

## A Great People and a Strong

B. Keith Chadwell, 2017

To the people of Israel who came out of Egyptian bondage, through the sea and into the wilderness, was God's promise of a land flowing with milk and honey, a "promised land". It was a promise which could not be appropriated without trusting in God's word and following God's directions.

By the Holy Spirit, we may have been given to see the "parallels" of the Bible time Jews and Christians and something of the mysteries of the Kingdom that are hidden in the "Old Testament" in parables, types, metaphors, similitudes and dark sayings.

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Look diligently for further revelation in these types and shadows in the Bible and especially in "the Prophets". Look for further revelation of what God has purposed to conceal from all but those with "eyes to see and ears to hear". We should also keep in mind what Peter has written for us:

*"...not every prophetic writing is made clear in its own book". (2Peter 1:19-20)*

*Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:...* For "we know in part" and like an incomplete jig saw puzzle, we therefore cannot, yet, see the totality of the completed picture. Beware, because our eschatology has been leavened. Force fit nothing. Traditions and leavened doctrines have bound us, in many ways, for a long time.

Learn from the mistakes the Bible time Jewish religious leadership made. With all of their amassed knowledge of scripture, they still missed....*"the day of their visitation"*.

For God, through Jesus Christ, has purposed that a people **will be** manifest in the earth through "Christ" and the work of the Holy Spirit in them. These will be a people who hear and obey His words and will manifest to a wicked and perverse generation; **His divine nature**. These will be **"Sons of God without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation"**. (no need for further discipline/ correction). This company of His servants and handmaids, through "Christ in them", will judge and convict the nations and will judge principalities and powers. His conviction and

judgments through this company will shake both the heavens and the earth, for these are **"a great people and a strong"**.

Once, there were a small number of such a people who were in one accord, clothed with the Spirit and the power of God. They lived in the first century. Those, like Stephen, Peter, John, Paul and others were the "*first fruits*" of a "*former rain*"; forerunners of a greater company that was to come.

Pentecost was only the beginning of what Joel prophesied. It was not its total fulfillment. And what of the "***great people and a strong***" that Joel described in detail in the chapter (2) Verses (1) through (11). We have only to ask, seek and knock; the prophets are full of confirmation of this people whom God would raise up and fill with His power and in whom He will be glorified in the earth "*In That Day*".

There have been others like those in the first century on down through the centuries since. However, there has not been the likes of those in notable numbers, in one accord...."***even to the years of many generations***".

Without laboring this issue, the church, since its beginnings and ever since, has had everything "**at hand**", for every generation, to choose, by way of the cross, to come to full maturity in Christ.

Nope, not unlike the Children of Israel who came out of Egypt, we Christians, generally, down through the centuries since Pentecost, have grumbled and complained, refused to hear directly from God or pay close attention to His will. We, generally, have sought to satisfy our fleshly lusts instead. We said; "no, we know how to pray in our own tongue and we can pretty well figure out God's will without much tongue talking". Oh, we said; we can prophesy out of our flesh and no one will say anything and yes we make mistakes, but we are growing and learning, we won't ever be perfected, this side of heaven.

Without a vision of God's true "hope of our calling", we remained; babes on milk and divided. Having not been weaned from the breast, the meat we desired choked us and we puked all over the tables and there was no place clean for anyone else to eat (*see Is 28: the NIV is especially clear on this*).

We, generally, fouled up the grace faith stuff and did it our own way. Rule after rule after rule, grit our teeth, gut it out and fail, then try again righteousness. We clung to liturgy and leavened doctrines with a death grip. Generally, we dressed, talked, walked, raised families, entertained ourselves, done business and recreated, similar to all the other Babylonians for over 2,000 years now. We followed false teachers, let ourselves get divided and disjointed, like Ezekiel's dry bones and became, for the most part, as; "**the lost sheep of the house of Israel**" were when Jesus was revealed to Israel.

Generally, we followed the course of our Natural Jewish fellows in the wilderness to their Promised Land possession experience. Our course, like their experience, included parallel ups and downs while trying to take our promised land, which is; **the full manifestation of God's government/Kingdom within us.**

Jesus has already told us, not to look for His kingdom here or there. It is **within us**, ready to move with all of the power and presence of His divine nature from hearts cleansed and filled to overflowing with HIM. Then... from our hearts, flowing heart to heart with His life, His nature and His Power, to be manifest to families, neighborhoods, cities and nations. In this manner will God's plan to fill the earth with His glory and the knowledge of the glory of the Lord be fulfilled! His Kingdom come, His will be done, in earth, as it is in Heaven. This is God's goal, as written in the Prophets! It is His work, in us, we are NOTHING without Him.

This has been so available to us since Peter quoted Joel and said; "**This is that**".

"**This is that**"...It is still at hand.....the Kingdom.....His dominion in us...where the King has dominion....."**Christ in you**", the hope of glorifying the Father in the Earth again, as Jesus did.

*Hab 2:2 And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.*

*Hab 2:3 For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.*

*1Co 2:9 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.*

*Isa 64:4 For since the beginning of the world men have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, neither hath the eye seen, O God, beside thee, what he hath prepared for him that waiteth for him.*

God through Joel described this people as: "**a great people and a strong**".

*Joe 2:1 Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in My holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble; for the day of the LORD cometh, for it is nigh at hand--*

*Joe 2:2 a day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains. **A great people and a strong**, there hath not been ever the like; neither shall be any more after it, **even to the years of many generations.***

These people, described by Joel as: "**a great people and a strong**", will be "**Servants and Handmaidens of God**" who have **chosen** to submit their fleshly lusts to **the work of the cross** and by the work of the Holy Spirit in them, will be dead to self-interests of the flesh and alive only unto Him.

These will be fully mature and manifest Sons of God. These, who when He appears in them, will be like Him; Jesus the Christ. When these "**Sons of God**" are manifest or Christ is fully manifest in them, will glorify God again in the earth. These will be wholly in one accord, united and committed to Jesus as were David's mighty men of valor to him. Through this company, God will do as Enoch and others have prophesied;

*Jude 1:15-16 ...Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of his saints, To execute judgment upon all, and to convict all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him. These are murmurers, complainers, walking after their own lusts; and their mouth speaks great swelling words, holding men in admiration for the sake of advantage.*

Then shall the powers of heaven and of earth be shaken before His mighty Army; a "**great people and a strong**".

*Joe 3:16 **The LORD also shall roar out of Zion,** and utter His voice from Jerusalem, and **the heavens and the earth shall shake**; but the LORD will be the hope of His people, and the strength of the children of Israel.*

*Joe 3:17 "So shall ye know that I am the LORD your God **dwelling in Zion, My holy mountain.** Then shall Jerusalem be holy, and there shall no strangers pass through her any more.*

When? How will this happen?

Hold steady, do not force fit what we think we know. For we still only know in part. Rest in Him, He must do this work, we must totally surrender, **NO MORE STRIVING**. Enter His REST, for without Him, we can accomplish nothing.

*Rev 10:7 but that in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall **begin to sound**, the mystery of God should be finished, as He hath declared to His servants the prophets.*

*Joe 2:1 Blow ye the **trumpet** in Zion, and **sound an alarm** in My holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble; for the day of the LORD cometh, for it is nigh at hand--*

*Rom 8:13 For if you live after the flesh, you shall die: but if you through the Spirit do put to death the deeds of the body, you shall live.*

*Rom 8:14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.*

*Rom 8:15 For you have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but you have received the Spirit of adoption, by which we cry, Abba, Father.*

*Rom 8:16 The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:*

*Rom 8:17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; **if so be** that we suffer with him, so that we may be also glorified together.*

*Rom 8:18 For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.*

*Rom 8:19 For the earnest expectation of the creation waits for  
**the manifestation of the sons of God.***

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*B. Keith Chadwell  
High Country Ministry*