



FEED MY SHEEP

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The House of David

Last month we began a study of a pivotal prophecy made to King David. There is much more to be gleaned from it, so we will quote it and its parallel passage once again.

2 Samuel 7:10 Moreover I will appoint a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own, and move no more; neither shall the children of wickedness afflict them any more, as beforetime,

1 Chronicles 17:9 Also I will ordain a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, and they shall dwell in their place, and shall be moved no more; neither shall the children of wickedness waste them any more, as at the beginning,

In the previous issue, we had discussed how these verses have been fulfilled in the migrations of the tribes of Israel over the course of many centuries. We have reproduced on page two of this issue a map of those migrations. While it is somewhat detailed, it is by no means exhaustive. Nonetheless, it should provide sufficient information to get the wheels turning in the minds of those who have never studied this prophecy before.

We now come to the phrase concerning the children of wickedness. This might seem problematic *if* one were to expect to apply it in an *absolute* sense. In other words, there might be some critics who will claim that in order for this phrase to be fulfilled that no evil person can ever again afflict the children of Israel. Therefore, if *one* Moslem or one Hindu or one individual anti-Christ of any persuasion ever harms a Christian Israelite in America, then the critic would say that the

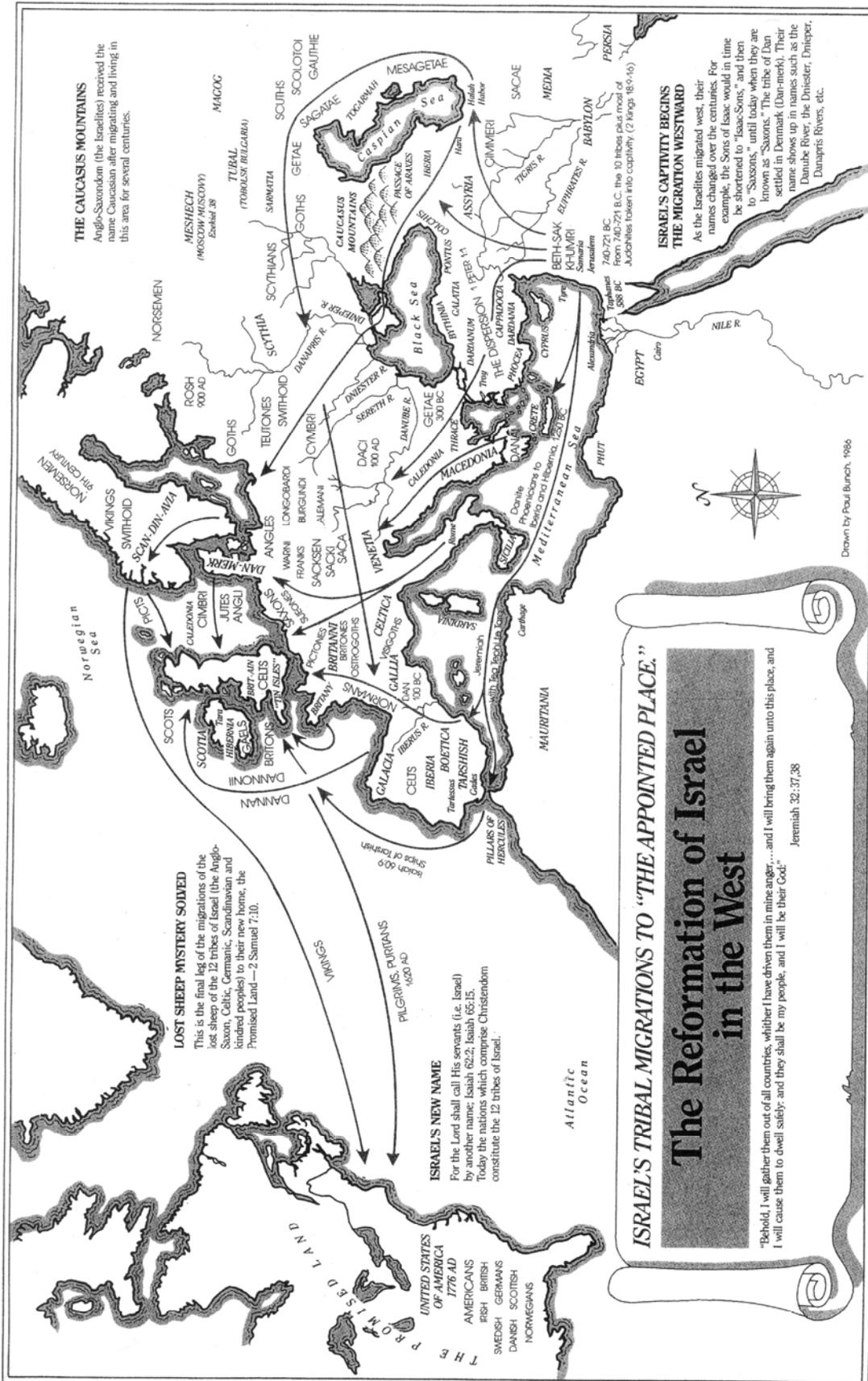
verse is not fulfilled. As I say, that is calling for an absolute fulfillment right down to every individual person in North America.

Of course, if that were the level of proof required, then it will never occur until the perfected kingdom is in full operation when all crime is virtually non-existent. Since I believe that day *will* come, and it will begin in North America, then this verse will eventually be fulfilled here even in that absolute sense. Obviously, that same critic would have an impossible task of finding its fulfillment in any other place on the globe. However, if one does not require proof to the absolute level, then that allows for some degrees of violence to occur in the appointed place and yet have it still be considered as being fulfilled. Now let's scrutinize these two key phrases further, and I think we will see that to require proof to an absolute level is unwarranted by the text.

2 Samuel 7:10 — “neither shall the children of wickedness *afflict* them any more” and

1 Chronicles 17:9 — “neither shall the children of wickedness *waste* them any more”

To afflict means to be occupied, be busy with, afflict, or oppress. To waste means to wear out. From this it seems apparent to me that the verse can still be fulfilled even though there are individual acts of violence committed against individual Israelites in the appointed place. Indeed, Israel-America in the appointed place can even take a hit like those we sustained at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon and still be within the bounds of reasonable interpretation of this verse.



THE CAUCASUS MOUNTAINS
 Anglo-Saxondom (the Israelites) received the name Caucasian after migrating and living in this area for several centuries.

ISRAEL'S CAPTIVITY BEGINS THE MIGRATION WESTWARD
 As the Israelites migrated west, their names changed over the centuries. For example, the Sons of Isaac would in time be shortened to "Isaac-Sons," and then to "Saxons," until today when they are known as "Saxons." The tribe of Dan settled in Denmark (Dan-merk). Their name shows up in names such as the Danube River, the Dniester, Dnieper, Danapris Rivers, etc.

LOST SHEEP MYSTERY SOLVED
 This is the final leg of the migrations of the lost sheep of the 12 tribes of Israel (the Anglo-Saxon, Celtic, Germanic, Scandinavian and kindred peoples) to their new home, the Promised Land—2 Samuel 7:10.

ISRAEL'S NEW NAME
 For the Lord shall call His servants (i.e. Israel) by another name, Isaiah 62:2; Isaiah 66:15. Today the nations which comprise Christendom constitute the 12 tribes of Israel.

ISRAEL'S TRIBAL MIGRATIONS TO "THE APPOINTED PLACE."
The Reformation of Israel in the West

"Behold, I will gather them out of all countries, whither I have driven them in mine anger...and I will bring them again unto this place, and I will cause them to dwell safely; and they shall be my people, and I will be their God."
 Jeremiah 32:37,38

Drawn by Paul Burch, 1986

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Yes, the children of wickedness struck and killed one or two thousand of our people, (there were many non-Israelites killed among the alleged 3,000 victims in the 9-11 attack). Since we sent troops into Afghanistan and Iraq, we have lost approximately 2,000 soldiers. Yet, we lost hundreds of thousands in the World Wars. What about that? The key factor in interpreting this prophecy is that it is referring to our homeland, the appointed place. We have essentially been safe and secure from all foreign, non-Israelite invaders since the founding of this nation, the War between the States notwithstanding, since that was brother against brother.

Thus, in my opinion, the “appointed place” verses have already been fulfilled in us in North America. But—if we were to experience a cataclysmic hit of nuclear, biological or chemical form resulting in multiplied millions of our Israel people in North America being killed, then we can only look for the absolute fulfillment when there is perfection on the earth. If the USA and Canada do not now fulfill this prophecy, then certainly, there is no other country on the planet which *can* fulfill it.

For our evangelical brethren who think the migration and settlement of a half million Jews, claiming to be Israel over in old Palestine somehow fulfills 2 Samuel 7:10, think again! It could not possibly be, for the simple fact that when Nathan spoke the prophecy to King David, they were both then *in* the old Promised Land. The prophecy clearly refers to some other land as being the “appointed place,” the second Promised Land. To this point, all of this discussion about the appointed place has been looking at it strictly from the literal, geographical level. There is another level which we will examine in due course.

There is one other key phrase in the two parallel versions of the same prophecy which demands our attention and that is that children of wickedness would not afflict them any more, “as beforetime,” or “as at the beginning.” With that little proviso, it seems to confirm our contention above. In other words, the prophecy is *not* an absolute statement that when the migrating Israelites finally settle in the appointed place, that they would never again be afflicted by the children of wickedness.

Rather, the prophecy is qualified to mean that when Israel finally settles in the appointed place, that they would never again be afflicted by the children of

wickedness *in the same manner, or to the same degree* that they had experienced “at the beginning.” The question then becomes: what is meant by “at the beginning?” Does that include the heavy bondage in Egypt? That is doubtful since the nation was not really “born” until after the Red Sea exodus experience. Most likely it refers to the period of the judges, when alien oppressors ruled over them in their own land, even up through the reign of Saul. What about us today? Are we not still in Mystery Babylonian bondage to alien oppressors? True, but honestly, is it not a very gentle bondage? It is the “wooden yoke” of Jeremiah, not the iron yoke—not at all “as at the beginning.” We move on now to one of the major covenants of the entire Bible, known as the Davidic Covenant.

2 Samuel 7:11 And as since the time that I commanded judges to be over my people Israel, and have caused thee to rest from all thine enemies. Also [this is Nathan speaking to David] YHWH telleth thee that he will make thee an house.

Thus far, Nathan’s message from God is “God appreciates your concern, David, that you would like to build Him a magnificent house, but it is not meant for you to build it. However, since your heart is upon *Me* and *My* honor and glory, just for that, I am going to build *you* a house!”

Did you know that God created numbers and God created words? ...And even word pictures? And even numbers of word pictures? God caused words and numbers to be the symbols of thoughts by which He communicates with us, and by which men communicate with one another. “But you know sometimes words have two meanings” (i.e., a double entendre—even the preceding words in quotation are a play on words for those who remember the Stairway). God’s Word is full of plays on words; double entendres, even triple entendres. (He’s a very clever God, you know.)

“God will build *you* a house!” Here is a play on the word “house” which works both in the Hebrew and in English. House, meaning a shelter from the elements, even a grand house called a temple; and the other meaning for a house is a dynastic monarchy for David. “You had the commendable idea to build *Me* a magnificent temple, David, so I will build *you* a dynasty.” Here’s how God said it through Nathan.

2 Samuel 7: 12 And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will

set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels [Hebrew: may-aw'; lit., organs of pro-creation], **and I will establish his kingdom.**

13 He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever.

There are at least three levels of fulfillment here, spread out over the centuries and into the eons. On the first level, this looks towards the fact that, unlike Saul, whose son did *not* inherit, David will have a son (Solomon) who *will* inherit his kingdom. But then it looks beyond that, over centuries, to a succession of lineal descendants of David who will ascend to the throne. Finally, at the highest level, it looks to its ultimate fulfillment in the Messiah. So the Davidic Covenant, in its greatest fulfillment is a prophecy of Jesus the Christ, the King of kings. There are three elements of the covenant promise in verse 13 (and in verse 16 as well). We will simply make note of them now and comment upon them when we get to verse 16. These elements are: a house, a kingdom and a throne.

In verse 13 “He shall build an house for my name” was fulfilled by Solomon with the building of the Temple. It was envisioned by David but built by Solomon for the purpose of enshrining the ark and the glorious presence of Yahweh. But looking at the verses 12 & 13 as a double entendre—if you will, a prophecy with a dual fulfillment—we see that it is a Messianic prophecy. Because not only will David’s son Solomon build the house, but David’s greatest Son, Jesus the Christ, will also build the temple of God. He will build the temple of Yahweh in a most unusual way. It is prophesied about Jesus in ...

Zechariah 6:12 And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name is *The BRANCH*; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of YHWH:

13 Even he shall build the temple of YHWH; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne; and the counsel of peace shall be between them both.

Did you catch that? Not only does it say that Jesus will be sitting and ruling upon his throne, but it says He shall be a *priest* upon his throne. Of course, Jesus combines the three offices of prophet, priest and king all in one person. Do you recall how we noticed when David was leading the parade bringing the ark

up to Jerusalem, that he was singing and dancing and playing music with all his might? What was he wearing? He was wearing the ephod, which is normally a garment reserved for the priests. Thus we see that David, as a type of Christ, was wearing the ephod, not as usurping the role of the *Levitical* priests, but as a priest after the order of *Melchizedek*. David, being also a type of the overcomers, prefigures them as priests also after the order of Melchizedek, because we find it said of the overcomers in Revelation 5:10 that they will be priest-kings, and they will reign on the earth.

So the prophecy in Zechariah 6 here is that the Messiah will build the temple of Yahweh. Jesus began to build this spiritual temple, the house of God, on the day of Pentecost in Acts, chapter 2. This construction project is even now continuing to be fulfilled all during the Christian era. In 1 Timothy 3:15, Paul identified the church as the house of God. As we have seen repeatedly, the OT gives us a physical pattern or type of the spiritual reality which was to occur sometime after the coming of the Savior. In 1 Peter 1:1 Peter is writing to Israelites of the so-called lost ten tribes who by that time were scattered across what is now modern Turkey, then called Asia (see map). The apostle Peter was testifying to his brethren of the family of Jacob-Israel that the Messiah had come and that He was calling all of them to become by faith, part of the spiritual house in which God Almighty would dwell.

1 Peter 2:5 Ye also, as lively [living] stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

6 Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.

This spiritual temple has a chief cornerstone, Peter says, and he is none other than the Savior Himself. More on the cornerstone and the spiritual and literal house of David next time.

(To be continued.)

Feed My Sheep is a part of the teaching ministry of James W. Bruggeman and is sent out freely upon request. The tithes and gifts of those who are fed by it make it possible for us to continue in ministry. Gifts may be sent to P.O. Box 6388, Asheville, NC 28816.