

## ALL THINGS IN CHRIST

In all wisdom and prudence making known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Him the plan for the fullness of the times

***TO HEAD UP THE ALL THINGS IN THE CHRIST,  
the things in the heavens and the things upon the earth, in Him...***

(Ephesians 1:8b-10)

By – Stuart H. Pouliot

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#63

### ***The Abrahamic Covenant Then, Now, and the Future***

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**And I will bless those who bless you, and curse the one despising you. And in you all families of the earth shall be blessed.** (Genesis 12:3 LITV)

The LORD said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do, since Abraham will surely become a great and mighty nation, and in him all the nations of the earth will be blessed?" "For I have chosen him, so that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice, so that the LORD may bring upon Abraham what He has spoken about him." (Genesis 18:17-19 NASB)

**And the Scripture foreseeing that God would justify the nations by faith, preached the gospel before to Abraham: "All the nations will be blessed in you."** Gen. 12:3 (Galatians 3:8 LITV)

This article is about the three-part promise or covenant the Lord made around 1877 BC with Abraham, the father of faith and the father of nations. It is called the **Abrahamic Covenant**.

Of the several covenants found in scripture, this one is the most important and far reaching, for it includes and ultimately will encompass all mankind, without exception. Actually, this is the **New Covenant** based on faith given to Abraham before Moses was given the Old Covenant that was destined to fail and become fully obsolete; a fact testified to in 70 AD with the fall of Jerusalem. Clearly, in his epistle to the Galatians, Paul joins the promise(s) made to Abraham based on faith to the promises made to believers based on the faith of the Son of God.

**And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to promise.** (Galatians 3:29 NASB)

Notice how Paul makes all who belong to Christ, that is, have faith in or have the faith of the Son, descendants of Abraham. **Therefore, be sure that it is those who are of faith who are sons of Abraham** (Galatians 3:7). According to Paul, being a son of Abraham does not mean the person of faith is a genetic (by blood or pedigree) descendant of Abraham. It means that such a one exhibits the same type of faith seen in Abraham. One who belongs to Christ by faith is a *spiritual* son of Abraham, for he or she follows the example of the father of faith. It is a matter of faith not genes.

Besides, today it is nearly impossible to trace one's roots back to Abraham through Judah (Jew), Joseph (Israelite), or any of the other tribes, for that matter. In the 8<sup>th</sup> century BC, the genealogical records of the Israelites were lost with their Assyrian deportation, and the Jewish genealogical were destroyed either by King Herod leading up to Jesus' day or by the Romans in 70 AD with the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple. Add to this the fact that there was much inbreeding with the Canaanites, Egyptians, and other tribes/nations that has continued unabated down through the centuries, and at best, all of us today are of highly mixed gene pools; none are pure.

Today, legally speaking, that is, according to God's Divine Law, a true Jew or Judean is one who is a believer in union with God's Son, the Christ or the Messiah. This gives one standing as a legal citizen in the Kingdom of Christ. A true Israelite, that is, a spiritual Israelite, is one who overcomes or conquers in this age and who will be counted worthy to reign with Christ in the next age as a son of God, or as Jesus said, *"being a son of the resurrection"* (Luke 20:34-36). *"He who conquers will sit down with Me on My throne, as I also conquered and sat down with My Father on His throne"* (Revelation 3:21).

I have covered the subject of the Hebrews, Jews, and Israelites in many writings, especially during 2010. If interested, go to this link and follow the titles along this line.

<http://www.kingdomandglory.com/tuc2010.html>

Now, it is important that these few opening remarks be made in light of what follows, for what follows deals with the actual physical descendants of Abraham that have become great nations in fulfillment of the promises given to Abraham. I don't want anyone to think that what I am proposing is that one must be a physical descendant of Abraham-Isaac-Jacob to be justified by faith, for I am not proposing this. However, what I am proposing is that God's plan to bring about faith in all the nations is based, in large part, on the migration of the descendants of Abraham the Hebrew, and the Western Christianized nations, especially Europe and America, have been an integral part of this great migration. Many of the physical descendants of Abraham have become spiritual sons of Abraham. God's plan to achieve His ultimate purpose of All in All is not some random series of circumstances or events; it is a well-thought-out and orchestrated plan that involved the Hebrews migrating throughout the earth and bringing with them the good news of God's Son, Jesus the Christ.

### **History – Fulfilled Prophecy**

As one commentator has stated, history is fulfilled prophecy, and through a study of history, we learn more of God's plan to achieve His ultimate purpose of ALL. Unfortunately, many of God's people seem to be ignorant of history; this is sad. We must not be so shortsighted and myopic and introspective. History is God's doing, and in it we learn of His ways and His will. The history of mankind is God's history in mankind. In this history, we learn of our past, and we learn of our future or destiny – blessings if we walk before the Lord and curses if we turn from Him and follow our own carnal ways. As Jeremiah was in the midst of the fall of Judah and Jerusalem, he lamented: **She did not consider her future [destiny, latter end]. Therefore she has fallen astonishingly; she has no comforter** (Lamentations 1:9).

## Remember the Past

America and the nations of the world are coming to the brink of their man-centered end as the Kingdom of the Heavens comes to earth, and their fall may be astonishingly so, if there is no turning to the Lord. I have more to say on this later, but this is the heart of what follows. We need to know something of the past to discern how God is moving and working in our day. Since America is my home, this is a specific word to my nation. We need to recall our past, especially who birthed us as a nation and has blessed us abundantly in fulfillment of the Abrahamic Covenant.

**"Remember the days of old, consider the years of all generations. Ask your father, and he will inform you, your elders, and they will tell you. "When the Most High gave the nations their inheritance, when He separated the sons of man, He set the boundaries of the peoples according to the number of the sons of Israel. (Deuteronomy 32:7-8 NASB)**

**Seek the LORD and His strength; seek His face continually. Remember His wonderful deeds which He has done, His marvels and the judgments from His mouth, O seed of Israel His servant, Sons of Jacob, His chosen ones! He is the LORD our God; His judgments are in all the earth. Remember His covenant forever, the word which He commanded to a thousand generations, the covenant which He made with Abraham, and His oath to Isaac. (1 Chronicles 16:11-16 NASB)**

**All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations will worship before You. For the kingdom is the LORD'S and He rules over the nations. (Psalm 22:27-28 NASB)**

**"Remember this, and be assured; recall it to mind, you transgressors. "Remember the former things long past, for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things which have not been done, saying, 'My purpose will be established, and I will accomplish all My good pleasure'; calling a bird of prey from the east, the man of My purpose from a far country. Truly I have spoken; truly I will bring it to pass. I have planned it, surely I will do it. (Isaiah 46:8-11 NASB)**

The one thing in common within these verses (and many others like them) is the call to remember the Lord and His great deeds, that is, do not forget what He has done, call it to remembrance. The Psalms are filled with remembrances of the Lord and what He has done in His faithfulness, lovingkindness, and mercy (e.g., see Psalms 77, 105, 107, 136). **Why the call to remember? Because we are prone to forget, and when we forget, we tend to fall away from the Lord, and when we do, things eventually do not go so well for us.** Case in point is the history of the ancient sons of Israel. For this reason, we need to continually recall the Lord, who He is, what He has done and is doing, and what He will yet do. The destiny of nations hangs in the balance! We need to remember the past and live in the present for the Lord, for it points to the future. Consider these verses.

**And they sang the song of Moses, the bond-servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, "Great and marvelous are Your works, O Lord God, the Almighty; righteous and true are Your**

**ways, King of the nations [King of the ages] ! "Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy; for ALL THE NATIONS WILL COME AND WORSHIP BEFORE YOU, FOR YOUR RIGHTEOUS ACTS HAVE BEEN REVEALED."** (Revelation 15:3-4 NASB [Numeric English New Testament])

God's heart has not been focused simply on one nation on earth but on all the nations, and, as will be shown in what follows, it is on the basis of an unconditional covenant made with Abraham, the father of faith and of the nations. God the Father has installed His Son on the throne as the King of the nations and of the ages, and He alone will head up all things in heaven and on earth until all things have been subjected unto His Father **so that God may be all in all** (Ephesians 1:10; 1 Corinthians 15:28). Hallelujah!

**Inasmuch as there is none like You, O LORD (You are great, and Your name is great in might), who would not fear You, O King of the nations? For this is Your rightful due. For among all the wise men of the nations, and in all their kingdoms, there is none like You.** (Jeremiah 10:6-7 NKJV)

Now, I started to write this article with a question for us Americans: Have we forgotten our past? But, then I realized that many remember the past and many live in it. After all, we have celebrations, parades, and memorials for all sorts of past events, such as wars, 9-11, catastrophes, events of great loss, natural disasters, etc. Isn't it interesting how we seem to commemorate so many bad things that have happened in which a lot of lives have been lost? It is as if we are programmed to commemorate death in such a way that we justify its grip on us by memorializing it. It is mankind's way of giving death meaning and purpose, especially what could be called untimely or unnatural death. Of course, death is the last enemy of mankind.

The sequel to this question, and the most important one, is: As a nation, have we forgotten our history with God? Or, do we even recognize that the source and birth of our nation is traced back to God, and our present and future continues to be totally dependent on Him? Simply, our history is integrally linked to the Lord God Almighty, just as it was with ancient Israel. In fact, we are an extension of the history of ancient Israel. In a much broader sense, all nations—past, present, and future—have a history with God, for He alone raises them up and tears them down (Jeremiah 18:7-10; Daniel 4:25, 26, 32).

In this light, America's history goes back much further than our official 1776 founding or the 1607-1620 arrival on our shores of those seeking to create New Jerusalem and the Kingdom of God. It goes back much further to nearly 4,000 years ago when the Lord first appeared to Abraham and covenanted with him in regard to all the nations of the earth.

So, even though I have singled out my country, let it be known that this is not solely about America. The same could be written in some measure about many nations on earth today, especially the whole of Europe and the British Isles. This is not meant to be an *America-centric* article, but it is about America, for I believe God is going to wake us up from our deep slumber and turn us back to Himself. We have been anesthetized by the spirit of the world and have even exported our brand of this spirit throughout the world. It is time to awaken. I believe only God can do this, but perhaps some of what follows might be helpful in leading us to consider

our past in light of our future destiny. As a nation, we need the eyes of our heart opened to remember, even recount, the faithfulness and lovingkindness of God toward us since our very beginning and to see that our beginning actually goes back to the promises made to Abraham.

We have become just like the United Kingdom of Israel and Judah became 3,000 years ago. Just like they did, America, by most accounts, since the 20<sup>th</sup> century has reigned as the world's superpower. Sadly, just as Israel and Judah failed to take into account their history with the Lord, so have we failed as a nation. We have forgotten who brought us to birth and has showered His abundant grace upon us. If we do not humble ourselves, turn from our wicked ways, and seek the Lord, we will soon go the way of ancient Israel and Judah and be chastised.

Unfortunately, it may be too late to turn on our own, and the only way through for us is for God Himself to break in and discipline us in such a way that we turn back to Him. I believe that this is what will come upon America. It seems to me that God has already begun His process of breaking us. Our Engedi moment is coming soon. Will our leaders of government and of the church humble themselves and seek the Lord in a time of crisis? If they won't, will we; will you?

See article #55 – *An Engedi Moment is Coming!* [January 2013]

<http://www.kingdomandglory.com/art/art55.pdf>

What follows has several levels. On one level, it deals with the history of ancient Israel; on another level, it deals with the history of modern-day America; and yet on another level, it deals with all the nations coming into the light of the Abrahamic Covenant. As we will see, all three levels follow the three parts of the Abrahamic covenant.

Let us begin with Abraham. Some of what follows has been excerpted from my book *The Ultimate Purpose of God*. <http://www.kingdomandglory.com/allinall.html>

### **Promises of Greatness**

Abram was called forth from his homeland into the land of Canaan in roughly **1892 BC**. Then, some fifteen years later in **1877 BC**, the Lord made a three-part, unconditional covenant with him that applies, not only to his blood (genetic) descendants, but more expansively to all the nations and families of the earth. This one covenant speaks mightily of God's plan for all the nations in the fulfillment of His purpose to become all in all new, and, I might add, *all in love*. This is achieved through His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who is all in all.

So that the point is not lost in the traditions of men, I will state it very clearly. The Abrahamic Covenant is God's *unconditional* covenant with all mankind that says through His Son He is going to save all mankind, without exception. Mind you, not all at the same time and all in the exact same manner, but all eventually and all through faith in His Son. To say it more emphatically; the **Abrahamic Covenant is the Salvation of all mankind**. It is also linked intimately to what many call the **Great Commission** given by our Lord, as recorded in Matthew 28:18-20, as well as the **Fullness of the Nations** (topics for other writings).

The first part pertains to his blood descendants becoming a great and mighty nation; the second part pertains to him being the father of a multitude of nations; and the third part, which is the much greater one in its reach, pertains to all the nations and all the families being blessed. Here are the promises of what could be called **the Lord's unconditional *All in All Covenant***.

### Great Nation

Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go forth from your country, and from your relatives and from your father's house, to the land which I will show you; and I will make you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great; and so you shall be a blessing; and I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse." (Genesis 12:1-3a NASB)

"I will make your descendants as the dust of the earth, so that if anyone can number the dust of the earth, then your descendants can also be numbered." (Genesis 13:16 NASB)

And He took him outside and said, "Now look toward the heavens, and count the stars, if you are able to count them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be." Then he believed in the LORD; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness. (Genesis 15:5-6 NASB)

The **first part** manifested in the days of David and Solomon around **1011-931 BC** and resurfaced nearly 2,800 years later in **1776 AD** with the birth of America. This birth occurred exactly **2,520 years** (a prophetic time-cycle of 7 times 360) from the downfall and captivity of Israel in 745-721 BC.

### Multitude of Nations

"I will establish My covenant between Me and you, and I will multiply you exceedingly." Abram fell on his face, and God talked with him, saying, "As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, and you will be the father of a multitude of nations. "No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. "I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make nations of you, and kings will come forth from you." (Genesis 17:2-6 NASB)

The **second part** began in **745-721 BC** with the Assyrian captivity of the northern kingdom of Israel that, over many centuries, led to the migration of the Israelite tribes out of Mesopotamia into Europe, the British Isles, North America, and beyond. One commentator has noted that many Israelites fled Israel-Samaria to other regions prior to or during the Assyrian takeover and were not taken captive and carried off to Mesopotamia. This would date the migration in the 8<sup>th</sup> century BC that continued for the many centuries to follow. Ultimately, this migration led to the founding of many nations throughout these areas; each identified by a different name and with a multitude of kings (i.e., national leaders).

## All the Families & Nations

**"And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed."** (Genesis 12:3b NASB)

**The LORD said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do, since Abraham will surely become a great and mighty nation, and in him all the nations of the earth will be blessed?"**  
**"For I have chosen him, so that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice, so that the LORD may bring upon Abraham what He has spoken about him."** (Genesis 18:17-19 NASB)

In a sense, the **third part** has been manifested in some measure since the time of Abraham, for whenever God's people have remained obedient to His Divine Law, acknowledging His sovereignty and His rights as Creator, those around them have been blessed; all the families are blessed. Truly, during the days of Solomon, all the nations were blessed as there was peace and prosperity in the region. Many are blessed when God's people do righteousness and justice; a lesson we modern-day so-called *Christian nations* need to heed. Truly, the Western Christianized-nations have been a blessing to the world. However, just as Israel and Judah failed to be a continual blessing to all the nations around them, so are the modern-day ones failing to do so. This is especially seen as we take up the physical sword to take down nations, all in the name of freedom and democracy but with the real motive being hegemonic control (involving money, oil, other natural resources, etc).

However, according to the Abrahamic Covenant, all the nations and all the families of the earth will be blessed in Abraham, not just a few in a certain area. This is a global blessing that speaks of the glory of the Lord filling the whole earth. But how? There is only one way and that is through the gospel, the good news of Jesus Christ going forth through an immortal people filled with the Spirit of God and fully conformed to the image of God's Son. The good news is that this will begin its greatest manifestation and ultimate fulfillment in the age to come, the Kingdom or Tabernacles Age, under the rule of Christ and His conquerors, the immortal sons of God.

Now, let us consider the Abrahamic Covenant.

### First Part – A Great Nation

Abram was promised to become a great nation made up of a multitude of descendants. ***"I will make you a great nation, and your descendants will be as numerous as the dust of the earth or the sand that is on the seashore."*** The promise relating to the sand (and the stars) was passed on to Abraham's son Isaac and his son Jacob (Genesis 22:17-18; 28:14; 32:12). These expressions were the Lord's way of telling these patriarchs that their descendants would be many or a great multitude that could not be counted because of an expansive progression throughout the many centuries to follow. They would be fruitful and multiply greatly. Tracing the history of Abraham's ancient descendants, we can see that God took them from a small band of men to a mighty nation, often estimated at around 6 million at their peak.

It is not my purpose to trace their entire history, but it is needful to mention that there are several phases of this history: 1. Abraham through Joseph (from Haran to Canaan to Egypt). 2.

Moses and the Exodus (out of Egypt into the wilderness). 3. Joshua (entering Canaan to conquer and inherit it). 4. Judges (Israel without a king). 5. Kings (Saul, David, and Solomon, and the rise of the United Kingdom of Israel and Judah). 6. Downfall of the United Kingdom of Israel and Judah. **After the downfall, Israel and Judah followed separate paths and thus have different histories and prophetic fulfillments.** This point cannot be overemphasized.

For the purpose of this article, we will pick up their history with the reign of the two greatest kings, apart from Christ Himself, that came forth from Abraham. As the Lord promised him: ***Kings will come forth from you!***

Without doubt, it wasn't until the reigns of David and Solomon that the sons of Israel truly came into their glory, and God's promise to Abraham regarding his descendants was first manifested. It was often a long, arduous, and messy journey that could have been sidetracked many times if it weren't for the fact that the Lord was with them, even in the midst of their rebellious hearts.

History reveals that the ***United Kingdom of Israel and Judah*** led by David and then Solomon was one of the most, if not the most, powerful and prosperous nations in the history of the world up to that point. Their kingdom lasted from **1011-931 BC**. How and why did they become such a great global superpower? What or who was the source of their success? Of course, the answer rests with the Lord and His promise to Abraham. There can be no boast in the people, for they would have failed on their own. The boast is in the Lord and Him alone.

Please take note of the term *United Kingdom of Israel and Judah*. It is a common mistake to make Israel and Judah one and the same. For the most part, scripture refers to them as separate nations, houses, or kingdoms. We know that after Solomon's death, the *Kingdom of Israel* was split into *Israel* (northern 10 tribes) and *Judah* (southern 2 tribes with the Levites). However, this distinction existed long before this, for after young David defeated the giant Philistine, it is recorded: **And all Israel and Judah loved David, for he went out and came in before them** (1 Samuel 18:16). This division can be traced back to the day Jacob-Israel blessed his sons as his death was imminent. He blessed Judah with the scepter [Kingship – Judah] and Joseph with fruitfulness or sonship [Kingdom Sonship – Israel] (Genesis 49:10, 22).

We might be tempted to think that the 12 tribes of Jacob were a homogenous, disciplined, loving, united people; however, this is far from true. All one has to do is trace their history back to their first forefathers, the actual sons of Jacob, to learn that they were rebels at heart from the start. Of course, we can go to the very source, Jacob the supplanter, to see where it all started. History did not mellow subsequent generations, for when they came out of Egypt under Moses they were a rebellious, factious group made up of a diversity of people and bloodlines that was anything but homogenous and kind or brotherly to one another. This was further compounded by the mixed multitude that integrated with the tribes and became one with them, for under the Law an alien or foreigner in their midst had to be treated as a citizen. Later, during the time of the judges, the tribes were a loose federation.

It is within this context that David came along and united these rebellious, heterogeneous tribes into one kingdom or a constitutional monarchy. Actually, he united **13 tribes**, for when



Jacob-Israel's life was about over, he called for Joseph and his two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, in order to bless the lads (Genesis 48). He adopted them from Joseph and blessed them with his spiritual, God-given name *Israel*. Thus, the birthright passed on to Joseph and his two sons. From that point on, the name of *Israel* was associated with the tribes when Ephraim and Manasseh were among the rest of the tribes. The name *Ephraim* also became synonymous with the name *Israel*. Why Ephraim? Because he received the greater blessing of becoming a multitude of nations; whereas, Manasseh was blessed to become a great people, as in one great nation (Genesis 48:19).

The point is that Jacob-Israel split Joseph into two tribes so that there were 13 tribes of Israel. Later, we will see that, prophetically, this pointed to the birth of America with its 13 colonies.

**The angel who has redeemed me from all evil, bless the lads; and may my name [Israel] live on in them, and the names of my fathers Abraham and Isaac; and may they grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth."** (Genesis 48:16 NASB)

**Now the sons of Reuben the firstborn of Israel (for he was the firstborn, but because he defiled his father's bed, his birthright was given to the sons of Joseph the son of Israel; so that he is not enrolled in the genealogy according to the birthright. Though Judah prevailed over his brothers, and from him came the leader, yet the birthright belonged to Joseph)...** (1 Chronicles 5:1-2 NASB)

The United Kingdom of Israel and Judah under David and Solomon existed for only 73 years, which is a relatively short period for a nation. The reigns of David and Solomon lasted 40 years each, giving a total of 80 years. However, at first, David ruled over Judah exclusively. In Jerusalem, he reigned thirty-three years over all Israel and Judah (2 Samuel 5:4-5). Because of this relatively short period of 80 years, it seems that history has forgotten or chosen to ignore the greatness to which this God-centered, constitutional monarchy had achieved. God truly blessed them as a people.

### **King David**

King David was a warrior, and he greatly expanded the borders of his kingdom, and, where he did not directly control surrounding nations, he held **hegemonic control** over them. He greatly diminished the power of kingdoms that were outside his hegemony, such as the Assyrians who tried to diminish his kingdom but were diminished themselves by the might of Israel's warrior-king. He commanded an army of 1,570,000 (1 Chronicles 21:5) and ruled over about 6 million people. Keep in mind that David did this by uniting a rebellious collection of tribes that were often at odds with one another. Through his many military campaigns, David expanded the borders of his kingdom until it reached from Egypt to the Euphrates River. In addition, David became friends and joined forces with Hiram the King of Tyre (2 Samuel 5:11), and through this relationship his reach expanded by sea. Tyre and Sidon, located on the eastern Mediterranean Sea, later identified as **Phoenicians**, had extensive merchant fleets and navies that created a trading and commercial empire of maritime routes. David developed an alliance with these merchant city-states that could be described as a **global commercial trading monopoly**. No one could rival them or compete with them. Simply, they pretty much controlled it all.

Something that is lost in history, if not outright denied by some historians, is the evidence that this commercial empire of maritime routes extended not just from the Fertile Crescent of the Mediterranean but well beyond it to the British Isles and even to North America. Archeological evidence has been discovered in North America that indicates Hebrews either visited or lived here and presumably mined our land for ore, dating around 1000 BC and perhaps long before.

For a good summary of this evidence as well as the migration of the sons of Israel, you might be interested in a four-book series written by Stephen M. Collins. These books are filled with many references for one to do further research. Link: <http://stevenmcollins.com/homepage.php>

With secure borders and trading routes, David turned to amassing the materials to build God's house. With the help of Hiram and the merchant fleets and sailors of both nations, David accumulated vast resources; a fact testified to by him near the end of his life.

**"Now behold, with great pains I have prepared for the house of the LORD 100,000 talents of gold and 1,000,000 talents of silver, and bronze and iron beyond weight, for they are in great quantity; also timber and stone I have prepared, and you may add to them. (1 Chronicles 22:14 NASB)**

So much iron and bronze had been accumulated that it could not be weighed. Where did all the tin and copper come from to smelt into bronze? It is pretty well documented that the copper came from Lake Superior; its mines having been mined to exhaustion around 1000 BC with no trace of the ore being used in North America. Along with tin from the mines of the British Isles, it was transported to Israel and processed at a blast furnace located in Ezion-Geber (southern Palestine) used to smelt iron and copper. The actual start-up of this furnace is not known. It could have been under David, but it was most definitely operating under Solomon's watch. Someone has written that Ezion-Geber was the Pittsburgh of old Palestine because it employed the modern-day Bessemer system for smelting ore. As Stephen Collins notes, this also made Israel **the most advanced industrial power of its time** (*The Origins and Empire of Ancient Israel*, page 185-186).

It was under David, the man after God's heart, that Israel began its ascent into greatness to become the head of the nations of the world. History should not underestimate the success of David in controlling most of the land routes for trade and establishing a strong relationship with King Hiram of Tyre whose ships plowed the water routes of the Mediterranean and beyond. This combination produced a powerhouse kingdom that had great global influence.

### **King Solomon**

David laid the foundation and his son Solomon built upon it with the wisdom that comes down from above. Solomon inherited a mighty kingdom and, through his wisdom, greatly increased what his father had begun. Truly, the glory of the Lord shined brightly and manifested the first part of the Abrahamic Covenant on a national level, at least in the formative days of Solomon's kingdom, until his heart began to turn from the Lord. The promise to Abraham was literally fulfilled during the days of Solomon.

**Judah and Israel were as numerous as the sand that is on the seashore in abundance; they were eating and drinking and rejoicing. Now Solomon ruled over all the kingdoms from the River to the land of the Philistines and to the border of Egypt; they brought tribute and served Solomon all the days of his life. ... For he had dominion over everything west of the River, from Tiphshah even to Gaza, over all the kings west of the River; and he had peace on all sides around about him. So Judah and Israel lived in safety, every man under his vine and his fig tree, from Dan even to Beersheba, all the days of Solomon. (1 Kings 4:20-21, 24-25)**

Not only had the descendants of Abraham become a great multitude, but they had become a great nation of great wealth and prosperity with peace all around them, which was also a fulfillment of the prayer of David for **the peace of Jerusalem** (Psalm 122:6). It was the **Golden Age of King Solomon** as Israel was head of the nations, a true ancient superpower unlike any seen up to that point in history. It was also a fulfillment of the blessings of God given to Moses. Truly, they were high above all the nations and were a head, not the tail.

**"Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the LORD your God will set you high above all nations of the earth. (Deuteronomy 28:1 NKJV)**

**And the LORD will make you the head and not the tail; you shall be above only, and not be beneath, if you heed the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you today, and are careful to observe them. (Deuteronomy 28:13 NKJV)**

There seemed to be no place on earth that was off limits to them as the ships of Tarshish made three-year journeys (1 Kings 16:22; 2 Chronicles 9:21) to the far corners of their world, that most likely included Africa, Asia, the British Isles, and North America, bringing back vast resources for Solomon's many projects, the greatest of which was the building of the Temple, God's house of prayer, the place that God filled with His glory.

So much gold was given to Solomon that in one year he received 666 talents of it (2 Chronicles 9:13). Silver was so plentiful that it wasn't even considered valuable during his reign (2 Chronicles 9:20). Solomon never had to borrow money from any nation (Deuteronomy 28:12). Truly, this was the golden age for Israel and Judah. The Lord had proven Himself faithful to Abraham and his descendants. If their history had ended here, no one could have ever accused God of renegeing on His promise to Abraham. As we will see, it didn't end here but manifested again in America.

Solomon was the king of kings, a type of Christ.

**So King Solomon became greater than all the kings of the earth in riches and wisdom. And all the kings of the earth were seeking the presence of Solomon, to hear his wisdom which God had put in his heart. They brought every man his gift, articles of silver and gold, garments, weapons, spices, horses and mules, so much year by year. (2 Chronicles 9:22-24 NASB)**

With this, it is easy to see how God fulfilled His promise to Abraham that he would become the father of a great and mighty nation. It seems that historians, especially in our day, are either

blind to this history or have chosen to ignore or rewrite it. This ancient nation at its peak serves as living proof that God will most certainly bless a nation that chooses to acknowledge His rights as Creator and to live according to His Divine Law; a fact of which all modern-day nations, especially America, need to be reminded.

Unfortunately, as already noted, the greatness of God's Kingdom on earth through a mortal people of flesh and blood did not last very long. Solomon's great wisdom did not keep him from having many foreign women at his side to entice him away from serving the one true God. When the Lord appeared to Solomon the second time, He reiterated His promise to bless them if they continued to walk before the Lord, according to His ways. If they didn't continue but forsook the Lord by turning to other gods, then He would cast them out (1 Kings 9:1-9), and to their great loss this is what happened.

**So the LORD became angry with Solomon, because his heart had turned from the LORD God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice, and had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods; but he did not keep what the LORD had commanded. Therefore the LORD said to Solomon, "Because you have done this, and have not kept My covenant and My statutes, which I have commanded you, I will surely tear the kingdom away from you and give it to your servant. Nevertheless I will not do it in your days, for the sake of your father David; I will tear it out of the hand of your son. However I will not tear away the whole kingdom; I will give one tribe to your son for the sake of my servant David, and for the sake of Jerusalem which I have chosen." (1 Kings 11:9-13 NKJV)**

Near the end of his reign, Solomon not only had forsaken the Lord, but he had placed heavy burdens on the people. He made the yoke of the people heavy through **taxation**, something his successor, his son, King Rehoboam, not only continued but also increased (1 Kings 12:1-15). This led to Israel rebelling and breaking away from Judah. From here, the history of the once great united kingdom degraded until both kingdoms were brought under the iron and wooden yoke of foreigners with the name of *Israel* lost among the nations of the earth. This is where the second part of the Abrahamic Covenant comes in.

## **Second Part – A Multitude of Nations**

**"You will be the father of a multitude of nations. ... for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make nations of you, and kings will come forth from you."**

Strictly on the level of the number of sons that were begat of Abraham, it is apparent that he truly was the father of a multitude of nations, even in the ancient days. After all, Abraham had three wives, Sarah, Hagar, and Keturah. From them came the twelve sons of Jacob that became known as the sons of Israel; the five sons of Esau that became known as the Edomites (absorbed into modern-day Jewry) and Amakelites; the twelve princes of Ishmael that became known as the Ishmaelites (modern-day Arabs); and six other sons from Keturah, one of which became known as the Midianites. This does not include Abraham's sons born to concubines. From these sons alone, it could be argued that the promise to Abraham of becoming a multitude of nations has been fulfilled, just as he had become the father of a great nation.

However, this is only part, not even the greater part, of the history, for this promise continued to be worked out among the nations in even greater measure but in a new and hidden way, starting with the breakup of Solomon's kingdom and the subsequent scattering of the ten tribes of Israel (not Judah, at least initially). God wrote a writ of divorce and sent His ex-wife out of His house (Hosea 9:15). The ten tribes of the kingdom of Israel became known as the **Lost Ten Tribes**.

When the Assyrians captured Israel and sent them into captivity from **745-721 BC**, Israel, the holder of the birthright name (Genesis 48:16; 1 Chronicles 5:1-2), lost its national identity as *Israel* and became the lost sheep of the house of Israel (Matthew 10:6; 15:24).

Again, as a reminder; the name *Israel* has a broad and a restrictive meaning. The broad meaning refers to **the twelve (or, thirteen) tribes of the sons of Jacob-Israel** as long as they remained united as one kingdom. However, the restrictive meaning refers to the **birthright name** given to Joseph's two sons. As long as all the sons of Israel remained together, they were *Israelites*. However, once they were split apart into two kingdoms following Solomon's death, the name *Israel* went with the northern kingdom of ten tribes of which Ephraim and Manasseh were part, and the name *Judah* went with the southern kingdom of the two tribes of Judah and Benjamin. From this point on, generally speaking, the prophets kept this distinction.

But herein is the mystery: **What happened to the lost sheep of the house of Israel?** Where did they go? How are they identified today? There is too much history wrapped up in these questions to cover in one article, so a few points will be highlighted, starting with Isaac and his wife Rebekah.

**But God said to Abraham, "... for through Isaac your descendants shall be named."** (Genesis 21:12 NASB)

To Isaac, the Lord promised: **"Indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of their enemies. In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice"** (Genesis 22:17-18 NASB).

In leaving home to become Isaac's wife, Rebekah was sent away with a blessing: **Thus they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse with Abraham's servant and his men. They blessed Rebekah and said to her, "May you, our sister, become thousands of ten thousands, and may your descendants possess the gate of those who hate them"** (Genesis 24:59-60 NASB). These promises were fulfilled in part with Solomon's kingdom; however, the greater manifestation began with the scattering of the house of Israel.

Keep in mind that the term *lost* simply means that they lost their national identity as they were removed from their ancient land, which led to their migration to foreign lands. Based on the historical record and archeological evidence, the ten tribes were not even lost in the sense of no one knowing where they were or where they had gone. God knew! They did not simply vanish as a people, never to be seen or heard from again. Quite the contrary; they left a path of

migratory, etymological, and anthropological evidence, that is widely accepted, even amongst some Orthodox Jews today. They became a great people but under different names.

After all, James wrote **"to the twelve tribes who are dispersed abroad"** (James 1:1), and Peter wrote **"to those who reside as aliens, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia"** (1 Peter 1:1). These areas constituted northern Asia Minor, which is modern Turkey today. This was a pathway for the Israelites who migrated westward to Europe where they became a large population.

Flavius Josephus, the Jewish military commander and later historian of the first century AD, wrote of the whereabouts of the ten tribes of Israel: ***"There are but two tribes in Asia and Europe subject to the Romans, while the ten tribes are beyond the Euphrates till now, and are an immense multitude, and not to be estimated by numbers."***

During Josephus' day, there was a mighty empire in the area beyond the Euphrates that was called **Parthia**. It ran from the Indus to the Euphrates and from the Euphrates to the Caucasus. Somehow lost in history is the fact that this empire was made up of the Israelite exiles that were not in bondage but rather were the rulers and citizens of this empire. The Parthians consisted of the lost tribes of Israel leading up to and during the days of Jesus on earth. They were so powerful that they kept the Romans from extending their reach beyond the Euphrates. Stephen M. Collins calls this the forgotten ancient superpower. See earlier link.

To understand the migration of the sons of Israel, we need to go back a bit further to the history of the Hebrews.

### **Hebrew – One Who Migrates**

The word *Hebrew* (Hebrew: *ibriy*) is a patronymic name derived from the patriarch Eber, a fourth generation son of Noah. Thus, a Hebrew is a descendant of Eber, an *Eberite*. The name *Eber* means "the region beyond." Eber had a son named *Peleg*, which means "division" or "separation," **for in his days the earth was divided** (Genesis 10:25). Of the families of the sons of Noah, it is said: **"Out of these the nations were separated on the earth after the flood"** (Genesis 10:32). Obviously, this separation or division occurred during the life of Peleg.

Some say this means that the continents or land masses were divided during his day, for they believe the water from the flood fully receded during his life to form the present continents. Some of this could have occurred during this time, but this does not seem to be the primary meaning.

More commonly, it is believed that the earth being divided in Peleg's day refers to events surrounding the Tower of Babel (Genesis 11:1-9). Some date the building of the tower and the Lord confusing the language of the builders close to the birth of Peleg, and others date it in the year of his death. I am more inclined to accept the latter, which places it around the year **1899 BC**.

At any rate, the word **Hebrew** came to mean "**opposite side of the river,**" "**passing beyond,**" or "**a region across.**"

Abram was the first person in scripture to be called a *Hebrew* (Genesis 14:13), for he was called by God to go forth from his country to a land which God would show him (Genesis 12:1). He passed beyond to another region or migrated to a new land. Given this, the word *Hebrew* has built into its meaning "one who migrates." Some commentators state that the word also means *colonist*, as in a person who plants colonies away from his homeland. The fact that America began as colonies further speaks of history as fulfilled prophesy.

It seems apparent that the word *Hebrew* is prophetic on several levels, starting with the fruitfulness blessing that *Elohim* bestowed on mankind through Adam: "**Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth**" (Genesis 1:28). This is the very beginning of the concept of migration that is contained in the word *Hebrew*. Actually, it was more than a blessing; it was a command and a prophecy, and God fully intended this blessing to be manifested through migration of His people throughout the whole earth, not just a strip of land in what was called *Canaan* and later *Palestine*, which was simply a type of the greater intent of God's plan to fill the whole earth with His glory, even with His fruit (Number 14:20; Isaiah 6:3; 11:9; 27:6; Habakkuk 2:14).

As an aside, but an important aside, many today are looking for Israelites in the age to come to once again occupy the ancient land of Canaan or Palestine, the territory of what is presently called the *modern-state of Israel*. It is sort of comical to imagine millions upon millions, even billions, of begotten from above believers crammed into such an area. However, this is viewing the matter through the lens of the Old Covenant. God is after the whole earth and not simply a strip of land in the Middle East. The migration of the Hebrews to fill the earth is proof of God's plan for this earth. How else will He bless all the nations unless He fills the whole earth with His people who are filled with His Spirit?

The prophetic blessing given to Adam is the basis of the covenant the Lord made with Abram. It all started 6,000 years ago, but it didn't take long for mankind to attempt to sidetrack this blessing when they decided to undertake an ungodly building project.

The building of a tower and the city of Babel were impediments to this blessing, for the ancients were saying: "**Let us make for ourselves a name, otherwise we will be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth**" (Genesis 11:4). This was a flagrant rejection of *Elohim's* fruitfulness blessing bestowed upon His creation.

However, God's plan for mankind and the earth could not, cannot, and will not be thwarted. By confusing the language of the whole earth, meaning the emergence of many new languages, not only then but over time, God forced mankind to move out from the land of Shinar. But there was more to it, for, at the same time, God called forth the **Eberites** as a **migratory and colonist people** called **Hebrews**. This was prophetic of how God was going to fulfill the fruitfulness blessing, especially as Hebrews many years later migrated into Europe, the British Isles and elsewhere, and formed new nations under different names and then moved out as colonists throughout the world (e.g., British, Spanish, and French).

There is a long-term prophecy built into God's promise to Abraham the Hebrew that led to his descendants migrating out of the land of Israel in order to eventually be a blessing to all the nations of the earth. The sons of Israel were not a static people, as if they were all neatly compacted into the land of promise and they remained there from birth to death. It is true they had their inheritance in the land, but this did not restrict them to this land nor did it constrain some of them from migrating to and exploring other lands, either to colonize some or to plant some seeds of Hebrew or Israelite life, culture, language, and religion. It is no coincidence that European Christianized nations were colonists, and America has become a hegemonic power. It is an indication of their Hebrew roots.

It is generally accepted that this migration began with the forced exile of the tribes out of the land of Israel through the invasion of the Assyrians and Babylonians, which is called the **Diaspora**, but evidence indicates that some migration actually occurred as early as the 40-year wilderness journey.

### **Migration from the Wilderness**

There is some evidence of migration as far back as the days of Moses and the sons of Israel when they sojourned through the wilderness from **1447-1407 BC**. Most probably think the twelve tribes remained intact during those 40 years. After all, God revealed Himself to them through many signs and wonders and even spoke directly to them from the midst of the mountain. By our way of thinking, they must have been so awe-struck by these things that they all stuck it out in the wilderness. Perhaps not; at least not all! Let us not forget that they worshipped the golden calf and grumbled and rebelled their way through the wilderness. It would seem more likely that some could have decided to take their chances elsewhere, other than in the land of Canaan. After all, the first generation knew they could not enter Canaan, so some could have reasoned: "Why hang around for 40 years; let's take our chances outside of God's control and seek land outside the wilderness, but not in Canaan."

In his article *The Missing Simeonites*, Steven M. Collins suggests that some of the Simeonites, along with some from the other tribes, did just that. He bases this on the change in population of the tribes between their first and second census (Numbers 1:20-46; 26:1-51). Since their numbers showed normal growth, most of the tribes were rather static. However, Simeon, Ephraim, and Naphtali showed abnormal reductions in their populations. Plagues and other events do not necessarily explain these significant drops, at least based on the biblical record. The plague that occurred before the second census took 24,000 lives, and the combined reduction of these three tribes after the plague was over 48,000; but the overall total for all twelve tribes had been reduced by only a little over 1,800 due to significant increases in some of the other tribes. For example, Manasseh increased by over 20,000. So where did some of the members of these three tribes go?

One possibility is they left the camp and migrated to other lands outside that region. In particular, there is some evidence that the **Simeonites** became the **Spartans** of ancient Greece who were known to be non-native to Greece, descendants from ones who had migrated there. The Spartans lived by the sword, which fits Jacob-Israel's prophecy over his son Simeon: **Their swords are implements of violence. I will disperse them in Jacob, and scatter them in Israel**



(Genesis 49:5, 7). The most compelling proof comes from the book of 1 Maccabees 14:16-23. In a correspondence to Simon, a Jewish High Priest, the Spartans claimed the Jewish people (i.e., of the tribe of Judah) as their kinsmen. A Jew (Judahite) was a kinsman of an Israelite. This is only one migratory clue among many.

For more on this, see this link: <http://stevenmcollins.com/html/simeon.html>

The Simeonites may not have been the only tribe to migrate to a different land other than the wilderness and Canaan during this period. This involves the Danites. It is generally taught that all of the tribes left Egypt and crossed through the Red Sea together. However, an intriguing thought is that the tribe of Dan, or at least some of them, migrated out by way of ships and not on land with the rest of the tribes. Their exodus brought them to the Greek Isles. Given this, we see that there is a possibility that two tribes established homes in this area. Here is a link that discusses this migration: <http://www.israelite.info/downloadtracts/Other-Exodus.pdf>

### **Sea People during the Time of the Judges**

After Israel entered Canaan, during the time of the Judges in which the sons of Jacob faced attacks from the surrounding "ite" nations, it is believed that some of the tribes were seafarers who traveled not only the Mediterranean but also up the coast of Europe to Britain. This took place roughly from **1230-1190 BC**.

**"Zebulun will dwell at the seashore; and he shall be a haven for ships, and his flank shall be toward Sidon." ... "Gilead remained across the Jordan; and why did Dan stay in ships? Asher sat at the seashore, and remained by its landings. ...** (Genesis 49:13; Judges 5:17 NASB)

**Of Naphtali he said, "O Naphtali, satisfied with favor, and full of the blessing of the LORD, take possession of the sea and the south."** (Deuteronomy 33:23 NASB)

In Jacob-Israel's blessing of his sons, Zebulun was prophesied as one who would help his seafaring brethren. Later, during the time of the Judges, both Dan and Asher are associated with the sea, with Dan staying in ships. They were most likely associated with ones called the **Sea People**. Thus, at least two and possibly three tribes of Israel set out to sea, giving them the opportunity to migrate and colonize. Also, take note of Moses' blessing on Naphtali, which indicates they became seafarers as well. This was no static culture.

Some scholars have provided evidence, based on the seafaring people called *Tuatha de Danan*, that the tribe of Dan may have founded civilizations in Greece, Spain, Britain, and Ireland. Scholars claim that the word *Tuatha* means "tribe" and that *an* was added to the name *Dan* to make up the name *Danan*. Thus, these scholars believe the European colonists were of the tribe of Dan. Further, Cyprus was called *Ia-Danan* or the *Island of Dan(an)*. According to Greek tradition, their founder (eponymous ancestor) migrated from the Nile to Greece and was named *Danuna*. Of course, as we know, all the tribes of the sons of Israel were delivered (migrated) out of Egypt.

### Colonizers during Solomon's Reign

But perhaps, the greatest migration and colonization occurred during Solomon's reign from **971-931 BC**. Solomon **had at sea the ships of Tarshish** (1 Kings 10:22), which is similar to *Tartessus*, one of the ancient names for Spain, which has led to the theory that they traveled to this region and colonized it. However, it is also theorized that these ships traveled much further, for they went on three-year journeys, which indicates areas to the east.

**For the king had at sea the ships of Tarshish with the ships of Hiram; once every three years the ships of Tarshish came bringing gold and silver, ivory and apes and peacocks.** (1 Kings 10:22 NASB)

It is also believed that Solomon's ships sailed to the British Isles to obtain tin from the mines of Cornwall. Later, as the Assyrians began their siege of the northern kingdom of Israel, it is thought that some migrated as far away as Britain to escape these cruel invaders.

But there are other possibilities. There is some evidence that King Solomon's navy traveled to other continents, including the Americas, in search of ore for the king's smelting operation, which could explain why some of his ships returned every third year. It would have been quite a labor-intensive undertaking to do so every year.

In the history of the Israelites, only during Solomon's reign did they have the resources for such an undertaking. Further, the three-year lag time could have been necessary due to the journey across the Atlantic and the time required to complete their mission. Simply, it would have taken time to travel to and from, and time to collect or mine precious goods such as gold, silver, copper, and tin. Others claim these ships traveled to an area in Arabia or India.

Keep in mind that when the tribes traveled to foreign lands, especially if they spent any time there, they more than likely left their imprint in a variety of potential ways, including breeding with the natives.

### Lost Civilizations of North America

Some of these theories seem to be corroborated by other evidence that has been discovered in North America, namely, through what are called **the lost civilizations of North America**. When the early settlers and explorers arrived in America in the **1600s to 1700s**, they discovered large mounds of earth in many areas, indicating others had occupied the land and built what some call *mound cities*. It is estimated that some of these cities were quite large and sophisticated. In particular, one mound called **Monk's Mound** had a footprint larger than the Great Pyramid of Giza. It is estimated that the entire city had a population greater than that of ancient Rome. To add to the intrigue, at a site called the **Newark Hopewell City**, archeologists discovered that the layout of the city had the same architectural mathematics as the **Great Pyramid of Giza**.

But the intrigue does not stop here, for archeological scientists turned to DNA in an attempt to identify the origin of these mound builders. Where did they come from? Were they related to Native Americans? By examining the mitochondrial DNA (maternal DNA) of the remains of

these mound builders, they discovered that they were, in fact, related to Native Americans, both ancient and contemporary. But another fascinating find came out of the DNA analysis. They discovered a form of DNA called **haplogroup X2**. There is only one area in the world identified as the origin of the haplogroup X2, and that is "from the hills of Galilee." Let the implications of this find sink in. [Source: *The Lost Civilizations of North America*, DVD written and directed by Rick Stout.] See link: <http://www.lostcivilizationdvd.com/>

The evidence continues, for linguistic studies of American Indian (Native American) languages indicate common roots with ancient Hebrew. Further, some artifacts have been discovered with ancient block Hebrew inscriptions on them. In particular, one actually contains the **Ten Commandments** and another contains the words "**tribe of Asher.**" Another study of North American Indian tribal names discovered that one language group was based on the morpheme "**Dan,**" which makes sense since we know that Dan stayed in ships and his tribe could have found their way to the Americas. [*Morpheme* is "any word or part of a word, as an affix or combining form, that conveys meaning, cannot be further divided into smaller elements conveying meaning, and usually occurs in various contexts with relatively stable meaning."]

These fragments of data have led to the conclusion that extensive contacts occurred between the Old World of Eurasia and the New World of the Americas. It is believed by some that much colonization of the Americas occurred by the Israelite/Phoenicians and then the Carthaginians (~9<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> century BC), well before the Vikings (~6-10<sup>th</sup> century AD) and Columbus (1492 AD).

[During the period of 1000-700 BC, the term **Phoenicia** is thought to refer to **the alliance of Israel with the city-states of Tyre and Sidon**. In other words, Israelites were also Phoenicians during this time.]

Of course, true to the nature of man, there is controversy over some of these findings, and some, for political and other reasons, would rather keep these findings hidden. For those who believe these findings to be irrefutable, the only question that seems to be unanswered is when this migration and colonization occurred. The most probable answer is that it occurred over 2,000 years ago and possibly as far back as 3,000 years ago, during the reign of Solomon.

Men might argue over such things and even obscure or hide the facts in order to advance their personal agendas and biases, but as Christians, we do not have to get caught up in controversy. We must trust God's word, for He has revealed His plan to all who desire and seek to know.

Of Abraham, it is said: "**Your descendants will also be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and in you and in your descendants shall all the families of the earth be blessed**" (Genesis 28:14). Of Jacob, it is said: **His seed shall be in many waters** (Numbers 24:7). In speaking of God in relation to the sons of Jacob and Joseph, it is said: **Your way is in the sea; and Your path is in the great waters; and Your footsteps are not known** (Psalm 77:19). Is this not a prophecy that God's people would migrate by way of the sea and their paths would not be known? When one travels by land, he often leaves a trail where he has trodden, but when one travels by sea, he leaves no trace in the wake of the waves. His footsteps are not known. Of His servant David, the Lord said: **And I will set his hand in the sea, and his right hand in the rivers** (Psalm 89:25). In

reference to himself, King Solomon asked the Lord: **May he also rule from sea to sea** (Psalm 72:8).

What has been presented is a mere fragment of evidence compiled by others that the Hebrew-Israelites migrated throughout the world. What is of great interest is the thought that these ancient people may have colonized parts of the Americas even before the Israelite Diaspora of 745-721 BC.

Here is another link that might be of interest: <http://www.israelite.info/>

### Israelite Diaspora

Some might refute the evidence cited so far, but when it comes to the **Diaspora of 745-721 BC**, the evidence becomes compelling that the lost sheep of the house of Israel truly became mighty nations, especially in Europe and North America.

The word *diaspora* is from the Greek, meaning "**scattered or dispersed.**" To some, the Diaspora refers to the scattering of the Jews (Judahites) that occurred in 70-73 AD when God's Roman army laid siege to the cities and towns of Judea, leading to the total destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple, thus driving the Old Covenant and Judaism into obsolescence (Matthew 22:7; Hebrews 8:13), at least as far as God is concerned.

As already noted, about 25 years earlier, James had written to **the twelve tribes who are dispersed abroad** (James 1:1), and about 6 years earlier, Peter had written to **the aliens scattered throughout the region of Asia-Minor** (1 Peter 1:1). Obviously, James and Peter could not have been writing to the ones scattered in the so-called Jewish Diaspora of 70-74 AD.

So, to whom were they writing? Some have spiritualized the answer by concluding that it was to the church in general, but this cannot be, for it is clear they were writing to their brethren of the flesh. Consequently, the dispersion they had in mind had to refer to the Israelite dispersion that occurred about seven centuries earlier. Further proof of this is discovered in John's gospel when the Jews questioned one another over Jesus' word that He was leaving them and they could not go with Him: "**Where does this man intend to go that we will not find Him? He is not intending to go to the Dispersion among the Greeks, and teach the Greeks, is He?**" (John 7:35). The word *dispersion* is the Greek word *diaspora*.

Again, after the twelve tribes had split into two separate kingdoms, the northern kingdom of Israel was invaded by the Assyrians and taken captive in 745-721 BC. The ten tribes were deported northeast from their land to the area of Media in northern Mesopotamia along the shores of the Caspian Sea. See 2 Kings 18:11. As a united group they never returned to Palestine, and the national identity of the name *Israel* was lost.

To round out this dispersion, we should also keep in mind that some of the kingdom of Judah dispersed as well when the Babylonians conquered Assyria and then Jerusalem in 607-604 BC. The name *Judah* was not lost, for it returned to Jerusalem in 534 BC; nevertheless, not all Judahites returned but instead became part of the dispersion to other lands, as evidenced by

James' reference to the twelve tribes. But there is more, for, undoubtedly, there were some from the tribes who sought to avoid captivity by trekking westward out of Palestine.

This is the real Diaspora and the very reason why Jesus was sent to **the lost sheep of the house of Israel** (Matthew 15:24). The Judahites (and some Israelites) in Jerusalem and Judea heard Him as He stood in their midst, but the good news of His arrival and identity as Messiah and Son of God had to go the lost tribes of Israel that were no longer united with the Judean-Judahites and were dispersed among the nations.

It is estimated that upwards of **6 million Israelites migrated** and only about **50,000 Judahites returned to Jerusalem** (Ezra 2:1, 64, 65). This has led some to conclude that **over 99% of God's ancient people were lost to history, but only in name**. It is pretty hard to hide such a large number of people, considering the world population at that time was probably between **50-150 million people**.

But how are the lost tribes (i.e., their descendants) to be found in the world? Actually, there are many ways to identify them, for as they migrated away from the land of their captivity, they left artifacts along the way in the form of biblical symbols and stories and heroes, language, culture, customs; you name it. It was like leaving crumbs along a path or breaking twigs of trees so that one can find his way home. Instead, they left telltale signs to let others know the path they had trod. Also, an indication of their path is discovered in the names by which they became known, which were many.

### Through the Name of Isaac

One such name is that of the **Saka** or **Scythians** (Greek form). *Saka* or *Sacae* referred to the **House of Isaac**. In Behistun, 500 miles northwest of Susa where Queen Esther lived, stands a giant rock carving depicting a battle with the Saka. The accompanying text describing the battle is repeated in three languages—Persian, Susian, and Babylonian. From these texts, it was discovered that the Persians called these people Saka and the Babylonians called them **Gimirri**. The Scythian became known as a wanderer or tent-dweller, which aptly described the Israelites in dispersion.

This is evidence that God's promise to Abraham was being fulfilled: **But God said to Abraham, "... for through Isaac your descendants shall be named"** [i.e., Sax, Sac, Saka, Saxon] (Genesis 21:12 NASB).

Another name by which they were known was **Khumri**, which is how the Assyrians referred to the Israelites. The **Black Obelisk** of Assyrian king Salmanasar III (**859-824 BC**) is covered with script and reliefs that picture Jehu, the son of Khumri, paying tribute to the king. The name *Khumri* translates as the **House of Omri**, which refers to an Israelite king (1 Kings 16:16; Micah 6:16). It is thought that the Assyrians first became acquainted with the northern kingdom during the time of Ahab the son of Omri, which led them henceforth to refer to the kingdom as *Beth-Omri* or House of Omri.

Scholars seem to be in agreement that the *Saka*, *Gimirri*, and *Khumri* all refer to the lost tribes of Israel. Even *The Jewish Encyclopedia* (Vol. 12, p. 250) is in agreement: "The Sacae, or Scythians ... were the Lost Ten Tribes." The **Gimirri** also became known as the **Cimmerian**.

There is more, for it is believed that the **Saxons** are descendants of the **Saka, the House of Isaac people**. For those of us who remember our history, the English are considered descendants of the Anglo-Saxons, and many of us, whose forefathers migrated to America, have long thought of ourselves as Anglo-Saxons who migrated to the British Isles in the 5<sup>th</sup> century AD and brought their system of government and of law with them. America even patterned its system of law after the **Anglo-Saxon People's Law**, as well as the **Israelite Law of Moses**.

But there is even more, for the tribes migrated through the **Caucus Mountains** on their trek to Eastern Europe and became known as the **Caucasians**. True to form, historians debate some of this, but it seems that the Caucasians originated in Mesopotamia and migrated north through the Caucas Mountains to Europe.

On a personal note, I recall when I was growing up we considered ourselves Caucasians and Anglo-Saxons. Interesting? I find all of this fascinating since my ancestry consists of Scottish-Irish (mostly), German, French, and Native American, to name a few.

It has been noted that tribes located in the Scandinavian area spoke a language similar to ancient Iranian (Persian), an early Mesopotamian dialect. Further, on historical maps, **Iberia** or **Hebrew Land** is shown to be located in the Caucus region between the Caspian and Black Seas, north of the Euphrates. Add to this the fact that **Spain** is known as the **Iberian Peninsula**, and **Ireland** is known as **Ibernion**, and our vision of the Hebrew connection enlarges even more. The ancient name of the Israelites was *Ibri* or *Iberi*, which is derived from the name *Eber* or *Heber*.

Finally, the *Omri*, *Khumri*, *Cimmerian*, and *Kymry* became associated with the **Celts**, a people group associated with Britain. Add to these names others like the **Welsh (Cymry)**, the **Goths**, and the **Germans**, and the history of the hand of God in migrating the Hebrews grows even more interesting.

Again, there is so much evidence of the migration of the Hebrew-Israelites that these mere fragments do not do the subject justice.

This leads to the conclusion made by many historians, including some Orthodox Jews, that the millions of dispersed Hebrew-Israelites were called by many names as they migrated from Asia Minor through the Caucus Mountain region into southeastern Europe, as well as by other routes, in the many centuries before the Christian era. They formed the beginning of **the company of nations** promised to Jacob-Israel (Genesis 35:11) that became many of the modern nations of the Western world, including South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand.

Mind you; this all began well before Christ came. The Hebrews were like seed pods scattered throughout the whole of what is called the Western world. Each generation (pod) of seeds grew and migrated to fill this world. In their migration, they obviously carried traditions and cultures and myths and superstitions and stories of their ancestors, but they were not necessarily godly

people. Without doubt, many were what we call *heathens* or *pagans*, but in time, a generation was ripened to receive the good news of Christ and to birth Christendom in the Western world. It was in their genes, so to speak, to become Christians.

### Where is Israel Today?

This leads to the question: Where is Israel today? Let us be clear that the Israel of scripture is not the modern Jewish nation called *Israel* in the ancient land of Canaan. This nation should be called *Judah* or, perhaps, even *Edom*. Prophetically speaking, there are several reasons why there is a nation in the Middle East with the name *Israel*. It is the fig tree (bad figs of Judah [Jeremiah 24:8]) that has put forth leaves but, according to Jesus' curse, will never bear fruit, the fruit of the kingdom (Matthew 21:19, 43; 24:32). It is also Esau proving that he is no more worthy of holding the birthright than was his brother Jacob the supplanter. This is not the topic at hand, so we will leave this.

The point that is far more relevant to our discussion is the fact that Israel (as descendants through Abraham to Jacob-Israel) is now hidden within many nations of the world that go by many other names, including the United States and Great Britain (United Kingdom).

Orthodox Jew Yair Davidy, author of *The Tribes*, states on his website:

"Most of the Lost Ten Tribes migrated to Northwest and Western Europe and their descendants are now in those areas of North America, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa. We do not claim that all residents are descended from Israel. We do however affirm that most descendants of the Lost Ten Tribes are residents of those nations. Even so in the course of history the Israelite origins of people in those areas have influenced national development and national characteristics. The Tribe of Joseph was divided into two other Tribes: Ephraim and Menasseh. People from All of the Israelite Tribes congregated in North America but **in general the U.S.A. is dominated by Menasseh. Britain has characteristics of Ephraim.** Reuben was important in France, Issachar in Switzerland, Benjamin in Belgium, Zebulon in Holland, Dan in Denmark, Naphtali in Norway, Gad in Sweden, the country of Finland was influenced by the Tribes of Simeon, Issachar, and Gad; Simeon, Dan, and Ephraim were important in Ireland." *End quote*

See link: <http://britam.org/>

In his book *The Tribes*, Davidy states:

"This book shows how most of the ancient Israelites were exiled and lost their identity and that today their descendants are to be found mainly amongst the "Gentile" peoples of North America, Northwest Europe, Australasia and South Africa. **The present-day Jews in the Diaspora and Israel are mainly descended from only two of the original tribes whereas the offspring of the remaining majority are in the above areas.** These claims are not far-fetched. They are supported by Biblical, Historical, and other evidence much of which is, in effect, even recognized by the academic world. **The Israelites were transported en-masse first mainly to areas in northern Mesopotamia and to Hara and**

from those regions they later moved northward into "Scythia" (roughly the area encompassed in the past by the U.S.S.R.) whence they migrated in waves to the extreme north and west of Europe from which their descendants settled North America, Australasia, and South Africa. The peoples in these said nations today are thus in the Biblical and historical sense brothers of the Jews who came from the remaining southern kingdom of Judah and comprised the second half of the Hebrew nation with the Lost Ten Tribes comprising the remainder." *End quote*

[*Comment:* When reading some Orthodox Jews, keep in mind that they do not recognize Jesus Christ as fulfillment of scripture. To this end, many do not consider Christianity legitimate. As they see it, when the true Messiah comes, Christians will lose their identity and be absorbed into Judaism. In other words, they hold to the Old Covenant that has been made obsolete and reject the New Covenant that must be discerned and applied spiritually. Another thought involves the term *Jew*: Technically, in the ancient days, a Judahite or Jew was of the tribe of Judah and an Israelite when all the tribes were together. An Israelite is not a Jew but rather a collective term for either the 10 tribes or all the tribes together.]

An excerpt from a tract titled *Ancient Hebrew Sea Migrations* states:

"Europe was left virtually empty in ancient times, prepared for the number of Israelites to be sent there in God's Providence. "When the Most High divided to the nations their inheritance; when He separated the Sons of Adam, He set the bounds of the people according to the number of the children of Israel." (Deuteronomy 32:8) Israel was to expand in the seas: "Thy way is in the sea, and thy path in the great waters, and thy footsteps are not known." (Psalm 77:19) "I will set his hand also in the sea, and his right hand in the rivers." (Psalm 89:25) "Ask of me, and I will give thee of the heathen for thy inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. (Psalm 2:8) "He shall have dominion from sea to sea..." (Psalm 72:8) "His seed shall be in many waters." (Numbers 24:7) **How wonderfully have these promises of sea migration and colonization been fulfilled! Abraham's descendants were to "spread abroad" to the ends of the earth.** (Genesis 28:14) Israel had already settled colonies in the isles of the west when Jeremiah wrote this in circa 600 B.C.: "Hear the word of the Lord, O ye nations and declare it in the ISLES afar off, and say, He that scattered Israel will gather him and keep him, as a shepherd does his flock." (Jeremiah 31:10) **True to prophecy, Israel was gathered to the great shepherd, Jesus Christ, through faith, and the Israel nations became known as Christendom, or 'Christ's Kingdom on earth.'** "Sing...His praise from the end of the earth..." (Isaiah 42:10) And they do!" *End quote*

See link: <http://www.israelite.info/>

Many commentators seem to be in agreement that it is no longer a question of whether Hebrews migrated to Europe and North America; it is a question of how many people in these areas today are of Hebrew (not only Jewish) descent. Of course, only the Lord knows. We should not be surprised that this is God's doing, for it is the fulfillment of the long-term prophetic blessing given to Abraham, the father of nations.



## God Sows

Turning to the book of Hosea, we discover the name *Jezreel*, which means "God sows." Hosea prophesied that God sowed His lost tribes in the land in order to reap them as His people.

**And the earth will respond to the grain, to the new wine and to the oil, and they will respond to Jezreel. "I will sow her for Myself in the land. I will also have compassion on her who had not obtained compassion, and I will say to those who were not My people, 'You are My people!' And they will say, 'You are my God!'"** (Hosea 2:22-23 NASB)

Keep in mind that this does not refer to Judah per se; it refers to God's people who were once not "My people." They were the lost sheep of the house of Israel that were divorced from the Lord and scattered among the nations. Some were from Judah (2 tribes), but the bulk of them were from Israel (10 tribes). Who are "My people" today? They are ones who believe on Jesus, Christians. Many from the dispersed house of Israel received the gospel and became "My people," and these same ones formed or populated many of the European nations that also colonized the world, including America. In this process, many others throughout the whole world became "My people," based on circumcised hearts, not on genes.

To be clear, this is not to imply that one has to be a bloodline Hebrew (i.e., blood descendant of Abraham) to be a Christian. We are **saved by grace through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works** (Ephesians 2:8). Those who are saved by grace are spiritual Hebrews, spiritual Israelites (Galatians 6:15-16), and, to round it out, true Jews (Romans 2:29). As Paul wrote: **And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to promise** (Galatians 3:29). However, what is fascinating is that many Christians in the Western world and many who have migrated throughout the world most likely also have genes (even if a very small trace) back to Abraham and Jacob-Israel, and they do not know it. This is God's doing!

## A Treasure Hidden in a Field

Jesus repeated the truth of God sowing in the field in one of His parables on the mysteries of the Kingdom of the Heavens: **"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in the field, which a man found and hid again; and from joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field"** (Matthew 13:44). Jesus is that man and His treasure is the lost tribes of Israel. He came to the lost sheep of the house of Israel and found them but then hid them again in the field, which is the world that He purchased with His own blood, so that He would not only redeem His treasure but all mankind as well. What a glorious gospel!

By the way, Jesus could not lawfully bury his treasure in a field without also owning the field. In ancient days, this is how men kept their treasures; they buried it on their own land. Likewise, Jesus, who is the fulfillment of the Law, had to hide His treasure lawfully, and this required that He purchase the entire world or field. So, when the Lord says **"the land is Mine,"** He means the whole earth. This is confirmed by Psalm 2:8: **'Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance, and the very ends of the earth as Your possession.'**

Many teach that the treasure is the bride of Christ; others teach that it is the conquerors; and yet others teach that it is the lost sheep of the house of Israel. In a sense, all are correct. However, the point is that the Lord hid what today could be called His *spiritual* Israel. He has hidden this fact so well that very few seem to know the history of this treasure and that it is about Christian nations and not the modern-state of Israel.

Do not miss the import of all this. The Lord began to scatter the Hebrews throughout the world probably 4,000 years ago in preparation for His arrival 2,000 years later in order to send forth His gospel, starting with the believing Jews (good figs) in Jerusalem and continuing beyond, spreading to all the regions in which the house of Israel had been scattered, even to the remotest parts of the earth (Acts 1:8).

The gospel was preached first to the Jew, but it did not stop there. The believing Jews (Judahites of the good figs) sought out their brethren of the ten tribes of Israel, as well as other dispersed Jews, to tell them the good news. Again, there are glimpses of this in the epistles of James and Peter. Also, it is believed by some that Paul traveled to the regions of Spain, Switzerland, and Britain to share the gospel with the descendants of Israel. The gospel began to spread throughout the regions that the ten lost tribes had migrated to in previous centuries and became known by other names. Over time, the seed of God was planted in many of these Hebrew-Israelites and the gospel began to spread beyond their adopted nations to every tribe and tongue and people and nation (Revelation 5:9). The fact of the matter is that some of the Hebrew-Israelite descendants formed and named the many nations of Europe and America.

As a side note, it is important to understand that once Israel lost its national identity and took on other names, they were no different from other nations. The fact of the matter is that they were simply nations. Essentially, using a common term, they were ***gentile nations***, a term used for non-Jewish nations. Generally, I do not use the word *gentile*, for it injects unnecessary bias into scripture. The Hebrew and Greek words for *nation* are *goy* and *ethnos*, respectively. All nations, whether non-Israelite or Israelite, or non-Jewish or Jewish are *goy* (Hebrew) or *ethnos* (Greek). Context dictates what nations are in view.

Again, keep in mind that, although we have been considering the natural Hebrew-Israelite, under the **New Covenant**, being begotten from above with the seed of God is not based on genealogy but on faith. ***Those who are of faith are blessed with Abraham, the believer*** (Galatians 3:9). **No one gets a free pass based on genealogy.** It is not about a **gene pool**; it is about a **heart pool**.

Nevertheless, it is abundantly clear that God planned for the gospel to go to the Jew first, then to their brethren of the Diaspora, the Hebrew-Israelites. It is no coincidence that the Western world or Western civilization became the heart of Christendom. Many of these Christianized nations sought to colonize many parts of the world. As they moved out into the rest of the world, they took the gospel with them. **It was as if they were programmed to be colonizers, even sowers, in the tradition of the Hebrews.**

This is why some of us stress that the Western Christian nations are clearly Israelite nations and the present-day state of Israel is not, which should have been named *Judea* or *Judah*, not *Israel*.

Of course, there is a prophetic reason for this, but that is another topic unto itself. They are apparent Judahites (Jews) in the world today that have usurped Christ's throne and not the true Judahites that are united in heart with the true King of Judah. Ones who believe on Jesus the Christ are the true Judahites. The good news is that one day even the eyes and hearts of the apparent Jews will be opened to behold the true Messiah, **Jesus–Yeshua of the World**. God loves them as He does the whole world! **God is Love, and His love is immeasurable!**

It is also no coincidence that, on a nationalistic level, our modern-day civilized world has mostly turned from God, just as the ancient Israelites did. This should remind us of a word from the Lord: **I know Ephraim, and Israel is not hidden from Me; for now, O Ephraim, you have played the harlot, Israel has defiled itself. Their deeds will not allow them to return to their God. For a spirit of harlotry is within them, and they do not know the LORD** (Hosea 5:3-4 NASB).

Ah, but God is not done with Israel any more than He is done with all the nations and all of mankind, for that matter.

As stressed repeatedly, ancient Israel was cast out of the land and scattered among the nations from 745-721 BC. They became lost in the sense that they lost their identity. Undoubtedly, the multitudes that migrated from Mesopotamia into the European theater over time lost touch with their origin. They did not know their source. Surely, traditions and the stories attached to them were passed down from generation to generation, but, like most things, memories fade and the times have a way of rewriting what people recall and consider their history, even their roots.

But the question is this: Is Israel's lost identity to be permanent? Did they cease to exist altogether? Or, did God place a time limit on this lost identity? Of course, a read of scripture promises that their casting out was only temporary. The book of Hosea was written to Israel-Ephraim, and in it we hear the groaning heart of God that will not let them go and will yet love them freely (Hosea 11:8; 14:4-7). **The Cross and Resurrection settled it all!**

So that this does not get lost in **the fog of Christian Zionism**, we need to be clear that the answer to God's heart is fulfilled through the death and resurrection of His Son, Yeshua, and the birth of the One New Man, the New Jerusalem, and if you will, the New Israel. **Behold, I am making all things new**. In the ancient days, God foretold of the "new." To prove the point, consider these verses: Isaiah 42:9; 43:19; 48:6; 62:2; 65:17; 66:22; Revelation 21:1, 2, 5, 10.

Now, to answer the question of timing, we need to consider God's warning to Israel if they disobeyed His commands. We could call this the...

### **Chastisement of Seven Times**

**And if after these things you will not listen to Me, then I will chastise you seven times more for your sin; and I will break the pride of your strength, and will make your heavens as iron, and your earth as bronze; and your strength shall be consumed in vain, and your land shall not give her produce, and the tree of the land shall not give its fruit.** (Leviticus 26:18-20 LITV)

This is not the only warning given to the sons of Israel, for all one has to do is turn to Deuteronomy 27-28 to learn of the blessings for obedience and the curses for disobedience. They were warned, and no one could accuse the Lord of hiding what He would do if they turned away from Him. In fact, the Lord prophetically revealed their history when He said: "***I have set before you today life and prosperity, and death and adversity***" (Deuteronomy 30:15). This has been their history, even down to our present day.

Speaking directly to Moses, the Lord made it clear that He would be tolerant with them up to a point; however, if and when that point was reached and they did not turn back, He would increase their chastisement seven times. Some people believe that this simply meant that the intensity of the chastisement or punishment (as referred to in some translations) was going to increase sevenfold.

As a reminder, the number **7** signifies **completeness** or **completion of what is in view**, as well as **perfection**, as in **spiritual perfection**. So, at the heart of this number is the idea of completion and perfection.

Given this, as a minimum, *seven times* indicates that the chastisement has an endpoint, meaning a completion; when it does what it was intended to do, it is over. If something has an endpoint, then it also indicates that literal time must be involved.

In many of his writings, Dr. Stephen Jones proves that the "seven times" is a time factor. He makes the point that under the law of tribulation, Israel was sentenced to a "seven times" tribulation, and, when this was completed, legally speaking, God was obligated to set them free. Dr. Jones has many references to this topic throughout his web site, far too many to cite in this article. For those desiring greater detail of this fascinating topic, the following links are a good start. Quotes from him come from these links.

*The Nations in Prophecy:*

<http://www.gods-kingdom-ministries.net/daily-weblogs/blog-archive/teaching-series/medium-series/the-nations-in-prophecy/>

*The Prophetic History of the United States:*

<http://www.gods-kingdom-ministries.net/teachings/books/the-prophetic-history-of-the-united-states/>

*Secrets of Time:*

<http://www.gods-kingdom-ministries.net/teachings/books/secrets-of-time/>

Dr. Jones' premise is based on the number 2,520, which is 7 times 360. In long-term prophecy, this refers to 2,520 years; the seven times of tribulation for ancient Israel. In *The Prophetic History of the United States*, he writes:

"The number 2,520 is one of the most significant numbers in mathematics as well as in prophecy. The ancient Greeks discovered that 2,520 was the lowest common denominator divisible by all the numbers from 1-10. In Bible prophecy, it is set forth as "seven times." In Daniel 7:25 the kingdom of the beast is said to be for "a time, times, and

half a time," or three and a half "times." This is interpreted for us in Rev. 13:5 as being "forty-two months," 1,260 days, or three and a half years.

Since a prophetic year is the mean distance between a lunar year (354 days) and a solar year (365 days), the prophetic year is set at 360 days, or a "time." Thus, three and a half "times" is equal to 1,260 days, and a full seven times is equal to 2,520 days.

When God gave the law to Israel, He warned them that if they refused to follow it, they would be judged "seven times" for their sin (Lev. 26:18). While this has usually been taken to mean seven times more intense, Daniel and Revelation interpret it literally as a TIME period. Moses defines it purely in terms of what will happen to them, but Daniel identifies it as a period of time—though yet undefined. In the book of Revelation, John interprets in the clearest manner of all, making a "time" equal 360 days in short-term prophecy and 360 years in long-term prophecy.

Thus, the judgment of God upon the House of Israel, which began in **745 B.C.** was to continue for **2,520 years**. This time period ended in **1776 A.D.** Was it just a coincidence that the **Declaration of Independence** was proclaimed in that same year? I think not. Although the nation was small at the time, history has proven just how important this event would become in the history of the modern world.

Even more interesting is the fact that the **United States' Capital, Washington D.C.**, was completed in the year **1800**. This happened to be precisely **2,520 years** after Israel's capital, Samaria, had been destroyed in **721 B.C.**

The parallel between ancient Israel and the United States was so striking that virtually every preacher and theologian in early America saw it and mentioned it in some way in their sermons. They called this land the "New Israel," "God's Vineyard," and even "The Kingdom of God," which may have been a bit optimistic, but revealing nonetheless." *End quote*

In case you missed the point; when ancient Israel's seven times of tribulation were up, the United States of America was born. Based on the previous discussion of the Abrahamic Covenant, it seems apparent that America was birthed by the hand of God through the descendants of the sons of Israel (ex-Israelites) that migrated to and then out of Europe. In 745 BC, the Assyrians began to take captive the northern tribes of Israel and 2,520 years later the Americans began to rebel against the British crown. In 721 BC, Samaria, the capital of Israel, fell to the Assyrians and 2,520 years later the present-day American capital of Washington DC was established.

**Israel was no longer lost; her chastisement had ended; she had been found! Israel was set free in a nation established on the basis of freedom and the rights bestowed upon mankind by the Creator.**

There is no other modern-day nation that can lay claim to this specific prophetic history, at least as far as we know. This is not only highly significant but truly amazing, for this links or joins

the history of America to the ancient nation of Israel. This does not make us a holy and righteous nation. The fact of the matter is that, at the present, we are anything but this, being, in many respects, more like ancient Sodom and the waning days of Solomon's kingdom, even with its high taxation.

## America

Many of us probably recall being taught that *America* was named after Amerigo Vespucci. Dr. Jones reminds us:

"*America* is an old Saxon and Danish compound word: *Amer* means "heavenly," and *ric* means "kingdom." It literally means "the Heavenly Kingdom," or the Kingdom of Heaven. The Pilgrims undoubtedly knew this, so if by chance they really had named it after Amerigo Vespucci, it was only because his name, coincidentally, described this land precisely as they viewed it.

If we study the etymology of the entire name of this nation, "The United States of America," we find an even more interesting and complete meaning. *The* means "God's," that is, owned by God. This is why THEology is the study of God. In Greek, *theos* means God. And another connection is this: the Spanish word for "the" is *EL*, which is also the Hebrew word for *God*.

The word *United* means "greater." The word *State* means "estate." Thus, if we put all of this together, it means "*God's Greater Estate of the Heavenly Kingdom*."

The name does not manifest our actual national character, for we are anything but a righteous people. So please do not misunderstand this. The name indicates our national goal as envisioned by our founders." *End quote*

Most of us in America who have any sense of discernment would have to concur with his statement that we are anything but a righteous people.

I did some further research of my own on the name *America* by looking at similar words to see if God may have a hidden a secret in this name. By breaking the word into syllables, I discovered this:

Hebrew *am* [H5971] means "people."

Hebrew *eri* [H6179] means "watchful," which comes from a primitive root that means "to open the eyes." According to the *Dictionary of Proper Names* (C.A. Potts, Bible Truth Publishers, 1981), in Latin, *Eri* means "Troop of God; watching, i.e., worshipping the Lord." According to Webster's Dictionary, Eric's origin is Scandinavian and means "eternal ruler, honorable ruler."

*Amerimnos* was an early Christian name that means "one without anxious care." The Greek word [G3308] *merimna* means "care, anxiety," but with *a* as a prefix it means "without care or anxiety; free from care."

From this, could we not say that America stands for or, perhaps, should stand for a "***watchful, people, free from care because they worship the Creator God, the Eternal Ruler***"? Can't say for sure, but it is nonetheless very intriguing!

Considering that ancient Israel's time of tribulation came to an end with the birthing of "the land of the free and the home of the brave," America is clearly and profoundly in the plan of God, and as such, we need to be reminded of the history that gave us birth and heed the warnings that God gave the ancients. He is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow, which means that He does not change His ways. The good news is that His love does not change either, and His love never fails.

Continuing on; America has many parallels to ancient Israel. Two parallels are discovered in taxation and the number of the original colonies.

The house of Israel revolted against the **high taxes** of the post-Solomon kingdom, and the American colonies revolted against the unfair taxation of the British kingdom. In both cases, a division of what could be called brothers occurred; after all, those that populated the American colonies had come from Britain and Europe. In the case of America, the American Revolution began two years later, leading to the independence of the colonies and the declaration of a new independent nation on July 2, 1776.

There were **13 original colonies** that rebelled against Britain and became states, and there were **13 tribes of Israel**. It is a fact that Jacob had 12 sons, but, as already discussed, it is also a fact that Joseph's two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, who were blessed with the name *Israel*, became two tribes, yielding a total of 13 tribes.

Further, the number **13** generally refers to **rebellion**. Rebellion is a major part of the history of ancient Israel, and it was through rebellion that the American colonies were released from British control. Some would say that rebellion is at the heart of America. **Derek Prince** once said that **the controlling spirit over America is rebellion**.

Another fascinating thing is the fact that America was birthed in **1776 AD**, which is **1,300 years** from the fall of the **ancient Western Roman Empire** in **476 AD**. What is the significance of this? In a nutshell, thirteen centuries after the fall of one of the world's greatest empires, America was birthed that led to it becoming the world's greatest superpower in little less than two centuries. America became the Western superpower with the **eagle** as one of its symbols, the same symbol used by ancient Rome.

But, perhaps there is more to this. 1,300 is an intensification of the number 13, meaning we would truly be a rebellious people. In our rebellion, we are known for our fierce independence. Also, multiplication of 13 by a factor of 100 indicates that America is under God's grace. The number **100** signifies **God's election of grace**. It also signifies **salvation of all and children of**

**promise.** It seems to me that, in our rebellion, we continue under the grace of God. Or, could we not say that God brought forth a nation of rebels by His grace?

America being under God's grace is quite significant for obvious reasons. However, there is one reason that is not so obvious. In his book, *Secrets of Time*, Dr. Stephen Jones explains a **Cursed/Grace time cycle of 414 years**. He cites examples of how God has given nations 414 years of grace in order for them to repent. During this time, they are actually under a curse, but God's grace keeps them. If they do not repent and turn to the Lord at the end of this period, then He brings judgment upon them. Dr. Jones does not see this cycle in reference to America, but I do. In doing some research, I discovered that we might be in a cycle of 414 years based on our colonial founding in 1607 AD, not our independence in 1776 AD. The first British colony on American soil is dated to 1607 AD in what is called *Jamestown*, which was the first chartered royal colony of the entire British Empire. The founding of Jamestown is generally considered the beginning of the rise of the worldwide British Empire. If this cycle applies, America has until the year **2021 (1607 + 414)** to turn back to the Lord as a nation. For those who have followed my writings, you know that I see 2021 as being a very critical year in relation to the coming of the Kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ when heaven comes to earth in an openly manifested way. I have yet to write up all my thoughts on this subject, as I have promised, but I am getting closer to doing so.

Here is one more fact for you: In **1620 AD, 13 years after Jamestown was founded, the Pilgrims or Puritans stepped foot on the shores of New England in their quest to establish the Kingdom of God in America**. Although Christians were among the founders of Jamestown, this colony was established more for economics than religious freedom. The Pilgrims were the ones who truly sought religious freedom. Again, the number 13 stands out as prophetic to the nature of America, especially in the way the colonies treated some of the Native American Indians as if they were Canaanites that had to be conquered by the physical sword rather than by the Sword of the Spirit, the Word of God.

### **National Characteristics of Ephraim and Manasseh**

Now, let us return to Ephraim and Manasseh. According to Yair Davidy (quoted earlier), Great Britain has the characteristics of Ephraim and America the characteristics of Manasseh. Others have made the same observation, while yet others claim America is more like Ephraim. However, scripture might answer this question for us. Consider Jacob-Israel's blessing upon the lads.

**When Joseph saw that his father laid his right hand on Ephraim's head, it displeased him; and he grasped his father's hand to remove it from Ephraim's head to Manasseh's head. Joseph said to his father, "Not so, my father, for this one is the firstborn. Place your right hand on his head." But his father refused and said, "I know, my son, I know; he also will become a people and he also will be great. However, his younger brother shall be greater than he, and his descendants shall become a multitude of nations." He blessed them that day, saying, "By you Israel will pronounce blessing, saying, 'May God make you like Ephraim and Manasseh!'" Thus he put Ephraim before Manasseh.** (Genesis 48:17-20 NASB)



As the story goes, in a twist reminiscent of when his father Isaac, at the end of his life, was deceived to bless his younger son, Jacob purposely did the same to Joseph's two sons. Ephraim the younger got the greater blessing, at least it might seem that he did; but did he? Without doubt, Great Britain became one of the greatest empires of the world. At her peak, she controlled vast territories and people. This is what *Wikipedia* has to say about the empire.

"The **British Empire** comprised the dominions, colonies, protectorates, mandates and other territories ruled or administered by the United Kingdom. It originated with the overseas possessions established by England between the late 16th and early 18th centuries. At its height, it was the largest empire in history and, for over a century, was the foremost global power. By 1922 the British Empire held sway over about 458 million people, one-fifth of the world's population at the time. The empire covered more than 33,700,000 km<sup>2</sup> (13,012,000 sq mi), almost a quarter of the Earth's total land area. As a result, its political, legal, linguistic, and cultural legacy is widespread. At the peak of its power, the phrase "the empire on which the sun never sets" was often used to describe the British Empire, because its expanse around the globe meant that the sun was always shining on at least one of its territories." *End quote*

Truly, out from this great empire or United Kingdom came a multitude of nations, one of which is the United States of America. Given these few facts, it is easy to draw the conclusion that the United Kingdom has a prophetic linkage to ancient Israel as well. By the way, tradition has it that Jeremiah the prophet made his way to the British Isles, notably Ireland; as did Paul the apostle make his way to the Isles. Keep in mind that the monarchs of England lay claim to being descendants of King David, and the flag of the United Kingdom is known as the **Union Jack**. Jack is a nickname for **Jacob**. It was Jack or Jacob that freed the present-day Jerusalem from the rule of the Ottoman Empire in 1917, and, in a reversal of roles and blindness, Jack (Jacob) was also blinded and deceived into giving the land (Palestine) back to his brother Esau. Again, this is another story in itself.

Prophetically speaking, the UK has manifested as Ephraim, the second son of Joseph, but historically speaking has manifested as the firstborn.

So, although, this article is about America, keep in mind that we are not the only nation on earth today that has a prophetic fulfillment in the plan of God. There are many others; I am simply focusing on one of them because this is my home and because the **USA** is currently considered the **global superpower**. Many wonder how long this will last; God knows!

Now, back to Manasseh, he was blessed to become a great people. It seems that his brother, the United Kingdom, came first in the fashion of a firstborn and became a multitude of nations through colonization as promised to Ephraim the second born, and out of this greatness came forth his brother the United States who also became great but not as a multitude of nations. Our trademark is that we are Americans, and we come from America and no other place. Some would say that we proudly and, at times, arrogantly carry our greatness wherever we go. But to be fair, this great people have, more times than not, reached out a helping hand to many throughout the world. To the degree this has occurred, we have truly been a blessing to the nations in fulfillment of the promise to Abraham.

Interestingly, America has never had grand desires to be a colonist like his older (younger?) brother. However, instead of establishing colonies, the **USA** has become a **great hegemonic power** that is not afraid to wield the physical sword and kill off supposed enemies and thereby extend its global control, much like King David. Our footprint is in practically every corner on earth and definitely in most all hotspots.

### **America's Founding Fathers**

Many peg our history to the year 1492 AD when Columbus came to the Americas. Notice I did not state that he discovered America, for as we have already seen, many had already made their way to these shores. The Phoenicians (Israelites along with Tyrians and Sidonians) found their way here at least 1,000 years before Christ, and the Vikings made it here no later than 500 years after Christ. This does not mean that Columbus' arrival was not significant, for it most certainly was. Dr. Jones explains some of the biblical history of this arrival, so I will leave it to him to explain; to those who are interested, just follow the previous links.

In our history, **1607-1620 AD** stand out, for this was when the first English colonies were established on our shores. The first colony was in Jamestown and was established for economic reasons. From a Christian standpoint, 1620 was the most significant year, for the Pilgrims from Europe came ashore in the area of Cape Cod in order to establish a Christ-centered covenanted community. They were escaping the religious bondage of the institutional church (Anglican, Roman Catholic) by traveling the Atlantic Ocean in marginally seaworthy vessels and suffering great hardship for the sake of freedom of religion. They saw themselves like Moses and the sons of Israel crossing the Red Sea to freedom. They had arrived in the wilderness, and they sought to establish the Kingdom of God in their adopted land, the new Canaan. The Hebrews were on their last leg of their migratory trip that had begun nearly 2,400 years prior. They came to establish a New Israel, the New Jerusalem, and the Kingdom of God.

As an aside, I did a special study of the book of Revelation up to chapter 11 that traces the history of the church until the French Revolution, which coincides with the birth of America. In this study, I looked at the possible dates for the long-term prophecy of 1,260 years. This is covered under Notes #11B and #11C.

See link: <http://www.kingdomandglory.com/revelation.html>

Well, it didn't quite work out the way they had planned, for they came with an Old Covenant view of the Kingdom. In a way, this could not be avoided, for leaven had been hidden in the kingdom of the heavens on earth allowing for corruption to rise up within it (Matthew 13:33). At best, we could say that they were a mixed bag. Mind you, not all were like this, but time would prove what happens when the carnal mind, especially the carnal religious mind takes over. Instead of manifesting the love of God and winning hearts through the Sword of the Spirit, the early Christians saw themselves like Joshua taking possession of the land by the physical sword. [Not much has changed!] Over time, practically all, if not all, the treaties with the Native American Indians were broken. As the colonies were established, some of them became known by their particular denomination. Slavery was not settled until the Civil War that nearly broke us

apart, and for which we are still paying the price. It took nearly a century to break this stronghold in a nation that was established for freedom.

Moving on to the **1700s**, we discover great men like Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, James Madison, George Washington, Samuel Adams, Thomas Payne, and many others who were well-read in history, economics, and philosophy, and who were keen observers of what had and what was transpiring in the Old World of Europe. They embarked upon what many call an experiment in a republican form of government the likes of which no nation had ever attempted.

It should be noted that it was also during the 1700s that the great missionary movement spread the gospel to the far reaches of the world.

In the book, *America's Prophet – Moses and the American Prophet* (Harper-Collins, 2009), Bruce Feiler traces the influence that Moses had on the founding of our nation and how imagery of Moses' and the Exodus infiltrated much of the thinking of our forefathers and impacted our history. In another book, *A Miracle That Changed the World, The 5000 Year Leap* (National Center for Constitutional Studies, 1981), W. Cleon Skousen traces the founders' basic principles by which they structured our government and the law of the land. With the adoption of our Constitution, we became a nation based on law. He reveals the influence of the Anglo-Saxon Common Law or People's Law and the People's Law of ancient Israel as given to Moses by the Lord.

Mr. Skousen writes: ***"As the Founders studied the record of the ancient Israelites they were intrigued by the fact that they also operated under a system of laws remarkably similar to those of the Anglo-Saxons"*** (page 15).

The influence of these two systems was so great on the founders that when they were drawing up the **American Seal**, Jefferson, Adams, and Franklin recommended a two-sided seal with the profile of two Anglo-Saxon brothers, who are credited for bringing the People's Law to the British Isles around 450 AD, on one side, and with a portrayal of ancient Israel going through the wilderness led by God's pillar of fire on the other side. For a depiction of this, see Mr. Skousen's book, page 18. Unfortunately, they realized that this was too much to fit on a small seal, and it was lost to history.

I know that there are revisionists and deniers that argue the founders were nothing more than deists, meaning they were not Christ-centered, as if to refute our biblically-based history and make it irrelevant. Did you know that Benjamin Franklin was the "biggest booster as well as publisher" of the great preacher George Whitefield (see page 39 of Mr. Feiler's book)? Do you think Ben Franklin was simply a deist by hanging around Whitefield whose preaching was all centered on Christ? At the least, Franklin recognized the value, if not the essentiality, of a "religious" or "God-centered" people.

Well, there is no need to belabor the point. These two books are highly recommended for anyone interested in a non-revisionist history of our founding and its founders.

The point I want to make, if not scream out, is that regardless of what label we put on people, deist or otherwise, or regardless of the many failings we have had on the way based on a carnal distortion of God's way, America is a prophetic extension of ancient Israel in a major way. One would have to be blind not to see this even with the few details that have been presented in this article and available in the many references offered throughout.

For more on America and God's Plan, here is another link for Stephen Jones.

*God's Plan for America:*

<http://www.gods-kingdom-ministries.net/daily-weblogs/blog-archive/teaching-series/large-series/gods-plan-for-america/>

Again, we are not alone in this as the nations go, but we are clearly linked to what God began in establishing Israel as His first kingdom nation on earth. But, having said this, I think we could also make the case that America is a manifestation of the first part of Abraham's Covenant, that is, the Lord's promise that Abraham would become a great nation. It appears that America is a modern-day version of the great nation promised to Abraham. This is a sobering thought, or at least it should be to us Americans.

The fact that our founders gravitated to the Anglo-Saxon Law, as you might recall the Saxons are descendants of Isaac (i.e., Sac, Sax), and then to Moses and the Law of God is not by coincidence. It is by Providence, by a Creator, to use terms from our founders. The **Supreme Court** opinion given by Chief Justice David Brewer in the **1892 case of Holy Trinity vs. US** stated: ***"These, and many other matters which might be noticed, add a volume of unofficial declarations to the mass of organic utterance that this is a Christian nation."*** I would prefer to call us an Israelite nation or a Kingdom nation.

### **America Today**

**"But Jeshurun grew fat and kicked—you are grown fat, thick, and sleek—then he forsook God who made him, and scorned the Rock of his salvation. "They made Him jealous with strange gods; with abominations they provoked Him to anger. "They sacrificed to demons who were not God, to gods whom they have not known, new gods who came lately, whom your fathers did not dread. "You neglected the Rock who begot you, and forgot the God who gave you birth. (Deuteronomy 32:15-18 NASB)**

*Jeshurun* means "upright one" and is a reference to Israel. As a play on words, this is what Israel was supposed to be, an upright or righteous nation, but they had become fat and sleek, which is like saying: "You have become gross and trampled down or despised." Not a very good testimony! They were to be one thing but had become something entirely the opposite. They turned to other gods, that is, idols of their heart, and forgot the God who gave them birth.

Have we become like ancient Israel, having grown fat, thick, and sleek? Data would tell us that we have literally become fat, as in obese. As a nation, we have grown fat in our prosperity and have not only neglected but also forgotten the Rock of our salvation.

Do you know that the meaning of the name **Manasseh** is "**forgetting**" or "**made to forget**"? As a type of Manasseh, America has been made to forget her birth and her roots that go back to Abraham and Moses. I believe this is God's doing. We have been destined to go the way of ancient Israel, but here is the good news: Israel is destined to be saved and to come into the glory of God, for God promised Moses. **So all Israel will be saved** (Romans 11:26).

Or, better yet: **Indeed, as I live, all the earth will be filled with the glory of the LORD** (Numbers 14:21). Who do we want to eliminate from this glory when God says ALL?

In spite of this good news, it does not change the facts on the ground, so to speak, and it does not give us as a nation the license to continue on our present path without God's intervention.

**Dear people of God in America, please hear this: We have forgotten the God who gave us birth. We don't even know our own history. We are blind and ignorant. As a nation (not necessarily individuals), we have turned from worshipping God in our heart to worshipping the idols of our heart.**

I wrote an article on this: *Idols of the Heart [Graven Images]*.

See link: <http://www.kingdomandglory.com/art/art54.pdf>

Moses sums it up for us.

**"For they are a nation lacking in counsel, and there is no understanding in them. "Would that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would discern their future!** (Deuteronomy 32:28-29 NASB)

We are a nation lacking wise counsel. Instead, we have become a nation of professional politicians and professional pulpiteers. No matter where we turn, whether it is to government or the so-called *institutional or at-large church*, mostly what we see is mixture and carnality. This is a reflection of the people, for we keep electing the same individuals and keep listening to the same superficial sermons coming from the pulpits and sold in the latest books from our so-called leaders. To make it worse, we keep sending our money to keep it all going.

Are we any different than Solomon's kingdom near the end? They were the mightiest of the nations, filled with great wealth and prosperity. They were the global superpower. But what happened? Their leader turned to other gods and overtaxed the people. Does this sound familiar? In our prosperity, have we forgotten the Lord? See Jeremiah 22:21.

The third promise made to Abraham, which is taken up in the next section, says that in Abraham all the families and all the nations of the earth will be blessed. As an Israelite nation that is supposed to have the heart of faith that Abraham had, we are to be a blessing to all. Again, this is taken up in the next section, but it is best to deal with America in this regard at this point.

What condition are we in today? How much of a blessing are we? Have we become like ancient Israel, even the elite Jews in Jesus' day, believing that we are chosen of God and He will not hold us accountable for unrighteousness and injustice? Even worse, do we even take God into account in our dealings with one another? Are the leaders of our government seeking God for His counsel in dealing with the mounting problems the nation and the world are facing? If we answer this based on their words, we would have to answer in the negative.

By the way, the same could be said about many of the so-called *Western post-Christian* (Israelite?) nations as well.

When Israel became a great nation or when any nation, for that matter, becomes a great nation by the hand of God, there is a responsibility attached to it. Greatness is to be shared, not to be selfishly held. When it is shared, then that greatness becomes a blessing to all the nations. This is why Abraham's descendants were commanded to do righteousness and justice. This is what greatness is all about.

Unfortunately, this was lost even by Solomon near the end of his reign as his many projects and women took control of his life to the point he turned from the Lord and his people began to suffer under his rule. Later, when Judah returned to the land and eventually came under the rule of the Romans as the arrival of Jesus was imminent, the Jews, especially the religious elite, considered themselves privileged people, chosen of God. As such, they looked down upon others to the point that the nations were dogs. Some even looked at so-called *gentiles* as sub-human, animal in human form; a view held by some even in our day. This hardened attitude led to Judah's demise in 70 AD.

Fast forward to today and we see the modern-state of Israel being told by Christian Zionists and the Roman Catholic Church that they are chosen of God under a separate special covenant apart from Christ. Have they become a blessing to all the nations? How about the ones surrounding them? Many would say they are a curse.

Back to America; what about us? We are called the great superpower of the world, at least at the moment. Have we become a blessing to all the nations on earth? In the years following World War II in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, many could rightly say that we were a blessing to many in the world. But what have we become today in the 21<sup>st</sup> century as we brandish the physical sword throughout the earth as we attempt to take down nations that don't meet our hegemonic demands? Is taking down nations and involving ourselves in every conflict in the world a true blessing to all the nations?

One might counter that this is a matter of national defense. Perhaps, but let's look at it from the perspective of the visible church in America. I don't have any statistics on how many churches do this, but there are churches that hold courses for their people on how to apply for concealed weapons permits and how to use guns. You know "God, Guns, and Country." Where is the Sword of the Spirit in all this? Where is love? Where is the heart of the New Covenant reflected in this? It seems a lot more like the old covenant than the new.

Internally, as a nation, what have we become? What do we look like? What about our insane consumerism that drives people to stand in line for hours for the latest and the greatest *whatever*? Recently, people stood in line for hours waiting for stores to open so they could buy the latest iPhone. What about the obsession over *social media* and the entertainment industry and its stars? What about the concept of *diversity* that has infected the education system that openly embraces the LGBT movement while rejecting anything Christian? What about abortion, pornography, the obsession with prescription drugs and health care, a prison system that does little to make restitution for crimes, same-sex marriage, and a debt-laden usurious financial system that has grown into a gargantuan ponzi scheme?

Many questions like these could be asked with answers that reflect how far we have fallen as a nation. Some might retort that it is not a fallen condition but rather progress. Progress of what, for what, to what? When a nation turns from God and His Divine Law, it is not progress; it is great loss.

Our leaders pride themselves in standing before the nation and closing their speeches with "**God Bless America.**" Our coinage and currency has "**In God We Trust**" printed on it, and the latter is our National Motto. But it is mostly lip service. Who among our national leaders are truly trusting God for divine wisdom to lead this nation?

For your interest, I edited and reposted an issue first written in 2009 titled "*In God We Trust.*" You are encouraged to read it. Here is the link:

<http://www.kingdomandglory.com/tuc/tuc615.pdf>

**They speak falsehood to one another; with flattering lips and with a double heart they speak. May the LORD cut off all flattering lips, the tongue that speaks great things; who have said, "With our tongue we will prevail; our lips are our own; who is lord over us?" "Because of the devastation of the afflicted, because of the groaning of the needy, now I will arise," says the LORD; "I will set him in the safety for which he longs." (Psalm 12:2-5 NASB)**

**And He said to them, "Rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written: 'THIS PEOPLE HONORS ME WITH THEIR LIPS, BUT THEIR HEART IS FAR AWAY FROM ME. 'BUT IN VAIN DO THEY WORSHIP ME, TEACHING AS DOCTRINES THE PRECEPTS OF MEN.' "Neglecting the commandment of God, you hold to the tradition of men." (Mark 7:6-8 NASB)**

Is this not an indictment of our nation today?

I don't think we should take the visible church off the hook either. As I often remind people, the nation is simply a reflection of the outward, visible church, and God's judgments on the nation are judgments on His people carried out by unbelievers. How many church leaders have been more interested in building and defending their ministries and their institutional organizations, of course, all in the name of Christ? How many of these don't really trust the Lord anymore but are more dependent on their "creative strategies" and squeezing money out of the many in order to keep their *thing* going? Only the Lord has the answer to these questions, but we shouldn't stick our heads in the sand as if it is not going on, for it most assuredly is.

Most who live in America who have any level of spiritual discernment know that on many levels our nation and the outward, professing church (as opposed to the church that the Lord is building) has fallen into depravity, and we are looking a lot like Sodom, not a truly righteous and just blessing to all the nations.

What has happened? As built into the name *Manasseh*, we have forgotten our birth that came from God, and we have turned from Him as a nation and a people. Doing righteousness and justice is not part of our national fabric anymore. I'm not even sure people understand what true righteousness and justice are. Our laws are not even the laws of God anymore; they are the laws of men. Consider Mark 7:6-8, already noted above.

### **Wake Up America – Discern Our Future!**

It is time to WAKE UP and discern our future! Our slumber must cease.

Not only do we need to recall the One who gave us birth and to seek wise counsel, but we need to discern our future. If we don't, there is a price to be paid for turning from God. The price is called *chastisement*. It is the chastisement of a father disciplining his children. Our future as a nation is glory, but let us get there by turning back to the Lord. Let us praise God for birthing us, and let us repent for messing up our growth and greatness as a nation. We are losing our testimony in the world!

Though this is the cry of my heart, I do not believe we will turn on our own as a nation. We might do this as individuals, but the national level is a different story. If I have heard correctly, only God can turn us, for only He knows how and what to do. But at what cost? How severe will His chastisement be? We are at His mercy. Fortunately, He is a merciful God and only He knows what is best for us, so let us turn back to Him while it is still today.

Well, in spite of this assessment, which I acknowledge some might challenge, there is truly good news on the horizon. We might be in a fallen state at the moment, but the good news is that God is not done with us, any more than He is done with the nations of the world, or with all mankind, for that matter. Let us not be foolish or blind any longer, and let us heed God's word. Have faith, He will bring us through!

The good news is called the ***Kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ***. The King is coming! The Kingdom is coming from heaven to earth! The Spirit of God is coming in power and authority!

Now, this leads to the third part of the covenant with Abraham, which is truly good news for all the world that God so loves.

### **Third Part – Blessing for the Whole Family**

**"And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed."** (Genesis 12:3b NASB)

**The LORD said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do, since Abraham will surely become a great and mighty nation, and in him all the nations of the earth will be blessed? For**



**I have chosen him, so that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice, so that the LORD may bring upon Abraham what He has spoken about him." (Genesis 18:17-19 NASB)**

The Lord intends this blessing for all nations to go forth, not through one great nation but through the multitude of nations that were to come forth through Abraham. In other words, the Hebrew-Israelite nations that history has known as Western Christian nations were to be a blessing to all the nations and to bring the entire world the good news of Jesus the Christ and His Kingdom. To a large degree this has occurred and continues in some measure in our day, even if it is mixed with part God and part flesh. Unfortunately, many of these nations are no longer even Christian in the true sense; hence, the previous use of the term *post-Christian*. But soon, this will turn to all God and no more flesh.

Why? Because God made an unconditional promise or covenant with Abraham that will be fulfilled to the fullest! **God calls it as He sees it**, and He sees all the families and all the nations blessed, meaning none will be excluded. This is all in accord with God's ultimate purpose to be ***All in all***.

The salvation of all is God's plan to achieve His ultimate purpose. His blessing on all the nations and all the families is one that leads to faith in His Son until **"they shall no more teach each one their neighbor, and each one his brother, saying, Know the Lord; because all shall know Me, from the least of them to their great ones. For I will be merciful to their unrighteousnesses, and I will not at all remember their sins and their lawless deeds"** (Hebrews 8:11-12 LITV).

We have already seen how Paul connected the Abrahamic Covenant to the good news of Christ.

**And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to promise.** (Galatians 3:29 NASB)

**And the Scripture foreseeing that God would justify the nations by faith, preached the gospel before to Abraham: "All the nations will be blessed" "in you."** Gen. 12:3 (Galatians 3:8 LITV)

But do you know that he did the same thing in his Ephesians epistle? Notice how Paul includes all mankind in the expression *the whole family*.

**For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in the heavens and on earth is named, that He may give to you, according to the riches of His glory, with might to be strengthened through His Spirit, in regard to the inner man, that the Christ may dwell through the faith in your hearts, in love having been rooted and founded, that ye may be in strength to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height, to know also the love of the Christ that is exceeding the knowledge, that ye may be filled—to all the fulness of God; and to Him who is able above all things to do exceeding abundantly what we ask or think, according to the power that is working in us, to Him is the glory in the assembly in Christ Jesus, to all the generations of the age of the ages. Amen.** (Ephesians 3:14-21 YLT)

The entire race of Adam is the whole family of God on earth. Without a doubt, Paul had the Abrahamic Covenant in mind when he wrote these words. He bowed the knee unto the Father because he knew that every nation and all the families of God's entire creation one day would do likewise. The love of God will do this, for **love never fails** and will not fail to bring every knee to bow as Paul, the greatest of sinners, bowed. All will know the love of Christ that will lead to the glory of God.

**Because of this also God highly exalted Him and gave Him a name above every name, that at the name of Jesus "every knee should bow," of heavenly ones, and earthly ones, and ones under the earth, and "every tongue should confess" that Jesus Christ is "Lord," to the glory of God the Father. Isa. 45:23 (Philippians 2:9-11 LITV)**

**The point is this; if all the families and nations are to be blessed in Abraham, then it means that all the nations will come to have a faith like Abraham as well.**

They won't come to faith all at the same time or even in the same way, but they all will eventually bow the knee to Jesus and confess that He is Lord to the glory of God the Father, even if they must go through the lake of fire to burn off all their carnal flesh, spiritually speaking; a baptism of Spirit fire, not literal fire. At the **Grand Jubilee of Creation** when creation itself is fully set free into the liberty of the glory of the sons of God, so all mankind will be set free. Praise God!

Scripture foretells that God will justify the nations by faith. He spoke it to Abraham. God is the source. He does it through the faith of the Son of God; this is the way for all the nations.

**Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. He does not say, "And to seeds," as referring to many, but rather to one, "And to your seed," that is, Christ. (Galatians 3:16 NASB)**

**For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. (1 Corinthians 15:22 NASB)**

**For thus says the LORD, who created the heavens (He is the God who formed the earth and made it, He established it and did not create it a waste place, but formed it to be inhabited), "I am the LORD, and there is none else. "I have not spoken in secret, in some dark land; I did not say to the offspring of Jacob, 'Seek Me in a waste place'; I, the LORD, speak righteousness, declaring things that are upright. "Gather yourselves and come; draw near together, you fugitives of the nations; they have no knowledge, who carry about their wooden idol and pray to a god who cannot save. "Declare and set forth your case; indeed, let them consult together. Who has announced this from of old? Who has long since declared it? Is it not I, the LORD? And there is no other God besides Me, a righteous God and a Savior; There is none except Me. "Turn to Me and be saved, all the ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other. "I have sworn by Myself, The word has gone forth from My mouth in righteousness and will not turn back, that to Me every knee will bow, every tongue will swear allegiance. "They will say of Me, 'Only in the LORD are righteousness and strength.' Men will come to Him, and all who were angry at Him will be put to shame. "In the LORD all the offspring of Israel will be justified and will glory." (Isaiah 45:18-25 NASB)**

These verses are some of the most expansive and inclusive found in scripture, for they speak to all the ends of the earth, even to those who have shaken their fists in anger at God (Psalm 2:1-3). God swears all will willingly bow. His word has gone forth, and it will not return void, meaning it shall be done. All of this speaks to God's unconditional promise made with Abraham, the father of faith.

A day is coming when all will have the faith of Abraham, a faith that is of Jesus the Son of God. We don't see it clearly in this day, but the day is coming; a glorious day is rising on the horizon, a day in which the sons of God, the conquerors, will be resurrected, transfigured, and manifested, and the reign of Christ will begin in earnest among the nations and families of the earth. God is the Maker of all nations and families on earth—past, present, and future. He has ruled and continues to rule in the affairs of men. AND, His Son, the King of kings, is coming soon to rule over the nations and to usher in the glory of God until it fills the whole earth. He will not fail to subject all things under His feet until He finally abolishes death itself. This is truly good news!

**God is love; God so loves the world; and love does not fail.**

In closing, I leave you with these encouraging verses.

**There is no one like You among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like Yours. All nations whom You have made shall come and worship before You, O Lord, and they shall glorify Your name. For You are great and do wondrous deeds; You alone are God.** (Psalm 86:8-10 NASB)

**Indeed, while following the way of Your judgments, O LORD, we have waited for You eagerly; Your name, even Your memory, is the desire of our souls. At night my soul longs for You, Indeed, my spirit within me seeks You diligently; for when the earth experiences Your judgments the inhabitants of the world learn righteousness.** (Isaiah 26:8-9 NASB)

**And they sang the song of Moses, the bond-servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, "Great and marvelous are Your works, O Lord God, the Almighty; righteous and true are Your ways, King of the nations [King of the ages] ! "Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy; for ALL THE NATIONS WILL COME AND WORSHIP BEFORE YOU, FOR YOUR RIGHTEOUS ACTS HAVE BEEN REVEALED."** (Revelation 15:3-4 NASB [Numeric English New Testament])

Be encouraged, it won't be long! Wait for it! Wait for Him! The King of the Ages is coming!