkes Booth and Lee Harvey Oswald each contain 15 letters.

THE ETHICS OF MAN

Secular society has progressively ignored the Law of God and has opted for other legal programmes by which to rule itself. Now at the end of the age the world is reaping the results of elevating man's law above God's because man's ethics have led downwards to disorder and despair. **CONSENSUS MORALITY** is when leading minds or politicians agree to determine what shall be held as acceptable conduct making rules in the form of a constitution, Magna Carta, Bill of Rights., etc. This, however, can only work among 'lawful people', i.e. people who are reasonable, obedient, moral, self disciplined. But consensus breaks down when people become unstable, self-seeking, rebellious, unreasonable and violent. A consensus form of government is called:

DEMOCRACY

But democracy lasts only as long as there exists a majority of responsible people willing to keep the law. When democracy sinks to where it is exploited by those who would use it to gain personal advantage, where the concept of Divine Law behind it has been eroded and disappears, and it cannot be controlled by mere organized consensus, it becomes:

PRAGMATISM

Private advantage foremost, people live for personal profit. Culture progressively fractionalizes as individuals think only of themselves. Even when most people live for personal, rather than public, advantage it is often practical to follow a rule which has been established by consensus somewhere. This degenerates into :

HEDONISM

The individual still seeks for personal advantage but in the form of indulgence and personal fulfilment - the lusts of the flesh - which lead to partying, alcohol, drugs, sexual fulfilment and indulgence, perverted sexual activity and no rules for behaviour. Then homosexuality becomes an alternative lifestyle and bestiality a form of self realization. The passions take over. A hedonistic society finally sinks to a level which lasts but a short time and ends in destruction, death and damnation. This final state is:

ANARCHY

This is the fifth possible ethical system which ends often in quick, violent, bloody revolution and death to society.

But for the grace of God world society would so end in the not too distant future. However, His promise is that "... the Redeemer **shall come** to Zion, and unto them that turn from transgression in Jacob..." Then will Israel turn from their corrupted law and religion to the **true and living way** of their returned Redeemer and King, our Lord, Jesus Christ. Then also will the world learn truth and light instead of deception and darkness.

"Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.

And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising." (Isa. 60:1-3)

A/Ed.



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CHRIST OUR PASSOVER

Our Lord Jesus Christ was born of Mary nearly 2000 years ago. He is the Son of God and was announced so to Mary in Luke 1:30-33.

"And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son and shalt call his name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: and he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end."

Yet He is also a genealogical descendant of Adam through His mother, sharing the Sonship of God with the sonship of Adam. Thus Paul wrote:

"And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit." (1 Cor. 15:45)

However, God *"hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin"* (2 Cor. 5:21) and Peter writes: *"For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth."* (1 Pet. 2:21-22)

At some stage in His earthly life, Our Lord's condition altered from a state of perfect obedience to, and communion with, His Father to a state wherein He was made SIN, becoming the One Who Isaiah foresaw:

"He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken. And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth. Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand." (Isa. 53:8-10)

The expression **"cut off"** reminds us of Daniel's prophecy: *"And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself..."*

(Dan.9:27) In Israel the sinner was to be **"cut off"** from his people, sent to a land of separation just as the scapegoat was taken into the wilderness, or to the land set apart. John the Baptist said of Jesus when He came for the symbolic ceremony of Baptism *"Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world."* (John 1:29), and Paul wrote: *"For even Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us..."* (1 Cor. 5:7)

At the Exodus it was the command of the LORD that each household should select a lamb on the tenth day of the first month (later called Nisan). On the fourteenth day of the same month, all leaven (or yeast) was to be put out of the houses before noon and then the lambs were to be sacrificed during the afternoon. Leaven is symbolic of sin. By sunset beginning the fifteenth day, the blood of the sacrifice had to be sprinkled on the doorposts and lintels of the houses. At midnight, the Angel of Death passed over the houses and by the grace of God spared the inhabitants wherever the blood had been sprinkled. On the seventeenth day of the month, the Salvation of the LORD became effective at the Sea of Reeds (Red Sea) through which Israel passed to safety and freedom.

How is this relevant to Christ our Passover? Much depends upon just what the words "cut off" mean spiritually. We have seen that Christ is our Passover Lamb. We know that He suffered physical death on the Cross in torment and mental anguish. Yet He was "made sin for us", which means that He took upon Himself all the iniquity of Mankind. He was therefore the true and complete scapegoat, delivered into a land of separation (from God), while still physically alive. It was for this reason that He cried out when on the Cross, "My God! My God! Why hast thou forsaken me." He had allowed Himself to be separated from the Holy and Righteous God even unto death. Separation from God is spiritual death, just as was Adam's sentence "Thou shalt surely die" which literally means "dying thou shalt die". In other words, Adam and all humanity are in a natural state of continuous dying which is different in character from physical death. Jesus, at the instant He was cut off entered into Adam's state of continuous dying. These philosophical concepts are difficult to explain yet they indicate the spiritual distress of One Who had been in lifelong communion with His Eternal Father, and now was separated! This is something quite beyond our imagination. We may know suffering, loss of loved ones and separation. But how could we feel as Christ felt?

When we are in Christ, He is always with us. Without Christ men live careless lives, in hope and in trust of society. In this, sometimes they are happy, sometimes sad, but they do not have the spiritual security that Christ brings to the believer.

In A.D. 30, on the tenth day of the month Nisan - Palm Sunday - after riding into Jerusalem He presented Himself as God's Passover Lamb. Later at the Passover Supper He offered the symbols of His Spiritual Body and Blood. This indicates that His spiritual body had already been "cut off" from the Father having been made sin for us. At midnight in Gethsemane He agonised in Spirit over His "Exodus" and His burden. This great agony resulted from bearing the Passing Over of the Angel of Death for the sin of Mankind. The events of the Passover of 30 A.D. happened in exact parallel with the First Passover some 1515 years before. Salvation was made effective when He rose from the tomb in the early morning of the seventeenth day of Nisan.

How can we neglect so great a salvation? Jesus Christ is Saviour. He is Lord. He is to be our coming King in power and great glory! Let us each one glory in Him and worship the Father and the Son. Let us praise the Great and Holy Name of the LORD God. May we each one love the LORD our God with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our strength and with all our mind.

(V. A. Proposch)

THE JEWISH PROBLEM

(Extracted from SPECIAL OFFICE BRIEF No. 418 14/1/95)

"Jewish opinion of the Zionist ilk faces a problem. It could be detected in the New York Times of 29th December, 1994, which partly supported Yeltsin's attack upon Chechnya. Thoughtful Jews fear an escalation of Islamic anti Zionism. A victory for Chechnya against Russia might escalate Islamic militancy. On the other hand a Russian victory might escalate Russian Nationalism, which is anti Israel. Jewish opinion now lacks precision and is deeply worried. It would like to rely upon the great Biblical prophecies but falls flat upon its face when it reaches verse 10 of Zechariah, Chapter 12.

That chapter is one of the foundation stones of Zionism. It could not go further or be clearer. It is either the fundamental truth or mere tribal mythology. If it is a Divine forecast - as Zionists believe - what is Jewry now to do about verse 10?..... *"And I will pour upon David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Spirit of grace and of supplications; and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and shall mourn for him as one mourneth for his only Son and shall be in bitterness for him as one that is in bitterness for his first born."*.....

You will then see the foundation of Zionism and its inevitable problem. It cannot make its case and at the same time stop at verse 9 of Ch. 12. But that is what Jewry has tried to do. That has caused the entire present Jewish problem. Many very important Jews secretly admit that fact but still fear to state it.

It is because of Zechariah Ch. 12 verses 10-14 and St. Paul's epistle to the Romans Ch. 11, that fully convinced Christians have never been anti Jewish. One either believes what is declared in Holy Scripture or one does not. One either accepts it as The Word of God given by the Holy Ghost or one does not.

It would be insolent impertinence on our part to attempt to use this publication to presume your opinion. That is not our mission. But it is right to point out the precarious position which must result from founding a whole World policy on a mere part of a Biblical declamation while then altogether ignoring what essentially follows and is part of that declamation. That is what Jewry is doing and why it is now in dangerous confusion.

This article is to point out the extent of the Jewish problem today. Jewry asks the World to defend a Biblical, (solely Biblical) geography, but refutes an essential part of the mandate it relies upon. It is that which causes the present very grave problem which now confronts Jewry which nevertheless demands support of a precise mandate which in the same breath part of which it refutes.

That is the problem Jewry now has to solve, just as many Christians have to solve their problems resulting from an attempt to accept part of the great Creeds while abandoning others. It cannot work.

There is something else which needs to be said: scholars correctly assert that the Tribes of Judah and Benjamin never did and cannot now represent the whole of Israel. Ten Tribes (to whom the Biblical premises equally belonged) were lost. But they cannot have evaporated. If they still exist (and they must) Zionist implications go further and deeper than for Jewry alone. That is a matter for much thought. Consequently Jewry has two major issues to figure out and if it does so the extent of its claim for support would very greatly widen and deepen, whereas, humanly speaking, it is presently fast shrinking under the agnostic influences of Rabin and Peres - shrinking to near zero."

THE LAMB SLAIN

The sacrifice of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ was of supreme spiritual importance in the great purposes of God. It was an act of God which came about not just as a remedial measure to correct the results of one man's sin but was a provision planned by God in ages past. The Book of Revelation (13:8) speaks of the "Lamb slain from the foundation of the world" typifying the death of One of sinless purity.

Divine justice requires *"the soul that sinneth it shall die"* (Ezek. 18:4) and the death of the soul results finally in the death of the body. We see the evidence of this law in operation all about us for all disobedience to the Law of God is sin. But the death of the Innocent One is something to be wondered at. It was this death, however, that would provide the basis for God's dealings with the rebellious angelic forces (Rev. 12:7-9) and with the inhabitants of this planet, especially the People created to be His Witnesses in the earth.

So we find that the first of the Great Feasts laid down by the LORD upon which Israel's worship was structured, was the Passover, which set forth symbolically both the meaning and the implications of the slaying of the Lamb. What was the Passover?

Exodus Ch. 12 vs. 3-11 sets out the details of "the Lord's passover" which prefigured in detail the pattern by which this Great Act of God would be carried out when its time in God's purpose had come.

The Passover involved:

1. The selection of an unblemished sacrificial lamb on 10th Nisan (Abib);
2. Its sacrificial death on 14th Nisan;
3. The sprinkling of its blood on the doorposts and lintels of the houses;
4. Roasting the lamb with fire;
5. Eating the flesh with unleavened bread and bitter herbs;
6. Burning the remains with fire;
7. Eating with shoes on feet and staff in hand.

It was closely associated with the seven days of unleavened bread which began on the day the Passover lamb was sacrificed when all leaven had to be disposed of.

Its effect was: Escape from God's judgment and Egypt's bondage;
A dead-end journey into the wilderness;
Salvation through the Red Sea (Sea of Reeds);
Vanquished enemies.

When John the Baptist saw our Lord Jesus approaching him he called the attention of the assembled company saying:

"Behold the Lamb of God Which taketh away the sin of the world."

This is He of Whom I said, After me cometh a Man Which is preferred before me; for He was before me....."

"And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God." (John 1:29-32). In so saying John identified Jesus (Jehovah the Saviour) as the Son of God and the Lamb of God, the Passover lamb provided by God in ages past to take away the sin of the world. He was the expected One, the Promised Seed of Gen. 3:15, Who was to be the personal fulfilment of all that had been prefigured in the O.T. ordinances of worship, by Whose sacrifice alone deliverance from Divine Judgment was to be obtained.

it was our Lord Jesus Christ Whose shed blood (i.e. His death) has purchased our redemption. "...ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold.....But with the precious blood of Christ as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times....." (1 Pet. 1:18-20).

How did the Passover of 1486 B.C. prefigure this Great Sacrifice?

In A.D. 30 on 10th Nisan, the day for selecting the Passover lambs, after being greeted by the people with palm branches and hailed as King of Israel, Our Lord acknowledged to the Father that His time of sacrifice had begun and the Father confirmed this by answering him audibly (John 12:27-33), thus selecting Him as His Passover Lamb.

The sprinkled blood of the Passover lamb was to be for a token of its death on behalf of those within the house. "For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night and will smite all the first born in the land of Egypt.... And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt."

By eating the Passover Supper under the sprinkled blood Israel demonstrated their obedience to Jehovah's instructions and their faith in His promise to pass over them. At midnight, therefore, when the Angel of Death passed over, Israel was protected from judgment and made free from the bondage of Egypt. This prefigured the soul agony of Our Lord in Gethsemane as at midnight He prayed saying, "Abba, Father, all things are possible unto Thee; take away this cup from Me: nevertheless not what I will, but what thou wilt." (Mark 14:36), indicating His willingness to bear as Perfect Man God's judgment on the sin of the world. "...and His sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground." There is, therefore, protection from judgment for all who will shelter under His blood, and freedom from the bondage of sin.

The Passover Supper itself was of profound spiritual significance.

The lamb was roast with fire typifying the fact that the Lamb of God endured the fire of God's judgment on mankind's behalf. "...let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: For our God is a consuming fire." (Heb. 12:28-29)

The absence of leaven spoke of the sinless perfection of the Lamb of God; the flesh of the lamb of His Spiritual Body supplying spiritual sustenance for all who believe; the unleavened bread of Him - the Bread from Heaven - Who is the Way the Truth and the Life:

".....we being many are one bread and one body: for we are all partakers of that one bread." (1 Cor. 10:17) "Purge out therefore the old leaven.... For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us: Therefore let us keep the feast, not with the old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth." (1 Cor. 5:7-8)

The bitter herbs spoke of His spiritual and physical agony: "He hath filled me with bitterness, He hath made me drunken with wormwood" (Lam. 3:15).

At His last Supper our Lord demonstrated its spiritual significance by giving the disciples the bread and wine as tokens of His Spiritual Body and Blood. "Jesus took breadand said, "Take eat: this is my body."

"And He took the cup "This is my blood of the new testament Which is shed for many". (Mark 14:22-24)

He had previously told them "Whoso eateth my flesh and drinketh my blood hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day". (John 6:54) Nothing of the Passover lamb was to be left to putrify, all remains were to be burnt with fire thus retaining the symbolism of the perfect Lamb of God subjecting Himself totally to the will and judgment of God.

Israel ate the Passover with shoes on and staff in hand in readiness to obey the Lord's next command. We also should be "Always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord." (1. Cor. 15:58)

Early in the morning following the Passover Israel began their exodus, arriving at Succoth where they baked and ate around midday the unleavened dough they had carried with them. This first meal of their Exodus signalled their escape from the judgments and bondage of Egypt and was to be celebrated afterwards as the Feast of Unleavened Bread or the Feast of Passover on 15th Nisan.

Our Lord's death on the Cross at noon following the Last Supper was the outward evidence that His Great Sacrifice was completed. "When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, He said, "It is finished"; and He bowed His head, and gave up the ghost." (John 19:30) His physical death signalled the fact that a way of escape had been made for mankind from the righteous judgment of God and the bondage of sin.

Israel's journey into the wilderness brought them to a dead end at the Sea of Reeds (Red Sea) but through God's grace and power they had by dawn passed safely through the Sea and their enemies were vanquished. The LORD had turned a seemingly hopeless situation into a Great Salvation for His People on the first day of a new week.

Our Lord's lifeless body remained in the tomb and His soul in hell (the state of death) until just before dawn on the first day of the week when by the power of Almighty God He arose triumphant over death and Satan. "Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood (physical bodies) He also Himself likewise took part of the same; that through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; and deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage." (Heb. 2:14-15)

Our Lord's resurrection was the final and overwhelming evidence that He was indeed Jehovah the Saviour, God Incarnate. HE LIVES and because He lives WE MAY LIVE ALSO. "Wherefore He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them." (Heb. 7:25)

Psalm 16 vs. 8-11 is prophetic of our Lord's period of sacrifice - His spiritual and physical trial, His burial, His resurrection and final ascension to the Right Hand of the Father.

"I have set the Lord always before me: because He is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: my flesh also shall rest in hope. For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt Thou suffer Thine Holy One to see corruption. Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fullness of joy; at thy right hand are pleasures for evermore."

(Asst. Ed.)



British-Israel World Federation

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GREAT TRIBULATION

In these days many are fearful of things that they think are coming upon the earth. There is a distinct concept among some Christians that this will be manifest in what is called THE Great Tribulation. This is thought of as something quite unique. It is considered to be a period when there will be distress of all nations, in some way connected with the promised return of the Lord Jesus Christ. Some think that the True Church, the Body of Christ, will be removed before this happens enabling Christians to escape this trouble. Appealing though this idea may be it involves a misconception of what the Lord Jesus taught and of what the Bible teaches.

Tribulation is defined as affliction, distress, suffering or trial, and extends to persecution. The Latin root of the word means 'threshing of corn'. This indicates the separation of the grain from the chaff. Our Lord anticipated that His followers would come into this tribulation for He said: *But take heed to yourselves: for they shall deliver you up to councils; and in the synagogues ye shall be beaten: and ye shall be brought before rulers and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them ... And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that shall endure unto the end, and same shall be saved.* (Mark 13:9 & 13)

He also said:

These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. IN THE WORLD YE SHALL HAVE TRIBULATION: BUT BE OF GOOD CHEER; I HAVE OVERCOME THE WORLD. (JOHN 16:33)

Examples of persecution are seen in Acts 8:1 in relation to Stephen: *And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem ...*

In Acts 14:21&22 we read: *Howbeit, as the disciples stood round about him, he rose up, and came into the city: and the next day he departed with Barnabas to Derbe. And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had taught many, they*

returned again to Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch, confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through MUCH TRIBULATION enter into the kingdom of God.

These few passages establish that the normal condition of Christian life is one of great tribulation. We who are in Christ today are not exempt and although the pressures are more subtle, they do exist and do affect the lives of Christians, more especially those who stand against the ways of the world.

I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the Isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ. (Rev. 1:9)

Tribulation existed in the First Century! In his visions at Patmos John heard: *These are they which came out of (the) great tribulation.....* (Rev. 7:14) The context places this in heaven before the heavenly throne.

Tribulation must be distinguished from the predicted TIME OF TROUBLE immediately before the return of the Lord Jesus. Daniel wrote of this (Daniel 12:1)

And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.

Daniel's people are all-Israel, not limited to Judah or the Jews. Nor are they limited to the Church.

Luke reported the words of Jesus when he referred to *distress of nations* immediately before the coming of the Lord in glory. (Luke 21:25-28) Some think that this "distress of nations" began in 1914, continuing through the Great Depression, World War II and in the continuing economic woes that afflict all nations at this time of exceptional indebtedness and exploitation of natural resources. Two other things must be separated from tribulation. These are (1) chastisement designed to bring people to the Lord God, as Peter wrote: *For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God...* (1 Pet. 4:17); and (2) the wrath of God, *"In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ..."* (2 Thess. 1:8)

Tribulation is not chastisement from the Lord but is Satan's opposition to doing right.

Chastisement is corrective or tutorial punishment leading to repentance. *Blessed is the man whom thou chastenest, O Lord, and teachest him out of thy law.* (Psalm 94:12)

The wrath of God is the judgment and sentence imposed on the incorrigible wickedness of those who are the enemies of God.

Let us praise the Lord God and Christ Jesus His Son, who is our Saviour and Lord. He is coming soon. May we watch and be ready for Him, for when He comes we shall be ever with the Lord. This is a promise beyond measure!

(V. A. Proposch)

WHY WILL YE DIE OH HOUSE OF ISRAEL?

The destruction of physical Israel has been Satan's evident objective since the time of the Exodus in order to maintain his authority among men and to prevent God's promises to the Fathers from coming to pass, thus compromising God's integrity.

The coming special Seed (Gen. 3:15) to come through the line of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob would, at the appointed time, replace Satan's sovereignty in the earth with His own (1 John 3:8) bringing blessing to all the families of the earth (Gen. 12:3). He alone, our Lord Jesus Christ, would make salvation possible for all men (John 3:16) and would finally establish His own righteous Kingdom in place of the Satan instigated regime of men manifested worldwide in the "last days" of this epoch. (Ref. Luke 1:31-33; Rev. 21:1-4; Isa. 9:6-7)

Soon after Israel's deliverance from Egypt the Amalekites, descendants of Esau, endeavoured to destroy Israel by attacking the travelling host without provocation and from the rear, smiting the weaker stragglers when all were weary from their journey. Because of this God swore He would have war with Amalek from generation to generation and would eventually "utterly put out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven" (Exodus 17:14-16). Israel warred many times with Amalek down to the time of Esther who foiled the attempt of Haman the Agagite (an Amalekite) to destroy the Jews within the Medo Persian Empire. Nothing further is recorded about Amalek except in Psalm 83 which lists Amalek among the enemies of God and Israel.

Keep not thou silence, O God: hold not thy peace, and be not still, O God.

For, lo, thine enemies make a tumult: and they that hate thee have lifted up the head.

They have taken crafty counsel against thy people, and consulted against thy hidden ones.

They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance.

For they have consulted together with one consent: they are confederate against thee: the tabernacles of Edom, and the Ishmaelites; of Moab, and the Hagarenes; Gebal, and Ammon, and Amalek; the Philistines with the inhabitants of Tyre; Assur also is joined with them: they have holpen the children of Lot. (Psalm 83:1-8)

This psalm was written in the reign of Jehoshaphat, King of Judah, when Moab, Ammon and Edom had sent "a great multitude" against Judah in order to cast them out of their inheritance (2 Chron. 20). King Jehoshaphat sought the help of the Lord proclaiming a fast throughout Judah. He was told "fear not, nor be dismayed", to "stand... still, and see the salvation of the Lord". The invading host then began to fight among themselves and destroyed one another. The result was that *"the fear of God was on all the kingdoms of those countries when they had heard that the Lord fought against the enemies of Israel."* (V. 29)

However, it is thought by some that this psalm is also prophetic of

Satan's future final attempt to nullify God's promises by taking possession of God's land. This is thought to involve a confederacy of the ten peoples who have sought throughout the centuries to possess God's land and supplant the rightful inheritors. Once again God will bring about their downfall to the end *"that men may know that Thou Whose name alone is JEHOVAH, art the MOST HIGH over all the earth"*.

Satan's continual endeavours to destroy God's People have included both external enemy attack and internal corruption of faith and morals, politics and law, finance and economics by instigating the substitution of the precepts of man for the righteous Law of God. This century has seen the destruction of human life through warfare on a scale never known before while internal corruption is starkly evident today particularly within the nations of Western Christendom which contain the majority of modern day Israel.

With 1994, the International Year of the Family, came political pressure to change the definition of "the family" to include two males or two females living together, in accord with the "Gay Agenda". However, contrary to the oft-given media impression that the two-parent "nuclear" family is no longer the social norm, Bureau of Statistics figures released in 1994 show that although the number of one-parent families increased by 42 percent between 1982 and 1992, 86 percent of Australian families are still of the much maligned nuclear type and the family is still considered the most satisfying basis for life in Australian society. This is in accord with the Biblical basis of Western Society and is thus opposed to the liberal philosophy being subtly forced upon us. Our Lord said: *"Have ye not read (Gen. 2:24) that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, and said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh."* (Matt. 19:4/5)

This year, the 50th anniversary of the United Nations, has been designated as the International Year for Tolerance and the media has been urged to combat "discrimination and marginalization". The New Shorter Oxford Dictionary gives the meaning of "tolerance" as "the disposition or ability to accept without protest or adopt a liberal attitude towards the acts or opinions of others". All others? And what are we expected to tolerate? The ever falling moral standards in the works and views of atheistic humanists depicted in television and other media? The open denigration of Our Lord and Bible principles and the constant promotion of other religions and philosophies? Are we to tolerate the replacing of our Bible based Law System by an international code based on human ethics, and the education of our children in deviant sexual practices under the guise of Sex Education?

Under the cloak of tolerance racial integration and religious syncretism are being promoted not worldwide but in the "white" Christian countries and healthy nationalism, white racial pride and immigration control are condemned as xenophobia and racism. Liberalism is promoted in an endeavour to change the basis of Christian society. The New Grolier Webster International Dictionary defines "liberalism" as *"The disposition to change or reform what is established, as in religion or politics; Economic - a theory advocating individual freedom from governmental control and a market which is self-regulating."*

Liberalism within the Christian nations has resulted in economic hardship for many, the abandonment of moral standards, ignorance of the Law of God and the loss of thousands of Israel lives through abortion.

In A.D. 1900, 20 percent of the world's population was white but in 1990 it was only about 7 percent. Today only one in every 40 babies born is white, while the white nations continually feed and subsidize the expansion of other races. At the present rate of decrease it is estimated that the demise of the white population will be irreversible by the mid 21st Century.

It is obvious, therefore, that the physical end of Israel is in sight unless the great prophecies of the Bible are soon fulfilled. (Ref. Ps. 110; 1 Cor. 15: 24-26; Isa. 2:2-5; Isa. 9:6-7, etc.) How thankful we should be that God's Word is Truth and that ALL of it will be fulfilled at God's appointed time. May the Israel peoples follow the lead of King Jehoshaphat and turn again to God for help. Let us pray constantly that they will turn in repentance to their Saviour and Redeemer that they may be ready to welcome Him when He returns as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

**"Believe in the Lord your God so shall ye be established;
believe His prophets, so shall ye prosper."**

(2 Chron. 20:20)
Asst/Ed.

BLASPHEMY STAYS IN THE U.K.

At a time when two thirds of the world's population lives under regimes that persecute Christians and an estimated 156,000 Christians are killed each year for their faith it is encouraging to read the following:

London, UK

The House of Lords in England has rejected an attempt to abolish the offence of blasphemy in Britain in a vote of 25 to 14. The "Blasphemy Abolition Bill" of Lord Avebury would have abolished the common law offence of blasphemy and blasphemous libel, which at present protect the Christian faith as defined in the formularies of the Church of England.

(Extract from Family World News, May 1995)

BROUGHT VERY LOW

**"O remember not against us former iniquities;
Let Thy tender mercies speedily prevent us:
For we are brought very low.
Help us, O God of our salvation,
for the glory of Thy name:
And deliver us and purge away our sins,
for Thy name's sake."
(Psalm 79:8-9)**

The following letter appeared in the International Express -
Australian Edition March 22-28, 1995:

For a people who gave Magna Carta 800 years ago, its constitution and inbuilt People's Rights, copied throughout the free world and envied by the rest.
For a people who gave us the Westminster system, fair play, democracy, Drake, Nelson, Raleigh, Wilberforce and Cook.

For a people who gave us the Industrial Revolution, the Plimsoll line, agricultural know-how, Herefords and Friesians, Brunel, Brindley and Watt, tarmacadam roads, cats-eyes and Dunlop.

For a people who gave us Wedgwood, Doulton, Coalport, Chippendale and Adams, Wordsworth, Keats, Shelley, Coleridge and Tennyson.

For a people who gave us a world to colonise, a common language, Robert Peel's police force, Shakespeare, Dickens, Stevenson, the Brontes, Fox-Talbot, Fleming and Nightingale.

For a people who gave us Churchill, the Spitfire, the jet engine, radar, Concorde, the Harrier and the hovercraft, great passenger liners, Rolls Royce, Jaguar, the Land Rover and the MG.

We, the rest of the civilised world, thank you.
So where are you now? Stop looking to Europe. Look instead to your own people, for they can give the world another 800 years of progress. Put your house in order before it is too late.

N J Coyne,
Langdon Park, Qld.

A NATIONAL PRAYER

We humbly thank Thee, Almighty God, for the many blessings
which Thou hast given to our Country,
and add this, O Lord, to Thy other mercies,
that we may be enabled to use them better to Thy service.

O take from among us
all contempt of Thy Word and Commandments.

Break down all the barriers of selfishness and ignorance
which keep men from Thee.

Convince the impenitent of the misery of sin,
and comfort the broken-hearted with the assurance of Thy love.

Teach us all to be evangelists, not in word only,
but in everything which we do.

This we ask in the Name and for the sake of Jesus Christ
our Lord. *Amen.*

Bishop Westcott, A.D. 1825.



British-Israel World Federation
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ELECTED PRESIDENT "AN APPALLING OUTCOME"?



Former Governor-General, Sir Zelman Cowan, regards the appointment of a popularly-elected president as the head of a new Australian republic as an "appalling outcome".

Sir Zelman, who was Governor-General from 1977 to 1982, delivered the 1994 Beanland lecture on 24th October, 1994 in Melbourne, entitled 'Reflections on an Australian Republic'. In this address, Sir Zelman said that what is known as the minimalist approach favoured by republican proponents (i.e. amending the Constitution by simply deleting references to the Queen and Governor-General, and replacing them with 'president' as Head of State) could not work. "The simple answer is that minimalism cannot be as minimal as that. We have to resolve the very big question as to the desired form of republic," he said.

In his address, at the Victorian University of Technology, Sir Zelman Cowan said that if a republic was ever formed, it was crucial that a system for choosing a president could not be construed as making the presidency a "political prize or pay-off".

A report in *The Australian* (24/10/94) quotes Sir Zelman as addressing himself to the issue of what powers a president would hold.

"Polls taken are said to favour strongly a direct popular election of a president, so that a president would have a strong constitutional base to confront effectively a Prime Minister with high and threatening personal aspirations," he said. "This in my view, would be an appalling outcome;

it carries the assumption that the president should have, at least in reserve, large powers and that, I believe, is unacceptable, certainly if, as is likely, we wish to retain an effective Westminster system."

Speaking in Adelaide almost exactly a year previously, Sir Zelman noted that the change from a monarchy to a republic would not remove the potential for a 1975-style constitutional struggle, which was resolved by the Governor-General dissolving both Houses of Parliament. The struggle arose from a deadlock between the House of Representatives and the Senate over budget bills, and the replacement of the Queen with a president would not have resolved the deadlock, according to Sir Zelman.
(From: *Heritage* Sept.-Nov. 1994)

The British Constitutional Monarchy has provided far greater national stability and freedom for the individual than has been provided by republics even the U.S.A. which has its internal convulsions and corruption at high levels.

The Family of Nations under the British Crown has been an outstanding expression of true "internationalism" and as such one would expect it to be highly commended in these days when internationalism and multiculturalism are constantly lauded. Being a member of this Family does not make us any less Australians and many from other nations have come of their own free will to join us in order to share in the benefits of our monarchical system of government. The current move to break up this Family of Nations by rejecting the Monarchy and forming republics is in line with the socialist agenda of this era. It was recognized by Marxist Professor H. J. Laski of the London School of Economics that the British Monarchical Order is the greatest barrier to the establishment of a Monopoly Socialist State - hence the orchestrated campaign against it by the humanist/socialist faction of today's world.

However, the replacing of a monarchy with a republic does not ensure freedom from oppression. This century has witnessed tyranny and suppression of incredible magnitude under newly instituted republican regimes such as Germany, the U.S.S.R., Roumania and Hungary. A republic wherein the supreme power is vested in elected representatives, is open to corruption and manipulation by moneyed powers. Each new leader must be chosen or elected often causing political disruption even national upheaval.

The British Monarch is the living symbol of the nation's heritage, character and continuity, providing a stable Head of State regardless of the political situation. The hereditary monarch cannot be bribed with power or wealth and, occupying an area of power not attainable by politicians, provides a preventative against dictatorship. The hereditary monarchy provides a person specially educated and trained for the position ready to take over when the Monarch dies. The new Monarch immediately claims the allegiance of all regardless of political or religious persuasion, without the social friction of a power struggle.

British Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli (1804-1881) commented on this aspect of the Throne:

"The wisdom of our forefathers placed the prize of supreme power without the sphere of human passions. Whatever the struggle of parties, whatever the strife of factionsthere has always been something in this country round which all classes and parties could rally.

Others are elected to represent our different and conflicting interests and opinions, but the Queen belongs to no class and no party, and her interest is that of the nation as a whole.

She is the sole common denominator of our democracy, and the representative not of a party of the people but of the people themselves. Her hereditary throne links the whole nation in a timeless union, the component parts with one another, and the living with the dead."

In Australia the Crown represents the culture, tradition and values which form the basis of this nation's character and development. It represents its national sovereignty and independence. Loyalty to the Crown means loyalty to what the Crown represents in this country.

The removal of the Crown from the Australian Constitution would be a major and critical step in Australia's history. N.S.W. Governor, Rear Admiral Peter Sinclair (*The Australian* 22.5.95) warned that any moves toward a republic should be given rigorous and informed consideration. As the present constitution was the result of over 60 years of deliberation, debate and study, he said "Future generations of Australians should be able to depend on us to take time and effort to get it right, because it is a far, far more complex matter than just deciding how to appoint or elect a president."

We are constantly told through the media that a republic for Australia is inevitable and so must be accepted. This attitude is in line with the humanist's view of history which is that no one is responsible for what is happening and so nothing can be done but accept the inevitable. This attitude tends to paralyse the human will and destroy opposition to changes or trends subtly instigated by those who would change our way of life to suit their own ideology. On the other hand when evidence of a constant programme of sinister activity in history is recognized it raises hope that the perpetrators can be resisted and finally overcome.

We should not bow to the so-called "inevitable" but rather fight to preserve our existing Monarchical System of government which has been proven to be the most beneficial system of government developed by man.

Asst. Ed.

THE THRONE OF THE LORD

When Israel first became a nation in the wilderness of Sinai Jehovah was their King, His presence being manifested from the Ark of the Covenant within the Most Holy Place in the Tabernacle. Eventually after they had requested a human king like the nations round about the Throne of the Lord was given to David who was anointed king at the Lord's command. To David it was promised: *"And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever."* (2 Sam. 7:16)

This throne was Jehovah's throne for we are told later that *"Solomon sat on the throne of the Lord as king instead of David his father....."* (2 Chron. 29:23) It is this throne that Our Lord Jesus Christ will occupy when He returns to earth as King of Kings and Lord of Lords, as Acts 2 verse 30 states: *"Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn an oath to him (David), that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, He would raise up Christ to sit on His throne."*

Even after the Throne of the Lord had been occupied by human kings scripture still refers to the Lord as being the King of Israel.

"Produce your cause", saith the Lord, "bring forth your strong reasons", saith the King of Jacob.' (Isa. 41:21)

"I am the Lord, your Holy One, the Creator of Israel, your king." (Isa. 43:15)

"Thus saith the Lord the King of Israel,...." (Isa. 44:6)

"Sing, O daughter of Zion; shout O Israel;...the King of Israel, even the Lord, is in the midst of thee:..." (Zeph. 3:14-15)

The theme of the continuity of the Throne of the Lord and of His Kingdom People Israel is prominent in Scripture. For example:

"I have made a covenant with my chosen, I have sworn unto David my servant, thy seed will I establish for ever, and build up thy throne to all generations." (Psalm 89:3-4)

"For thou hast confirmed to thyself thy people Israel to be a people unto thee for ever...." (2 Sam. 7:24)

"... and the throne of David shall be established before the Lord for ever." (1 Kings 2:45)

"Thus saith the Lord, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and stars for a light by night

.... If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the Lord, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me forever...." (Jer. 31:35-37)

It is necessary, if the Bible prophecies are to be fulfilled, that both the People and the Throne be in existence when Our Lord Jesus Christ returns.

"...thou shalt ...call his name JESUS.... and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: and he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end." (Luke 1:31-33)

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon His kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this." (Isa. 9:6-7)

This will mark the end of Satan's power to influence men and nations and the sovereignty of the Lord will be acknowledged throughout the earth. But Satan's objective has ever been to usurp God's sovereignty and discredit His Word. We are witnessing today Satan's last efforts to frustrate God's purposes by destroying His People and His earthly Throne. If, as we believe, the British Throne is the physical continuation of the ancient Throne of David we can expect it to be attacked at this end time. The current republican propaganda is part of this attack. The Apostle Paul warned that the mystery of iniquity was working in his day and would continue to do so until vanquished by the Christ at His Coming at the end of the Age. We are living in critical times of national apostasy and wide spread ignorance of our Great God and Saviour. National prosperity and well being can never be achieved until our People turn back to God in national repentance. May the day soon come when they call on Him in faith and supplication saying,

"... the Lord is our Judge, the Lord is our King; He will save us." (Isa. 33:22)

Asst. Ed.

THE POWER OF THE PURE AND SIMPLE GOSPEL

For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent.

Where is the wise? where is the scribe? where is the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?

For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.

For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom:

But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness;

But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.

(1 Corinthians 1:19-24)

"The wise philosophers, the learned scribes, and the disputers of the world, were in general employed in confuting each other's systems: they scarcely agreed in anything except in rejecting and despising the Gospel; and it was evident that their wisdom and learning had been of little use to mankind. What, indeed, had they achieved? What traces of their success in meliorating the state of the world could be discovered? And could it be denied, that God had exposed the folly of this kind of wisdom, in the most conspicuous manner? In His infinite wisdom, He had left a great part of the world to follow the dictates of their own boasted reason; and the event had demonstrated, that the wisdom of fallen man was incompetent to find out or retain the knowledge of God his Creator; so that idolatry, atheism, or scepticism was the universal effect.

When this experiment had been sufficiently tried, it pleased God to send for His apostles and evangelists, to preach that doctrine which was derided as foolishness, and they delivered their message in the most artless and unadorned manner: yet, behold, most wonderful effects followed! Vast multitudes believed the report, were saved from idolatry and iniquities, and became the worshippers and servants of the living God!

The Jewish scribes, indeed, not satisfied with all the demonstrations, from miracles and prophecies, that Jesus was the Messiah, as not savouring of His spiritual salvation, demanded a sign from Heaven, and waited for a Messiah who should come with outward observation; and the Greeks wanted a doctrine adapted to their philosophy, and supported by similar reasonings and speculations.

But the servants of God "preached Christ crucified"; this was the grand peculiarity of their doctrine, the centre of the instructions, and the topic with which they enforced all their exhortations. This doctrine of a crucified Messiah; this testimony, that He who had been put to death by

the rulers of the Jews as an impostor, was their long-expected Deliverer and King, to whom all subjection was due, and from whom all blessings were to be expected, was a stumbling-stone to the Jews, who took offence at it, and persisted in unbelief: whilst the philosophising Greeks derided, as the excess of folly, the idea that a Jew, and one whom that nation had crucified in ignominy, should be honoured as the Governor and Judge of all mankind - trusted, as the only Saviour from everlasting misery, and even adored as the infinite and almighty God.

But all they, whether Jews or Gentiles, who were called according to God's eternal purpose, not only saw the power of God in the miracles by which the Gospel was confirmed, in the resurrection of Christ, and in redemption, as harmoniously honouring all the Divine perfections and magnifying the Divine Law; but they experienced Christ to be "the power and wisdom of God" to deliver them from the bondage of sin, and to make them wise unto salvation; and they discerned Him and His Gospel to be the grand medium by which the power and wisdom of God were displayed, in the subversion of Satan's kingdom of idolatry and sin, and in confounding all the subtle devices of him and his servants.

(From the National Comprehensive Family Bible - comment by Thomas Scott 1747 - 1821)

REPUBLIC BY STEALTH

Part of a letter by Mr. Ron Fischer of Talbot, Victoria, published in the Maryborough District Advertiser, Oct. 4, 1995, reads:

"We are getting a Republic by stealth thus:

Mr. Keating does not fly the Australian Flag on his official car.

The Crown has gone from the Australian Customs logo.

The title, Queen's Counsel, for eminent barristers, is being progressively scrapped.

Reference to the Queen has been omitted from federal statutes since 1990.

The Oath of Allegiance no longer mentions the Queen.

No more do the New South Wales statutes feature the Royal Coat of Arms, or refer to the Year of the Sovereign's reign.

The title of Crown Solicitor has been abolished. We now have the Australian Government Solicitor.

A.B.C. Radio has boasted, 'In the headlong rush to the Republic....'

This change by stealth is the process by which the National Socialist Party (Nazi), under Hitler, changed the face of Germany in the 1930s."

KEEP OUR FLAG

(By an Unknown Soldier)

Our flag bears the stars that blaze at the night in our southern sky of blue,
And the little old flag in the corner, that's part of our heritage too.
It's the English, the Scots and the Irish who were sent to the ends of the earth,
The rogues and the schemers, the doers and dreamers
who gave Australia its birth.

And you who are shouting to change it, you don't seem to understand
It is the flag of our law and our language, not the flag of a far away land.

There are plenty of people who'll tell you how,
when Europe was plunged into night,

That little old flag in the corner was their symbol of freedom and light.

It doesn't mean we owe allegiance to a forgotten imperial dream,
We've the stars to show where we're going and the old flag to show where
we've been. (From *LINK* Aug. 1994)

(Sheet 2)

THE REPUBLICAN ISSUE (Contd.)

THE ISRAEL THEOCRACY:

The O.T. Nation of Israel began as a Theocracy - a State ruled by God as their King. "..... ye said unto me (Samuel), Nay; but a king shall reign over us: when the Lord your God was your king." (1 Sam. 12:12) God was acknowledged by the nation as the supreme power in their government and as their Law Giver. His Perfect Law, consisting of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1-17), and Judgments - the general laws embodying the basic code of social behaviour required by God and the punishments for nonconformity, (Ex.20:22-23:33) was willingly accepted by the people. This Law was the system of fundamental principles by which Israel covenanted to be governed: it was, therefore, the Constitution of the Israel Theocracy. "And Moses wrote all the words of the Lord.... And he took the book of the covenant, and read in the audience of the people: and they said, All that the Lord hath said will we do, and be obedient." (Ref. Ex. 24:4-8)

In return for keeping their covenant to live by His Law, God promised to protect them from their enemies, to provide food and drink in plenty, to take sickness from them, to make them and their animals prolific, and to provide territory for them to inhabit. In other words He would BLESS them for keeping His Law. Their Divine Monarch was thus their Law Giver, Sustainer, Healer and Protector. Psalm 19 vs.7&8 states that "The law of the Lord is perfect.... The testimony of the Lord is sure.... The statutes of the Lord are right.... The commandment of the Lord is pure..... The judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether." And again Psalm 89:14 says: "Justice and judgment are the habitation of thy throne: mercy and truth shall go before thy face." Surely a perfect basis for the establishment and government of a nation was given at Sinai.

THE HEREDITARY MONARCHY:

Later, when Israel rejected God's sovereignty and requested a human king the nation became an Hereditary Monarchy. The supreme power in Israel's government thus passed into the hands of an imperfect human monarch.

And God warned Israel what a human king would cost them (Ref. 1 Sam. 8:10-18). Instead of having the protection of God directly available to them at no cost they would need to supply the king with personnel for an army, with weapons of war, retainers, servants, land and the best of all things. However, though allowing them a human king God stipulated that their king had to be of their own people and was to be chosen by Him. The principle of "heredity" was to ensure that the choice of the monarch was always in God's hands.

THE NATURE OF THE KING:

If he wished to enjoy a long and prosperous reign and have his seed succeed him on the throne, the king needed to follow after righteousness. He was not to marry many wives, set out to be very wealthy or build a large army for conquest. He was to keep a copy of the Law of God by him to study continually, and live and rule in accordance with it (Ref. Deut. 17:14-20). In this way he would fulfil the requirements for the rule of justice and judgment (i.e. judging wisely, truly and skilfully) laid down by God for the Israel Theocracy. Israel's human monarch was to rule, under God, abiding by the principles inherent in God's Law. Indeed we are told that *"..... Solomon sat on the throne of the Lord as king instead of David his father, and prospered; and all Israel obeyed him."* (1Chr. 29:23)

Though second best to the Israel Theocracy, government by an Hereditary Monarchy under which the Law of God is administered, was God's provision for the Israel peoples. It has proved over hundreds of years to be the form of government which, if rightly administered, provides the greatest good for the greatest number of people.

To ensure that the "Throne of the Lord" would endure throughout the centuries as an Hereditary Monarchy over Israel peoples, God promised King David that He would build him an 'house' - a royal line from which the human kings would be selected to occupy that throne until the time when the "Son of the Highest" should be given the throne of his father David, and reign over the house of Jacob for ever, as promised in Luke 1:30-33. Nathan the Prophet related the words of the Lord to King David: *"Also the Lord telleth thee that he will make thee an house.....I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom..... and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever..... If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men: but my mercy shall not depart away from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away before thee. And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be established for ever..... For thou hast confirmed to thyself thy people Israel to be a people unto thee for ever: and thou, Lord, art become their God. And now, O Lord God, the word that thou hast spoken concerning thy servant, and concerning his house, establish it for ever, and do as thou hast said. And let thy name be magnified for ever, saying, The Lord of hosts is the God over Israel: and let the house of thy servant David be established before thee..... Therefore now let it please thee to bless the house of thy servant, that it may CONTINUE FOR EVER before thee: for thou, O Lord God, hast spoken it: and with thy blessing let the house of thy servant be blessed for ever."* (Ref. 2 Sam. 7:11-29)

Even throughout the times of the Ten Tribes' rebellion and dispersion, and after Judah's final apostasy and scattering the Throne of the Lord over Israel was to endure. Its preservation was to be ordered by God as was its occupation by seed of the House of David.

Thus we believe that the Throne of the Hereditary Monarchy of Great Britain over the Israel people in the Commonwealth of Nations is occupied today by a member of that House promised by God to David so many years ago. That the forces of evil are so heavily arrayed against it is an indication that it is soon to be given to Him whose right it is.

The standard of kingship laid down by God was: *"He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God."* (2 Sam. 23:3) and the king was to be responsible for seeing that the Law of God was administered by the Levites who were its custodians and teachers, and the judges who together with the Levites presided over legal affairs.

The King, therefore, was solely responsible for the well-being, both physical and spiritual, of his People. He was answerable for their "peace" and safety.

Kingship was to continue as a sacred institution among Israel peoples, even among the largest section who split away from the Throne of David (1 Kings 11:26-40) leaving the worship of Jehovah c. 970 B.C., and throughout their centuries of paganism and dispersion. This dispersion brought Israelites into the very areas from which the Anglo-Saxon and related tribes were subsequently to spring.

Indeed among all the Celto-Saxon tribes who entered the British Isles the institution of Kingship and monarchical government was firmly established and had been since time immemorial. It has been said that the English Monarchical System of government, the Englishman's traditional obedience to Law, and his love of justice and righteousness in government came from the Anglo-Saxons. Their kings were hereditary, being of necessity sons of "the CYN or family" - the royal line. And again, the king was responsible for the "peace" or "luck" of the Folk. In both Pagan and Christian times *"the king is the cosmic point through which is mediated divine help.... The tribal vessel between heaven and earth through which grace is shed on the folk."* (W.A. Chaney)

Earliest written British Codes of Law state what Tribal practice had been. The King's responsibility was to issue laws which regulated the morals of his tribe so that God would bless them with PEACE AND PLENTY. The King is portrayed as the embodiment of the State, reflecting the King's ancient role of judge. As the State personified, the Monarch was to exemplify a living and active conscience at the centre of State.

Alan Atkinson in his *The Muddle-Headed Republic* states:

"In England the idea of the Crown has always had a distinctive colouring. For centuries stress has been laid, whether effectively or not, on the duties of authority. The original symbolism of the Crown in England related to the King's duties as the font or fountain of justice, and the English King was always more of a judge than a warrior.

The term 'Crown' was also used to stand for the property interests of the monarchy, its estates, dues and privileges. In this way the English Crown came to be associated with bureaucracy. Both the law and the fiscal interests of the monarchy had to be administered by a settled body of experts. The public service has always been an instrument of the Crown.

In the short term societies are kept together by pragmatism, but in the long term they are kept together by ideals and symbols. In England the notion of the Crown pointed to a monarchy embedded within society, nourishing society and nourished by it. There was, in a sense, a perpetual conversation between King and subject, taking place within a circle of assumptions about common justice. The Crown was hedged about with obligations..... Kings swore at their coronations to keep the prerogatives, and thus the honour, of the Crown intact. But also, their estates made them great landowners. They were not only rulers but masters and landlords. As such, their duties, and their honour, entailed the sustenance of their dependants. The King was lord of his people, and 'lord' means 'keeper and dispenser of bread'....."

"Today the Monarch, in principle, constitutes the State and, in person or otherwise, has a vital significance in times of crisis, when fundamental principles are in question. But otherwise he or she 'has no part to play'."

Within society as a whole "the Crown is a principle of order which complements and reinforces democratic order, while at the same time serving as an immovable reminder of the responsibilities of dominion and long-term management. Democratic order cannot be relied on by itself, especially with the larger issues. This is becoming more and more obvious, as Parliament becomes more marginal to the process of government.

Executive power at every level, and in public as well as private organizations, is very often beyond effective scrutiny because of the intricate and highly technical means by which it is carried on. The new information technology together with rigid party discipline and manipulation of the parliamentary process, creates a system in which government is much less accountable than it has ever been before. In Britain the same system has been

condemned as 'elective dictatorship'. In Australia a former Governor-General, Paul Hasluck, has described it as a process by which the executive becomes 'the source of power rather than the custodian of power'.....

Properly managed, monarchy is a constant reminder to the men and women in government that they get their power from something beyond themselves, a fundamental authority to which they are responsible."

"An hereditary monarchy, the Royal Family, with all its faults, is a powerful public institution which operates as a crucible and focus for the common memory.

The law courts live largely by precedent, and they are even more important as an institution with a heavy burden of power from the past. They are also more effective in using the past as a shield against the injustices of the present. But like water dripping on a rock, day by day making the same point, royalty has its place.

Its potential in Australia showed up during the celebrations at the Sydney Opera House in January 1988, the highpoint of the bicentennial year. Several speeches were made which tried to draw some lessons from the anniversary. Two were made by Australian politicians, and both of them argued that the past was something we were well rid of.....

Only Prince Charles made any attempt to show that the past still had its uses. He alone confronted the convicts who came by the First Fleet, setting them out as real figures with something to say to the present, especially about freedom. He spoke about freedom as the product of a determined memory, as something 'which lasts, if it is looked after and nurtured'."

The existence of the Monarch is evidence of the existence of the Crown which has always been the symbol of national sovereignty, of 'moral purpose in government', and has acted as a perpetual and universal trustee of all national resources for the people at large. "It is a reminder that there should be limits to the movement of capital, that the history and resources of a country belong first and foremost to those who live in it."

But today the constant push is for new scales of values which are basically materialistic and imposed on governments from without to suit the powerful, viz., the financiers, corporates and their planners, who operate internationally by the laws of the market rather than by any moral code.

This materialistic world order is symbolised in Scripture by, as David Davidson expresses it, "a city occupying the whole earth, allegorically called 'Babylon' - and given personality as

'the wanton'. This is the "MYSTERY BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH" of Revelation 17:5.

He goes on to say: "The Wanton City, 'Babylon', is the antithesis of the heavenly 'New Jerusalem' which symbolises the Kingdom of Heaven on the Earth. (Rev. 21:1-2) The economic system of the Wanton City is therefore the antithesis of the economic system of God's Providence.

It is a system of stimulation by commercial seduction, both in regard to necessities and luxuries provided on credit by money exchange and usury.

Following the destruction of the symbolic Babylon, it is said of her (Rev. 18:23)..... *"Thy merchants were the great men of the earth; for by thy sorceries were all nations deceived. And in her were found the blood of the prophets, and of all that were slain upon the earth."*

What system in the world, other than the system of human values and exchange, has given birth to the human greed and covetousness, to the poverty on the one hand, and the brutal arrogance on the other, that have occasioned, from the beginning of human history, the death of "all that were slain on the earth"?

It is under the system of the Wanton City, and owing to the loose code of the system, that the bodies and souls (or lives) of men (and women) are merchandise. (Rev. 18:13) Men will rob, murder and cheat to supply the "wanton" system with wealth and luxury; homes exist to maintain the factory, rather than the factory to maintain the homes; and industry itself exists primarily to supply the "wanton" system with gambling counters in the world's markets, in the form of food, clothing and other necessities, as well as in the form of luxuries.

That the "wanton" may be arrayed in splendour, millions of lives are born in squalor and to an inheritance of evil; crime is nurtured to aid her, and is punished to protect her; armaments are built to replenish her coffers; war is waged in defence of her "honour"; and the terms of peace are dictated, by her, to the kings of the earth and declared in her favour. The mass of humanity comprises her slaves, and those kingdoms of the earth are her lovers and dupes that bow down with her in worshipping gold."

We can thank God that the destruction of the "Wanton" City is prophesied and the institution of the Kingdom of God on earth under our Lord Jesus Christ as King is promised.



British-Israel World Federation

(Victorian Headquarters)

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MONTHLY NOTES

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MAN'S ECONOMY

In the Herald Sun dated Saturday, July 1, 1995 Terry McCrann wrote of Australia's recent 2.9 billion dollar deficit as the "worst deficit numbers in the industrialised world", the single month deficit being equal to 7.6 per cent of GDP when annualised, and the last three months, the equivalent of 6.5 per cent of GDP. He also stated that "something like \$18 billion is locked-in up front each year in interest on the \$170 billion foreign debt and as dividends on bits of the farm - Qantas, the Commonwealth Bank - that we have sold to foreigners." Like the rest of the world Australia, a potentially rich and bountiful land, is struggling to pay a huge national debt and its related interest charge.

In his book entitled "Hidden Menace to World Peace" James Gibb Stuart remarks that the evils of unbridled banking power are manifesting themselves across the face of the planet. On page 217 he states: *"A Monster has been created, a creature of nightmarish propensities, and much of its awesome power and patronage has accrued within our own lifetimes. It commands the financial markets, and through its control of the communications media, writes the headlines, monitors the news, guides and manipulates public opinion. It makes and breaks companies and corporations, dictates the policies of presidents and prime ministers, threatens ruin and social martyrdom to all who stand in its path."*

On page 202 he comments: *"A considerable consequence of the Gulf affair was to put Saudi and Kuwaiti oil Sheikhs massively in debt to the International Banking System";* and on page 215 *"When the choice of political leaders is determined not by merit or integrity, or dedication to the nation's interests, but by their readiness to conform to globalist policies it makes for inferior standards in government, prevarication and deception."*

The world's financial elite derive their immense power from the fallacies, anomalies and imbalances of our unstable debt-induced money system, which they attempt to control by various means. These, in turn, cause economic and social disruption, ups and downs in the conventional trade cycle which perpetuate the economic treadmill of boom, bust, slow growth, stagnation, recession and depression.

Mr. Stuart comments further (page 215) that the bankers maintain *"a monopoly of credit, in the face of all the strains and imbalances it causes;*

the irredeemable debt, the concomitant inflation, the insatiable lust for growth; the massive concentration of financial and industrial power in few and fewer hands; the reckless exploitation of finite resources, the everlasting tension and disruption of the world's riches."

They plan a global government over which they would have complete control. Hence the constant push towards dividing the planet into enormous spheres of economic influence - political and monetary unions, continental free trade areas, geographical regions, etc.

The privatisation of national assets has been advised as an answer to persistent public borrowing and escalating national debt but this is a further erosion of national sovereignty and places even more riches in the hands of the moneyed few. There can be no true national sovereignty while governments continue to borrow and no true independence unless financial independence can be achieved.

Exploitation of the unrighteous Babylonian currency system with its usury and false dealings has produced recurring periods of economic instability, poverty, and destitution for millennia. We are at the stage now when man's economy has become a danger to the planet as well as its inhabitants with natural resources being plundered to service debts and sensitive ecosystems seriously disturbed.

Banking power today is indeed awesome but we have the assurance of God's Word that this world is destined to come directly under the sovereignty of the **King of Kings**, the soon to return **Christ Jesus our Saviour and Lord**. We can be confident, therefore, that "Great Babylon", man's unrighteous religious/political/economic world order, will soon fall and that **God's righteous system** will be instituted in its place resulting in blessing and abundance and the equitable distribution of the world's produce.

The ancient city of Tyre is featured in Scripture as a graphic example of a satanically inspired society where man's unscrupulous pursuit of riches and glory is paramount. Because of its unrighteousness and idolatry Tyre was to bear the judgment of God as prophesied by the Prophets. (Ref. Ezek. Ch. 26,27 & 28; Isa. 23; Joel 3:4-8; Jer. 27:1-7)

Tyre was a fabulously rich Phoenician trading port situated at the centre of the trade routes of the ancient world, much as London has been in the latter part of this millennium. Founded as early as 2700 B.C. it remained for centuries a world financial, commercial and manufacturing centre which conducted extensive inland and sea-borne trade, and was a leader in shipbuilding, architecture and decoration. Trading was carried out to great advantage in terms of precious metals the merchants becoming excessively rich through perpetrating extortion and excess on both producers and customers. The merchants of Tyre traded with Spain and beyond (Tarshish) for valuable metals which they sold at enormous profits. It is said that even the anchors of ships returning from Spain were made of silver.

Isaiah. 23:12 refers to Tyre as the "daughter of Sidon" because when the Philistines plundered the City of Sidon in the 2nd Millennium B.C. many Sidonians fled to Tyre. Hiram I King of Tyre and friend of King David provided materials and expertise for the Temple and Palace at Jerusalem but Tyre later came under tribute to Assyrian kings and as a result founded its first colony at Carthage in 825 B.C.

The rulers of Tyre dominated the surrounding plain and most of the coastal cities including the Lebanon hinterland, its army consisting of hired mercenaries. Tyrian minted coins from the 5th Century B.C. onwards have been found at sites throughout the ancient Near East and Mediterranean attesting to its greatness. In 588 B.C. Tyre was so rich that she could afford to make all her ships of fir, their masts of cedar of Lebanon, their oars of oak of Bashan, their benches of ivory, their sails of fine linen with embroidered work from Egypt and their coverings of blue and purple. Her traffic was so great that she enjoyed a continual "world fair" type of existence.

Yet for all the multitude of her riches Tyre coveted more, and envied Jerusalem her trade. When King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon destroyed Jerusalem Tyre rejoiced: *"Aha, she is broken that was the gates of the people.... I shall be replenished now she is laid waste."* (Ezek. 26:2) Therefore, in 587 B.C., Ezekiel proclaimed the following prophecy: *"..... thus saith the Lord God: Behold I am against thee O Tyrus, and will cause many nations to come up against thee... and they shall destroy the walls of Tyrus, and break down her towers: I will also scrape her dust from her.... his horses shall tread down all thy streets and they shall lay thy stones and thy timbers and thy dust in the midst of the water and I will make thee like the top of a rock; thou shalt be a place to spread nets upon; thou shalt be built no more."* (Ref. Ezek. 26:3-14)

Nebuchadnezzar came against Tyre in 585 B.C. and besieged it for 13 years before it fell. The main part of the city was built on the mainland but on an island half a mile out to sea was the temple of the chief god of Tyre and some considerable settlement. The city on the mainland was ruined, her walls and towers were broken down and the horses hoofs trod down her streets. Yet Nebuchadnezzar *"had no wages, nor his army, for Tyrus, for the service that he had served against it."* (Ezek. 29:18) because the people who remained removed with all their valuables to the island which was surrounded by water 18 feet deep.

After its destruction by the Babylonians the Tyrians rebuilt Tyre but on the island instead of the mainland. The new island city gained much of the glory that had distinguished the old city. It was very strongly fortified and completely surrounded by prodigious walls when Alexander the Great began his seven months siege in 332 B.C. He began by constructing a solid jetty 200 feet wide between the mainland and the city using the building stones from the old city. But his first attempt was unsuccessful and the jetty was rebuilt broader and stronger. To obtain sufficient materials Old Tyre was cleared of stones, scraped clean of soil and left like the top of a rock, her stones, timber and dust having been laid in the midst of the water to construct the jetty.

After the siege of Alexander New Tyre revived again to become a great and wealthy city during the Roman and Christian periods. In the 4th Century A.D. it was spoken of as the noblest and most beautiful city of Phoenicia. However, it was taken by the Saracens in A.D. 638 then by the Crusaders in 1124, and destroyed by the Mamelukes in 1291. Tyre existed as a mean village of hovels in the 19th Century but today survives as the small southern Lebanese town of Sur with a population of 120,000. But it will never be rebuilt as Tyre the city of splendour and traffic that it was in ancient times.

Isaiah Ch. 23 prophesies the Babylonian invasion of Tyre and its

restoration as an international trading city after the 70 year period of that Babylonian dynasty (vs. 15-17). Verse 18, however, seems to look forward to a future time when the Law of God is operating in Palestine when there will be no more hoarding of riches and all will benefit equally from the economy.

"And her merchandise (gain from trade) and her hire (gift) shall be holiness (hallowed) to the Lord: it shall not be treasured nor laid up; for her merchandise shall be for them that dwell before the Lord, to eat sufficiently (abundantly) and for durable clothing." (Asst/Ed)

THE FAMINE OF THE WORD

Famine and drought have been age long characteristics of this planet and we in Australia have not been immune. These days, the impact of local famine is often reduced through national or international trade. However, severe drought conditions affect all people, if only through the higher prices demanded for essentials.

Now, researchers have discovered what is called a famine cycle. Sir William Beveridge examined wheat prices in Western Europe from 1500 to 1869, and deduced a seasonal cycle of 35 1/2 years. This is now known as the Bruckner Cycle. David Davidson examined the Genesis famine records and using the intervals from Adam found that Abraham's famine had begun in 2084 years from Adam, while Joseph's seven year famine had begun in 2297 years from Adam. The interval of 213 years is exactly 6 times 35 1/2 years. He also pointed out that Professor H.H.Turner had deduced an Earthquake Cycle of 284 years, from Chinese records back to 2000 B.C. This is exactly 8 times 35 1/2 years.

Davidson also applied the facts set out in Dr. Huntington's work, "The Main Springs of Civilisation" (1945). This work points out that the 35 1/2 year cycle was first placed on record by Sir Francis Bacon 400 years ago. Huntington in his 24th Chapter entitled "Cycles, Rhythms and Periodicities" suggested that there was a natural pattern in the geophysical arrangement of the earth, but did not specify whether or not this was a chaotic harmony.

In Davidson's mathematical analysis, a new cycle of about 852 years (24 times the Bruckner Cycle) operated as a coordinating overlay. One tenth of the latter is 85.2 years. The impact of this last cycle is shown to suppress an expected Famine Cycle now and then through lack of synchronisation. The result is that there is an underlying basic rhythm in the appearances of natural disasters. This rhythm is also reflected in the Economic cycle, as a direct outflow of the Famine Cycle. It must be recognised that there are variables in each cycle just as there are variables in the orbital motions of the Sun and the Planets. Davidson's analysis of all cycles ascertained a commencement in 4044 B.C., all cycles then synchronising in A.D.1916 with the world wide famine of that year. The period from 1916 to 2001 is 85 years. This rather technical outline suggests that there is a discordant rhythm existing in nature. The Bible recognises this by the use of the word "travail". Now, the observed physical order is one scheme of things. But there is also an unseen order in creation, that we are taught by the Word to be the spiritual realm, the ultimate Kingdom, or Rule, of the Lord God.

Paul actually refers to this displacement of creation from perfection in Romans 8:18-22:

For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creation waits for the manifestation of the sons of God. For the creation was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, because the creation itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groans and travails in pain together until now.

We apply Paul's suggestion, in the light of the Promise of God which Peter referred to in Acts 3:19-22. *Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord. And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.*

The present 85 year cycle MAY indicate the coming crisis of the ages. The cycle has been characterised by exceptional conditions, by increasing material, political, and economic pressures, together with unusual seismic instability, and most severe climatic disasters world wide. These things have always happened, but never with such accelerating impact as appears now.

Spiritually, the prophet Amos foresaw our present national condition: *Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord: and they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the Lord, and shall not find it. Amos 8:11-12.*

This is a serious matter, for such is the lack of faith in our land that we are in the times referred to by Paul in his letter to Timothy, where he wrote: *This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, truce breakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts, ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.*

What are we to do? No one can deny the rampant wickedness in our land. The principles of the Ten Commandments are broken daily, not only by the obviously wicked, but also by some highly respected in the community.

We have the few multiplying money at a great rate, while poverty is increasing. There are those who use the economic and political systems for their own ends, regardless of the consequent hardship falling on the people as a whole. Australia has been made subject to foreigners under the guise of United Nations Covenants, most of which have not even been examined by Parliament. These make us subject to foreign laws made by non elected persons. The Law of the LORD is repealed or made of no effect.

The reader may see that I am angry! I am indeed angry, because our Christian heritage is being attacked, while many in the Churches remain apathetically content in their personal salvation.

I repeat, what can we do about all this? There is one thing that everyone can do every day and that is pray to the Lord God Almighty to create a revival in our land. I know that some thousands of people are even now getting together in little prayer groups, appealing to the Lord God for this very revival. Let us pray also that the soft dew of the Word of the Lord come by night and refresh the drought stricken land to relieve the famine of the Word of God. Let us pray that the gentle rain of the Word descend on our land, to refresh and to restore the whole land in a mighty spiritual blessing. May each one of us, when opportunity arises, speak boldly and proclaim both the Written Word and the Living Word, Who is Christ Jesus our Lord.

The physical order of the planet earth may well be heading to a climactic reorganisation. Paul called this "redemption." Though scientists have found that there is chaotic disharmony in nature surely the Creator Lord God did not create permanent disastrous cycles in His created universe! He saw that creation was good, i.e. perfect. But the Bible teaches that there was a rebellion, which caused a displacement of creation to a state of imperfection, and brought death as a result. The Lord Jesus spoke of the agent of disorder as a MURDERER from the beginning. John 8:44) But He Himself was crucified, and rose again, and will as Peter said, come back again bringing refreshing and restoration with Him.

Let us praise His name, and worship the Lord God in spirit and in truth, day by day, and be obedient servants of the Lord Jesus Christ, watching and waiting for His coming at the time appointed by the Father. Before He comes, there will be a cry "Behold, the Bridegroom comes!" I do not know how much warning there will be, but at least, I believe that all who watch for His Coming will indeed hear this cry. The Lord Jesus told us, "Watch and Pray." May we all watch, and pray continually.
V. A. PROPOSCH.

THE BALKAN DILEMMA

(Extracted from Special Office Brief dated 30th May, 1995)

"If we take military offensive action in the Balkans immense forces will become involved. During such a pre-occupation not only will the Balkan War spread in that area itself but other unrelated conflicts will occur elsewhere. If we withdraw that will altogether destroy the entire U.N. status and the whole hypothesis canvassed by all Western Governments since the Russian upheaval launched by Gorbachev as a make believe New World Order"

"...the IRA, the PLO, the Russo-Iranian Axis, the Zulu-Afrikaaner Axis, North Korea, India and Pakistan all have an interest. They all wish to see the Western Powers deeply involved in the Balkan morass whether as belligerents or in a massive Dunkerque. They all (for different reasons) hope to see the Western Powers so committed that they can nowhere be effective. That particularly attracts the IRA and the PLO and their supporters.

".... World Public Opinion will turn critical if offensive action in Bosnia fails or leads to a much wider area of conflict A dangerous war not wholly supported by Public Opinion could lead to severe problems."



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THE LOVE OF GOD

Moving around our cities and towns, listening to radio and television, and reading newspapers and magazines, we often see and hear the words "If we all loved one another, there would be peace to all." But seldom is this remark qualified by reference to the Lord God and the love of God. Yet this is the essential prerequisite.

The fact is that human nature is self centred, or looks to self promotion or self gratification. Yet all human love is ultimately God-given, showing selfless expression in the love of a mother for her child, or sometimes in the affection of one for a friend like that for a brother or sister. These are quite different from erotic passions arising from normal or perverse sexual desire. Paul wrote in Romans 1:19-22: - *Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them for God hath showed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools.*

Godlike love is a complete contrast to the pagan concepts or humanist ideals of love. All of these are derived from human thought (influenced perhaps by the spiritual powers of evil opposed to God), and are manifested in ambitious desires for domination over others, or greedy and inconsiderate appetites for material wealth, and so on. Sooner or later, these all lead to conflict, whether this be massive as in warfare or individually as in enmity between two persons, or even between husbands and wives.

Godlike love is completely unselfish, for *"Love suffers long, and is kind; love envies not; love vaunts not itself, is not puffed up, does not behave itself unseemly, seeks not her own, is not easily provoked, thinks no evil; rejoices not in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."* (1 Cor. 13:4-7)

Israel had this great precept: (Deuteronomy 6:4-7) "*Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might*". The Lord Jesus maintained this truth.

Moses declared that God loved His People (Deuteronomy 7:7-8): "*The Lord did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people: but because the Lord LOVED you, and because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your fathers, hath the Lord brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of bondmen, from the hand of pharaoh king of Egypt.*" God loved his people, and required of them commitment and sacrifice - sacrifice not only of animals, but of their wealth.

God revealed Himself in the Bible. His attributes were revealed from the beginning. Revelation has always been progressive, so that what was first revealed in essence gathered detail through the ages, becoming complete in Jesus Christ. His character is holy. His love is holy. In His holiness and love, we see Him as gentle and forbearing, yet strong and steadfast. The Bible sometimes applies human relationships to illustrate Divine love, to bring understanding to those without innate concepts of God's love. But these are imperfect examples to bring reality to our own imperfect ideas.

The breadth and depth of divine love is revealed in Christ. He is One with the Father, yet became Man, the second Adam. Born of Mary, he was descended from Adam, Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, and from David, whose throne is His inheritance. The angel Gabriel told Mary His mother "*He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.*"

Yet as Son of Adam, He was made sin for us, was "cut off" from His Father, and died in agony by the hands of cruel and loveless men. Laid in a tomb, with His blood shed on the earth, He arose in resurrection on the third day, as the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. Thus the activity of the love of God toward us is seen in self-giving commitment, and the resurrection is the outcome of invincible holy love.

The call of the crucified One is "*Come to me, all ye that labour, and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.*" He says even now "*Come to me.*" However, He is coming again. The signs of the times indicate that this great day is near. His call is also to those in Christ, as we are. For us, it is a call to obedience, to service, to adoration and worship, and to watch and pray.

Paul wrote thus in Philippians 2:1-10:

"If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, fulfil my joy, that ye be like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: but made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of servant,

and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

V. A. PROPOSCH.

GOD'S ECONOMIC LAW

"The heaven, even the heavens, are the Lord's
But the earth hath He given to the children of men."
(Psalm 115:16)

God gave man dominion over the fulness of the earth. But this dominion was not meant to be monopolized by a privileged few. The consumable wealth so abundantly provided was to be equitably distributed to the end that **none should want**. This dominion also entailed the careful management of resources rather than their exploitation by the few for the sake of gaining great riches. This is typified by Adam's role in the garden of Eden: "*And the Lord God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.*" (Keep = to keep safe, preserve)

God also formulated laws for all facets of national life of which the principles embodied could be developed to apply to any society in any age. By observing these laws man would fit in with the harmony of God's well-regulated universe, have dominion over the fulness of God's earth and enjoy its abundance, but refusal of God's way would result in disharmony and distress. Therefore God **requires our obedience for our own good**.

God's Laws were codified by Moses for Israel who by keeping them would have been seen as a kingdom of good people rendering judgment and mercy, and ensuring the equitable distribution of economic justice and wealth thus protecting the fatherless, the widow, the poor and the stranger.

Originally the exchange of goods was achieved through **BARTER** which was a natural process flowing from the fact that men had a surplus of some goods and insufficient of others that were necessary for them. It enabled the fair distribution of produce and products (natural wealth) within an economic area. However for the barter system to work fairly and successfully a **non-variable measure of value** was required.

The oldest **medium of exchange** was sheep. **Ten sheep = one ox**. These animals were therefore recognized as universal, legal **representatives of true value**. The ox, the most usual unit of payment in ancient agricultural countries later became equated in Assyrian, Babylonian, Persian and Greek usage with the 'stater' or 'didrachma':-

1 ox = 1 stater 100 staters = 1 gold mina i.e. 100 oxen = 1 gold mina
One gold mina therefore represented the value of 100 oxen.

In payment for his assistance in building the Temple at Jerusalem King

Solomon made annual deliveries to Hiram King of Tyre of wheat, olive oil, and other agricultural products. But because this did not provide enough to discharge the adverse balance of trade Solomon assigned to Hiram 20 cities in Galilee. Solomon also imposed taxation on the people which was not onerous at first because Israel became exceedingly prosperous, silver becoming as common place "as stones" in Jerusalem. But as prosperity declined with Solomon's apostasy and extravagance the taxation gradually became more and more burdensome.

METALS first came to be used in settling differences in direct barter transactions where any difference in the values of the bartered goods was made up in precious metals. They were also easily used as storage for savings and for treasure.

Finally **pieces of gold and silver, and gold dust** circulated as the **main medium of exchange (currency)**. These were **weighed in balances** and delivered in **bags**. In Old Testament times the **shekel was a weight not a coin**. Small quantities of gold and silver - shekels, half and quarter shekels - circulated in little bags for small transactions. The precious metals bought and sold by weight, originally intended as an **aid to barter**, had even before Abraham's time largely supplanted the barter system in many places. As they were imperishable and their prices remained the firmest of all market prices gold and silver were most desirable as commodities or treasure.

However, as happens today, the precious metals had **no stable value** being sold with a fluctuating market price. Therefore, as the **system of barter** became displaced by a **metallic standard** the currency was **not anchored to a just and perfect measure** because the **values of the metals changed according to their availability or supply**. This could be affected in various ways - by success for failure in war, international trade, mining discoveries, etc.

Because of the insufficient supply of the precious metals to represent all goods available for exchange, their limited circulation and private control, they **imposed restrictions upon the distribution of natural wealth**. This produced what we would term acute deflation, enforcing a low level of prices which the people in general still could not afford. Trading became chaotic as the **purchasing power of the shekel became enlarged** thus falsifying all balances and causing the **measure of value to become unstable**.

The currency shortage enabled high rates of interest to be charged for loans of gold, silver or other wealth. The interest rate in ancient Babylon was from 20 to 30 percent on short-term loans. The Money Changers of Greece held a large stock of gold and silver invested by wealthy individuals, and made loans available at interest. Twelve percent was considered low while 24 percent was charged if risk were involved. Such **high rates of interest** were known in Biblical times as **USURY**.

Under **God's Law** loans in Israel were to be charitable not commercial. They were to be granted to tide a farmer over a period of poverty not to enable a trader to set up or expand a business, and so in no way equated with the **commercial loan system** which had existed in **Babylon** since well before 2000 B.C. The charging of interest was an established practice in the Code of Hammurabi and earlier Babylonian laws.

God's Law forbids the charging of interest (usury) as exploitation of a fellow Israelite's misfortune. Loans to the poor and needy were to be generously given without the charging of interest or usury. (Lev. 25:35-37, Deut. 15:11) In normal lending usury was forbidden for a fellow Israelite but was allowable for a stranger.

The Law of God instructed Israel:

"Ye shall do no unrighteousness in judgment, in METYARD (length; etc.), in WEIGHT, or in MEASURE (capacity). Just BALANCES, just WEIGHTS, a just ephah (dry measure) and a just hin (liquid measure) shall ye have..." (Lev. 19:35-36)

"Thou shalt not have in thy bag divers WEIGHTS, a great and a small. Thou shalt have a PERFECT AND JUST WEIGHT, a perfect and just measure shalt thou have; that thy days may be LENGTHENED IN THE LAND which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

For all that do such things, and all that do unrighteously, are an abomination unto the Lord thy God." (Deut. 25:13-16)

The righteous or just measure of value in all spheres of life was to be the basis of the economy. Maintaining stability in weights and measures and in the purchasing power of the currency would enable a wide and equitable distribution of the wealth of the land. Prosperity and freedom from the fear of want were to be enjoyed if the principles embodied in God's Law were observed. However, in Israel and Judah of old, as in the later Nation of the Jews and in Christendom today, the leaders sought a scheme of economic life which enabled them to draw more of the good things of life to themselves than was their entitlement, and with a minimum of effort, and so have continually rejected God's Economic Law.

Safeguarding the welfare of the poor, the fatherless and the widows did not suit the carnal minds among Israel then or now, "business is business" overriding the requirement for righteousness in all aspects of the economy. Through the Prophet Amos God castigates the House of Israel for their sinfulness and prophesies their downfall. Chapter 8 speaks of their lack of care of the poor and their dishonest trading which they put before their service to God:

"Hear this, O ye that swallow up the needy, even to make the poor of the land to fail, saying, 'When will the new moon (celebration) be gone that we may sell corn? And the sabbath, that we may set forth wheat, making the EPHAH SMALL, AND THE SHEKEL GREAT (i.e. increasing the purchasing power of the shekel and so undervaluing commodities and produce.) And FALSIFYING THE BALANCES BY DECEIT?" (i.e. tampering with the currency system and failing to provide a just and perfect measure of value)

God brought invasion upon the House of Judah and finally banishment from their inheritance because "... this People hath ... a rebellious heart...neither say they in their heart, 'Let us now fear the Lord our God, that giveth rain ... in his season: He reserveth unto us the appointed weeks of the harvest'".

Your iniquities have turned away these things, and your sins have withholden good things from you. For among My People are found wicked men..... their homes are full of deceit ... they are become great and waxen rich ... they overpass the deeds of the wicked: they judge not the cause ... of the fatherless; yet THEY prosper; and the right of the needy they do not judge ... the prophets prophesy falsely ... and My People love to have it so."

(Jer. 5:26-31)

"From the least of them even unto the greatest of them everyone is given to COVETOUSNESS and the prophet even unto the priest everyone DEALETH FALSELY." (Jer. 6:13)

The Lord required His People to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with their God. But because of the treasures of wickedness in the houses of the wicked, the scant measure that is abominable, the wicked balances and the bag of deceitful weights, the rich men full of violence and the deceitful tongues of the People they were smitten, made desolate and cast out of the land promised as their inheritance. (Ref. Mic. Ch. 6)

The same sin and transgression today have led to worldwide economic instability and the usury, extortion, fraud, oppression, poverty and destitution which is now worldwide and for which man can find no answer.

"A false balance is an abomination to the Lord; but a just weight is His delight." (Prov. 22:7) (Asst. Ed.)

THE MIDDLE EAST - STRATEGIC TO WORLD PEACE

Bible students are acutely aware of the importance placed upon Palestine (God's Holy Land) in Scriptural prophecy and its role in the coming Kingdom Age and beyond, as the centre of God's Kingdom on Earth. Palestine has always been of strategic importance in the affairs of nations and even today is a major issue with regard to peace between East and West.

Russia's nuclear dealings with Iran appear to be aimed at obtaining key strategic locations in the Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East which are at present occupied by Israel. The current Muslim/Jewish, Muslim/Christian friction is also significant.

There are now some 15 million Muslims settled within the Western European nations, many of whom hold fanatical opinions. The possibility that future terrorist activity could be conducted using nuclear devices has prompted the suggestion that Israel should concede Jerusalem to the Palestinians. However, such a move would force a military takeover in Israel which would undoubtedly lead to a full-scale war in the Middle East.

As the United States would be compelled to intervene, as would the Russo-Iranian Axis this, together with the anti American trend gaining great force in Russia and the atmosphere of hate and feelings of betrayal and injustice created by the Gulf War, could precipitate a Third World War. (Asst. Ed.)

APPEAL FOR FUNDS

Due to rising costs the B.I.W.F. (Victorian Headquarters) has decided to appeal to readers for donations towards the production of the Monthly Notes and some new publications which we are hoping to produce in the coming months. Your prayerful consideration of this would be appreciated. (Asst. Ed.)



British-Israel World Federation
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THE PROMISE OF GOD

The word "promise" is of great importance in our society. Without faith in the promises of another that certain things will be done, one loses all certainty for the future. There are many styles of promise, ranging from the mutually binding promises involved in a contract of say a sale of goods, or of service. One party promises to do something, while the other promises to do something in return, such as make a payment. Without a fair degree of individual responsibility, commercial dealings become risky ventures. On the whole, then, promises forming the basis of a contractual relationship are fulfilled. The law of contract looks to fair dealing, and provides remedies for any breach of an undertaking. The key words are "faith" and "fair dealing."

Now Jesus Christ referred to the Word of God, as being something of value to Israel, but it was nullified by the Pharisees.. He said: *"For God commanded, saying, Honour thy father and mother: and, He that curses father or mother, let him die the death. But ye say, Whosoever shall say to his father or his mother, It is a gift, by whatsoever thou might be profited by me; and honour not his father or his mother, he shall be free. Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition."* (Matthew 15:6). The parallel passage in Mark 7:13 replaces "commandment" by "word." In the Old Testament, the translators of the Authorised Version used the word "promise" only five times, and Dr. Strong asserts that the Hebrew word also means word, speech, command, pronounce, etc. What, then, is the Promise of God in the Old Testament Revelation? In brief, it is the "WORD of God".

This revelation is and has been progressive. An initial brief statement is expanded at later stages, but always within a totality of unity. Modernist critics tend to dissect the Bible, rejecting references to prediction or to the miraculous. By this process they tend to rewrite the Bible in terms of their own revelations drawn from the physical world. It is true that some find themes or doctrines or ethical teachings, but these are generally fragmented sections, quite separate from the unity in the Bible.

On the other hand, accepting the unity of Divine Revelation, we are compelled to conclude that the Word of God is effective at all times, as it was in the beginning when *"God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moves upon the earth."* Genesis 1:27-28. This was followed by the first mention of "The SEED" in Genesis 3:15. This is the first word of Promise. The second word of Promise is found in Genesis 9:26, where there is a general consensus that this is a blessing on Shem by the Lord God of Shem. Now begins the election of a specific family for making effective God's Promise, or His Plan and Purpose.

The idea of the **Servant Nation** of God now begins to be proclaimed in addition to that of the **Servant Man** of God. Abraham descended from Shem, and was called by God to depart from Ur. To Abram the Promise expanded in that both he and his descendants would be a blessing to all nations. The word bless (or blessing) is seen five times in Genesis 12:2-3. It is startling to realise that God Himself spoke to men and women, and let Himself be seen by them! Sometimes He is spoken of as "The Angel of the Lord", yet frequently He receives the respect, honour and worship that is due to God alone. He is distinguished from God (the Father), He is sent from God, yet He carries an identity with God. It is this visible Person, Who is God, Who spoke to Abram, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, and others. He is the One Who later walked in Palestine, and Who was crucified, and rose again - the Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord God of Israel.

When God spoke to Moses before the Exodus, He said *"I have seen the affliction of My People who are in Egypt."* Israel had by then become a unified ethnic social group joined to the Lord God as a corporate identity. She became God's **TREASURED POSSESSION** (*"Ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people..." Exodus 19:5*), and also holy, always in the context of a corporate body composed of individuals of differing spiritual states. The Hebrew word for "treasure" has affinities with Akkadian and Ugaritic from a basic root meaning "to set aside a thing or property," that is, a **personal possession** contrasted in law with real estate or fixed land. Israel was in fact a **moveable treasure**. Israel, therefore, was God's treasure set aside for a specific purpose. This idea throws more light on the destiny of the Ten Tribes carried away by Assyria. For this reason, when Jeroboam called the northern tribes away from Rehoboam, the Lord sent this message to the King on David's throne. *"Ye shall not go up, nor fight against your brethren the children of Israel: return every man to his house; FOR THIS THING IS FROM ME. (1 Kings 12:23.)* The separate destinies of Judah and Ephraim-Israel are deduced from this Word of the Lord.

The argument to this stage has shown the selection of Abraham, then corporate Israel, as operative agents in the performance of God's Promise. We have seen that this involves blessing, to all nations. Further selection and further revelation introduce the Kingdom of Israel wherein the Lord God is King. At the time appointed by the Lord, Israel desired a visible King to lead them during the aggression of the neighbouring Philistine nation. David was the selected man. God's Promise to him is equally important with the Promise to Abraham. The

promise was for an everlasting Dynasty, or House of David. This is a regal constitutional formula common to this day. The Throne had to be established before the Temple could be built. David and his House were set up, not in opposition to God, but as a kingship on the throne of the Lord God, who retained ultimate authority both over Israel and over all creation.

The era of the prophets was notable for the development of every aspect of God's Promise. In the Psalms, David wrote mysterious words that later ages found fulfilled in Christ Jesus. Of the prophets, Isaiah in particular foresaw many details of the development of the Promise. Jeremiah in the times of disaster and captivity of Judah leapt to the time of the end with the Promise of a New Covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, a Covenant that will repeat the National Formula of the Old Covenant: *"But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE. (Jer. 31:33)*

The Final analysis of the Promise is centred on the Lord Jesus Christ - for He is the Seed of Abraham, He is of Israel, He is of Judah, He is of David, and He is more. He is the PASSOVER LAMB of GOD. In life He presented God the Father. He was without sin, but was made sin for us. In death, His precious blood was shed on the earth. In His infinite capacity as Son of God, His blood covered all sin, all rebellion, all displacement from the perfection of Creation, and as son of Adam, He nullified the curse of Eden. However, eternal life is not to all. The enemies of God are not automatically converted. John summed up personal responsibility with these familiar words: *FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD, THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON, THAT WHOSOEVER BELIEVETH IN HIM SHOULD NOT PERISH, BUT HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE. (John 3:16)*

V. A. PROPOSCH.

IRAN AND THE U.S.A.

"The Final Call has learned from high level sources in the State Department that plans are being made right now to involve America in a military confrontation with Iran. One senior level official at the State Department said the U.S. government believes that Iran is sponsoring terrorist groups that are disrupting the Middle East peace process. The official told *The Final Call* that the United States is currently working with its allies in Europe and Japan to get them to take steps economically against Iran. Other sources have told *The Final Call* that it would be wise to believe that a major military conflict with Iran and others in the Middle East will occur sooner than later."

(From: New Dawn, Sept./Oct. 1995)

Other reports indicate that Iranian camps in the Sudan have been training extremist Arab Islamic Fundamentalist terrorists as well as members of the Palestinian Hamas, Jihad and ex-Afghan guerrillas. Angola, a non-Islamic country, is also involved in a secret deal with Iran to accommodate terrorist training camps with the close co-operation of Cuban intelligence agents. America fears that collaboration between Islamic terrorists and Latin American Left Wing Extremists will lead to attacks on American interests in Latin America and within America itself. The U.S. aim is to knock out international terrorist bases and to act against Islamic fundamentalist aggression in order to protect the peace moves in the Middle East.

MONEY

*"Except the Lord build the house
They labour in vain that build it." (Ps. 127:1)*

As previously stated the objective of God's economic system was to promote and bring about a wide and just distribution of natural wealth to the end that there should be no poor within Israel. (Deut. 8:7-10) God defines "wealth" as brooks of water, wheat, barley, vines, fig trees, olive oil, honey, manna, herds, flocks, iron, brass, silver, gold, etc. However, the silver and gold were in the form of bullion or treasure not as a monetary measure and, like all other forms of wealth, were to be exchangeable freely (bartered) one with another. There was no necessity for commodities to be changed into gold and silver before being exchanged for anything else, as came to be the case. God also instructed that a just and stable measure of value be used to ensure an equitable distribution of His bounty, His primary concern being the protection of, and provision for, the innocent and helpless within society. (Deut. 25:13-16; 10:18; 15:11)

The O.T. economic ethic is demonstrated in the gathering of the manna (Ex. 16:18) *"And when they did mete it with an OMER, he that gathered much had nothing over, and he that gathered little had no lack...."* - a just measure and an equitable distribution, all provided for - no poverty among riches. The N.T. teaches the same ethic (2 Cor. 8:14 & 15) - *"...that your abundance may be a supply for their want (need)..... that there may be equality."*

But despite God's instruction to provide just measures of value for all commodities neither Israel nor Judah, nor indeed the later Jewish Nation, attempted to obtain for Palestine an independent national currency conforming to the Mosaic Law. No attempt was made to interpret the Law and the Prophets in regard to such matters.

They each followed the prevailing system of Assyria and Babylon, and later of Phoenicia, who had replaced the barter system with the use of precious metals as currency (later to be known as 'money'). As these metals were of insufficient supply to represent the value of all produce, were limited in circulation and under private monopoly control, they imposed restrictions upon the distribution of wealth. Because of the scarcity of the currency, the money suppliers were able to exact a high rate of interest for loans (usury). It was impossible for trade to be conducted fairly, for wealth to be equitably apportioned or labour to be adequately paid. This system allowed the imposition of extortion and excess (the products of a false measure of value) on the people in order to maintain lucrative business dealings for the rulers and traders.

The result within Israel society was that the poor were 'turned aside from their right', the 'ephah was made small and the shekel enlarged', and the 'cup and platter were full of extortion and excess', i.e., destitution, low wages and the defrauding of producers and consumers. The Prophet Hosea expressed God's judgment: *"The Lord ... will punish Jacob according to his ways He is a merchant, the balances of deceit are in his hand: he loveth to oppress (defraud)." (Hosea 12:2, 7)*

This immoral system was perpetuated with the introduction of coinage.

In 700 B.C. the Lydians of Asia Minor began stamping small ingots of their own native gold (known as 'white gold' or 'electrum') which was heavily alloyed with silver from the washings of the River Pactolus. The stamp was an official mark guaranteeing just weight and removed the necessity of using balances for every transaction.

Other nations followed suit and coins were developed, i.e. pieces of metal of strictly determined weight, stamped by public authority, that were used as a **medium of exchange for commodities and services**. Conquering nations forced their coinage on subject peoples. For example, in the period of the Athenian Empire (476 - 405 B.C.) subject cities were forced to use the silver OWL coins of Athens.

The earliest Roman currency is considered to have been cattle, the Latin word 'pecunia' from which comes our English word 'pecuniary' (relating to or consisting of money) deriving from 'pecus' meaning 'cattle'. However, our word 'money' derives from the Latin word 'MONETA' (the mint, money) which in turn originated in the surname of JUNO MONETA in whose temple at Rome **stamped metal coins** were produced between 269 B.C. and A.D. 100. These coins came to be known as 'moneta', their intrinsic value being derived from the metals of which they were made.

The first national metallic coinage developed by Israelite peoples in Palestine was the copper shekel coin - plus halves and quarters - of King Simon Hasmonean (143 B.C.). During Greek and Roman conquests of Palestine coinage was mainly either Greek or Roman in origin, the currency supply being controlled by the ruling nation. This impaired the welfare and prosperity of the people. In Roman times Jews were not permitted to bring any but Jewish coins into the Temple. Thus the Money Changers stood at the entrance to the Temple to give Jewish money in exchange for foreign. The O.T. 'Talent' had been a weight of silver bullion but the N.T. 'Talent' was a Roman/Attic coin.

Until last century the term 'money' was always associated with **stamped metal coinage**. In the A.V. and R.V. Bibles the word 'money' is often used wrongly to represent gold and silver bullion. For example in Isaiah 55:1-2 the literal translation should read:

"Ho, everyone that is thirsty, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no SILVER: come ye, buy and eat: yea come, buy wine and milk without SILVER, and without PRICE. Why do ye weigh SILVER for that which is not bread? And your labour for that which satisfieth not? Harken diligently unto me, and eat that which is good, so that your soul may be delighted with fatness."

This verse refers to the future time when Israel will be established in righteousness and all her children taught of the Lord (Isa. 54:13-14). It foreshadows the just economic system which will then operate. All are invited to come and buy, even those without silver. There will be sufficient for all and an equitable distribution of the necessities of life through a just measure of value. The economy will not be governed by an unstable metal standard (false measure of value) which in Isaiah's day dictated the PRICE at which wealth had to be sold, because the mass of wealth had first to be changed into gold and silver before being exchangeable into anything else. Because of this some of the silver was weighed for that which was not bread and part of the wages of labour

was withheld. The same results pertain today through inflation, deflation, and devaluation of paper currency systems. Devaluing the currency without increasing wages robs the wage earner of part of his purchasing power.

By the 18/19th centuries A.D. the use of gold and silver as a **uniform bi-metal standard** had become practically worldwide. Separately or in relationship these metals were **presumed to be measures of value**. However, as the relative value of silver to gold has fluctuated throughout the centuries and varied from country to country, as has the availability of these metals, they could never provide a true, stable and just measure. But the unrighteous system continued to be adhered to in spite of the social evils it produced and God's righteous system ignored.

King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon finally came to believe in the God of Israel and praised and worshipped Him (Dan. 4:34-37) but he kept his image of gold and his usurious and unjust financial system. So also the false measures of metallic standards became Christian institutions rather than the Law of God. Jewry also has profited much from the false system and has expanded its influence and tyranny worldwide. As J.T. Peddie has commented: "though the Jews were not responsible for the introduction of gold and silver standards, they have had a great deal to do with originating the idea of pyramiding financial credit upon the metallic standards and in making the world believe that financial credit units of money were as good as standard units of money."

After 1874 when the nations of the world began adopting the Gold Standard there was a worldwide scramble for gold. Bankers were forced to extend the use of substitutes for money and this led to a more extensive use of **financial credit** and its transfer by the **cheque system**. This "credit" is usually based on debts involving the payment of interest or USURY (i.e. a rate of interest that is higher than necessary, or the abnormal profits earned through monopoly and privilege).

Today, **MONEY** includes metal coins, paper currency (bank notes, certificates, bonds, etc.) and bank credit. But every banking loan (which is in reality a debt upon which interest is payable) is created as a deposit in a borrower's account. **These deposit/debts can circulate as 'money' in the form of cheques**. This is a deceitful system in which debts masquerade as credits.

For millennia Satan has used debt as a weapon to enslave mankind. The perfect solution to this oppression by debt was given by God in the Law given to Israel at Sinai but man has been unwilling to abide by God's principles and has continued to fall prey to an ancient and injurious monetary system. This has resulted in the enslavement of the whole world to the merchants of finance.

*"Ye shall not therefore oppress one another;
but thou shalt fear thy God: for I am the Lord your God.
Wherefore ye shall do My statutes, and keep My judgments, and do them;
... AND THE LAND SHALL YIELD HER FRUIT, AND YE SHALL EAT
YOUR FILL, AND DWELL THEREIN IN SAFETY"*
(Lev.25:17-19)

(Asst.Ed.)

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"A CHRISTIAN TALMUD"

(From: New Times pg. 4, Sept., 1995.)

What is proposed to defeat the Christian law of love as a threat to Judaism, was revealed in the final paragraph of Susan Bures' article in The Australian Jewish News (20/9/91), when she wrote:

"And finally, Orthodox feminist writer Blu Greenberg argues for a Christian Talmud and Midrash to deal with its fundamental documents of faith so that no Christian text is ever taught without a quasi-canonical exegesis based on Christian and Jewish scholarship and a sense of history. 'Only the Gospels can undo what the Gospels have done. Only through the process of quasi-canonisation of the new and positive teachings can the negative ones be banished from consciousness. The Gospels must be bound to an Oral Gospel', a definitive tradition whose interpretation must shape the actual reading of the Gospels."

The significance of this cannot be underestimated. This is the most revolutionary and deadly challenge available to Christianity, and in fact encapsulates the negation of the central message of Christianity itself. *"Ye shall know the Truth, and the Truth (Christ) shall make ye free"* is to be "interpreted" by a new text, produced **with the help of the Pharisees!** The very words of Christ, only recorded by the Apostles who witnessed His deeds in the Christian Gospels, are to be re-interpreted and taught by the Pharisees, whom Christ condemned. The Light is to be filtered through Darkness. And the greatest tragedy of this process, is that the Churches have not only conceded to it, but have actively assisted in its execution. Thus is the Body of Christ betrayed, not by its avowed enemies, but by its own household. Perhaps this fulfils the prophecy of Christ, where Matthew records him as continuing, after saying "I did not come to bring peace, but a sword": *"For I have come to turn a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law - A man's enemies will be the members of his own household..."*

It now remains to be seen whether the Churches will use the new Christian Talmud **"Rightly Explaining the Word of Truth"** or not. Will they acquiesce in the sacrifice of the law of love, thus permitting what amounts to a second crucifixion of Christ?

MONEY GETTING

*"He hath showed thee, O man, what is good;
... and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love
mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God." (Micah 6:8)*

There have always been within the monetary system two conflicting interests: first that of the producers and consumers who required a fair, barter type system if they were to prosper, and secondly that of those who, because of their privileged position, made the **art of money-getting** a profession which could succeed only at the **expense** of the producers and consumers. Interest and abnormal profit (usury) for the few has always been the dominating influence, an easy road to riches, luxury and power.

The Monetary Industry has ever been a close corporation at the discretion of those who operate it. It is not under Government regulation nor do the Public have any say in its operation, therefore monetary mechanism is the master of people today rather than the servant. The Bank of England founded in 1694 for the purpose of lending money at interest to king William III, was an association of **private** merchants incorporated by Act of Parliament. It became the Government's Bank with the sole right to issue bank notes in England and Wales and later to **issue all Government loans** and manage the resulting **National Debt**. William Paterson who master-minded the founding of the Bank said: "The Bank hath benefit of interest on all moneys which it creates out of nothing" referring to the practice of **fractional reserve banking** by which far more money is loaned out than is deposited in a bank. Money is **created** when loans are entered as deposits in borrowers' accounts. Then interest is charged on this **newly created** 'debt money'.

The load of interest which is payable on debts can be paid only out of the annual wealth produced by a nation in any one year and it is the producers and consumers who bear this burden, together with the weight of taxation and the redemption of the National Debt. Banks are entitled to some interest as they provide services and employ labour, but when banking and finance are converted from a **service** into a species of **money-getting** for the few vested interests who take too much and offer too little, then justice and righteousness play no part.

A very obvious example of the injurious effect of interest bearing loans (debts) on the economy of a nation is the economic state of the United States today. In 1750, prior to union the colonies in America **issued their own money** called 'colonial script'. It was **issued in proper proportion** to enable products to pass easily from producers to consumers. The purchasing power of this paper money was controlled (making it a just measure of value) and there was no interest to pay any private party. **The population was happy and prosperous**. However, when this became known abroad the British Parliament, at the **instigation of British Bankers**, issued a law prohibiting the Colonies from using their own money. Debt money based on silver and gold was provided by the Bankers but in **insufficient** quantity to represent the mass of production. The medium of exchange was in fact reduced by half. In one year the prosperity had ended, depression set in and the unemployed filled the streets.

In spite of the fact that the American Constitution signed in 1787 included the paragraph "Congress shall **have the power to coin money and to regulate the value thereof**," a privately owned Federal Bank entitled "The Bank of the United States" was set up in 1791 to **control the creation and flow** of money in the U.S.A. This was the first move by the international banking powers to emesh the U.S.A. and its great natural wealth in the old oppressive Babylonian financial system which robs the producers and consumers and increases the riches and power of the Money Controllers.

Finally, in 1913 the Federal Reserve Act was passed which **handed over the power to create money and control its circulation** from Congress to the Federal Reserve Corporation, a **private** group of banking interests. America's phenomenal prosperity has since disappeared despite its immense natural resources and incredible technological development, its National Debt to the Money Industry being presently astronomical. The finances of most of the countries in the world are similarly controlled and it is from this **financial credit system** that all deflationary and inflationary tendencies (extortion and excess) arise.

While the false system is maintained with deliberate intent by the moneyed interests throughout the world the resulting inequitable distribution of natural wealth produces economic depression, unemployment, destitution, poverty, broken homes, fear of tomorrow and other evils of society. Manipulation of the money system enables the rich to hold back part of the wages of labour and so oppress the poor.

It is the money manipulators who control the **flow of currency**. **Shortage** of currency creates the paradoxical situation of consumers being unable to buy and producers being unable to sell - willing sellers and willing buyers are unable to do business because of insufficient currency. There is 'over production' on one hand while on the other hand numbers are underfed and underclad, all because there is a **shortage of the means of payment (currency)**. **As currency is labour's chief mode of payment**, when it is scarce wages and prices are low and the distribution of wealth is restricted. The volume of currency should be increased automatically and in proportion to the volume of business to be done. Prices should be determined by **costs of production**, not by **monetary policy**.

The need for money arose from the operation of trade which it regulates. But restrictions to trade are arbitrarily imposed by existing money systems and in both national and international trade people are prevented from bartering their surplus wealth, barter being the natural form of exchange enabling men to share in the variety of natural wealth. From barter arose the use of money which was devised originally as an aid to the mutual interchange of goods and services, i.e., the importing of necessities and exporting of surpluses. But from the skills employed in buying and selling with a view to gaining the **greatest profit** rather than a **fair profit**, came the practice of **money getting** through which an abundance of wealth could be procured. So from the use of money as an **aid to trade** developed the **art of money getting** the aim of which was the **acquiring of riches** rather than the **equitable distribution of wealth**.

The 'getting of money' differs from the **production of natural wealth** which is the true object of God's economy. Money may be used

'legitimately' to obtain possessions, for pleasures, etc. But it can also be used 'illegitimately' to get more money without **producing anything or providing a service**. This is done by lending money at **usury** and so gaining **abnormal profit**. When money itself is traded to make more money, i.e., as **interest bearing loans - debt finance - usury** - it becomes a commodity rather than a medium of exchange. The increase thus gained can be described as 'money getting'. Money getters live by **usury, monopoly, speculation and exploitation**. They take too much (excess - unjust gain) and offer too little (extortion - fraud). They live off the producers and consumers of the world without contributing to the art of production and distribution. They are in reality parasites on the working population. Recent activities of **international currency speculators** have destroyed the value of the British pound and brought down Barings Bank and California's Orange County.

The world is now on the verge of a **Global Free Market** to be managed by the World Trade Organization and backed by the World Bank and International Monetary Fund. These centralized, hierarchical and undemocratic institutions are subjugating the economies of the world seeking to abolish all barriers to trade, including standards - wage levels, social, environmental, health, etc. Global free trade means that anything can be manufactured anywhere in the world to be sold anywhere else, thus putting the work forces of every nation in competition. Capital will be freely invested worldwide with technology transferable instantly by microchip to wherever labour is cheapest and yields are highest. This will mean a World Economy run by the rich elite of the world for their own benefit. Already over half of the world's production is in the hands of only 400 companies, themselves dependent upon or directed by the **global credit controllers**.

It was said centuries ago that **tyranny originated when riches became a mark of honour**. Today the tyranny of the very rich operates on a global scale. Having lost their financial sovereignty and being unable to monetise their own natural wealth the governments of this world are totally subservient to the suppliers of world finance.

Throughout the centuries nations have chosen their own economic working conditions instead of God's system. The results of this are being reaped worldwide. The instructions for a bountiful, free and happy society have been available for centuries in "the Law and the Prophets" and have been heeded but little. Today even the organized Church has no interest in studying God's Law with a view to improving conditions.

"...the world is definitely faced with a single, vast, inimical force, in face of which effort has so far been fruitless, and hope made vain. This ... force is ... sordid materialism ... the product of the carnal mind, which will always refuse to recognize the need for a just and proper measure of value." (J.T. Peddie)

The time has come for a clear choice to be made. We must choose God and His Way which brings life and prosperity because the way of the anti-God forces of materialism and greed will end in chaos and death.

*"No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one,
and love the other: or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other.
YE CANNOT SERVE GOD AND MAMMON". (Matt. 6:24)*

(Asst.Ed.)

ASSIMILATION OR INTEGRATION

*For the Lord your God is God of Gods, and Lord of Lords,
a great God, a mighty, and a terrible,
which regardeth not persons, nor taketh reward:
He doth execute the judgment of the fatherless and widow,
and loveth the stranger, in giving him food and raiment.
Love ye therefore the stranger: for ye were strangers
in the land of Egypt. (Deut. 10:17-19)*

The aim of Australia's original immigration programme was the assimilation of non-English speaking immigrants as socially cohesive elements of the Australian ethos.

The modern concept of multiculturalism, however, is far from this. It encourages minority ethnic and religious groups to segregate on the edge of society where ethnic differences rather than Australian unity are emphasized. Some of these groups are totally opposed to assimilation seeing it as the means to their cultural demise. For example, some Jewish leaders see assimilation as a threat to Judaism itself.

On the other hand, Liberal Jewry which espouses agnosticism and a world federalist philosophy is against a resurgence of Zionism and a revival of conservative religious fervour. Indeed, Christian Fundamentalists in America appear to be more strongly Zionist than American Jews, a large proportion of whom lean towards a "land for peace" deal with the P.L.O. Liberal Jewry fears the implications of a Protestant backed Zionism which could result from further conflict in the Holy Land and even lead to the conversion of Israeli Jews to Christian Fundamentalism and a search for "lost" Israel. This would certainly jeopardise the movement towards world federalism.

What does the Law of God teach us?

In the Law of God there is an important difference made between the status of the foreigner who is visiting or passing through the land and that of the "stranger" or "sojourner" (GER) who, originally a citizen of another land, became a permanent resident within Israel seeking acceptance and refuge.

The sojourner, like the Levite, could not possess land as this would have diminished the inheritance of an Israelite family. But like the Levite he enjoyed the special privileges of the third year tithe (Deut. 14:29).

The sojourner as part of the congregation of Israel was required to keep the Passover but was to be circumcised first. (Ex. 12:47 - 48) He was able to enjoy all the religious privileges, e.g., the celebration of the Day of Atonement (Lev. 16:29-34), the Feasts of the Lord (Deut. 16:11) and the Sabbath rest (Lev. 25:6), etc..

The sojourner usually worked in the service of an Israelite but had equal opportunity to work to become a rich man himself (Lev. 25:47). He had equal rights with an Israelite and was to be treated "as one born among you" and loved "as thyself" (Lev. 19:34). He was responsible to, and protected by, the law. (Lev. 18:26; Deut. 1:16; Lev. 24:22)

Israelites, therefore, were to treat the sojourner with justice, righteousness and love, and provide him with sustenance. (Ex. 22:21; Lev. 19:9-10; 23:22)

But most important of all the sojourner was to be present in the congregation every seventh year when the people gathered together to have the Law read to them that they and their children might learn to reverence the Lord God of Israel and keep His Law. (Deut. 31:11-13)

In other words the sojourner was to be assimilated into the life and ethos of the nation and to worship and obey Israel's God.

Looking forward the Prophet Ezekiel writes of the end of this age when the land of Israel will be restored and divided to the Tribes once again as their inheritance. But this time the sojourner is to have full citizenship rights and will be apportioned an inheritance within the tribal land in which he lives. (Ezek. 47:22-23) The stranger who desires to be a subject of the King of Kings will then be fully assimilated into the earthly Kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ.

The spiritual parallel of this is the assimilation of all who truly acknowledge our Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord into the spiritual "Temple" or "Body of Christ", the members of which will constitute the ruling administration of His earthly kingdom. (Rev. 20:6; Eph. 1:22-23; 2:21-22; 3:6; 1 Cor. 12:27)

*For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.
For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ
have put on Christ.*

*There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free,
there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.
And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed,
and heirs according to the promise. (Gal. 3:26-29) (Asst.Ed.)*

AUSTRALIAN MORALS UNDER WORLD SCRUTINY

A paper published by the Dutch Ministry of Justice in the Hague in 1993 found Australia had the highest levels of sex attacks in the industrialised world.

A European Community survey documented Australia as the number one country in the world for rape, indecent assault and indecent exposure.

Australian Institute of Criminology Trends states that crime statistics in Australia give "a result that must surely give cause for concern to all Australians". Australia leads the world in "assaults involving force" and "sexual incidents against women."

The Foreign Ministry in Japan issues a warning to female tourists who apply for an Australian visa and says "Australia, along with New Zealand and Peru, has been ranked in an official Japanese government survey as having the highest rate of rape in the world".

An International Crime Survey released by the Home Office in London in April 1994, documents how Australians are at greater risk of sexual assault than people in any other developed country.

Interpol crime statistics report Australia is the fourth in the world for overall sexual offences. The United States is 22nd from the top.

The Australian Federation for the Family are striving to convince authorities of the relation between porn and smut and the sexual behaviour which so gravely threatens Australian Society. They deserve our prayerful and financial support in their continuing battle. (Contact: Mr. J. Sonneman, A.F.F., P.O. Box 106 Canterbury, Vic.3126)



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IS THE OLD TESTAMENT JUDAIC?

The following statement appeared in a publication earlier this year:
"Social Credit is practical Christianity, that is New Testament Christianity, and not the arid, wrathful, and vengeful wastes of the Old Testament. The Old (Judaic) and the New (Christian) contain diametrically opposed messages.
That is, Judaism is incompatible with Christianity."

While the last sentence is certainly true the rest of the statement demonstrates an alarming ignorance of the content and teaching of the O.T.

The Hebrew Bible (O.T.), known also as the Scriptures is the written Word of God. The N.T. tells us that *"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God"* (2 Tim. 3:16) and at the time this was written the N.T. Scriptures had not been compiled. The N.T. refers to the O.T. writings many times either as "the Scripture" or "the Scriptures". Speaking to the Chief Priests and Elders of the people our Lord Jesus Christ Himself referred to them saying:
"Ye do err not knowing the SCRIPTURES nor the power of God."
(Matt. 22:29)

The Hebrew Bible is a record of Israelite religion. It also includes Israelite history both past and future - given prophetically by the Prophets. It proclaims the character of Israel's God and contains the unfolding revelation of His Person and His Purpose in and for this planet.

It includes the Ordinances of Worship which typified and foreshadowed every aspect of the sacrificial work of the Coming One whose perfect life and obedience to God would enable Him to become the Lamb of God as typified in the Passover. The atoning sacrifice of this Lamb, who the N.T. identifies as Jesus Christ the Son of God, has made possible the future establishment of the prophesied Kingdom of God on earth. The O.T. prophesies a later time when the sovereignty of Israel's King will extend worldwide:

"And it shall come to pass in the last days that theLord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more." (Isa. 2:1-4)

The N.T. is also Scripture written by inspiration of God. It records the life and teachings, death and resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ Who perfectly fulfilled the symbolism of the O.T. Ordinances of Worship. He thereby made it possible for fallen men to receive salvation and fallen Israel to be restored again as a righteous nation under their Redeemer King when He returns again to judge the earth in fulfilment of the O.T. prophecies. (e.g. Isa. 9:6-7 and Jer. 31:31-37)

Speaking to the two at Emmaus the risen Lord said:
"O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: ought not Christ (the Messiah) 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 O.T.) the things concerning himself." (Luke 24:25-27)

The N.T. extends the teachings of the Hebrew Bible (O.T.) stressing the spiritual aspects. Our Lord said: *"Think not that I am come to destroy the LAW OR THE PROPHETS (i.e. the O.T.): I am not come to destroy but to fulfil." (Matt. 5:17)* It should be noted that the meaning of the word translated "fulfil" means to fill up, complete, fully preach. It has been said that Christ brought a fuller revelation of God, not a revelation of a better God. He quoted freely from the O.T. as did the later writers of the Epistles.

The O.T. is the Written Word of God upon which the "Christian" N.T. is based and from which it quotes many times. The Old and New Testaments contain **THE SAME** messages. They proclaim the need for **repentance of wrong doing** (Ezek. 18:30; Acts. 3:19-21), for **belief** (2 Chron. 20:20; Mark 5:36), for **faith** (Hab. 2:4; Heb. 11:6), and for **living in obedience to God** (Exod. 19:5-6; Acts 5:32). Both proclaim salvation through faith in the atoning sacrifice of the Saviour (the Lamb of God) and His future rule on earth as King of Kings.

The following quotations demonstrate that the O.T. is hardly an "arid, wrathful, vengeful waste":

"Ye shall not steal, neither deal falsely, neither lie one to another. And ye shall not swear by my name falsely, neither shalt thou profane the name of thy God:Thou shalt not defraud thy neighbour, neither rob him..... Thou shalt not curse the deaf, nor put a stumblingblock before the blind, but shalt fear thy God:..... Ye shall do no unrighteousness in judgment: thou shalt not respect the person of the poor, nor honour the person of the mighty: but in righteousness shalt thou judge thy neighbour. Thou shalt not go up and down as a talebearer among thy people:..... Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thine heart:..... Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but THOU SHALT LOVE THY NEIGHBOUR AS THYSELF: I am the Lord." (Lev. 19:11-18)

"But if a man be just, and do that which is lawful and right,..... And hath not oppressed any, but hath restored to the debtor his pledge, hath spoiled none by violence, hath given his bread to the hungry, and hath covered the naked with a garment; he that hath not given forth upon usury, neither hath taken any increase, that hath withdrawn his hand from iniquity, hath executed true judgment between man and man, hath walked in my statutes, and hath kept my judgments, to deal truly; he is just, he shall surely live, saith the Lord God." (Ezek. 18:5-9)

"My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee. Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: so shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man. Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the Lord, and depart from evil." (Prov. 3:1-7)

The quoted statement indicates that the Hebrew Bible or Old Testament is JUDAIC. What is meant by the term 'judaic'? Castell's New English Dictionary 18th edition defines 'judaic' as "pertaining to the Jews. Jewish." and 'judeo' as "of or relating to the Jews or Judaism." The New Grolier Webster International Dictionary of the English Language, 1974, defines 'judaic' as "Pertaining to the Jewish people or Judaism."

JUDAISM

The Microsoft Incarta Encyclopaedia (MIE) says:

"Judaism, religious culture of the Jews.

The term 'Judaism' does not occur in pre-modern Hebrew."

From the New Grolier Multimedia Encyclopaedia Release 6 (NGME) we learn the following:

Jews "are united by the religion called Judaism, they are not a race; Jewish identity is a mixture of ethnic, national, and religious elements.... The word 'Jew' is derived from the Kingdom of Judah which included two of the 12 Israelite tribes." Originally the word 'Israel' referred to the 12 Israelite tribes and especially to the later Kingdom of the Ten Tribes. It is today narrowly used as a collective name for all Jewry and since 1948 for the Jewish State in Palestine.

Josephus, a Jewish historian, makes it clear that the term 'Jew' derives from the name 'Judah' and was the name given to the Judeans who returned to Palestine from the Babylonian Captivity in 536 B.C. It later came to be applied to all adherents of the worship of Jehovah as conducted at Jerusalem after the Exile. As time went on the term 'Jew' came to be applied to people of ALL RACES who worshipped Jehovah in the manner prescribed by the Rabbis.

After the Babylonian Captivity only a small remnant of the exiles returned to Palestine. "Many chose, however, to remain in Mesopotamia, where the Jewish community existed without interruption for more than 2,500 years until the virtual elimination of Jewish presence in Iraq after W.W.2." (NGME)

"The Jewish Diaspora began with the exile of JUDEANS to Babylonia by Nebuchadnezzar in 586 B.C. The majority of Judeans remained in Babylonia even after the refounding of Jerusalem". (MIE)

This is evidenced by the Book of Esther where it is recorded that there were Jews dispersed throughout the 127 provinces of the Medo-Persian Empire which extended from India to Ethiopia.

"And many of the people of the land became Jews; for the fear of the Jews fell upon them."

Thus began the great racial mixture which was to occur in the Diaspora.

"The exile of the Judeans to Babylonia was a major turning point in ISRAELITE religion." (NGME)

From 400 B.C. Biblical laws (Torah) were intensively studied and applied to new situations.

About 300 B.C. the Sacred Canon of Scripture was closed after the collection and revision of the Sacred Books by the Great Synagogue - 120 patriots, including Ezra, Haggai, Zechariah, Nehemiah and Malachi, who had laboured to improve the religious and civil constitution of the new nation. This was the period in which Greek culture was introduced into the region after its conquest by Alexander the Great.

Gradually the Biblical Written Law came to be "supplemented by traditions of popular observance and by precedents established by prominent leaders. This material long transmitted by word of mouth and known as the ORAL TORAH, defined the meaning of Biblical laws." (NGME) These were the 'traditions of the elders' which the Lord Jesus Christ referred to as "making the word of God of none effect through your tradition", as "teaching for doctrines the commandments of men" (Mark 7:7,13), and as transgressing "the commandment of God by your tradition" (Matt. 15:3;6).

HALACHAH (THE WAY)

"- the body of laws developed since Biblical times to define the holy way of life in Judaism and cover moral, religious and practical matters - they shape the conduct of the individual and the community. Halachah is distinct from the Torah and is based on the ORAL TRADITIONS believed to have been revealed to Moses, which were used to explain and interpret the Scriptures. Study of the written and unwritten (Oral) Law became central to Judaism during the Hasmonean Period (2nd-1st Century B.C.) when Pharisees became dominant." (NGME) This 'body of laws' (Halachah) has continued to evolve through the centuries and provides the means by which the pious Jew serves God.

During the late Maccabean Period and early Roman Period of control over Palestine leadership of the people was taken over by pious and learned laymen who formed the party of PHARISEES (SEPARATISTS). They became a major Jewish Party from 2nd C. B.C. to 2nd C. A. D. The seeds of Pharisaism were planted during the Babylonian Captivity (587-536 BC) and a clearly defined party emerged during the revolt of the Maccabees (167-165 B.C.) against the Syrian rulers of Palestine. The name first appeared during the reign of John Hyrcanus because of his assumption of both the royal and high priestly titles and because of the general secularism of the court. Pharisees were middle class and open to religious innovation. They supplemented the Torah with Oral Traditions. "The Pharisees were followed by the majority: all subsequent Judaism was Pharisaic." (MEI) The Pharisees were the lineal forerunners of the rabbinic movement which developed after 70 A.D.



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Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild - God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in
Bethlehem."

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord:
Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see. Hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of
Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, born that man no more may die;
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.

Come, Desire of Nations, come! Fix in us thy humble home:
Rise, the woman's conquering seed, bruise in us the serpent's
head.

Adam's likeness now efface, stamp Thine image in its place:
Second Adam from above, reinstate us in Thy love.

**Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King!.**

THE MESSIAHSHIP OF JESUS

THERE rings, with increasing volume, down through the ages, testimony concerning the incarnation of Jesus Christ at His first Advent. It starts in the Garden of Eden:

"The seed of the woman shall bruise the head of the serpent."

It is borne on the breeze of prophetic fulfilment, and is taken up by the voice of Isaiah, who calls upon Ahaz to ask a sign of the Lord, and with his refusal, declares the Lord Himself will give to him a sign:

"Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and His name shall be called Immanuel." (Isaiah vii, 14 Cf. Matthew i, 23.)

With various other statements adding volume to the testimony, we come down to the actual conception and the declaration to the very human Mary that:

*"The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee,
And the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee,
Therefore, also, that Holy thing Which shall be born thee
shall be called the Son of God." Luke i, 35.*

That the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit and was filled with wisdom until he was twelve, and from thence until He reached manhood, the Gospels sufficiently record.

That the body He had received from Mary's womb, was a literal body of flesh and blood, subsequent events went to prove. That it was a body which could be subject to all the feelings of our infirmities, is evidenced by the fact that He could suffer hunger, could be thirsty, that He wearied, and was tired and sought sleep, by the emotions that could cause tears to flow, by the compassion that could only be complete because He felt the pains and anguish of the human race. There should be no doubt about the fact that He was incarnate with a body as literally flesh and blood as our bodies.

We must recognise again the necessity of gripping the mentality of those living at the time, in order to obtain the true values of the conversations held and the incidents enacted. Remembering this, what, to the minds of the disciples, was the significance of Jesus? When He entered upon His ministry, one of the earliest disciples disclosed his mind:

*"We have found the Messiah,"
(which is, being interpreted, the Christ). John i, 41.*

WHY THE MESSIAH?

The person of Jesus as the Messiah was to them the key to all their problems, for His advent meant the immediate development of the fondest hopes which the prophecies of the Old Testament gave them reason to cherish. Take again the expression used by Peter on that momentous occasion recorded in Matthew xvi, 16:

"THOU ART THE CHRIST THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD."

Here is a declaration of fact which had been supernaturally revealed to Peter. Flesh and blood, that is human instrumentality, had not been responsible for the knowledge of the fact, but, as the Lord said,

"My Father, which is in heaven, hath revealed this unto thee."

What is this revelation?

What are the facts of this revelation concerning the person of Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Mary?

Concerning Him, the facts of the revelation are:

1. That He is the CHRIST.
2. That He is the Son of the Living God.

Concerning the facts so revealed the declaration is,

1. That upon them as a foundation, the superstructure of the Congregation will be built. Let us here note that the term in the Aramaic is congregation and not ecclesia - church - and hence the context must be understood in the historical relationship of the Rock and the Congregation of Israel.
2. That the revelation is Divine.
3. That the facts of the revelation were correct is evidenced by the Lord's acceptance of them.
4. That the facts of the revelation are important, is clear from the action of the Lord in placing them in such a fundamental position in relationship to the whole development of His purpose.

THE FACTS

1. Thou - JESUS - art the Christ.
2. Thou - Jesus - THE CHRIST - art the SON OF THE LIVING GOD.

"Thou art the Christ," means that to the disciples they understood in Jesus the advent of the Messiah of Israel.

In the light of the Scriptures of the Law and the Prophets, the significance of this title given to Jesus would awaken in them all the hopes of Israel, the establishment of the Kingdom of God on earth, and the final success of all God's purpose toward mankind. However much they understood of the mystic relationship of Jesus as the Son of the Living God, certain it is, that they understood the value of the personal presence in their midst of the long promised Messiah.

They understood the Messiahship or Kingship, but, as subsequent events show, they neither understood the work of the atonement, nor would they brook the idea, for it conflicted with their understanding of the establishment through the Messiah of the Kingdom of God on earth. How could that Kingdom be established without the Messiah, how could the Messiah fulfil His office if He should be taken by wicked hands and slain?

They had yet to learn that ere there could be the establishment of God's kingdom on earth, the redemption of Israel must be accomplished.

The times of their punishment must be fulfilled, the times of the Gentiles completed, and a great many other things must happen before the dispensation of the fullness of times.

To the disciples, Jesus the CHRIST, in the flesh, was the key to the Kingdom purpose. They knew where the remnant of Judah and Benjamin (the Jews) could be found; they knew, in all probability, where the colonies of the (Ten) Tribes of Israel could be found. Now they knew the fact of the advent of the Messiah in the flesh, and they knew Him.

Doubtless to them the fact of His presence was enough to allay all doubts as to the gathering of Israel. They had with them the Messiah of Israel, in the flesh, and it sufficed.

*(Reprinted from "Spiritual Law in the Natural World"
by Rev. R. C. Thomas D.Litt.)*

The title MESSIAH comes from the Hebrew word "MASHIAH" meaning "ANNOINTED ONE" which translated into Greek becomes "CHRISTOS" (from "CHRIO" - "TO ANOINT") The title CHRIST was later improperly understood and came to be used incorrectly as a proper name.

The MESSIAHSHIP OF JESUS was proclaimed :

1. By the angels at the time of His conception - (Matt. 1:20-23)
Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins.
2. At His birth (Luke 2:19)
For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.
3. During His baptism (Mark 1:11)
And there came a voice from heaven, saying, Thou art my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.
4. It was later acknowledged by demons. (Luke 4:41)
And devils also came out of many, crying out, and saying, Thou art Christ the Son of God. And he rebuking them suffered them not to speak: for they knew that he was Christ.
5. By Peter and the Lord Jesus Himself. (Matt. 16:16-17)
And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

It was our Lord's admission that He was the Messiah that led to His crucifixion. (Mark 14:61-64)

Again the high priest asked him, and said unto him, Art thou the Christ, the Son of the Blessed? And Jesus said, I am: and ye shall see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.

(Asst. Ed.)