

AMERICA'S HOPE

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"DOETH NOT CONSIDER"

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"Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth: for the Lord hath spoken, I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against me. The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master's crib: but Israel doth not know, my people doth not consider." (Isaiah 1:2,3)

God's people will not consider that there is a gospel of the kingdom, distinct and separate from the gospel of personal salvation. There is more in the Bible about the gospel of the kingdom than the gospel of personal salvation. The first seventeen historical books of the Bible give us the origin and the history of God's kingdom people with their sins and their failures, and God's judgment upon them. The prophetic books of the Bible deal with the restoration, the cleansing and the purging of God's kingdom people prior to the kingdom age. Except for such chapters as Psalm 22, Isaiah 53 and Micah 5, the prophetic books deal almost entirely with the gospel of the kingdom.

Christ devoted His parables to the gospel of the kingdom. The first thing Christ told us to pray for was, "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven."

The last question the disciples asked the Lord before His ascension was, "Lord, wilt thou at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" Christ answered by stating that times and seasons would pass before the restoration of the kingdom. After Christ's resurrection when He showed Himself to the disciples, He talked to them about the kingdom. Christ also stated that the preaching of this gospel of the kingdom as a witness to the nations would bring this present age to its end. The gospel of the kingdom is a witness to the nations.

God's people do not consider that there is blood atonement for the kingdom as well as for the individual and the church. This is typified throughout the Old Scriptures again and again. This blood atonement for the kingdom provided that the kingdom people would be delivered from their enemies and God's special blessings would be upon them. God, by His Spirit, would be in their midst if they would honor the blood atonement for the kingdom.

When Christ said, "I am not sent but to the lost sheep of the house of Israel," He was referring to the gospel of the kingdom, and not to the gospel of personal salvation.

God's people will not consider the simple historical fact in Bible history that the Israel people were separated into two different nations with two different capitals, Jerusalem and Samaria. God's people will not consider that these people in prophecy had a very different destiny. According to Bible prophecy ten tribes Israel and much of Judah were taken into the Assyrian captivity where they were to migrate into Europe and become the many nations of Christendom. One hundred years later Judah was taken into Babylonian captivity, and after seventy years they were brought back to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple and to prepare for the coming of the Christ.

God's people will not consider the fact in both Bible history and Bible prophecy that the small nation of Judah was divided into two groups, very different types of people. One group was represented by a basket of good figs that were eaten. The other group was represented by a basket of bad figs, so bad that they could not be eaten. Because they fail to consider Jeremiah chapter 24 and other similar scriptures, the Christian clergy today have mistaken the bad figs for the good figs. During the time of Christ and the apostles the basket of good figs, the true Judahites, were eaten. In other words, they were assimilated and disappeared among the other Israel people.

The bad basket of figs, so bad they could not be eaten or assimilated, represented the non-Israel people mostly Edomites who through infiltration and intermarriage had usurped authority over the true Judahites, causing the true Judahites to do as Jeremiah prophesied in chapter 6 where we read: "O ye children of Benjamin, gather yourselves to flee out of the midst of Jerusalem." Benjamin was one of the three tribes in the Judah nation.

When the true, good, godly Judahites fled and gathered themselves with the ten tribes, they lost