

AMERICA'S HOPE

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"ZION"

PASTOR C. O. STADSKLEV

If the United States of America is not Zion of Bible prophecy, where is it? Chapters 60, 61 and 62 in Isaiah is a prophecy on a great nation, in the end time, which is called Zion. Verse 1 of Isaiah 60 states: "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee." The word "shine" is also rendered "be enlightened for thy light cometh." Would you agree that the United States of America has been enlightened? We have been enlightened in every sphere of human life and living. The inventions and know how that have come to this nation in recent years is mind boggling. "The glory of the Lord is risen upon thee" means the blessings of the Lord upon this nation is seen by all nations.

Note the contrast between verses 1 and 2 in Isaiah 60. Verse 2 states: "For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee." Would you agree that there is gross darkness in the nations of communism and heathendom? And the blessing of the Lord has been seen upon this nation? Verse 3 states: "And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising." Would you agree that people from all nations have come to this nation?

See verses 4 and 5 in Isaiah 60. The colonies flowed together, and so did the states, and formed a central government. These people were Israel sons and daughters from the old world. When they flowed together they became very "enlarged." "The abundance of the sea shall be converted unto thee" means that this nation would become very wealthy. Verses 6 and 7, in symbolic language, continue to speak of the great wealth that would come to this nation.

Verse 8 in Isaiah 60 is especially interesting and significant for it shows the time when this chapter was to be fulfilled. Isaiah saw in prophetic vision a people flying as a cloud, and as doves with outspread wings. He saw the airplanes. In verse 9 Isaiah saw that it would be "the ships of Tarshish" (Europe) that would first bring "thy sons from far." And so it was as everyone knows. Silver and gold means that these immigrants

brought everything they had. And the Pilgrims and the Puritans came "unto the name of the Lord thy God" and were greatly blessed or glorified.

Verse 10 implies that these immigrants were hard working and industrious, and they built a strong nation. The kings of Europe were very interested in what was developing in the New World. Verse 10 brings us back to when God smote His Israel people and sent them into the Assyrian captivity. But in this new land God's mercy and favor would be upon them. In verse 11 the prophet continues to speak of this nation as being a nation of immigrants and that kings (rulers) from all over the world would come to this nation.

In verse 12 the prophet sees this Zion nation in its future. He states: "For the nation and kingdom that will not serve thee shall perish: yea, those nations shall be utterly wasted." This is the same prophecy Micah gave in chapter 4 verse 13, and in Isaiah chapter 41, verses 14 through 16. Christ referred to this nation in Matthew 21:43 and 44. The above scriptures must be understood in the light of God's purpose in selecting the Isaacsons to be His special servant people on earth. One of God's main purposes according to the Old Scriptures was that these chosen and servant people were to teach, preach and administer God's kingdom laws pertaining to human government. This was to be done first among themselves, and then throughout the earth. That is what this Zion nation was raised up to do and will do, preparing the earth for the kingdom age. Verse 13 in Isaiah 60 speaks of the beauty of this Zion nation.

In verse 14 in Isaiah 60 the prophet saw something we are very conscious of today. He wrote: "The sons also of them that afflicted thee shall come bending unto thee; and all they that despised thee shall bow themselves down at the soles of thy feet; and they shall call thee, The city of the Lord, The Zion of the Holy One of Israel." These subversives and the antichrists afflict and despise this Zion nation at the present time; they do not realize that shortly they shall bow themselves down at the soles of the feet of the Christian patriots of this nation. They will even confess that this nation is Zion of the Holy