

## **A Great People and a Strong**

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*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.*

*With our modern "Google Earth" or a good map, it is easy for us to see that it's not that far from the North East borders of Egypt, across country and then on into modern day Israel. We can see, now, this would be a journey of just a few hundred miles and by a direct route, could be traversed fairly easily by such a company as the Children of Israel in a matter of days or at most, weeks. The Bible tells us, however, that, instead of weeks, it was a journey that lasted some **forty** years, with an entire generation of the Children of Israel dying in the wilderness along the way. Why?*

*Num 32:13 And the LORD'S anger was kindled against Israel, and He made them wander in the wilderness forty years, until all the generation that had done evil in the sight of the LORD was consumed.*

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

*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)*

*To be open to the teaching of the Holy Spirit is humility before God. For "we know in part" and like an incomplete jig saw puzzle, we therefore can not yet see the totality of the completed picture. Beware, because our eschatology has been leavened. Force fit nothing. Traditions have bound us, in many ways, for a long time. Peter suffered from such binding traditions;*

*Act 10:13-15*

*...And there came a voice to him, "Rise, Peter; kill and eat."*

*But Peter said, "**Not so, Lord**, for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean. "And the voice spoke unto him again the second time, "What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common."*

*Forget tradition and leavened doctrine. Learn from the mistakes of the Jewish religious leadership of 30AD. 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. This people, who hear and obey His words will manifest to a wicked and perverse generation; **His divine nature**. They will be Sons of God without need of further 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.*

Perhaps they were the "first fruits" of a "former rain"; forerunners of a company that was to come. God knows.

Peter, quoting the Prophet Joel on the day of Pentecost said;

Acts 2: 15-21 **But this is that** which was spoken by the prophet Joel;  
And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy: And I will show wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke: The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord comes:

And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

(Much could be said here of God's offers to **all** and the few responders who fully obey)

However, this 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 same chapter (2) Verses (1) through (11). We have only to look; the prophets ore full of confirmation of this people whom God will raise up and fill with His power and in who 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.

*Through Christ, by God's design and purpose, they would then have whatever would be needed to fully possess their promised land by kicking out all of the aliens forever and fully manifesting the knowledge and glory of God, first within them and then in the earth.*

*Nope, like the Children of Israel who came out of Egypt, we 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, we remained; babes on milk, in division and generally a derision. 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:).*

*We, generally, have 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 have dressed, talked, walked, raised families, entertained ourselves, done business and recreated, just like all the other Babylonians for over 2,000 years now. We followed false teachers, let ourselves get divided and we became for the most part as; **"the lost sheep of the house of Israel"** were when Jesus was revealed to Israel.*

*Generally, we followed a course, as our Natural Jewish fellows in the wilderness did. Our course, like theirs, included all the ups and downs while trying to take their and our promised lands.*

*When Jesus finally was revealed to them, after being hid out amongst them, as it were, the majority of them couldn't or wouldn't recognize Him as "the Messiah" and therefore rejected Him. How sad, they didn't know or recognize their time of visitation. Will we also continue to follow in their foot steps in this regard?*

*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 His life and nature and works are to be manifest to neighborhoods and nations, filling the earth with His glory and the knowledge of the glory of the Lord. His Kingdom come, His will be done, on earth, as it is in Heaven. Only doing; His will in His strength. It is His work, we are NOTHING without Him.*

*This has been so available to us since Peter said; "**This is that**". His hand is stretched out still....."**This is that.....This is that.....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.*

*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, they 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. 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 2: 30 "And I will show wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath -- blood and fire and vapor of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness and the moon into blood before that great and notable Day of the Lord come".*

*Joe 3:15 The sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall withdraw their shining.*

*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.*

*(see the teaching; "I thank my God I speak in tongues more than you all" and "Whatever We Ask" 2009 teachings, at; [www.thekingdomisathand.net](http://www.thekingdomisathand.net))*

*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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