

A GOD-GIVEN NAME . . .

"Shall the dust praise Thee? Shall it declare truth?
Psalm 30:9

YES! Yes! To both questions...

One of the great statements of the Bible is: "and the LORD God formed man (ADAM) of the dust of the ground..." Gen. 2:7 What dust praises God and declares Truth? It is the last ADAM...CHRIST. God's new creation reality.

The whole Bible story hinges on ADAM and CHRIST.

MAN is ever striving to build a name for himself: Babel reveals this. MAN has always been his own most vexing problem...The glory and scum of the universe. How we need to be saved from ourselves!

Our Bible is full of the life and destiny of that remarkable people which took its rise in the man ABRAHAM, pioneer of faith. This people were later identified by the name JACOB-ISRAEL.

ISRAEL! A God-given name...Meaning: 'A Prince with God.' Given to JACOB at the brook Jabbok as he confessed to the Angel...What he was...A supplanter! A heel-grasper! Jacob was but the ruins of ADAM-MAN!

Yet the Scripture declares "The LORD established a testimony in Jacob..."

The footsteps of JACOB-ISRAEL are the footsteps we must trace in the Bible to understand the meaning of history. For ISRAEL constitutes the central feature of the history of nations in the sacred record...Because God's revelation attested by ample proof is given thru that people.

"Search the Scriptures," Jesus said. Because, "they are they which testify of me," Of Immanuel...GOD WITH US. He is the Son of The Highest. The promise and hope, the glory of Israel.

John the Revelator wrote: 'The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.' That testimony was---That HE (Jesus) was the Son of God! The King of Israel.

ISRAEL! It has a sound of sweet melody to the ear...because, it was first voiced to Jacob from the lips of a supernatural appearance of which our King James Bible calls an Angel. A THEOPHANY it is called in Theology. That name which is God-given has never lost its heavenly tone.

ISRAEL, in its national and spiritual aspects revealed in Scripture is the absorbing theme of the sacred writers...

How the Prophets of the Old Testament dwelt lovingly on the past glories and told of the future greatness of the people ISRAEL who were to be a 'peculiar treasure' unto Jehovah; and then in all honesty they relentlessly exposed the sin, the disobedience and backslidings of this people who are called the the Prophetic WORD..."MY PEOPLE."

The Patriarchs and Prophets pointed forward to the great destiny which lay before ISRAEL and God's witnesses in the earth as to the identity of the great I AM GOD OF ISRAEL...

All the while in lamentation, sorrow and woe they mourned over the great Apostacy of the people.

Yet---they, (the Prophets) turned from the shame and sorrow of captivity of both Israel and Judah in Assyria and Babylon to contemplate the bright vision...complete restoration in the coming DAY OF THE LORD!