

REPENT AUSTRALIA

"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

Volume 12:7

July 2007

THE LOST TRIBES

Few people realise that there is an important correlation between the Bible and history. Yet the Bible is full of the history of God's people and the prophecies concerning them and the future of the world. These days, political correctness has denied certain aspects of the truth such as standards of morality, historical events and even our true identity. Yet the knowledge of that identity is key to understanding how God has been working out His plan for the salvation of the world. Yes, God *does* have a plan, a master plan, which He instigated when He covenanted with the patriarch Abraham to bless him and make him the father of many nations. This everlasting covenant was passed on to his son Isaac and to his grandson Jacob, whose name was changed to Israel. The descendants of Israel were promised a two-fold blessing: the Sceptre, a kingly line culminating in Jesus Christ as King of kings; and the Birthright, a promise of national wealth, multitudinous population and great power; that is, a covenant of grace and race. The Sceptre was passed on to Judah and the Birthright to Joseph, Israel's favourite son, and thence to *his* sons, Ephraim and Manasseh. The Bible forecasts that in the last days, by the grace of God, Ephraim was to become "a company of nations" and Manasseh "a great nation".

The Two Kingdoms

This latter promise has never been fulfilled in the Jews, the descendants of Judah. Neither can it be spiritualised away. The Jews have never been a company of nations nor a great nation. However, the promise was realised in the nations of Great Britain and the United States of America. How? Following the exodus from Egypt, Moses led the Israelites to their promised land in Canaan where they settled and eventually David became their king. God promised King David He would appoint a place of their own for His people Israel where they would dwell and remain free from the oppression of their enemies (2 Samuel 7: 10). Upon the death of David's son Solomon the kingdom split in two. The ten Northern tribes, under the leadership of Ephraim, became known as the House of Israel and the two Southern tribes as the House of Judah, later to be called the Jews. For over 250 years the House of Israel continually disobeyed God's laws and worshipped idols until, in 721BC, God allowed the entire population to be carried off to captivity in Assyria, to the shores of the Caspian Sea to the north-east. Years previously, in the time of Moses, God had warned His people that if they disobeyed Him they would be punished "seven times" for their sins. In prophecy, a "time" represents a 360-day year. Thus, following the prophetic principle of a-day-for-a-year (Ezekiel 4: 6), their penalty was to be seven 360-day years—2520 years. That is, punishment on the House of Israel would last from 721BC until AD1800, when, according to Scripture, Abraham's descendants would receive their birthright promises.

The Greatest Colonial Empire

It is undeniable that from this date both Great Britain and the United States began to flourish. But how could "little England", a small island off the continent of Europe have established the greatest colonial empire in the history of the world—an empire that at its height encompassed a quarter of the world's people, covered 35 million square kilometres of territory and on which the "sun never set"? While other nations deliberately set out with a cohesive plan to gain vast stretches of land, the British, it has been said, "stumbled into their empire in a fit of absent-mindedness". In fact, time and again timid politicians strove to prevent England's expansion. But it was all God's planning. America, too, like an awakening giant began to emerge as a great nation destined to become the number one world power. And how did it come to pass? By and large, mainstream Christianity claims that there are no lost tribes—that both the Southern and Northern kingdoms returned after their respective captivities in Babylon and Assyria. But did they? The Books of Ezra and Nehemiah record the

return of many of the Southern tribes, but none from the ten Northern tribes. Moreover, according to the Apochryphal book of Esdras, a large number of these so-called "lost tribes" escaped from Assyria about 600BC and travelled north-west, entering Europe north of the Black Sea (the Caucasus) through the narrow passages of the Euphrates River. We learn from Herodotus, the great Greek historian of the 5th century BC, that the great Scythian nation appeared at this time in the same area from which the lost tribes of Israel disappeared. Evidence strongly suggests that these were one and the same people. Furthermore, Josephus the Jewish historian wrote in AD70: "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 number". So, in accordance with God's covenants and as predicted by the prophets, the ten tribes lost their land, their language and even their name.

Millions Flooded into Europe

Historians record that during the succeeding centuries millions of dispersed tribes, known today as Cimmerians, Scythians, Angles, Saxons, Danes and similar names flooded into Europe from Asia Minor in the early Christian centuries. Between AD450-600 Angles and Saxons and then from AD850-1000 Danes and Vikings raided the coast of Britain and settled there permanently. Others moved into France as Normans (North-men), some of whom under William the Conqueror invaded England in 1066. It is noteworthy that King Alfred the Great (849-899) stated in his 33rd law: "Vex thou not comers from afar, for remember, ye were once strangers in Egypt". Then the Scots in their 1320 Scottish Declaration of Independence showed that they regarded themselves as being of Israel, having come from Scythia and date their history from the "Outgoing of the people of Israel (the Exodus) from Egypt". Queen Elizabeth I (1558-1603) was known as the "Light of Israel"; and Sir Francis Drake in a letter to John Fox asked for prayers "that we may have continual peace in Israel". In 1603, when James VI of Scotland became King James I of England he announced that the Lord had made him king over Israel and consequently had a gold coin, the Jacobus, inscribed with the prophecy of Ezekiel 37: 22, "I will make of them one nation". In fact, a century ago many scholars realised that the English were Israelites. And so it was that, there in Britain, when their period of punishment was over, the transplanted children of Israel prospered, taking Western civilisation and the Christian Gospel across the globe as they spread abroad to the west and the east, to the north and the south, as prophesied according to God's purpose.

Blindness in Part

The so-called "Lost Tribes" were really never "lost". Undoubtedly, blindness in part has come upon nations born out of the ten Lost Tribes of Israel as we have been deceived into believing that the Jews are all Israel but who, in fact, could never fulfil many prophecies of God's Word for Israel. Though blind to their identity, the Lost Tribes always existed as the Caucasians who settled first in Western Europe and the Isles of the West. Later, many migrated to America, while others spread across the world throughout the British Empire, including Australia. In these climactic last days it is vitally important to understand that we are part of the Birthright people, whom God chose long ago to bring to the world the salvation that is found in no one else but Jesus Christ His Son. Though blinded to our real identity and long appointed destiny, we can at last recognise that we are indeed His people Israel to whom "belong the inheritance, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the service of God, and the promises; to whom belong the patriarchs from whom is traced the lineage of Christ" (Romans 9: 4-5). This being so, let us resolve to humbly accept the responsibility that is ours and fulfil our destiny as God's chosen people in word and in deed, truly becoming the Great Southland of the Holy Spirit.

PRAYER

Lord God Almighty of infinite grace and mercy, the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, thank You for cleansing us with the precious blood of Jesus and empowering us with Your Holy Spirit of love, light and life to serve You as living sacrifices under the lordship of Christ Jesus to enlarge Your family of faith on earth. As partakers of Your divine nature, we thank You too for allowing Your omnipotent Spirit to baptise us as members of Jesus' Body, chosen even before the foundation of the world. Lord, may we faithfully proclaim to a lost world the finished work of Christ on the cross to reconcile repentant sinners in Israel so they will receive Him in faith. Holy Father, thank You for the blessing of Abraham and the revelation of the Lost Tribes and the wisdom and knowledge in Your Word to speak to us in these climactic last days before Jesus' return. How unsearchable are Your ways, Father, and Your ways past finding out! For all things are made known in Your time, chosen Jews and Gentiles becoming joint members of Christ's Body, to whom be glory forever! Amen. Sovereign Lord, forgive the leaders and citizens of our country as they truly repent of our national and individual sins and open their hearts to receive JESUS CHRIST as the risen Saviour and Lord of this Great Southland of the Holy Spirit, 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.