

AUSTRALI

"If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

2 Chronicles 7:14

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DIVINE LINE

The British monarchy fascinates and intrigues people the world over. Trigger-happy photographers and inquisitive reporters stalk the royals relentlessly to capture their magnificent state performances and parades or private shenanigans for a public that never tires of any sniff of royal scandal. Nations of the British Commonwealth as well as the United States have an inherent curiosity about Britain's royals and their pomp and ceremony unmatched by any other royal house in the world. In fact, no other family on earth draws so much global interest and no other institution stirs more adoration or excitement. Yet, on the other hand, there is an ever-present push by liberal politicians, anti-royal media outlets and left-wing activists to foist the royal family off as an archaic, self-aggrandising institution with no place in our modern society. Sadly, the antimonarchy movements, that are seeking to dismantle the monarchy here and elsewhere so they can establish independent godless republics, are building momentum. Multiculturalism and political correctness have created an environment where patriotism and anything "British" is derided and belittled. Little do they realise that if we discard the Constitutional Monarchy for a secular republican system our very freedom could be thrown into jeopardy. For over two centuries Australia has been safeguarded from tyranny by the Constitutional Monarchy, other institutions and laws inherited from Britain undergirding a way of life the envy of the world.

Envy of the World

Why is this so? Historically and symbolically the British throne is a Christian throne, clearly identifying with the Bible as the Word of God and honours JESUS CHRIST as no other has ever done, proclaiming Him as Saviour and Redeemer of the world and King of kings and Lord of lords. But something else makes it special It is a fulfilment of God's promise to King David long ago to give him a literal, everlasting throne that would eventually be given to Jesus Christ when He returns to reign on earth. Remarkably, every aspect of the British coronation service demonstrates a strong link between the British monarch and the kings of ancient Israel. The monarch is anointed with oil by the Archbishop of Canterbury from a formula given in Exodus 30:22-25 while seated on the Coronation Chair containing Jacob's Pillar. This stone, taken from a pile of refuse that had been rejected by the builders of Luz, Jacob used as a pillow and anointed as representing the presence of God with him. This is the very stone on which the kings of Ireland, Scotland and England have been crowned for over 2500 years. The monarch is then crowned with St Edward's Crown with its 12 jewels, identical in type, number and order with those in the Breastplate of Aaron, Israel's first high priest!

The Stone of Destiny

The burning question is: Why is the British monarch's coronation so linked to the ancient Israelite ceremony as recorded in the First Book of Kings? Because, as we have said, the British royal family is descended from the biblical line of David. As we shall see. Long ago God promised King David that he would "never lack a man (or woman) to sit upon the throne of David". Yet the Davidic line ended with the fall of Jerusalem in 586 BC. Zedekiah was the last king of Judah. However, the Prophet Jeremiah escaped with Zedekiah's two daughters to Egypt. He thence took them via Spain to Ireland, taking with him the Stone of Destiny, known as Lia-fail. In reality, this was Jacob's pillar stone which the Israelites had carried with them throughout their wanderings in the wilderness, and regarded as symbolic of God's presence with His people. It is the very stone upon which Queen Elizabeth was crowned in 1953--the Stone of Scone. One of the Hebrew princesses married Eochaidh, the King of Ireland, and their dynasty continued unbroken through many centuries of the royal line, all crowned

on the Stone of Destiny. In AD503 Fergus the Great crossed the Irish Sea from Ulster to Iona in Scotland where he defeated the Scots and was proclaimed King of Argyle. Aware of an ancient prophecy, which Sir Walter Scott translated from Gaelic into English, he refused to be crowned until the Stone was brought from Ireland: "Unless the fates be faithless grown and prophets' voice be vain, Where'er the sacred Stone is found, The wanderer's race shall reign." In AD 844 King Kenneth McAlpin was crowned on the Stone as King of Scotland, which was removed to London in 1296 by Edward I. Subsequently every British sovereign since then has been crowned in Westminster Abbey on what has become known as the Coronation Stone.

A Promise-Keeping God

Thus it can be seen that the British monarchy is a direct fulfilment of the promises God made to David. Its very existence reveals that He is a promise-keeping God. It also reveals the compassion and mercy of God. History records the sinful activities of the throne of David, yet the great Creator never blotted out His specially chosen royal dynasty. He punished them at the hands of men but never broke His promise. Their survival through the ages teaches each of us a personal lesson. No matter the extent of our sins His mercy and compassion will cover them when we repent. Moreover, the existence of the royal line of David today actually points to the coming return of Jesus Christ to reign from that very throne as is foretold in the angel's promise to Mary: "And, behold, you shall conceive in your womb and bring forth a son whom you shall call JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He shall reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end" (Luke 1: 31-33). King David was an ancestor of Jesus Christ and this passage prophesies a time when the Lord will return to claim the promised throne of David. It also proves that the divine line of his dynasty will continue until that momentous event when He returns to earth.

Ruling the Universe

Many people, both British and non-British, wonder why Britain clings to its throne. The answer is: Jesus Christ is keeping it alive! Why? Because He will rule the universe with splendour and power from the throne of David. The prophet Isaiah confirms it: "Of the increase of His government there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time henceforth even forever." Our God-given monarchy has far greater significance than we realise. Heaven forbid that we should ever toss it aside for a godless republic! There isn't any other institution on the face of the earth that should stir more hope, joy and excitement than the royal family of Great Britain. As a physical institution it was the bedrock of Britain's success in its glory days; as a spiritual institution it is the well-spring of future universe-wide dominion. God places much spiritual value on this magnificent institution. Then why shouldn't we? Bear this in mind: all those who confess His name and give Him their whole-hearted allegiance will have the opportunity to sit with Christ on His throne as His bride in the future headquarters at Jerusalem. This is His promise: "To him that overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne." Whoever triumphs over the wiles of the devil and all his deceitful schemes as Christ did will become God's precious royalty. Indeed, the holy, inspired Word of God assures us that Christ "who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood" will make "us kings and priests to His God and Father." What a wonderful promise! The all-important question is: Will it include you?

PRAYER

Almighty God of infinite grace and mercy, the Great I AM, our Father, Redeemer and Friend, hallowed be Your name. As covenant servants of the Most High God, cleansed in the precious blood of Jesus and empowered by Your blessed Holy Spirit, we gratefully thank You that the risen, glorified Christ is seated at Your right hand as our great High Priest interceding for us. Abba Father, we humbly yield to Your Spirit in praying that Your Divine Line will be maintained in this Great Southland of the Holy Spirit as we recognise it as our birthright. Sovereign Lord, in Your limitless mercy and love, forgive our nation's leaders and its citizens as they sincerely repent at the foot of the cross and, in complete surrender, accept Jesus Christ as their Saviour and Lord. Grant them, O Father, the full assurance of sins forgiven as they continually fix their eyes on Jesus, the Author and Finisher of their faith, so they may run with resolution the race that is before them. Dear God, help them to implement Your divine plans for Australia by taking Your Living Word into schools, institutions, communities and prisons so that everyone can have the opportunity to serve the King of kings and Lord of lords. O Lord in whom we trust, we now come boldly before Your throne of grace, knowing You will answer these humble requests which we ask in the triumphant name of Jesus Christ, to the glory of God. Amen.

R.A: Led by our Lord Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit to glorify the Fatherhood of God with the Brotherhood of Man, in love and in faithfulness to bring glory and honour to His holy name.