



FEED MY SHEEP

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Modern Benjamin-Iceland and the Bankers

The Story of Joseph, Part 52

Previously in *Feed My Sheep*, we were presenting evidence which comports with the idea that Iceland today, more than any other nation, represents the tribe of Benjamin. For contextual continuity, I will repeat the final paragraph from last issue.

Clearly, Joseph ruling Egypt is a type of Jesus ruling the world. Is this possibly also prophetic in that many Christian overcomers will “come up hither” to be seated in places of authority, ruling with Christ, and for a brief time—like Benjamin—they still will not know that they are indeed the physical descendants of Israel and the brothers of Christ Jesus after the flesh? ... as well as after the Spirit? And if that will be the case, then according to the story in Jasher, it will not remain that way except for a very brief time. Listen now as I continue in Jasher.

Jasher 53:14 And Benjamin went up before Joseph and sat upon the throne, and the men beheld the acts of Joseph, and they were astonished at them; and the men ate and drank at that time with Joseph, and he then gave presents unto them, and Joseph gave one gift unto Benjamin, and Manasseh and Ephraim saw the acts of their father, and they also gave presents unto him, and Osnath gave him one present, and they were five presents in the hand of Benjamin.

Well, let's see: one from Joseph, one from Osnath, his wife, one from Manasseh and one from Ephraim. I count four. Yet it says there were five in Benjamin's hand. So I am open to suggestions as to where the fifth present came from. The text simply gives no further information that I can see.

What is Joseph doing here? He brings Benjamin up to sit with him in the throne. He gives him presents and gives him five times as much food as the other brothers. By showing preference for Benjamin, *Joseph is testing his brothers... to see if they will be jealous of Benjamin as they had been jealous of him those many years ago.*

And that is the end of the excerpt from my lecture entitled *Unless Benjamin Is With You* (see bottom of page 4). As much as I like Steven Collins' books, and I highly recommend everybody get all four of them — they are tremendous—but like the work of any man, they are not perfect. I have a few problems with some of his positions regarding who's who in the latter days. And maybe *I'm* in error here, but I want to show you what I see regarding Benjamin.

Like Rutherford, Collins chose to ignore Deuteronomy 33:12. He cites verses before it, and verses 16, 17, 22 and others, but he did not deal with Moses' prophecy about Benjamin. As we have seen, Mr. Collins favors Norway as the land answering to latter-day Benjamin, and mentions Iceland only in passing.

Well, I have absolutely nothing against the Norwegians, or people of Norwegian ancestry. They are wonderful people. (I mentioned last issue of my dear Minnesota friends of Norwegian ancestry.) But we have just seen from my review of a previous lecture the spiritual application of Benjamin dwelling between the shoulders. Now let's look at those types and shadows further and include the geographical application.

If you are familiar with Handel's *Messiah*, you will recall the beautiful music often heard at Christmas time,

which celebrates the birth of the Messiah. It's from Isaiah 9. (Can you hear the beautiful melody?)

Isaiah 9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Well, that "child" and "son" is obviously referring to Christ Jesus. In another sense, however, it also refers to the mystical body of Christ—the body with Jesus as head, Benjamin as the neck, and on down to the feet. So what tribe is the shoulder?

Well, it says the government will be upon his shoulders (it's rendered plural in many other translations). I submit it is Joseph, ruler of Egypt, symbolically, ruler of the world. The shoulders are Ephraim and Manasseh!

So it doesn't matter which way you want to see the United States, Canada and Great Britain (in reference to who's Ephraim and who's Manasseh) because either way you look at it, those are the shoulders. Great Britain is one and North America is the other, and look who is between the shoulders: tiny Iceland!

This is best seen on a globe, but we can also see it here on this National Geographic world map. Norway is geographically not between the shoulders. Notice also that Iceland is not only between them, but also above Great Britain and the bulk of North America—answering to the neck again.

Now!... look at this! (The FMS reader must remember that these studies are taken from live lectures, and I am presently unable to reproduce for the FMS the maps that were used in the live lecture.) As we look now at this map of the world on the reverse side, we see it is a map of the ocean floor showing all the underwater valleys and mountain ridges. And if little Iceland-Benjamin here is the neck, then what part of the body is this underwater chain called the Mid-Atlantic Ridge?

Doesn't it look like a spinal cord?! And notice it continues through Iceland and on northward, just as the spinal cord continues through the neck into the brain. And notice how the Mid-Atlantic Ridge gently curves, just like a healthy spine. It would make a chiropractor proud.

Not only that, it goes the distance—from near the Arctic Circle, down through Iceland, gently curving between Europe and the North American continent, curving back the other way between Central America and North Africa, then curving back the other way between South America and southern Africa, and ending just above the Antarctic Circle.

One can easily see this as tracing a spinal cord from the head above Iceland down to the coccyx in the hip area and then it looks like a man seated as his thighs swing down here to the knee just below where Africa juts out and then the knee down to the feet as the ridge drops almost straight down to the Antarctic Circle.

And as we survey the entire map of the world's ocean floor, we see that there is no other ridge that even comes close to portraying the spinal cord. Do you see that, too? Well, your heavenly Father surely has hidden many treasures in "the deep," does He not?

For all that and a little more, we think Iceland best represents Benjamin in these latter days. For a little more, consider this: remember Jacob's dream at Bethel where he saw the ladder to heaven or an equally correct translation, a "stairway to heaven"?

What did Jacob state that he saw ascending and descending upon that stairway or ladder? Angels. What is another name for angels? Messengers, right? The early Benjamite Christians were the messengers, carrying the light of the Gospel.

Moreover, one can make a legitimate case, that in another sense Jacob's ladder is the DNA ladder.... because as we have learned in our biology class, there is what is called messenger RNA! Moreover, the shape of the DNA is as a spiral ladder!



Here is an additional thought: the spinal cord is the ladder or stairway between heaven—that is, upstairs in the brain) and earth, corresponding to the lower parts of the body.

The spinal cord carries all the electrochemical information — the messengers—to and from the brain to the other parts of the body. That analogy could be developed much further but that is for another time.

This all connects with the Tabernacle in the Wilderness and Solomon's Temple as portraying the human body, of course, as we have seen in our lectures on those topics (see separate flier included with this FMS mailing).

Let us recall of the role of Rachel in the types and shadows. She was Jacob's one and only true love. ... as Christ loves the church. Rachel is a type of the church. Why? There are several reasons. First, the Bible relates the story of how Rachel was tending or keeping her father's sheep. The name Rachel itself refers to a ewe, a female sheep. The church is always pictured as female.

The moon is a symbol of the church because the church has no light of its own. God is light. Jesus is the light of the world. Jesus is the sun/son. He is the source of light. The moon has no light of its own; it only reflects the light of the sun.

That's why Paul wanted to present her spotless and without wrinkle. Before there were glass mirrors, they used polished metal, and if it had a spot or the metal were creased or wrinkled, it could not give a perfect reflection of the sun.

In Joseph's dream, the sun, moon and eleven stars bowed down to him. The 11 stars were Joseph's brothers and the moon represents Rachel. Therefore Rachel represents the church.

Rachel had only two sons: Joseph and Benjamin. She died in childbirth bringing forth Benjamin. It was therefore a very hard labor. In one sense, she brought forth Benjamin in the first century A.D., but in another sense, the church had to birth the whole child, right down to the feet.

And so, when the complete body of Christ is formed and birthed, then Rachel, the church, will die. In this sense, we are speaking of the transformation of the church of the Pentecost age into the new church of the age of Tabernacles.

But as Rachel was in hard labor to bring forth Benjamin, so also, as it shows in the whole 24th chapter of Isaiah, that there is going to be much travail as the latter day Benjamin Company comes to birth. We have not heard much from Iceland over the past millennium...until the last few years. More on that in a moment.

As point of fact, Iceland is virtually a 100 percent Christian nation in that almost everyone belongs to the established national church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church. Rutherford states that in the most recent census of Iceland before his writing his book, that only 1,503 people in all of Iceland did not associate themselves with that church.

We will not take the time to read all of Isaiah 24, but it's a passage that sounds pretty dreadful. Let's just read verse 1 to begin to get the flavor of it.

Isaiah 24:1 Behold, the LORD maketh the earth empty, and maketh it waste, and turneth it upside down, and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof.

As far as I can discern, this and the following verses have not yet happened, except in a limited sense at the fall of old Babylon. Notice verse 10.

10 The city of confusion is broken down: every house is shut up, that no man may come in.

Babel means "confusion," so this is a reference to Babylon in the minor sense and to the fall of Mystery Babylon in the fullest and final sense. And it is in the midst of this travail at the very end of the age that we find perhaps a veiled reference to Benjamin in Iceland. Look at beginning in verse 14...

Isaiah 24:14 They shall lift up their voice, they shall sing for the majesty of the LORD, they shall cry aloud from the sea.

15 Wherefore glorify ye the LORD in the fires, even the name of the LORD God of Israel in the isles of the sea.

16 From the uttermost part of the earth have we heard songs, *even* glory to the righteous...

And we will stop there because then it returns to the heavy labor and travail verses again. Paraphrasing Rutherford's comments on this passage now, he points out that it is referring to islands, and since the Hebrew word for sea is the same as for the west, it could have been translated the islands of the west.

These island people are described as living amidst fires. We can eliminate this as a reference to forest fires, because almost every nation has them from time to time. This would seem to be a reference to volcanoes. Iceland is the only one of the western isles that

has volcanoes. There are none in the British Isles, nor in the Hebrides, the Orkneys, the Shetlands or the Faroe islands. In proportion to its size, Iceland contains more volcanoes than any other country in the world. Rutherford goes on to describe the statistics of Iceland's volcanoes, showing they do indeed have the largest fires in the world.

Iceland was known to the Europeans as "The Land of Fire." Moreover, the Hebrew word translated "fires" also means "lights." Rutherford remarks that the only great natural lights in our world are the Polar Lights (the Northern Lights or Aurora Borealis and the Southern Lights, the Aurora Australis) and the only island nation living sufficiently near either pole to see these lights vividly from all parts of their country is Iceland. Furthermore, Iceland could certainly be said to be in the uttermost part of the earth. Rutherford concludes this commentary by asserting "That God has been preparing the Icelandic nation to sing praises to Him at that special time now near at hand..."

And did that begin in the year 2010? It was the year that Iceland as a nation essentially declared a jubilee! (The jubilee is the Bible law which commands the cancellation of all debts every 50th year.) The story is too long to tell here; I published one writer's account of it (although he is apparently ignorant of the law of jubilee) in my monthly "thank you" letter to contributors in July 2013. After recounting the global financial near-collapse in 2008 and how Iceland's banks were also horribly overextended, the author of this reports says:

"What happened next was extraordinary. The belief that citizens had to pay for the mistakes of a financial monopoly, that an entire nation must be taxed to pay off private debts was shattered, transforming the relationship between citizens and their political institutions and eventually driving Iceland's leaders to the side of their constituents. The Head of State, Olafur Ragnar Grimsson, refused to ratify the law that would have made Iceland's citizens responsible for its bankers' debts, and accepted calls for a referendum.

"Of course the international community only increased the pressure on Iceland. Great Britain and Holland threatened dire reprisals that would isolate the country. As Icelanders went to vote, foreign bankers threatened to block any aid from the IMF. The British government threatened to freeze Icelandic savings and checking accounts. As Grimsson said: 'We

were told that if we refused the international community's conditions, we would become the Cuba of the North. But if we had accepted, we would have become the Haiti of the North.' (How many times have I written that when Cubans see the dire state of their neighbor, Haiti, they count themselves lucky.)

In the March 2010 referendum, 93% voted against repayment of the debt. The IMF immediately froze its loan. But the revolution (though not televised in the United States), would not be intimidated. With the support of a furious citizenry, the government launched civil and penal investigations into those responsible for the financial crisis. Interpol put out an international arrest warrant for the ex-president of Kaupthing, Sigurdur Einarsson, as the other bankers implicated in the crash fled the country. But Icelanders didn't stop there: they decided to draft a new constitution that would free the country from the exaggerated power of international finance and virtual money." [End of excerpt.]

Well, there is obviously a sizable aspect of speculation involved in identifying the particular tribes with modern nations. Won't it be wonderful when we can all sit down with Jesus and ask Him to explain to us just how much of this I have shared with you about Benjamin in France, Germany, Scotland, Norway, Denmark, England and especially Iceland is right on the money and how much of it we can discard. So please always remember to receive everything I teach with Holy Spirit discernment, because I certainly am a fallible teacher, but I will always give you what I *think* I know to the best of my knowledge and understanding. Next time, we will study Joseph's activities and those of his brethren upon the passing of their father Jacob. (To be continued.)

Unless Benjamin Is With You A two-part lecture by Dr. Bruggeman on two CDs. \$10 ppd.

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