

of the United States of America.

*Micah 4:2: "And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain (to the nation) of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob . . ."*

Other nations would be coming up to this great, end-time nation of Christendom — not a nation of Christians by any means, but a nation built upon the Scriptures in its beginning. Do you know of any nation in Europe or Asia or Africa that has not come and that is not saying, "Let us go to the United States of America for know-how, for aid, for help, and for everything imaginable"? This is what Micah saw as taking place in the last days. Remember that the last days are gone forever when Christ returns, so this prophecy is one which must be fulfilled before the Christ returns.

This second verse of *Micah 4* continues, "*and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.*"

Some people will have difficulty with this verse because they do not believe God. You must understand, of course, that it is progressive and has not been fulfilled to its completion. Nevertheless, it has begun. Other nations as yet are not asking for our Christian

faith, but they are asking about our ways of production, distribution, communication, military power, medicine, education and agriculture. And when the great outpouring of the Holy Spirit comes, they will be asking, also, for our Christian faith.

"We will walk in his paths" — this is the Kingdom of God on earth, for which Christians have prayed for 2,000 years.

"For the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem." There are two words which we should discuss; namely, "Zion" and "Jerusalem." Most people think of these as referring to the old city of Jerusalem and to the little hill of Zion in Palestine. Some have never been taught from the Scriptures that Bible prophecy refers to the "daughter of Zion," to "the new Jerusalem," and to the "daughter of Jerusalem." It stands to reason that the daughter is not the mother, nor is the "new Jerusalem" the old one fixed up. It is another nation, another people.

You may ask what happened to the old Zion and to the old Jerusalem. They were destroyed.

Concerning the old Jerusalem we read in *Matthew 23:37*: "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee . . ." Did the literal city stone and kill

people? No, it was that particular religious system. Christ tells us in the next verse what happened to it: "Behold, your house is left unto you desolate." So the old Jerusalem was destroyed, while the new one is here, as prophesied, in this great North American wilderness.

Notice this challenging statement in *Zechariah 12:6*: ". . . and Jerusalem shall be inhabited again in her own place, even in Jerusalem." That takes place after the return of Christ, when tremendous things will happen in the little old land of Palestine. On the other hand, the new Jerusalem was to be a great, powerful nation not only after the coming of Christ, but in the last days.

Incidentally, the word "Jerusalem" means "peace"; and the United States of America, while it is the most powerful nation of all human history, is also the most peace-loving nation of all human history. No nation or people does more to bring peace than we do.

In *II Samuel 5:7* we read concerning Zion: "Nevertheless David took the strong hold of Zion: the same is the city of David." "Zion" means scriptural civil administration, not Christian perfection. Even David and his administration were not perfect; but he, like the forefathers who founded this nation, based his civil administration on the law of

God. Our constitutional form of government is based upon the Word of God, so we are called the "daughter of Zion."

We will now go back to the prophecy which we are considering in *Micah 4*. Verse 3 states: "And he (the Almighty) shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

This is a beautiful prophecy and a tremendous revelation. Note especially the first part of this verse. We thank God that the Kingdom is coming and that God's will shall be done on earth as it is in heaven. When that is done, swords will be turned into plowshares, spears and weapons of war into useful instruments. Nations shall no longer lift up swords against each other. But before that comes, we must have the first part; namely, "And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off . . ."

There are two prophecies in *Isaiah* which go into further detail concerning God's rebuking strong nations afar off. The first of these is *Isaiah 17*, beginning with verse 12. Here *Isaiah* saw the same Divine intervention and the same