

# America's Hope Monthly

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## The Healing of the Nations

By C.O. Stadsklev

The following beautiful scripture is found in Revelation 22:1, 2: "And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations."

The book of The Revelation, as we are told in chapter I and verse I, is written in signs or symbols. Since the tree of life symbolizes God's way of life, the leaves of the tree that were for the healing of the nations signifies the fact that when the nations turn to, and conform to, God's way of life they will be healed and delivered from all the curses that so grievously vex, afflict and distress the nations of earth today.

There are two extreme teachings or attitudes by people regarding God and the nations of the earth, and like all extreme teachings they are unscriptural. They are utterly unable to see the hand of God in national affairs, and although proper and courteous in their dealings with men they completely ignore the King of kings, and Lord of lords. They may consent to have a minister recite a prayer at their deliberations, but as for searching the Word of God for counsel and wisdom concerning national affairs they would consider that as a manifestation of superstitious ignorance.

On the other hand, we have the vast majority of Christian people who have accepted, and are advancing, the unscriptural tradition that God has not been dealing with nations during the last 1,900 years. Nothing could be further from the truth. God has been dealing with nations during the Church Age just as definitely as He dealt with nations during the time of Moses and David.

And what is more, we are now living in the time when God is dealing more definitely and firmly with nations than at any other time in human history for we are in the time of the judgment of the nations.

The Apostle Paul did not subscribe to the unscriptural theory that God is not now the God of the nations. In Romans 13:1-7 we read the following: "Let every soul be

subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear, honour to whom honour."

Twice in this passage the Scriptures tell us that civil officials are the ministers or servants of God. And they tell us that the powers that be are ordained of God.

Some people, in fact most people, will object and say that evil, oppressive and destructive rulers and government officials certainly are not the ministers or servants of God. But they certainly are! They are what we as a nation asked for when we departed from and ignored the national laws of God.

Even the heathen king Nebuchadnezzar recognized and acknowledged this truth in Daniel 4: 17. Nebuchadnezzar is quoted as saying the following: "This matter is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones: to the intent that the living may know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men."

In other words, when a nation forsakes God by forsaking God's national laws God sets up over that nation the basest of men. Thus God uses our own backsliding to demonstrate to us that He is the God of the nations.

In verse 25 of Daniel 4, the prophet Daniel spoke the following to Nebuchadnezzar: "... till thou know that the



most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever He will."

As God of the nations, God has provided healing for the nations. The condition for receiving the healing of a nation is the same as the condition for receiving any blessing from God, namely, to obey God and believe God. Many times nations have turned to God, obeyed and believed God and have been healed.

In II Chronicles 7:14 we find the following promise and the conditions for national healing. "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." The nations of the earth are sick. Many are sick unto death. Some have already fallen into death and decay.

As there are millions of Christians who are not aware of God's provision of physical healing for the individual Christian, so many more Christians are unaware of God's provision and promise of national healing and restoration for the Anglo-Saxon nations, who are the Israel people of the Bible.

In order for the individual Christian to receive physical healing he must know and believe that which the Bible teaches concerning physical healing. Just so this generation should know and believe that which the Bible teaches concerning national healing.

As physical healing is for the Christians, so national healing is for the Christian nations. Let us read some scriptures which provide and promise national healing:

First let me remind you that in II Chronicles 7:14 we were told, "If my people which are called by my name." God's earthly people, in both the Old and New Scriptures, were the Israel people, now known as Anglo-Saxons and called Christian nations, or called by God's name.

In the 14th chapter of his book the prophet Hosea deals with the healing of Israel, or Anglo-Saxondom.

In verse 1 the prophet was inspired to write, "O Israel, return unto the Lord thy God; for thou hast fallen by thine iniquity." In verses 4 through 6 we find God's gracious promise to heal Anglo-Saxondom. "I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely; for mine anger is turned away from him. I will be as the dew unto Israel: he shall grow as the lily, and cast forth his roots as Lebanon. His branches shall spread, and his beauty shall be as the olive tree, and his smell as Lebanon."

The last verse of this last chapter of Hosea reads as follows: "Who is wise, and he shall understand these things? prudent, and he shall know them? for the ways of the Lord are right, and the just shall walk in them; but the transgressors shall fall therein."

In verse 1 of Hosea 14 the prophet indicates that prior to the cleansing and the restoration of the Anglo-Saxon nations they would be brought low and humbled. This we are now beginning to witness and experience. Our unscriptural foreign policy has done great damage to our

prestige abroad and has embarrassed us greatly, and the end is not yet.

The last verse in this 14th chapter of Hosea indicates that only a few people would know, understand and believe the Gospel of the Kingdom, or the healing of the Anglo-Saxon nations, which God is covenant bound to accomplish prior to the earthly reign of the Lord Jesus Christ. And so it is; the vast majority of Christian people today limit the Holy One of Israel to what He can do for individuals. The great challenge before God's people today is to teach and believe that which the Word of God declares concerning the healing of the Anglo-Israel nations.

In John 20:29 we read: "Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed." Thomas had taken the position that he would not believe unless he could see and feel the resurrected Christ.

This is the attitude that many Christians take today concerning the Gospel of the Kingdom and the healing of the Anglo-Israel nations, which is definitely and clearly foretold in the Scriptures. For this attitude and position Jesus did not commend Thomas. Jesus mildly rebuked him for his unbelief.

But I am of the opinion that the rebuke Christians who today ignore and reject the Gospel of the Kingdom will receive will not be very mild. Whole books and chapters in the Bible deal with the healing of the Anglo-Saxon nations prior to the reign of Christ. No one can ignore, reject and belittle any portion of God's Word without ignoring, rejecting and belittling God.

Those who today have been called by God to preach, teach, stand for, uphold and support the Gospel of the Kingdom are more or less compelled to pay the same price that the pioneers of other great truths had to pay.

There are two extremes which we who have this calling must avoid.

In the first place we must not compromise with those who reject the national message of the Bible. We must faithfully and fearlessly declare the full counsel of God. To seek to incur the favor of other Christians by trimming and lightly esteeming what we know to be the truth of God is one of the most dangerous things a Christian can do.

On the other hand we must avoid strife. The servant of the Lord must not strive. We must preach the truth in love, give witness, and leave the rest to God.

I have been definitely led to warn you who have for various reasons let the banner of the Gospel of the Kingdom fall to the ground. Jesus said, "No man having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."

There is much plowing to be done before the kingdom of God is fully manifest on earth. Those of us who have been called to plow should continue to plow.

The words Samuel spoke to Saul are still true. I Samuel 15:22, 23 states, "And Samuel said, Hath the Lord as great



delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, he hath also rejected thee from being king." You lose your victory and cease to be king when you reject or ignore any light God has given you from His Word and no amount of Christian activity or sacrifice will be received by God as a substitute for honoring God's Word.

When Jeremiah the prophet stood before King Zedekiah, Jeremiah said, "Obey, I beseech thee the voice of the Lord." Zedekiah, like Saul, lightly esteemed God's national counsel. Both men wanted to be popular with the good people of Israel just as some of you want to be popular with Christians who lightly esteem the Gospel of the Kingdom today.

Consider what happened to Saul and Zedekiah, not because they were guilty of gross sin, but because they wanted peace at any price. They set aside a portion of God's Word to pacify the people. Saul tried to commit suicide and consequently he died. Zedekiah died a blind and miserable captive in a heathen land. Both men had been called and anointed of God. I encourage to take your stand for the truth and light God has given you.

In closing we shall read one more passage in which God promises to heal the Anglo-Israel nations. It is found in the 33rd chapter of Jeremiah, verses 6, 8 and 9: "Behold, I will bring it health and cure, and I will cure them, and will reveal unto them the abundance of peace and truth . . . And I will cleanse them from all their iniquity, whereby they have sinned against me; and I will pardon all their iniquities, whereby they have sinned, and whereby they have transgressed against me. And it shall be to me a name of joy, a praise and an honour before all the nations of the earth, which shall hear all the good that I do unto them: and they shall fear and tremble for all the goodness and for all the prosperity that I procure unto it."

According to this scripture, and other passages such as Micah 4 and Isaiah 2, God is going to use the healing of the Anglo-Saxon nations, who are the Israel people of the Bible, to cause all other nations to turn to God and walk in His ways.

Can you not understand? do you not realize that it is a terrible insult to God to set aside and ignore these glorious things that God has promised to do, these great and mighty things which will cause all the nations of heathendom to turn to God and to seek to know God's way of life?

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*"All the ends of the world shall remember and turn unto the LORD: and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before thee. For the kingdom is the LORD'S: and he is the governor among the nations" (Psalm 22:27-28).*

## A Hindrance to Understanding

By C. O. Stadsklev

We can only understand and correctly interpret the New Scriptures as we are familiar with and understand the Old Scriptures. One of the greatest hindrances to understanding the Scriptures is the idea that the Jews are all of Israel and that the word "Judah" and "Israel" refer to the same people.

I shall read a number of Scriptures in which the words "Israel" and Judah are both used, in order to show how absurd and unscriptural it is to teach that the words Israel and Judah are used interchangeably and refer to the same people. I Samuel 11:8, "When he (Saul) numbered them in Bezek, the children of Israel were three hundred thousand, and the men of Judah thirty thousand." II Samuel 5:4 and 5, "David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months: and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty and three years over all Israel and Judah." I Kings 1:35, "And King David said . . . I have appointed him (Solomon) to be ruler over Israel and over Judah." I Kings 22:29, "So the King of Israel and Jehoshaphat, the king of Judah went up to Ramath-gilead." II Chronicles 13:16 and 18, "And the children of Israel fled before Judah and God delivered them into their hand . . . because they relied on the Lord God of their fathers." II Chronicles 25:22 and 23, "And Judah was put to the worse before Israel, and they fled every man to his tent." II Kings 23:27, "And the Lord said, I will remove Judah also out of my sight as I have removed Israel." In order to see how confusing the contradictory teaching that the Jews are all of Israel makes the Scriptures read these passages and change the word "Israel" to "Judah."

Even during the reign of King David, Israel and Judah were distinct and separate, for as we read after David had reigned over Judah seven years and six months, he reigned thirty years over all Israel and Judah. During this time Israel and Judah were distinct and separate peoples. In II Samuel 19:43 we read, "And the men of Israel answered the men of Judah and said, We have ten parts of the king, and we also have more right in David than ye . . ." But we read that the words of the men of Judah were fiercer than the words of the men of Israel. David was the only ruler that came anywhere near uniting Israel and Judah. Throughout their entire Old Testament history these people were distinct and separate. This division may have been due to the fact that while they were still in their father Jacob's home Joseph Ephraim, who became the head of ten tribes Israel, received the birthright and the blessing while Judah received the sceptre. Therefore it is easy to understand that both of these tribes might have considered themselves the head or the leading tribe.

In Psalm 114:1 and 2 we read, "When Israel went out of Egypt (note this was the time of the Exodus) . . . Judah was his sanctuary (we'd say church) and Israel was his dominion (state)."



After the death of King Solomon, the son of David, a civil war broke out in Palestine. In I Kings 12: we read, "So when all Israel saw (that is, all of the ten tribed Israel) that the king (Rehoboam) hearkened not unto them, the people answered the king saying, What portion have we in David . . . So Israel rebelled against the house of David unto this day . . . there was none that followed the house of David, but the tribe of Judah only." When Rehoboam saw what was taking place, he assembled all the house of Judah with the tribe of Benjamin to go and fight against the house of Israel, but God spoke to Rehoboam and said, "Ye shall not go up nor fight against your brethren the children of Israel . . . for this thing is of me." Throughout the balance of their Bible history Israel and Judah were located in different parts of Palestine. Each had his capital and each had his own rulers. In their deportation and captivity Israel and Judah were just as much two distinct and separate people. Israel was taken to Assyria between 740 and 721 B.C. by Shalmanezar, King of Assyria. II Kings 17:6: "In the ninth year of Hoshea (King of Israel) the King of Assyria took Samaria (the capital of Israel) and carried Israel away into Assyria, and placed them in Halah and in Haber by the river Gozen, and in the cities of the Medes." Verse 23: ". . . so was Israel carried away out of their own land to Assyria . . ."

Between 593 and 606 B. C. Judah was taken to Baby lon by Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon. This is recorded in the 25th chapter of II Kings where we read, "And it came to pass in the 9th year of his reign, . . . that Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, came, he, and all his host against Jerusalem." This was more than a hundred years after Israel had been taken into captivity by the Assyrians. From the 25th chapter of II Kings we read, "So they took the king (of Judah), and brought him up to the king of Babylon, to Riblah; . . . so Judah was carried away out of their land."

In view of these scriptures, it is indeed strange how intelligent people can insist that the words "Israel" and

"Judah" refer to one and the same people and that these words are used interchangeably. It not only makes it impossible to have an intelligent understanding of history as recorded in the Bible, but this idea that the Jews are all of Israel makes Bible prophecy just as confusing and contradictory as it makes Bible history.

There are those who teach that Israel and Judah were united at the time of Ezra and Nehemiah, which was not the case. Both Ezra and Nehemiah definitely stated that those who returned, came from the Babylonian captivity and that their number was 42,360 people. If you will turn to the 13th chapter of II Chronicles, you will find that 500 years before this, Judah alone had 400,000 soldiers and Israel alone had 800,000 soldiers. These were all able bodied men. Allowing these men the average number of relatives and allowing these people 500 years to increase in population, it is absolutely ridiculous to teach that less than 43,000 people represent the uniting of Israel and Judah. Furthermore, Israel and Judah could not have united at the time of Ezra and Nehemiah because the prophets who lived at the time of the captivity of Israel and Judah pronounced different prophecies upon each, and laid out different courses for these two to follow throughout their history. All the prophets agree that the coming together and the uniting of Israel and Judah will take place at the end of this age and at the coming of the Christ.

Another evil resulting from the idea that the Jews are all of Israel is the fact that it makes God's national laws and statutes which are moral statutes of none effect. If we today knew that we the Anglo Saxons are Israel and that God's laws concerning government, finance, agriculture, and business were written for us, we would be able to solve our national and international problems by honoring these national laws. Personal salvation is another matter. To be a Christian, you must be born again. "The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

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