

Spreading the Good News of the Coming Kingdom of God

Spring 2009

UNSHAKEABLE

KINGDOM



*God DOES
Exist!*

UNSHAKEABLE KINGDOM

VOL 3, NO. 1

SPRING 2009

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DOES GOD EXIST?

Is the family unit something that just “evolved” through the various cultures through the ages? Or was it something that was specially designed, by our Creator, with a purpose in mind? If there is no special purpose, why does the Bible have so much to say about proper family relationships? This issue discusses the importance of family to the Plan of God . . . and how our understanding of family will be utilized throughout all eternity!

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PRINTED IN U.S.A.

FROM THE PASTOR...

Integrity—A Lost Value?

Whatever happened to integrity? When you read the newspapers, listen to the news, or watch the news, it seems integrity has been pronounced dead in our society.

Integrity is the quality or state of being complete, wholesome, the quality of sound moral principles or honesty. Would you say that today we have honesty or integrity in our government or in the leaders of our industries? How about the religions of this world that seems to preach more about money than Jesus? Where are the pastors who care more about serving the sheep rather than shearing the sheep? Where are those who stand in the breach when someone offers the opportunity to gain something by cheating just a little bit? Where is the leader who will say no when offered the opportunity to get rich by taking just a “little short cut” to financial gain that might be on the edge of legality?

Where are the leaders who once encouraged our society to be honest, to have integrity, and set the example for us to follow so we could see how to do the right thing? After all, integrity is doing what is right without being mindful or considering “what’s in it for me.” Life is not about gaining something for self without consideration for others. Our society seems to be built on getting for self no matter how it affects others or what it does to others, rather than having consideration for our fellow man. Remember the 1980s where greed was considered good and anything you did to get rich was acceptable in our society—where money, riches and power were considered king.

Riches obtained over the bodies of our fellow man will not be satisfying in the long run. A



person’s reputation should be much more important than monetary gain or status and power over others. The Bible makes some profound statements about what integrity will bring to those who have it. For example, Proverbs 11:3-4 states, “The integrity of the upright will guide them, but the perversity of the unfaithful will destroy them. Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death.”

The Bible also warns what will happen to one when he or she ignores this basic tenet of what mankind owes his fellow man. “Better is the poor who walks in his integrity than one perverse in his ways, though he be rich” (Prov. 28:6).

Integrity is what has made this country great. Our founding fathers placed their lives in jeopardy just to build a nation where we could be free to make choices. They were willing to die for a concept of religious freedom for a nation that could have God on its side. They were willing to die so that men and women could worship as they pleased and have the Law of God prominently displayed so all would know that this country was founded on a set of principles that would tell all we are a nation built on sound moral principles. Without the foundation of Almighty God there is no basis for integrity.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ronald W. Laughland".

Ronald W. Laughland
Pastor



God DOES Exist!

It is becoming increasingly popular to deny the existence of God, and to scoff at those who express their faith in a Creator. But while evolution remains a theory, there is undeniable proof that God created the universe and mankind . . . and that He did so with a great purpose in mind!

By Ronald W. Laughland

Modern science often uses deceptive methods to teach false and misleading beliefs. One such method is when skeptics demand proof that there is a God.

The problem with such a demand is that the burden of proof is placed on the believer, when it should really be placed on those who proclaim the theory of evolution to prove that there is no God.

The theory of evolution is stated as a fact, and yet there is not enough proof that has been produced to show it is true. That is why it is called a theory. The theory of evolution is basically a statement of belief that man is just a development from a primitive state to a specialized state by some chemical reaction that took place many years ago. It basically says you are just an accident of nature.

Do you really believe that? Can you believe in a God who claims He is the Creator and evolution at

the same time? If both claim to be the prime mover then one of them must be mistaken. But which one?

Suspicious science

Some scientists proclaim that evolution is a fact; yet, if you question them to prove the theory, they rely on some very questionable archeological finds that are suspect at best. They expect everyone to take it on faith that evolution is a proven theory.

What does the word theory mean? That should tell us something about the strength of their case for evolution. The word theory means hypothesis, conjecture, speculation, assumption, premise, presumption, supposition, and guess. It is another way of saying that we don't know. We do not have the facts, but this is what we think may be the case. This "theory" will stand until it is discovered that they did not have all the facts, or one or more of their

assumptions were incorrect, then a new "theory" will be stated as belief without facts. There is an old saying, "if you base a theory on false assumptions you will come up with the wrong answer."

Have you ever studied your Bible and searched for the word "theory" in the text? A thorough reading of the Word of God will show that it's not there. The Creator, when He speaks, does not use the word "theory."

The Creator of the vast Universe, inspired by the Holy Spirit in the Prophets and the Apostles, made His statements as facts. Jesus Christ spoke with authority, not as someone guessing about man's origin. "...for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes" (Matt. 7:29).

Evolution is taught in our schools today as the only theory for the creation of the Universe and mankind. Yet, because of scholarly statements without supporting facts, it

is taught as the only truth about origins.

A proveable God

Many in our society believe there is no God . . . or that there are a variety of gods. Others say there is a God and have merely assumed His existence without ever proving that He exists. They believe it only because that's what they were taught from childhood.

There is conclusive proof of God's existence. It is right there, in the pages of your Bible. The God of the Christian Bible states emphatically that He is the Creator.

Satan has created many counterfeits of the true God by manufacturing many fictitious "gods", providing mankind with choices of which god to believe in.

Evolution is a good example of one of these false gods.

Yet, there is only one God who defines who He is and reveals His purpose for all mankind. He claims that He is the origin of all life, and that only He created everything we see (Eph. 3:9).

In the Bible, this God reveals the vital, necessary knowledge to prove His existence, and that He is the one and only true God . . . yet many today have deep doubts that He exists.

Lee Strobel, an award winning journalist for the *Chicago Tribune*, made an astounding statement in his book, "The Case for a Creator". To paraphrase, he states that the basis for the theory of evolution has been disproved as much as one hundred years ago, but it is still taught in schools today as truth. He also states that a reputable teach-

ing institution should teach facts and truth, not conjecture making rash statements with no scientific basis for what is said.

Let's examine now some facts from some of the world's most highly respected scientists . . . facts that you may have never heard before. When you hear this side of the story, you must make a decision: who do you believe?

Let's first look at some astound-



ing quotes from Mr. Strobel's aforementioned book. Mr. Strobel started his quest because of a statement made to him during an interview on a controversy over Darwinism being taught in a school in West Virginia. This individual said, "Let me put it this way, if Darwin is right, we're just sophisticated monkeys. The Bible is wrong. And without God, there is no right or wrong."

This quote aptly illustrates why so many people would like to eliminate God from our society. Without God, man is left to decide right and wrong for himself. Removing God from our culture develops a do-your-own-thing mentality.

An unprovable theory

In an interview with Jonathan Wells, PHD, he states, "One of the

foundation bases for evolution was Stanley Miller's 1953 experiment of shooting electricity through an atmosphere like the one on the primitive earth, created the building block of life. By the mid-1970's Belgian biochemist Marcel Florkin was declaring that the concept behind Miller's theory . . . has been abandoned."

In discussing Darwin's, theory Dr. Wells concluded that Darwin's tree of life idea is a dismal failure. Dr. Wells states, "In fact, Darwin knew the fossil record failed to support his tree. He acknowledged that the major groups of animals . . . appear suddenly in the fossil records . . . The fossil evidence showed the opposite: the rapid appearance . . . called the Cambrian explosion." Darwin be-

lieved future fossil discoveries would vindicate his theory—but that hasn't happened. Actually, fossil discoveries over the hundred and fifty years have turned the tree upside down by showing the Cambrian explosion was even more abrupt and extensive than scientists once thought."

What this means is what was expected to show the slow changes from one species to another is not evident in the fossil record, and in reality, makes the theory look suspect. That leaves us with an explanation that there is a Supreme Being who, in fact, did create all that we see around us, including mankind.

That is what the originator of the Bible claims and says: "Here is My proof: The Universe!" The overwhelming details of God's creation
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TRUE LEADERSHIP

What Is It?

By Ronald W. Laughland

As the United States adjusts to a major shift in leadership style, many express hope that many issues and crises will now be resolved. But is this the type of true leadership that the world needs to solve its problems?

The world is now going through a traumatic time with the economic challenges that are plaguing our nation and the entire world.

It is a time of challenge for leaders of the nations that must deal with these problems. The question on everyone's mind is, "Are the leaders of my country up to the challenge?"

What does it take to be a leader who can solve the challenges of the world today? What are the characteristics of a true leader who can solve problems in a timely fashion without creating additional problems? Is there any man who is qualified as a competent leader who can solve the multiple issues that need to be dealt with? Or are the problems of this complex world so great that no one can solve them? Are the problems be-

yond the ability of man to solve and survive?

I once knew a man who was the leader of a massive worldwide organization. He had a sign on the wall in front of his desk, and as he sat there he would occasionally look up and dwell on what was written there. The sign simply stated, "There they go. I must hurry after them, I am their leader." It seemed to convey that everyone wanted to do their own thing, and he had to work hard to rein them in.

I often chuckled at what it said until one day when the organization collapsed under his leadership. It turned out that he was unable to control those about him, and the prophecy on the sign became reality. He was led astray by letting others determine the organization's direction and not by what he had

been taught was the right way to lead.

He wanted to be liked by those he thought was intellectually superior to him. He passed on his responsibilities to others, who drove the organization to destruction. He, indeed, was being led by the masses, not by what was morally right. He did what others thought was right, contrary to what was best for all.

Weak vs. strong leadership

One of the requirements of true leadership is that a leader must do what is right, not what is expedient or the best for his own welfare. A weak leader follows the path that will make him look good, not what will be best for those he serves.

All decisions that a leader makes must be for the good of those he serves and the organization or the

nation. That is the failure of a political system that allows someone to be a leader merely because he gives to everyone what they want rather than what they need to keep the organization strong.

Organizations, companies or nations that have no single leader—someone that can make decisions to do the right thing—will eventually fall. Problems won't be solved, because political pressures and weak leadership will prevent good decisions from being made.

Therefore, the first step to true leadership is being familiar with what is right and what is wrong in making decisions. The rules of right and wrong must be followed, so that right decisions will solve problems rather than exacerbate them.

Decisions like these can only be made by a person who understands the right and logical way to bring a solution to the problems. Then he must do the right thing whether it is popular or not. Those who are his subordinates should be trained to see the right solution, and then to support the leader in carrying out the solution.

Leadership That Works

I don't think I have to further explain or give examples of poor leaders in the world today. There are plenty of examples of poor leadership all around us . . . in business, in other nations, and in our own local, state, and national government.

The example I do want to discuss is the example of the only great leader we have available. That ex-

ample is revealed in the Word of God.

This example is so important because it shows how a Christian should lead others, both now and in the World Tomorrow. This is the example that works when it comes to true leadership.

Leaders of the Church of God have been successful in doing a work and building a church for many years. It has been proven to



work for over two thousand years. It is foolproof. We are commanded in God's word to emulate the leaders of the Church. Jesus Christ showed them the way, and they command us to follow their example (Phil. 3:17).

If these men were successful in their calling, then we have a pattern to follow to be successful in this life as well as the world that is to come. We can achieve the world promised to those Christians that overcome and are successful.

Those same moral and ethical rules apply to all facets of life. These rules show us how to deal with not just our Father but also our family, our friends, our fellow employees and with those over whom we may have supervision.

The main rule of success is to

deal with others in a moral and proper way. We must lead with an attitude of service. Ask yourself, "What can I do to help others do their part in succeeding in business and life?"

By contrast, our politicians typically become more concerned with their own needs: "How can I get reelected? What can I do to pay back those who helped me to get into this office? How can I further my career to move up the ladder?"

Thoughts like these lead to tactics where one begins to think, "I can rise in my career by making those on my level and those above me look bad, and then I can move up over their falling bodies." That is the wrong type of competition, creating internal turmoil that will eventually cause the col-

lapse of any company or organization.

Man's leadership unable to solve the world's problems

The reason I go through all these wrong, carnal leadership principles is to show that man will not be able to solve today's problems by carnal means.

The only solution to our problems is a change of human nature. Human nature follows carnal methods to solve spiritual problems.

Until mankind has a complete change of nature, problems will always be with us and will become increasingly complex. Eventually, man's inward-seeking style of leadership will cause world prob-

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The Stone of Scone *What Is Its Significance?*

Jacob's pillar. Lia Fail. The Stone of Destiny. This plain-looking rock has been called many things. But what historical significance does it really have . . . and what role could it play in the future?

By Tony L. Styer



For hundreds of years, tourists flocked to a special section of London's Westminster Abbey in order to file past a rather drab, plain looking rock inset beneath a wooden chair . . . the Coronation Chair of England.

In 1996, this 336 pound sandstone rock was removed from Westminster Abbey and taken to Edinburgh Castle in Scotland. Since then, it has shared quarters with none other than the crown jewels of Scotland. Today its many visitors enter through thick steel doors into a vault, under a guard's watchful eyes.

It has been referred to as "the most ancient and honourable part of the Scottish regalia". But just what is the significance of Scotland's Stone of Scone? To understand its origins, we need to go back to the story of Jacob.

Ancient beginnings

Genesis 28:11 describes how,

while traveling, Jacob arrived at a spot near Luz as darkness approached. Taking a stone to use as a pillow, he lay down to sleep. He then had a vision in which God promised that his descendants would be spread all over the earth.

Upon waking, Jacob took the stone on which he had rested his head, set it upright, and anointed it with oil. He then renamed the spot Bethel, and proclaimed that this pillar would be a symbol of God's House (Gen. 28:11-22).

Jacob returned to this spot during several key moments of his life (Gen. 31:13-14; Gen. 35:6-15). The stone he had used as a pillow apparently became known as an object signifying something important, because possible references to this stone are sprinkled throughout the Old Testament.

One passage of particular interest describes the crowning of king Athaliah. During this ceremony,

the king was "standing by a pillar (or rock) *according to custom*; and the leaders and trumpeters were by the king." After his crowning, the passage states that he "sat on the throne of the kings" (II Kings 11:12-19).

If this is referring to the same pillar, it indicates that the nation of Israel had held onto this stone as a symbol of God's promise to Jacob and that they had possessed it even through their years of slavery in Egypt. There are even some who believe that this is the same stone that Aaron and Hur used to help steady Moses' hands when Israel battled Amalek (Ex. 17:12-15).

Generations passed, and the seed of Abraham and Jacob eventually produced David, who became king of Israel. God made a very specific promise to David. He promised that David's son, Solomon, would build a house in God's name and that God would "establish the

throne of his kingdom forever” (II Sam. 4-5, 12-16). Within this promise, God stated that nothing . . . not even the disobedience of David’s future descendants . . . could alter this promise.

God promised that there would always be a descendant of David sitting on the throne of Israel . . . right up until Jesus Christ returns to earth to claim that throne.

Generations passed, and King Zedekiah (still of King David’s royal lineage) was taken to

Babylon when Jerusalem was captured by the Babylonians. His two young daughters, Tamar (Tea Tephi) and Scota, escaped Babylonian captivity by traveling to Egypt, accompanied by the prophet Jeremiah (Jer. 43:1-7).

From Egypt, Jeremiah eventually travelled with Zedekiah’s daughters to Ireland, bringing with him Jacob’s pillow stone. (For a detailed explanation of God’s promises, and of Jeremiah’s journey to Ireland, you can read the

booklet “The United States and Britain in Prophecy”, which is being reprinted serially in this magazine.)

Eventually, the stone was taken from Ireland to Scotland, where it was used to crown the kings of Scotland . . . which continued the unbroken line of King David.

In 1296 AD, in an attempt to show the rebellious Scots who their real king was, Edward I of England (popularly known as “Longshanks”) raided Scone Palace in

Is The Stone Genuine?

Ever since King Edward I seized the Stone of Destiny from Scotland’s Scone Palace in 1296 AD, there has been ongoing controversy as to whether or not the stone on display today is the genuine article.

Many Scots claim that Abbot Thomas had removed the true stone before Edward’s forces arrived at Scone Palace, instead foisting on the English soldiers a replica mined from a local Scottish quarry. This idea is somewhat supported by the fact that Edward later sent a raiding party of knights back to Scone Abbey in August of 1298 to rip the Abbey apart in a desperate search . . . for what, no one knows for sure.

King Edward I originally planned on building a special bronze chair, with intricate carvings, to hold the stone. However, work on this original chair was halted in 1297, and it was replaced by a gilt wood version. Some claim this was done be-

cause King Edward discovered that the Stone was a forgery and wanted to give the false stone an equally modest pedestal. Others



insist that Edward’s financial difficulties necessitated the change in plans.

One popular story is that Abbot Thomas hid the true stone in a cave in Dunsinnan Hill in Scotland. This stone was supposedly rediscovered in the late 1700s by two farm lads. They later described a slab of stone covered

with markings and supported by four stone “legs”. These men did not talk of what they had seen until years later, when one of them heard of the legend. Realizing the significance of his earlier find, the man hurried back to Dunsinnan Hill, only to find that either the cave opening had caved in or he had forgotten where the entrance was located.

Early documentation regarding the stone describes it as round and concave, like the seat of a throne, and others have stated that the stone was “black, shiny and intricately carved.” Jaques Cambry, in his book “Monuments Celtiques”, claims to have seen the stone when it bore a Gaelic inscription meaning “If the Destiny proves true, then the Scots are known to have been Kings wherever men find this stone.” Yet the stone on display today is shaped like a plain grey slab, and bears no such inscription.

History, however, indicates there

Scotland and brought the stone back to London.

When Scotland's King James IV was crowned James I of England, David's bloodline—carried all the way from Israel to Ireland, then from Ireland to Scotland—now became embedded into the Royal Family of Great Britain. The three

overturns of the throne of David prophesied in Ezekiel were now complete (Ezek. 21:26-27).

The stone has gained significance to many in God's Church as a symbol of the promises that God has indeed kept—that there would always be a descendant of David sitting on the throne of Israel.

David's lineage continues to rule over Britian, and will continue to do so until Jesus Christ returns to this earth to claim that throne—a spiritual throne, not one containing a physical rock—and to take His rightful place as ruler of this earth in the coming Kingdom of God. □

might have actually been two important stones in Scottish history...one brought directly to Scotland from Spain by a certain King Gathelus in 1300 BC, and the other brought by Jeremiah to Ireland, along with Zedekiah's daughters, in 583 BC.

The Gathelus stone was indeed described as being made of black marble, and was used by Abbot Thomas to crown Robert the Bruce in 1306, after which the stone vanished. It was alleged to have been rediscovered in Dunsinane in 1819 and taken to London. Nothing has been heard of it since then.

If there were indeed two stones, and Abbot Thomas hid one made from black marble, it would support the idea that the one seized by Edward is the stone brought by Jeremiah.

Even if there were ample proof

that the stone given to Edward I in 1296 was the original, however, another event occurred in 1950 to cast further confusion on the Stone's validity. On December 25 of that year, four Scottish Nationalists stole the Stone of Scone from Westminster Abbey and returned it to Scotland. During the heist, the stone was accidentally broken into two pieces.

Although the Stone returned to London less than four months later, the culprits later wrote that the returned Stone was a forgery.

Again, it could be argued that experts who examined the stone in the early 1900s concluded that the rock was of a unique type that could only have come from the Middle East... while today's experts insist that the Stone is comprised of a sandstone commonly found in Scotland.

With opportunities to introduce

forges in both the 11th and 20th centuries, the controversy continues. As recently as June of 2008, the First Minister of Scotland claimed that "the Stone of Destiny is a medieval fake." At the same time, he rejected using science to resolve any doubts, stating that "the mystery of the stone is one best left unsolved." Westminster Abbey spokeswoman Victoria Ribbans stated "Our belief has always been that the stone is genuine, and we have no reason to believe otherwise."

God typically seems to maintain a certain shroud of uncertainty over such things, to thwart those who would place too much emphasis on the physical. But the important spiritual truth is that Jesus Christ promised that the throne of David would exist until the end of this age... and that He will claim it upon His return. □

The booklets below contain more information on related subjects covered in this issue, and are offered FREE by the Sabbath-keeping churches of God. Please check the ones you desire and mail to the address below:

- "Kingdom of God! . . . What Does That Mean to You?"** - Is it the CHURCH? Is it something "set up in the hearts of men?" Is it "the Good within you?" Is it "The millennium?"
- "Why Were You BORN?"** - Do you really know why you were born? Do you realize God has a purpose being worked out?

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The United States & Britain in Prophecy

Chapter 5—Israel's New Land

By Herbert W. Armstrong

We continue this issue with the fifth installment of this eye-opening and important booklet, as it was first published in 1945.

We are now ready to search out the actual location of the lost tribes of the outcast house of Israel. We know they exist today as a nation, and a company of nations, powerful, looked upon as Gentiles. And when we find them, we shall find the throne of David!

Many passages of prophecy tell of these people in these latter days. Prophecies not to be understood until this “time of the end.” Prophecies containing a message to be carried to these people by those to whom God reveals it!

First it is necessary to fix in mind these facts: The prophet Amos wrote, in the days of the 13th of the 19 kings of the house of Israel

(Amos 1:1): “Behold the eyes of the Lord are upon the sinful kingdom (house of Israel—Judah had not yet sinned), and I will destroy it (the kingdom, or government, not the people) from off the face of the earth. For, the 10 tribes, I will command, and I will sift the house of Israel among all nations, like as corn is sifted in a sieve, yet shall not the least grain fall upon the earth” (Amos 9:8-9).

This prophecy usually is applied to the scattered condition of the Jewish people. But it has nothing to do with the Jewish people, or the house of JUDAH, but refers to the ten-tribed house of ISRAEL—driven to Assyrian captivity, then

migrating from there and scattering among other nations *before* the Jewish nation was taken to Babylon. This prophecy says that ISRAEL (not Judah) was to be sifted among other nations—these Israelites losing their identity—yet God has protected and kept them: “yet shall not the least grain fall upon the earth.”

A new homeland

It was during this time that the children of the house of Israel were to “abide many days without a king” (Hos. 3:4). That these people did sift through all nations is clear. Many New Testament passages indicate this. Although many of

them still were scattered among various nations in the first century A.D., a portion of them had become established in a definite location of their own by Jeremiah's time—140 years after their original captivity.

But these Israelites who possessed the birthright eventually were to come to a new land of their own. The Eternal says, in II Samuel 7:10 and I Chronicles 17:9: "Moreover I will appoint a place for my people Israel, and will PLANT THEM (Jeremiah was commissioned to do the PLANTING of the throne among them), that they may dwell in a place of their own and *move no more.*" The context of the whole passage shows this refers, not to Palestine, but a different land where these scattered Israelites were to gather after being removed from the promised land of Palestine and while that land was lying idle and in possession of Gentiles.

Notice carefully! After being removed from Palestine, being sifted among all nations, abiding many days without a king, losing their identity, they are to be "planted" in a far away strange land now to become their own. And, NOTE IT!—after reaching this place, *they are to move no more!* That is, of course, during this present world.

While other prophecies indicate these birthright holders were to become a colonizing people, spreading around the world, it is plain that the spreading out must be from this appointed place, which must remain the "home" seat of government for David's throne.

Mark this clearly! Once this

"place of their own" was reached, and the throne of David planted there, THEY WERE TO MOVE NO MORE. Therefore, *the location of this people TODAY is the place where Jeremiah planted David's throne* more than 2,500 years ago!



Therefore prophecies pertaining to *this* day, or to the location of this people just prior to Christ's return, will tell us the location of Jeremiah's planting. The house of Israel is yet to return, at Christ's coming, to Palestine—yet to plant grapes in Samaria their original country. Prophecies telling where they shall, in that future day, migrate FROM will reveal the location

*God will not break His
unalterable promise made
to David! Through every
generation David shall
have a descendant
wearing that crown!*

of the "lost" ten-tribed ISRAEL! The two succeeding "overturns" of the throne, too, must be located in this same general locale.

Lost Israel Located

Without further suspense, let us see where prophecy locates these birthright holders, now possessing the throne of David and having received

earth's richest national blessings.

Remember they are distinguished from Judah—the Jewish people—by various names: *Ephraim, Joseph, Jacob, Rachel* (the mother of Joseph), *Samaria*, their former home, *Israel*.

According to Hosea 12:1: "Ephraim...followeth after the east wind." And "east wind" travels west. Ephraim must have gone *west* from Assyria.

When the Eternal swore to David that He would perpetuate his throne, He said, "I will *set* his hand (scepter) also *in the sea*" (Ps. 89:25). The throne is to be "set," planted, "in the sea."

Through Jeremiah the Eternal said, "backsliding Israel hath justified herself more than treacherous Judah. Go and proclaim these saith the Lord" (Jer. 3:11-12). Israel is clearly distinguished from Judah. Of course, Israel was north of Judah while still in Palestine—but when these words were written by Jeremiah, Israel had been removed from Palestine more than 130 years and had long since migrated, *with* the Assyrians, north (and west) of Assyria's original location.

And in these last days messengers are to go "toward the NORTH" (of Jerusalem) in order to locate lost Israel and proclaim this warning. So the location, we now find, is toward the north, also west, and in the sea.

The 18th verse, same chapter, says, "In those days the house of Judah shall walk with the house of Israel (margin, *to* the house of Israel), and they shall come together *out of the land of the north* to the land that I have given for an inheritance unto your fathers." At the

future Exodus, at Christ's coming, they are to return to Palestine out of the land of the NORTH!

After saying, "How shall I give thee up, Ephraim?" the Eternal, speaking through Hosea, says, "Then the children shall tremble *from the West*" (Hos. 11:8,19).

Again: "Behold, I will bring them *from the north country*, and gather them from the *coasts of the earth*" (Jer. 31:8). This prophecy is for consideration in the "latter days" (Jer. 30:24; 31:1) and is addressed to "Israel" (vv. 2, 4, 9), to "Ephraim" (vv. 6, 9), and "Samaria" (v. 5). Here is added another hint—"the coasts of the earth" (v. 8)—evidencing they are dominant at sea and indicating they have spread abroad widely by colonization.

Referring to the house of ISRAEL, not Judah (Isa. 49:3, 6), God says, "Behold these shall come from far: and the 10 tribes, these *from the NORTH and from the WEST*; and these from the land of Sinim" (Isa. 49:12). In the Hebrew, the language in which this was originally inspired, there is no word for "northwest," but this term is designated by the phrase, "the north and the west." It means, literally, the NORTHWEST! The Vulgate renders "Sinim" as "Australi," or "Australia." So we now have the location NORTHWEST of JERUSALEM and even spreading around the world!

Hence, Israel of today—Israel of the day of Jeremiah's "planting" of David's throne—is located specifically as NORTHWEST of JERUSALEM, and IN THE SEA! Let us locate this land more specifically!

The same 49th chapter of Isaiah begins with this: "Listen, *O Isles*,

unto me." The people addressed, Israel, are called "O Isles" in the first verse and "O Israel" in the 3rd verse. This term "isles" or "islands" is sometimes translated "coastlands."

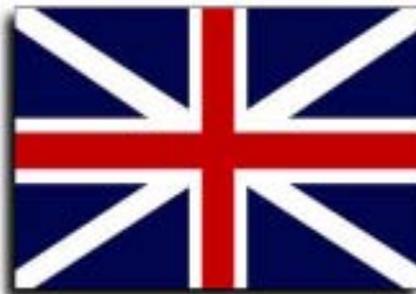
The 31st chapter of Jeremiah, locating Israel in the "north country,"

*David's throne now is to
be planted in Israel,
after being thrown down
from Judah!*

says, "I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. Hear the word of the Lord, O ye nations (Ephraim, Manasseh), and declare it *in the isles afar off...*" (Jer. 31:9-10).

Again: "Keep silence before me, O islands...thou, Israel, art my servant Jacob whom I have chosen" (Isa. 41:1, 8).

In Jeremiah 31:10, the message is to be declared "in the isles afar off" and is to be shouted in "the CHIEF OF THE NATIONS" (v. 7). So, finally, today, as in Jeremiah's days, the house of Israel is in the isles, which are "in the sea," the chief of the nations, northwest of



Jerusalem. A coast-dwelling, and therefore sea dominant people! Certainly, there can be no mistaking that identity!

Take a map of Europe. Lay a line due NORTHWEST of Jerusalem,

across the continent of Europe, until you come to the sea, and then to the islands in the sea!

This line takes you directly to the BRITISH ISLES!

Britain's Hebrew Names

The house of Israel is the covenant people. The Hebrew word for "covenant" is *beriyth*, or *berith*.

After Gideon's death, Israel followed the false pagan god Baal. In Judges 8:33, and 9:4, the word "covenant" is used as a proper name coupled

with the name "Baal." This is quoted in the English text, Authorized Version, without being translated, as "Baalberith," meaning (margin) "idol of the covenant."

The Hebrew for "man" is *iysh*, or *ish*. In English, the ending "-ish" means "*of or belonging to* (a specified nation or person)." In the original Hebrew language vowels were never given in the spelling. So, omitting the vowel "e" from *berith*, but retaining the "i" in its anglicized form to preserve the "y" sound, we have the anglicized Hebrew word for covenant, *brith*.

The Hebrews, however, never pronounced their "h's." Many a Jewish person, even today, in pronouncing the name "Shem," will call it "Sem." Incidentally this ancient Hebrew trait is also a modern British trait. So the Hebrew word for "covenant" would be pronounced, in its anglicized form, as *brito*.

And the word for "covenant man," or "covenant people," would, therefore, be simply, "BRITISH." And so, is it mere coincidence that the true covenant people to-

day are called the “BRITISH”? And they reside in the “BRITISH ISLES”!

The house of Israel not only was to lose its identity, but its name. It was to be called by a new name, since they no longer were to know their identity as Israel, as God said plainly in Isaiah 62:2, referring to these latter days, and to the millennium.

To Abraham, God said, “In

ISAAC shall they seed be called,” and this name is repeated in Ro-



mans 9:7 and Hebrews 11:18. In Amos 7:16 they are called “the house of ISAAC.”

They were descended from Isaac,

and therefore are Isaac’s sons. Drop the “I” from “Isaac” (vowels

are not used in Hebrew spelling), and we have the modern name “SAAC’S SONS,” or as we spell it in shorter manner, “SAXONS.”

Dr. W. Holt Yates, Yale University, says, “The word ‘Saxons’ is derived from the ‘sons of Isaac,’ by dropping the prefix ‘I.’” □

God Exists (*Cont. from page 3*) leaves skeptics with no excuse for their disbelief (Rom. 1:19-20).

Let me explain why a true Christian must—and I say must—believe that God is the Creator. Your eternal life depends on that one fact: God is the Creator, and there is no other. He states this plainly in Isa. 40:28.

If He is not the Creator, then He is a liar and therefore, by definition, not God. In fact, any being who lies will not have a place in eternity (Rev. 21:8).

If God can die, He is not the Eternal Being that He claims to be in Scripture. If He does not have eternal life, then He cannot give mankind eternal life. Then we would be doomed (I Tim. 1:17).

Unlike the theory of evolution, there is proof that God exists. There is a test in the Bible to see if you will give up the god that mankind worships and seeks in our society. That god is money. God says if you want to prove Him, follow His tithing command: “Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and *prove me now* herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven,

and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it” (Mal. 3:10, KJV, emphasis ours).

God says you cannot really prove evolution, but you can prove the fact of creation with One who claims that He is the Creator.

It is not a weak claim; He makes this claim with authority. That is the way God speaks to us, and if we believe Him and act on His claims we will see He is indeed the creator of mankind and the Universe: “For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him” (Col. 1:6).

Man’s Incredible Future

Mankind does not understand generally that God reveals in His Word what we are, who we are and why He created us. It has to do with the incredible human potential that mankind has been destined to be a part of the Family of God, in the Kingdom of God, under the Government of God to rule for all eternity. God shows us our potential in the letter to the Ephesians: “For

this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named (Eph. 3:14-15).

Man was created for a purpose that transcends our everyday existence, a purpose that is unknown to those who have little hope in life when believing that we are just an animal that ascended from a lower life form. If there is no future for man, then why did God create us in His image? (Gen. 1:26)

If we understand that we were created for a purpose, then we must strive to prepare for that purpose. What should we do to prepare? We should think about the fact that our coming into being was not an accident of nature. We are created beings and God has a plan for us. Mankind is made in the image of God and created to be a part of the Family of God, called to help with the future re-creation of the universe and to help the Creator of all things. Our ultimate potential is to become the Sons of God serving the Living God to bring many sons to glory (Heb. 2:10).

Only God can fulfill our purpose in this vast universe: dominion over all that God has created. □

Questions and Answers

Q What does God have to say about the practice of confession? Is it Biblical?

A The Bible teaches that Christians are to confess their sins to God, not people.

Notice Psalm 51, for instance, that records David's confession of his sin with Bathsheba. No human can forgive sin. Neither has any person been given the office of mediator between humanity and God. This office is held by Jesus Christ alone.

Paul wrote in I Timothy 2:5, "For

there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus." See also Hebrews 7:25.

John wrote that when we sin, we have an advocate with God: Jesus Christ the righteous (I John 2:1-2). God is faithful to forgive our sins when we confess to him (I John 1:7-10). Therefore we can come boldly to God's throne of grace (Heb. 4:14-16).

Only God can forgive sin, since sin is against God's law (I John 3:4). The scriptures do tell us that we may confess our faults to one another so we may pray for each other (Jas. 5:16).

But there is a difference between seeking a fellow Christian's help in overcoming a fault—human weakness—and confessing sins of the past.

The latter usually needs to be done because humans cannot forgive sin. And confessing our sins to other people should not be done anyway—humans are prone to not forget, whereas God does forget our sins after He forgives them (Heb. 8:12).

This would not preclude, of course, apologizing and trying to make things right when we wrong other people. □

Leadership (*Cont. from page 5*)
lems to increase to the point where they will destroy us.

Human nature tends to destroy and to conduct wars of destruction (Jas. 4:1-2).

Spiritual nature builds up. God's nature enhances, improves and makes things better for all. Because of the proclivity for the nature in man to destroy all that is within his control, man will eventually destroy this world unless God intervenes to stop mankind's lust for power, control and being the only one who he cares for.

As the Laws of God are slowly removed from our society, man will become more selfish and unconcerned about others. Hatred will become commonplace. Hostility will increase until man destroys man. Because war is the natural state of man, without God's leadership man will slowly turn to

the wrong way more and more each year. At some point it will become too late for man and his way of leadership to solve problems, then God will step in and solve the unsolvable.

That is the lesson of the Book of Revelation. God has given man 6,000 years to show he is incapable of solving his problems by carnal means. God will then have to intervene, after which He will provide a thousand years of His true government to show man the right way that leads to happiness.

God will offer mankind the way to change his human nature of hate to the nature of love. That only comes by repentance. The problem is mankind will only want that after he exhausts all other carnal means. Mankind will fight, destroy and conquer all that he can until God says, "No more." At that point God will force mankind to its

knees, and they will have to decide whether to repent or not. God wants us to repent of our destructive ways so that we can have the joy of living a profitable happy life (Rev. 16:9-11).

God wants mankind to live a life of outgoing concern for others, not the type of life we see today that solves problems in carnal ways—ways that do not bring real solutions to mankind's painful way of living. God only wants the best for us. That is only accomplished by doing it the right way, under the laws and ways of God.

For more on this subject, please write for our free booklet, "The United States in Prophecy" which explains why the coming destruction of our country is rapidly approaching. It explains that the problems of this world are Spiritual in nature and are not recognized as such by most men and women. □

Coming Next Issue...



Can You Please God?

...As humans, it often seems like we are constantly doing wrong. Here are ways that we can be pleasing to God.



What in the World...?

...In every aspect, it seems like the world is crashing down around us. What on earth is going on, anyway?



Husbands and Wives...

...God gave specific instructions that help hold a marriage together. What did He tell each...and why?



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For those outside this area, the broadcast may be heard Saturday mornings on www.wnah.com at 8 am Central Time, or at any time on our website at www.wwcg.org/html/broadcasts.html.

Our new Online Interactive Bible Studies are held at 7:00 pm CST every other Wednesday. Check our online calendar at wwcg.org/cgi-bin/calendar.pl for an updated schedule.