

Southern Africa's Prophetic Destiny

The "fire prophecies" over Southern Africa and the prophecies of Isaiah and Zephaniah about the people of Southern Africa... Something wonderful is going to happen in our prophetic destiny.



By Orlando Mostert

Southern Africa's Prophetic Destiny

By Orlando Mostert

ISBN 978-0-000000-00-0

Second Edition 2022



www.kingdomvision.co.za

SOUTHERN AFRICA'S PROPHETIC DESTINY

Chapter 1 :	If my people who are called by name	1
Chapter 2 :	When God Raises an Ensign over Southern Africa	7
Chapter 3 :	The Signs of the Times	15
Chapter 4 :	The Coming Kingdom Nations	23
Chapter 5 :	God's Purpose for the Nations	37
Chapter 6 :	Ekklesia: The City Church and the Healing of the Nation	49
Chapter 7 :	Southern Africa: The Ark of Safety	57
Chapter 8 :	The Coming Christian Civilization of Southern Africa	64

Chapter 1: If my people who are called by name.....

I am in pandemic lockdown along with the rest of South Africa. It is a time of forced introspection for all of us. One thing is for sure the world and South Africa will not come out of this international crisis the same way we came in.

We here in South Africa have been in a crisis long before Covid-19 pandemic hit us. We started a national debate long ago on the lines of: What is going wrong? How do we fix our nation? The church has been in prayer...What is the Lord saying to us?

For many the answer was, this cannot be fixed, so I am emigrating. As the world economy is crashing around us that is no longer a solution. In fact I predict South Africans will be coming back here from overseas by the tens of thousands in the future.

For years now we as Christians have been holding mass prayer meetings and private intercessions. Our most quoted scripture as we humble ourselves in prayer and repentance has been 2 Chronicles 7:14.

Everyone loves to quote verse 14. Nobody wants to quote the verse before that...verse 13. I will do that. But I will also quote verse 12 so you can see who is talking here:

2Ch 7:12 And the LORD appeared to Solomon by night, and said unto him, I have heard thy prayer, and have chosen this place to myself for an house of sacrifice.

2Ch 7:13 If I shut up heaven that there be no rain, or if I command the locusts to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among my people;

2Ch 7:14 If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

Did you catch that last phrase before the famous 'if my people...'. God says "***If I send pestilence among my people....***" So let's just let that sink in and stop all this conspiracy stuff of it is China or America or 5G radiation from the Antichrist one world government, or Bill Gates and vaccines (by the way church, what ever happened to God's commandment "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor"...think about that before you start accusing Bill Gates!).

God takes ownership of this pestilence as He does for what we call "natural disasters" like drought and locusts and you can include in that list hurricanes, tsunamis, earthquakes, volcanoes, meteors, climate change (yes there are natural cycles).

I don't know by what agency this pestilence came. It could have mutated in bats or some other mammals, or it could have escaped from a bio-lab somewhere like Wuhan where they study these things and work on vaccines. I don't know. But it is here and like all viruses it is now endemic in our world population.

God takes ownership of these things because He made all things. Including flies and mosquitoes and bugs and bacteria and virus. And after He made it all in Genesis 1:31 says "***And God saw everything he had made and behold it was very good.***"

I know, if you or I had been in charge there would have been a lot of things we would have left out from creation and maybe added a lot of other things we like. But we are not God and He is in charge so there is a purpose here that we must discern and work with the Lord to find solutions. Because this is true: For every problem in the world there is a solution! And God will reveal that solution to His people so we can heal the land.

Here are some of the things that I can already see the hand of God active in this pandemic. Please keep in

Chapter 1: If my people who are called by name.....

mind I am making this analysis on the basis of Isaiah 26:9

"For when thy judgments are in the earth the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness."

I am saying that this world wide pestilence is God's wake up call to a world to stop what you are doing, collapsing what the world is doing and now is the time for the world to re-organize and rebuild according to God's righteous ways. That is why this earth and the way it was constructed by God is a great discipleship training school: If you don't learn to do things God's ways, this earth will kill you! And God made a 1001 ways this earth reality can kill you. So pay attention

The most visible result of this world pandemic by the way are not the amount of deaths. In fact I believe by the time this pandemic has done its worse the result will be how few deaths in relation to old diseases like cancer, tuberculosis, malaria.....and at some point the damage is going to be tallied and people are going to say "But we destroyed whole national and international economies for this?".

What is happening now through fear and panic is the wholesale destruction of national economies and governments think they can restore their economies by massive printing of money. They will also end up destroying their national currencies with inflation.

There is a solution to this pandemic as there are solutions to all the problems we face in this world that the Lord created for us as a discipling school.

The Lord says "...turn from your wicked ways". Now the first thing we do when we read that is we get on our knees and we humble ourselves and we pray and ask the Lord to forgive us our sins. This is right and proper. But there is a deeper issue we need to look at here. We individually can all come to repentance but the nation can still fall apart. Here is why....

In scripture "wicked ways" refer to the way we do things. There is God's way of doing things and there are man's way of doing things.

There is man's way of running a government and then there are God's ways.

There is man's way of running an economy and there are God's ways.

There are even man's ways of running church and then there are God's ways.

How do we know God's ways so that we can turn from our "wicked ways" and do it God's way?

Psalm 103:7 says ***"He made known his ways unto Moses but his acts unto the children of Israel."*** You need to know the difference between the acts of God and the ways of God.

The world sees the acts of Godpestilence, drought, locusts, earthquakes and all complain as did Israel unto the Lord, "This is so unfair, if God is good why does he allow....." and you can fill in the blank.

But if you want to know how to run a nation that pleases God you need to turn to Moses and the guidelines He gave to Moses as to how He wants Israel to conduct themselves. And if you do that you will be surprised at what you will find. In fact you will find a wonderful economic program for poverty relief, wealth creation, property rights, government regulation, decentralization, monetary stability, asset distribution, skills development, public hygiene, labor relations, debt limitation, executive functions, guidelines for citizen rights and foreigner rights, social welfare and on and on.

In fact just the economic laws that the Lord revealed to Moses if we as a people had followed them we would never as a nation be in poverty and debt....instead our economic and social systems are typically what the Lord describes as "wicked ways".

In fact the whole world economic system as currently organized is what the Lord describes as "wicked

Chapter 1: If my people who are called by name.....

ways” and no wonder He has put a stop to all the madness with imploding economies and crumbling currencies.

So why all these judgments in the earth? Isaiah 26:9 has something to say about that.

“For when thy judgments are in the earth the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness.”

Or in other words the inhabitants of the earth need to learn how to do things God’s way and to stop further foolishness and destructive behavior, judgments come. It is God’s love and kindness to us for a better world. Always remember that God loves the world! The whole policy of His Kingdom towards the people of the earth was announced by angels to shepherds in Bethlehem:

‘Peace on earth and good will to all men’.

And what now? How do we rebuild our nation God’s way? What happened to the promises of God of blessing and prosperity? What happened to the prayer’s of a million Christians seeking the Lord in prayer and repentance outside Bloemfontein when our man of God Angus Buchan called us for a holy convocation and national prayer?

This is a question that both Daniel and Ezekiel asked the Lord as captives in Babylon.

The nation of Israel was destroyed. The Northern kingdom taken captive in 721 BC by the Assyrians the Southern kingdom taken captive by the Babylonians in 604-03 BC by the Babylonians who then in 586 BC attacked again and totally destroyed both Jerusalem and the great temple of Solomon.

Ezekiel a young man when taken captive was a prophet and wanted to know what now? He cried to God in fasting and prayer. The Lord appeared to him and showed him a valley of dried bones...the nation of Israel. And asked him a question “Can these bones live?” And as we look at our nations of Southern Africa., we also ask “Can these bones live?”

Daniel goes into lockdown for 21 days to seek the Lord. He read the prophecies over Israel, from both Isaiah and Jeremiah....Jeremiah said the captivity would last 70 years and Isaiah 200 years before prophesied that a king of the Medes by name Cyrus would liberate the people to rebuild the nation. Daniel wanted to know, What about your promises O Lord to your people Israel?”

The despair of these people were prophesied by Isaiah years before....

“We have been with child and we have been in pain, we have as it were brought forth wind; we have not brought forth any deliverance in the earth.....Come my people enter into thy chambers and shut the doors about thee, hide thyself as it were for a little while until the indignation be passed. For the Lord comes out of His place to punish the inhabitants of the land for their iniquity...” Isaiah 26:18-20

Israel in captivity wanted to know what ever happened to the great prophecies and promises God made through Moses, through David, through Isaiah...

God to Moses...

Numbers 14:21 ***“But indeed as I live all the earth will be filled with the glory of the Lord.”***

David’s great prophecy...

“All nations whom Thou hast made shall come and worship before Thee, O Lord; and they shall glorify Thy name. ¹⁰ For Thou art great and doest wondrous deeds; Thou alone art God.” (Psalm 86:9,10)

Isaiah’s great prophecy....

Isa 2:2 And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to

Chapter 1: If my people who are called by name.....

the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

We have been pregnant with the promises of God waiting to give birth to a new world but we have as it were brought forth wind, we have not brought forth any deliverance in the earth.

The church in South Africa. We are crying to the Lord “we are pregnant with the great promises of God waiting to give birth to the Kingdom of God but we have not brought forth any deliverance. The official statistics bear this out. We are probably the most Christianized nation on earth. 82% of our people call themselves Christians and 47% of the population belong to either a Pentecostal church or an evangelical charismatic church (these are proven and published facts!). Do you see the fruits of that? We are known throughout the world as a land of crime, corruption, poverty, racism, child abuse, HIV+ highest in the world, 70% of children born into a single parent family, gender violence, drunkenness, drug addictions and gang warfare.

And all this in a nation that has the highest percentage of its population in a church on Sunday morning. A nation that has churches everywhere, mega-churches, small churches, garage churches, gospel TV broadcasts....

And our government? 26 years after “liberation” and with the well wishes of the world for our success and a story of a peaceful transition to a multi-racial democracy where are we 26 years after liberation? Without a doubt with some honesty and candor our politicians should confess “we have been pregnant with policies and promises of prosperity for the nation but we have as it were brought forth wind (lots of talking), we have not brought forth any deliverance in the earth”

And our corporate business sector? What happened to all those promises of national prosperity if we open our economy, let strangers buy up our national assets, get a good credit rating so we can spend money we don't have on things we do not need? Build the nation full of shopping malls for a life of consumption without production, investing our national savings in overseas boondoggles so overpaid executives could live in London or Sydney, cooking up fictitious balance sheets so stock prices can rise and management can cash out overpriced stock options, ruining great companies built up over decades of hard work by others for stupid illusions of endless growth in foreign lands. We are a nation bankrupt of finance, bankrupt of morals and bankrupt of integrity.

How does the Lord teach nations how to stop their wicked ways? How does the Lord fulfill the great promises of the Kingdom? God needs an example, some nation that will show other nations how you do things God's way ...and thereby become a light to the nations.

That in fact was Israel's job. He gave them His ways through Moses. But they would always rebel and always just wanted to be just like all the other nations around them. So He divorced them, cut them off. Jesus said to the Jews of His day:

Math. 21:43 “Therefore *I say unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof*”

Can God find a nation on planet earth at this time of international crisis willing to be God's witness to the nations of the earth, a light in the economic and social and political darkness? A nation willing to bring forth the fruits of the Kingdom of God for the world to see? Preferably of course a nation in such deep

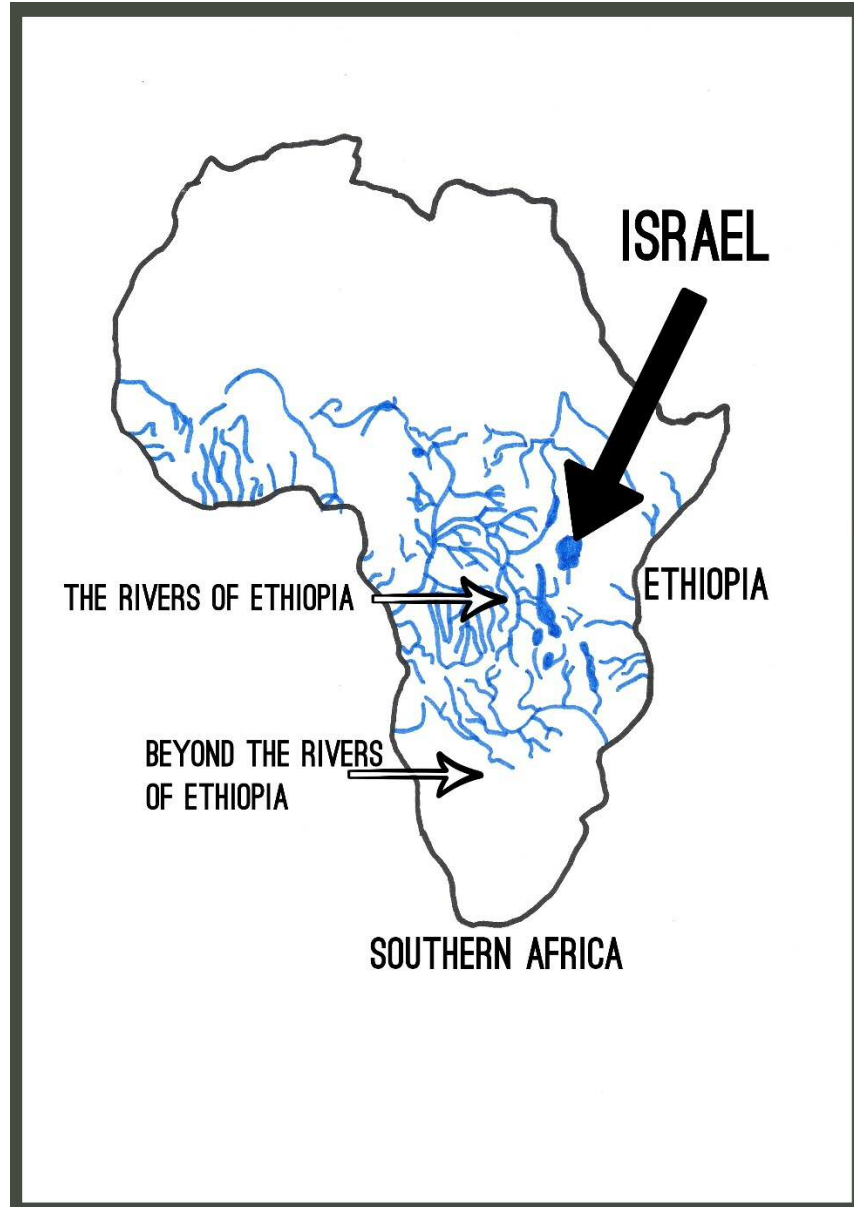
Chapter 1: If my people who are called by name.....

trouble that they cannot like America or the EU just keep printing money to buy their way out of trouble. Preferably a nation so deep in trouble that they cannot go to any other world power to ask for help. Preferably a nation who already know the Word of God and know the Lord but have never been really obedient to the ways of God by which their nation should be run. And preferably a people the world looks down and thinks are foolish so God can confound the wise!

Well actually yes there is prophesied in both Isaiah and Zephaniah that in the latter days there will be such a people. Neither prophet could name who they are because at their time of writing their prophecies these people did not exist. They just knew where on planet earth these people would be located. They would be at the uttermost part of the earth. They would be where nobody at that time had ever ventured.

Standing where these two prophets were standing somewhere in Israel they saw in a vision a people in Africa. In fact south of Egypt, in fact much further south, they would be on the other side of the great rivers of Ethiopia (Cush in Hebrew)...in Southern Africa. There in a distant location and a distant time...there they said "The Lord will raise an ensign to the nations and these people will bring a present to the Lord of Hosts".

And that is what the vision of this book is all about...it is about who we the people of Southern Africa really are, why God brought us all here, what is the present He wants from us and how we are going to do it. And when we do it...it will shock the world, the Lord will be glorified, the devil defeated, the people liberated into the blessing and prosperity of the Kingdom of God...and Christians all over the world getting courage and vision...if these crazy Africans can do it....why not us?



Isaiah 18:1 Alas to the land shadowing with wings which is beyond the rivers of Ethiopia

Isaiah 18:3 All ye inhabitants of the world and dwellers of the earth see ye when he lifts up an ensign on the mountains and when he blows a trumpet hear ye....

Isaiah 18:7 At that time shall the present be brought unto the Lord of Hosts...

Zephaniah 3:10 From beyond the rivers of Ethiopia my suppliants even the daughter of my dispersed shall bring my offering.

Chapter 2: When God Raises an Ensign over Southern Africa.....

Many years ago I came across two scriptures of prophecy in the Old Testament that changed my whole view of “the end times” and where we are in God’s prophetic timeline. It sent me on a search for the real gospel of the Kingdom of God. And by “gospel” I mean “good news”.

I was used to a popular view of the “end times”. Armageddon, the Antichrist, One World Government, disasters, rapture of the Church out of here before The Great Tribulation etc.

Then one day in my general reading of scripture I came across two passages of scripture that as I looked closer, they shook me. They sent me on a search that ended up in a whole new vision for me as to where we were on God’s timeline.

The two passages were:

Isaiah 18:1-7 and Zephaniah 3:10. What caught my spirit was a common phrase in both these prophecies....the people “beyond the rivers of Ethiopia”.

Here is something to keep in mind about locations in scripture. If the people and places are known then Bible writers will call them by name. Like Egypt or Assyria or Ethiopia. But in these two scriptures there are no names, just location indications. So if you were standing in Israel as these two prophets were and you are talking about “beyond the rivers of Ethiopia” it is clear what direction you were looking...You are looking south.

When scripture refers to "Ethiopia" the Hebrew word is "Cush" and that is Africa south of Egypt. Which is why Jeremiah 13:23 says ***"Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots?"***

The people of that day never went beyond Cush, they knew the great river of Egypt came from Ethiopia and they knew there was land beyond that...but that was termed "the uttermost part of the earth."

There is only one place that these two prophecies can refer to....Southern Africa! And that shook up my whole “end times” theology. What if the Lord was not finished with Africa? What if the Lord had a great plan and purpose for Southern Africa? What if the next great move of God is not to take the Church out of the world and hand the world over to the Antichrist...what is God’s plans for Southern Africa, for Africa? Do we figure in God’s plan for the nations? I had to find out and when I did it changed my whole theology of the Kingdom of God.

Let’s look at these two prophecies a bit closer and see with me some of the outstanding clues that need to be deciphered:

Here are what both Isaiah and Zephaniah say....

Isaiah 18:1 ***"Alas to the land shadowing with wings which is beyond the rivers of Ethiopia"***

Zephaniah 3:10 ***"From beyond the rivers of Ethiopia my suppliants even the daughter of my dispersed shall bring my offering."***

So we know the location. But who are these people and what do they do? You must realize that Bible commentaries really don’t know what to do with these two scriptures. Matthew Henry says, ***"Isa 18:1-7 Interpreters are very much at a loss where to find this land that lies beyond the rivers of Cush."*** Barnes and Clarke don’t even bother.

What about the time context of these two scriptures? Both of these passages follow a scripture that speaks of the Lord gathering the nations for judgment.

Who are these people? Zephaniah gives us a good indication. He says “my suppliants even the daughter

Chapter 2: When God Raises an Ensign over Southern Africa.....

of my dispersed". They are God's people. They serve the Lord. Now some try to insert 'Israel' or the Jews here, but keep in mind that as far as gospel of the Kingdom is concerned as preached by Paul the Israel of God is not one outwardly by circumcision but one inwardly by the circumcision of the heart. These people are the New Israel of God, of the faith of Abraham.

What do they do? They do two things.....

1) They "raise an ensign" over their lands for the world to see.

Isaiah 18:3 "All ye inhabitants of the world and dwellers of the earth see ye when he lifts up an ensign on the mountains and when he blows a trumpet hear ye...."

The whole world is going to see when the Lord blows a trumpet in Southern Africa and raises an ensign on the mountains of Southern Africa. What does this mean?

2) They bring an "offering" and "present" unto the Lord.

Zephaniah 3:10 says that they "shall bring my offering"

Isaiah 18:7 says "At that time shall the present be brought unto the Lord of Hosts..."

What "present" and what "offering" is the Lord looking for from God's people of Southern Africa?

Scripture is always the best interpreter of scripture. So let's look at what "raising an ensign" could indicate and what "present" and "offering" the Lord could want from the Church in Southern Africa.

Raising the Ensign of the Lord over Southern Africa

In scripture an "ensign" was a battle flag over a family or tribe or the nation of Israel. It meant this is who we are, and we are ready for battle.

Isaiah prophesied about God raising an ensign over two areas in the world and several thousand years apart. To catch the importance of what I am going to show you I need to just give you a quick background about Isaiah especially about the timing of the years of his prophecies then you will get a better understanding of how remarkable this "ensign" prophecy is.

The book of Isaiah is probably the most amazing book in the Bible. Its 66 chapters are a commentary on the 66 books of the Bible. It has everything. Isaiah prophesied from about 740 BC to 701 BC. Northern Israel was taken into captivity by the Assyrians by 721 BC and gone. Only the southern kingdom of Judah remained when it too was finally captured and destroyed by Babylon between 604 BC and 587 BC.

Now here is the amazing part....Isaiah prophesied that both kingdoms would be taken into captivity before it happened and then of even greater importance he named Cyrus king of the Medes who would overthrow Babylon and release the Israelites from captivity 200 years before it happened.....

" Isa 45:1,13 Thus saith the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have holden, to subdue nations before him;..... I have raised him up in righteousness, and I will direct all his ways: he shall build my city, and he shall let go my captives, not for price nor reward, saith the LORD of hosts.

So Isaiah knew about both the coming captivity of both kingdoms of Israel but more importantly he knew the Lord would release them miraculously from captivity and restore to them to their lost inheritance....this is how he said it...and it is important for you to catch the "ensign" message:

Chapter 2: When God Raises an Ensign over Southern Africa.....

Isa 11:11-12 *And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea. and he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.*

God released His people the first time from captivity to enter the Promised Land when He sent Moses to deliver them from out of Egypt and return then to the land of their forefathers. Now Isaiah says the Lord will a second time "in that day" gather His people once again from captivity and restore them to their land.

When he says "in that day" he is referring in 200 years time and by the way most prophecy writer gets this passage wrong by referring this to 1948. It is not. Isaiah was so clear about this second release from captivity that he actually names the deliverer Cyrus by name who would be as instrumental as Moses was the first time.

But now I want you to notice the phrase "he shall set up an ensign for the nations and assemble the outcasts of Israel and gather the dispersed of Judah". The two nations he refers to here are Israel and Judah. Israel dispersed in 721 BC into the Assyrian empire and Judah dispersed into the Babylonian empire in 604-587 BC.

An "ensign" was a "banner". Numbers 2:2 says *"The children of Israel shall encamp every man by his own standard with the ensigns of their father's house."*

So wherever your fathers house was, there would be your ensign that signifies this territory belongs to you.

Isaiah in the quote from chapter 11;11-12 says that the Lord will once gain set up His ensign, His banner over Jerusalem and the outcasts of Israel and Judah will be united and may return to their inheritance because the Lord once again is giving them the land. And on top of that the Lord will command the nations to release them and Cyrus will supernaturally not only release them but give them riches and gifts so that they can rebuild Jerusalem and then temple. The same commandment was given to the Egyptians when God told Pharaoh "Let my people go..." they were given great gifts of gold, silver and cattle...

Ok here is where we of Southern Africa come into the picture.....

Isaiah makes all sorts of prophecies throughout his book about many nations. He names them. In chapter 17 it is all about the Syrians and Damascus. In chapter 19 it is all about the Egyptians. But in chapter 18 he mentions a people but does not name them. He only gives their location. He does not name them because in his day they did not exist yet. They are at the ends of the earth in a distant time in the future..

He says God will raise His ensign over their land meaning it is holy ground, it is God's place and His people will be gathered there.

Isa 18:1-7 *Woe to the land shadowing with wings, which is beyond the rivers of Ethiopia: All ye inhabitants of the world, and dwellers on the earth, see ye, when he lifteth up an ensign on the mountains; and when he bloweth a trumpet, hear ye..... In that time shall the present be brought unto the LORD of hosts..."*

The raising of the ensign means it is time for liberation. It means it is time to possess our promised land.

Chapter 2: When God Raises an Ensign over Southern Africa.....

The Present and Offering for the Lord

When we have raised the ensign to go forth into battle for the Lord, what present does He want from the Church of Southern Africa? What ‘offering’ does He want from us?

Lets look at some scriptures to see if we can discern the mind of the Lord...

There is a present that must be brought to the Lord Jesus from “the uttermost part of the earth” (i.e. Southern Africa)

Psa 2:6 Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion.

Psa 2:7 I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee.

Psa 2:8 Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession.

The “heathen” the people of Southern Africa are the inheritance of Jesus, who died for, and the lands of Southern Africa, the uttermost parts of the earth are to be His possession!

Paul said the “offering” that the Lord is looking for is the Gentiles....

Rom 15:16 That I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable, being sanctified by the Holy Ghost.

Paul read that in Isaiah 66....

Isa. 66:18 “... it shall come, that I will gather all nations and tongues; and they shall come, and see my glory.

Isa 66:19 And I will set a sign among them, and I will send those that escape of them unto the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, that draw the bow, to Tubal, and Javan, to the isles afar off, that have not heard my fame, neither have seen my glory; and they shall declare my glory among the Gentiles.

Isa 66:20 And they shall bring all your brethren for an offering unto the LORD out of all nations upon horses, and in chariots, and in litters, and upon mules, and upon swift beasts, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, saith the LORD, as the children of Israel bring an offering in a clean vessel into the house of the LORD.

Notice again Isaiah prophecies that ‘I will set a sign among them’ ...that is the ensign of the Lord to be raised. Notice also the “offering” unto the Lord are the Gentiles.

Psalm 82:8 "Arise O God, judge the earth: for you shall inherit the nations."

That is why Jesus said after His resurrection from the dead to His disciples ***"All power in heaven and on earth is given unto me, go ye therefore into all the world and make disciples of all nations"***

Have you ever wondered why He said that. Can you believe that Jesus knew about Psalm 2 and 82. That the time would come when God would say to His Son I have given you all the heathen and all the nations as your inheritance...it is time for you to take over rulership of the earth.

This great world revival of bringing in the nations will start somewhere. I believe it will be Southern Africa. This has been prophesied for many decades now by great prophetic ministries.

Chapter 2: When God Raises an Ensign over Southern Africa.....

The Fire Prophecies over South Africa

Andre Baard of the Prophetic Network in Cape Town has done a great job of researching all the prophecies of the last 100 years of the great fire of revival that will break out from Cape Town and spread throughout South Africa and from here into the whole continent of Africa and the world. He has done rigorous testing to make sure he chooses only the 40 most credible prophecies. to go to Andre's website and download their Youtube video (only 7 minutes) and then download his book which is in PDF file format titled "**The Southern Tip of Africa Fire Prophecies**"

You will find it at: <https://stafp.com>. You will be blessed and encouraged.

These prophecies confirm the scriptures over our people of Southern Africa. These prophecies have not come true yet. And I am saying it is time. Now.

It is time for the Mountain of the Lord to rise so that nations can flow to it and receive healing!

That is why I believe a massive revival/reformation is about to be unleashed across Southern Africa! The nations are finally saying, we need new solutions...things are not working out according to our economic theory or according to our party political platform.

We have had revival movements before. We have had moves of God and outpourings of His Spirit. But here we are not talking about classical "revival" that leads to repentance and salvation....that is only part of the story. With these prophecies we are talking about something so monumental that whole nations are changed and by this I mean the following:

A revival is where individuals come to repentance and forsake their sins, their "wicked ways" and give their lives to the Lord. A new Reformation is when nations repent and forsake their "wicked ways" and change the very character of the nation as to how it organizes itself in its social, governmental and economic ways of conducting itself and says we are now going to do things "God's ways"...those ways that the Lord revealed unto Moses.

It is time for Micah 4:1-2 and Isaiah 2:2-3...

"Mic 4:1 But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it.

Mic 4:2 And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; 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.

Isa 2:2 And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it.

Isa 2:3 And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

For nations to come to the Mountain of the Lord (which is the Church) and ask us to teach them the ways of the Lord two things must happen:

- Those nations must have run out of answers to their problems and are in such need that they turn to the church for guidance and teaching as to how they must change their ways.

Chapter 2: When God Raises an Ensign over Southern Africa.....

- The church must have studied the Word of the Lord and have a vision from the Lord as to how nations must conduct themselves, what are the wicked ways they need to change and what are The Lord's prescriptions for national blessing and prosperity.

Southern Africa is out of political and economic answers....the people are ready to come to the Mountain of the Lord to say..."teach us the ways of the Lord".

A New Vision of the Kingdom Age

When I decided that the task of the Church here in Southern Africa is to disciple our people and nations into the Kingdom of God, that this was our prophetic destiny, it changed my whole outlook on the issues of "end times". I saw different "signs of the times". I saw the Church and its mission in a new light. I realized that we were in fact in the long prophesied "Kingdom Age"...this is what it meant to me....

In the place of this gospel of defeat (Dispensational Rapturism), I saw the gospel of the Kingdom as preached by Jesus and the apostles and prophesied by all the prophets and why these great prophecies are going to be fulfilled by the church:

- ***"and the time came that the saints possessed the Kingdom" (Dan: 7:22)***
- ***"and the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea." (Isaiah 11: 9)***
- ***"and the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. (Hab. 2:14)***
- ***"at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow" (Phil. 2:12)***
- ***"and the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established in the top of the mountains...and many nations shall say, let us go unto the mountain of the Lord ...and he shall teach us his ways.." (Micah 4:1-2)***
- ***"and it shall come to pass in the last days that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains and shall be exalted above the hills and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say Come ye and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord ...and he will teach us his ways and we will walk in his paths...and he shall judge among the nations and rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more." (Isaiah 2:2-4)***
- ***"The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign for ever and ever." (Rev. 11:15)***
- ***"and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth...and in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed ... and it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms and it shall stand forever." (Dan.2:35,44)***
- ***"and there was given him (Christ) dominion and glory and a kingdom that all people, nations and languages should serve him..." (Dan. 7:14)***

Now I know what you are thinking. Yes these are wonderful prophecies but its not for now, it will happen one day in the Millennium when Jesus will reign. We cannot bring about this kind of world wide revival.

But that is where the defeatist theology you have been taught gets in the way so that you are immobilized by unbelief. This is what Jesus commanded his church upon his resurrection:

And Jesus spake unto them saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and of the Holy Spirit; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you and lo, I am with you always even unto the end of the world." (Matthew 28:18-20)

Chapter 2: When God Raises an Ensign over Southern Africa.....

He started ruling over all principalities and powers in heaven and on earth since His resurrection in 33 AD and He has given His church that authority to establish His Kingdom in all the earth. He is not one day coming to be with us, He says He is now with us all the time until the end of the world, until the job is finished, to give us all the power we need to disciple the nations. This is the wonderful gospel of the Kingdom! That's right, the Kingdom of God has come and Jesus is now Lord so get on with the job!

I see the signs that the Kingdom of God has come as prophesied and I see the following:

- I see an outpouring of judgment on the earth as false ideologies, nations, economies and peoples not grounded in God's Word come toppling down...Nazism, Communism, Capitalism, democracies, oligarchies, dictatorships, corporations, banks, religions, every knee will bow and every tongue will eventually confess that Jesus is Lord!
- I see an outpouring of God's Spirit on His people worldwide bringing with it a supernatural power to bind the strongholds of Satan and cast down fallen angels and demons into the Abyss for judgment and bringing in a great harvest of souls with a demonstration of Godly power the world has not seen since Jesus walked the earth.
- I see a new leadership of Apostles and Prophets, Teachers and Pastors, Evangelists who have a divine vision from God to establish His kingdom and not their own personal empires, programs and organizations.
- I see the Body of Christ coming into a new supernatural unity around the world as we discover that the Bible really has the answers to poverty, disease, the economy, environment, education and Godly government.
- I see the Church moving from Sunday morning meetings of anonymous people throwing pocket change into the offering, listening to sermons they will forget by Monday morning... to dynamic covenant communities that are debt free, wealth creating organisms that care for the elderly, educate the children, establish Godly families and care for the earth.
- I see the world looking onto these new functioning Church communities and coming to us saying ...our world is falling apart, our economic models aren't working, our governments are collapsing, our families are disintegrating... teach us your ways!

The Gospel of the Kingdom means that...

- The Kingdom of God came when Jesus rose triumphant from the dead and all power in heaven and earth was given unto Him. That means we are now in the Kingdom age.
- Jesus is now Lord and King seated at the right hand of the Father and He now rules over all (and not one day in the supposed Millennium) and will continue to rule until all His enemies are made His footstool; the last enemy to be conquered is death.
- It means that Satan and Antichrist are not going to take over the world...the Kingdom of God is going to grow and grow until it fills the earth just as Daniel prophesied it would.
- It means that there is no 7 year Great Tribulation ahead but a great world wide depression as the world's economies and governments collapse. It means that Babylon the Great is falling but we must also develop strategies to get out of the collapsing world. system and "heal the nations".
- It means that there are no 144,000 Jews to bring in the Kingdom, it is the job of the church of Jesus Christ empowered by the anointing of the Holy Spirit.
- It means that the scale of the work ahead of us is so great that everyone must get involved bringing their talents and abilities to the task ahead.
- It means that since all sectors of society must come under the Lordship of Jesus we need to empower teachers, farmers, businessmen, doctors, technicians, everyone to see where they can bring the Lordship of Christ into their world of expertise.

I know this is a lot to take in and if you want scriptures and explanations for what I just wrote here go to

Chapter 2: When God Raises an Ensign over Southern Africa.....

my website www.kingdomvision.co.za where I explain the prophecies of the Kingdom of God in depth. I don't want to get sidetracked.

This is the great prophetic leap that I had to take...

I had to go from "the end of the world is upon us, the devil is taking over the world, and the Lord is taking the Church out of the world"...and I had to jump all the way to Revelation 21 & 22:

The Church is the New Jerusalem, the Bride of Christ, the Tabernacle of God on earth and from it flows rivers of living water and leaves and fruits for the healing of the nations.

It is time for Rev. 22:1-2....."the healing of the nations".

If the Church in Southern Africa does not make this shift to catch this vision of the Kingdom of God and the healing of the nations then our nations will collapse into anarchy and poverty. And like the Israelite generation who did not want to enter the Promised Land because it was too hard...the Lord sent them wandering in circles for 40 years until a generation rose up that was willing to possess their inheritance.

That lost generation in the wilderness had incredible mountain top experiences of the mighty presence of God. They had signs and wonders. They had miraculous guidance. They had mass healings. They had divine provision. They had great charismatic leader...Moses. But they died walking in circles in a wilderness, never inheriting the promises of God. God's agenda of dominion was just too difficult.

I have given you the prophetic context for a vision of what the Lord wants to do in Southern Africa. Now I need to give you a new look at the real signs of the times. You need to not only believe that scripture points to the fact we are in the Kingdom Age.

You need to also see the signs of the times. The good signs and the bad signs.

The signs will tell you two things:

The Lord has provided us with everything we need to bring prosperity and blessings to the nations.

The other signs are also clear...things cannot carry on as they are.

And that is why it is time....

Chapter 3: The Signs of the Times

The Signs of the Times are not fitting our end time prophetic narrative!

As a disciple of Jesus you need to always be asking yourself 3 questions:

- 1) What is Jesus doing?
- 2) Where is Jesus going?
- 3) What must I do to take up the cross and follow Him?

These three questions are the essence of “seek first the Kingdom of God”. You do that by seeking what is the King doing, where is He going and how do I follow Him?

This is true not only for your personal life but it even more true to determine what is Jesus doing in our time in our nation and in the world? Where is He leading His Church and the nations at this time and how do we as a Church take up the cross and follow Him?

Which brings me to the very controversial issue of what we call theologically “eschatology” or more practically are we in the “end times”? Has the Kingdom of God come or till coming? And so forth.

What I am writing in this book about the prophetic destiny of Southern Africa does not fit into any of the “end times” narratives now being preached in the world. Most reading this book will dismiss these ideas as belonging one day in the Millennium. They have a simple narrative, it is the end times, the devil takes over the world, Armageddon is upon us and the we need to be eagerly waiting for Jesus to take us out of the world. I totally disagree with this defeatist theology even though as Pentecostal all my life I was raised on this expectation.

Most of you reading this were not aware of what was going on in the evangelical world of 1980...I know... I was there. We were expecting the Rapture any moment. All the signs of the “end-times” were to be seen everywhere. Israel had become a nation in 1948 and every prophecy book and preacher was telling us “this generation” (with a generation being 40 years) that saw this momentous event would see the end of all things and the Second Coming of Christ. Which meant that by 1988 it could all be over. And with a 7 year Great Tribulation to precede that event it would mean the Rapture could happen by 1981. The Soviets had invaded Afghanistan and the Shah had been toppled in 1979 by the Islamic revolution meaning the characters for the invasion of Israel and Armageddon were now on the scene. In 1980 Greece became the 10th member of the European Union meaning the 10 horned “Revived Roman Empire” was now ready for the Antichrist to come on the scene. China was a militant communist country with the threat of a 200 million man army that could march on Israel fulfilling further Armageddon prophecies.

The most printed book in world history after the Bible was Hal Lindsey’s “The Late Great Planet Earth” first published in 1971 and more than 60 million copies sold made these predictions so plausible. His follow-up book “The 1980’s: Road to Armageddon” likewise an international best seller.

But What happened to Armageddon...and the Rapture?

No Antichrist. He was supposed to come out of the EU and rule the world. Do you think that has any remote possibility? It looks more to me as if the EU is breaking apart than forming a world government.

What happened to the invasion by Gog/Magog of Israel? No invasion of Israel by the Communist Soviet Union, no invasion by Chinese communist army of 200 million. Do you think there is the remotest chance of Russia invading Israel? For what? This is all false prophecy.

Instead we got world revival with more than 700 million charismatic evangelical believers coming into the

Chapter 3: The Signs of the Times

Kingdom of God over the last 40 years!

We got the fall of communism and the Soviet Union is now Russia and committed to building the Russian Orthodox church as the heart and soul of the Russian people.

And China? The Chinese government is now the biggest printer of Bibles in the world. No more smuggling of Bibles into communist countries.

Could it be that we were looking for the wrong signs? Could it be that major leaders in the charismatic evangelical church could be so wrong about what the Lord wanted to do in the earth? Did anybody predict the walls would come down and communism would fall allowing the gospel to really be preached in all the world? Could it be that the Lord really wants to save the world and not condemn billions to a Christ-less, Antichrist world government?

It is now the 2020's and 40 years from those amazing signs of the times. And it is a drastically different world with unbelievable changes for those of us who lived the 1970's.

How about these new signs of the times:

What are the signs of the times today?

Here is the Good News....the real signs of the times. Christians are looking for the signs of the Antichrist or One World Government or all the bad news to prove the end is at hand, the church needs to exit planet earth quickly. So as we move into the 2020's generation....here are the results from the previous generations that we carry with us:

Sign 1: All over the world the Spirit is moving

The Economist magazine several years ago estimated that at current growth rates by 2025 the number of charismatic/Pentecostals will be 800 million people or 1 in every 10 people on planet earth.

Sign 2: All over the world things are getting better

I know this is not good news for apocalyptic preachers but the trends are clear. Abject poverty worldwide is declining every year as wealth per capita is increasing all over the world. Health is getting better people are living longer in every country than at any time in history. Nutrition is the best worldwide in terms of calories per person per day available. Violence in the form of deaths from war per 100,000 population is the lowest in history, so are crime rates falling.

Yes I know there are very bad things happening in the world with incredible problems that need to be solved. But today we as the Church have the wonderful power of the Holy Spirit and the wonderful power of modern technology and by combining the gifts of the Holy Spirit with the gifts of modern technology we can do amazing things to solve world problems!

Sign 3 All over the world technology is disrupting power structures.

I know people like to think the Antichrist is going to rule all over the world but here is the reality. Stop believing the devil's propaganda. He might be dreaming about that but God has given us technologies that have proven the David's will kill the Goliaths.

Bill Gates and Steve Jobs did it to IBM, Bezos and Amazon did it to the retail industry, Uber to the taxi industry, Skype to the huge telco monopolies, Airbnb did it to the hotel industry, Bitcoin and Blockchain

Chapter 3: The Signs of the Times

are doing it to the banking industries with many more to follow.
The global power structures are crumbling making way for a new world order...God's Kingdom!

Sign 4: All over the world people and things are getting connected.

The internet is the great revolution that is connecting the whole world. And when Elon Musk gets his 12,000 Starlink satellites in space and Bezos his similar Artemis satellites by the thousands and 5 other mega satellite groups also launch then internet connectivity will be available to all people everywhere at all time for minimal costs for megabit per second download speeds. And that means God's people all 800 million of can connect and inspire each other and do creative things all over the world and no dictators or hostile governments can cut the cable or stop the streaming information from reaching the people.

Sign 5: All over the world knowledge is increasing. Know anything anytime, anywhere.

This was all prophesied to come..."knowledge shall increase" said Daniel. "The knowledge of the Lord shall cover the earth as the waters cover the seas" said Nehemiah and Isaiah. Knowledge is free now everywhere. In great abundance. Knowledge empowers the poor and delivers from ignorance. Yes there will be a lot of "fake news" and nonsense and lies and dirt out there...but so will streams of living water to enlighten the truth seekers.

And all these signs point to a radical new world order that is emerging that will need a radical new Gospel of the Kingdom to fit the new signs of the times. A new eschatology of hope and success for the Church as the old world order collapses and out of it rises the manifested Kingdom of God on earth and the endless exponential growth of His church to fill all creation.

Sign 6: All over the world the structures of economies and governments are crumbling

All over the world the incredible debt of all nations and corporations and families are increasing to un-payable levels. Just in US dollars the world debt obligations are now at \$257 trillion. It will never be repaid.

The World Demographic Time Bomb- Nations are Dying

The greatest problem facing all developed economies of the world is the fact that they are dying. They are getting old in age and not enough young people to fill the empty spaces. Not enough young people to form families, raise more children, care for the aged, keep the consumer capitalist system running with work and consumption, not enough to pay the taxes to keep governments functioning and still pay off the debts of the previous generation.

In South Korea the number of children born to a woman there is 1. To maintain a population you need an average of 2.1 children per women. The facts are that Europe, Asia, Russia, Japan, China, the Americas...they are all dying. All these nations have aging populations and not enough new children to replace the aged, nor enough young people to form families and pay taxes and pay the enormous debts left them by the previous generation and not enough young people to care for the aged.

By 2040 there simply are not enough female wombs in the 20-40 age fertile possibility to create the children to carry a modern civilization forward. The same is true for all modern economies. Modern civilized economies need economies of scale, they need a large population that can provide division of labour for all the various jobs to be filled. Life will collapse to more primitive forms of existence.

Here is the bottom line: by 2040 the dead and dying nations of the developed world can no longer prevent

Chapter 3: The Signs of the Times

their inevitable death. Dying, Europe so is Japan and so is China by the way and America. A demographic collapse means practically that while population seems to be growing it is the elderly the over 60 year olds that are increasing every year and hardly any children being born. The ratio of old to young becomes economically unbearable. The working age population shrinks and they must care for the elderly, pay taxes, pay for the huge inherited debt from the previous generation, raise a family....It's not going to happen. In any case this young generation now growing up is more interested in video games, entertainment and avoiding responsibility. That is why the average age of marriage is now 29-31. In China with its "one child policy", that child has 2 parents and 4 grandparents. And that child is pampered and spoiled and entitled and has little interest in caring for two parents and 4 long living grandparents in a nation that has no national government old age pension system.

You cannot have economic growth when there are no new consumers to consume, no new tax payers to keep government bureaucracy functioning, workers for expanding businesses etc. My projections and other economist looking at these trend lines used to think the 2030-2040 decade is the decade when demographic collapse meets peak debt collapse and civilization and the world economy as we know it collapses.

The Covid-19 pandemic world wide changes those dynamics. It hastens the inevitable. I believe it is the 2020-2030 decade that will now determine the future of human civilization.

Now add to the world debt bomb, the world demographic time bomb, add to all that:

- The international economic dislocations caused by diseases like the great Covid-19 plague
- And add ecological destruction of earth habitats of fished out oceans and disappearing forests and animal species.
- And add to that resource depletion of critical minerals, arable land that is being paved over by city developments, soil erosion, water scarcity.

These signs of the times mean only one thing: The world as we know it is dying!

We are coming to the end of all human systems built on sand that cannot bring forth the Kingdom of God. That means the world economic system built on greed and self enrichment and based on endless debt creation is coming to an end.

It means the world wide experiment in human government that man through democracy can govern himself apart from God and the Spirit of God or the laws of God is now spectacularly failing all over the world.

It means that human culture and world civilization based not on man created in the image of God and for the purposes of God is collapsing in a race to lowest forms of degeneracy, where all things are permissible but nothing matters. The very foundations of civilized structure and order is being eroded and cannot be rebuilt by human ethics or the values of secular humanism.

The Good News....

All Over the World the Spirit is Moving

The meaning of the sign:

The charismatic evangelical church is the largest growing trans-national growing body of people in all nations of the world with a vision for World Government....the Kingdom of God. All other dreams of universal utopia are fantasies that will never materialize.

The evangelical Charismatic/Pentecostal movement is now the largest and fastest growing expression of the church in the world. That is a fact born out by all international surveys. It is also the only great church movement that is actually growing. All others are in decline.

Chapter 3: The Signs of the Times

This is a cause for rejoicing...and a cause for concern. Where are we heading? Jesus said "I will build my church." He has been building His evangelical Charismatic division of the church at a furious pace over the last 100 years from a small black church in Azusa street Los Angeles to world revival.

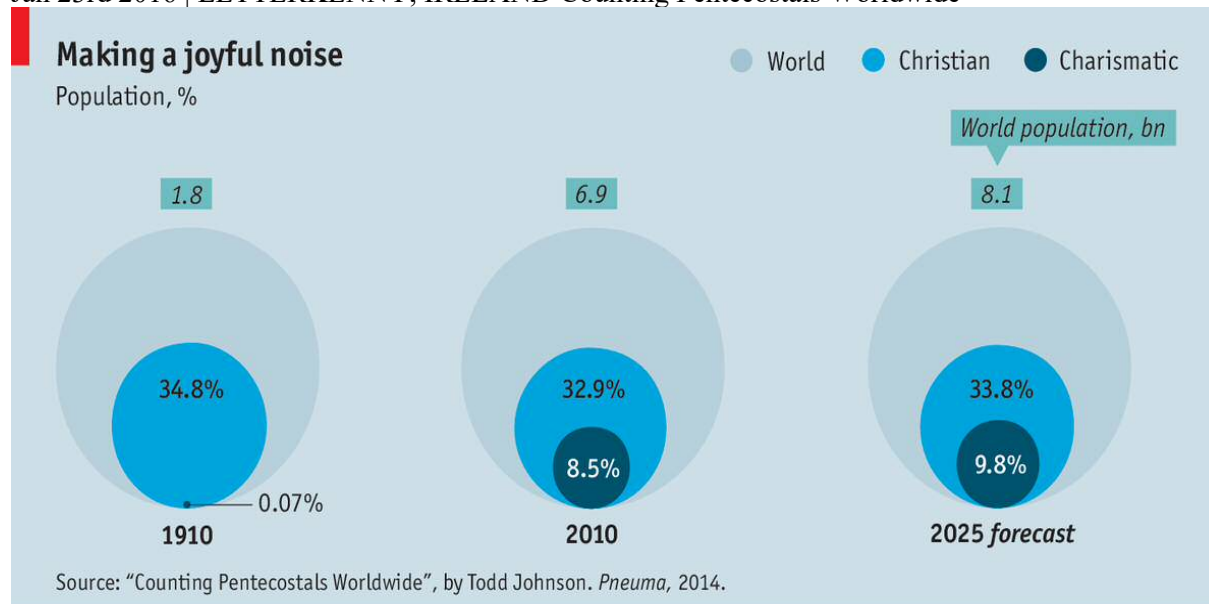
The implication of this sign? All over the world the world system is dying but Jesus prophesied that the meek will inherit the earth. That is right because the wicked destroy their future. They refuse to have families, they kill their babies, they think careers and money and pleasure are more important than family and responsibility. That means we the people of God by following God's economic and family growth plans with a growing Church all over the world will inherit all the assets of the world eventually!

The international media have taken note of this incredible phenomenon of the charismatic evangelical church growth rate. Here is what the Economist magazine predicted: 800 million Pentecostals (Charismatics) worldwide by 2025...

Global Pentecostalism

Ecstasy and exodus

Jan 23rd 2016 | LETTERKENNY, IRELAND Counting Pentecostals Worldwide



Economist.com

Quote...

Todd Johnson of America's Centre for the Study of Global Christianity reckons that as of 2010, these charismatic worshippers amounted to a quarter of the world's 2.3 billion Christians; by 2025 he expects their number to reach 800m (see chart). It is often noted by religion-watchers that Christianity globally is becoming more southern and exuberant. But the success of Pentecostalism and its imitators also highlights a more subtle point: the need for a kind of religion that is flexible enough to suit people in transit, whether between the southern hemisphere and the northern, between the countryside and the city, or between poverty and wealth.

The Economist Intelligence unit is predicting in the near future that 1 out of every 10 people on planet earth will be a charismatic/Pentecostal evangelical Christian!

That means if we ever got our people all over the world connected we can form our own world economy!

Chapter 3: The Signs of the Times

Just think of that for a moment.

Actually the Economist is underestimating the future revival. I read a quote from the Iranian interior minister admitting that if they legalized Christianity there would be at least one million Iranian Christians. There is explosive growth of Charismatic Christianity among Muslim nations...secret and in house meetings.

China: 250-300 million Christians by 2025

Another Economist magazine article that caught my attention was entitled "**Can Christianity Save China?**".

The author not being a Christian had a very interesting analysis on why he thought that yes Christianity is in fact in the process of saving China. And by "saving" he obviously did not mean it in the sense we use it as in "saving souls" but in saving a nation from chaotic collapse. The crisis in China is who will care of the elderly in a rapidly aging population of one child families? The Christians have shown great zeal to care for the needy after earthquakes, floods, disasters and caring for the lonely elderly. That is why Christianity will save China!

The author of the article presents the results of a recent study done by Prof. Fengyang Yang the director of the Center of Religion and Chinese Society at Purdue University. The study done there of the phenomenal growth of Christianity in China (and that is predominantly Protestant growth he says for which you can also take to read charismatic evangelical Christianity) makes the following surprising prediction:

At the current growth rates it is expected that by 2025 the Christian population of China will be somewhere between 250-300 million people!

The author states:

"Surprised? That makes sense. The Chinese Communist Party has done all it can to downplay this phenomenon and keep a tight media lid on it. Meanwhile, Western media outlets are so taken with the idea that religion is an irrelevant (and declining) facet of modern life that they don't pay attention to its growth in most places outside calcified Western Europe".

The economic and sociological problems created by the Chinese government policies cannot be solved by more government policies. That is the issue. Who will save China? The conundrum facing the Chinese government is that the only community of people out there willing to donate time and energy and love and care for all those such as the elderly, the sick, the despairing are the Christians. It is now recognized that it is only the Christian community of China that can solve the human problems being created by government economic policies. Because there is no other religious or social community in China after the devastation of the Cultural Revolution left to do the unpaid work that government bureaucrats cannot and will not do.

Time Magazine as well...

The Time magazine bureau chief in Beijing, David Aikman similarly noting this phenomenon in China firsthand wrote a book entitled "Jesus in Beijing: How Christianity is Transforming China and Changing the Global Balance of Power" (2006). On the book back cover he wrote: "***A CHRISTIAN CHINA?: A tectonic shift is happening in global politics and it is driven by the growth of Christianity in China.***"

This phenomenon of the viral Christian charismatic evangelical culture spreading into nations is happening all over the world.

Chapter 3: The Signs of the Times

In South America

The charismatic Pentecostal revival all across South America is turning what once was a Catholic continent into a Pentecostal continent. In Brazil already a third of the nation is evangelical Pentecostal and at current trends will soon be half the nation. Reports from Guatemala are that census reports say 60% of the nation is evangelical Pentecostal. Much the same can be said of most of the nations of both Latin America and South America/

The Catholic Church likes to boast about 1,3 billion believers with most of those in South America. But go there on a Sunday morning and find out how many people are actually at Mass and how many thousands are at the joyous charismatic churches praising the Lord whether mega large or household small.

In Africa

In Kenya charismatic preachers in thousands of churches across the country have a third of the country in their meetings every Sunday. According to the World Christian Encyclopaedia about 17m Africans described themselves as “born-again” Christians in 1970. Today the figure has soared to over 400 million or more than a third of Africa’s population. And these African Christians are following a strong evangelical tradition regardless of their denomination.

The Anglican church in Africa has rejected the liberalism of their mother church in England. They believe in the inerrancy of the Bible as the Word of God and reject ordination of homosexual priests. Even their mode of worship is no longer traditional Anglican but is infused with the praise and worship music of the charismatic churches. The same is true for the Catholics in Africa.

In South Africa, Zimbabwe the figure is 80% of the population call themselves Christian and 47% of the population call themselves charismatic or Pentecostal Christians. The rest of Africa the same phenomenon. Lagos Nigeria is filled with mega-churches with thousands of believers.

In Russia

I read reports of the massive growth of the Russian Orthodox Church after the fall of communism. After Vladimir Putin came to power in January of 2000 he realized the Russian nation needed healing and needed to go back to its cultural roots...which was the Church. I read recently reports from Russia...since he took power he directed the government to help restore the Orthodox faith across all of Russia. The incredible figure I read was that the government has built 25,000 churches, built seminaries, restored lost treasures and lands to the Orthodox church. There is a national revival back to its roots as a Christian nation. No talks there of separation of church and state.

The Gospel of the Kingdom and the 2020-2060 Generation

Which brings us to this question: **What is the Lord really saying and doing in the earth in our generation, in the church of the 21st Century and through the church in the 21st century to the people of planet earth? What is our vision of the future of the Kingdom of God?**

I ask you, Why would the Lord want to Rapture us out of here when there are still billions to bring into the Kingdom and when whole nations are collapsing and need to be disciplined into the Kingdom and when the devil is on the run. You say, no all the signs are there for the end, for the Rapture? What signs? I was there in 1980, we had many more “signs” than you could possibly find in the world today. The end did not come 40 years ago so what makes you think the end will come in the next 40 years? Don’t you think that the Lord

Chapter 3: The Signs of the Times

might want to save billions more precious souls?

So how about another 40 years of accelerated gospel outreach all over the world as churches everywhere multiply, divide, grow, build and evangelize like they have been doing the last 40 years. Where do you think we will be in 2040? 2060? How many billions do you think the Lord wants to bring into the Kingdom? And now couple that with an accelerating collapse of governments, of banking and financial institutions, of ideologies like Islam...do you think there is any place on planet earth that will not be affected by multitudes more coming into the Kingdom? Do you think the laws against preaching the gospel in Muslim countries and in Israel or Cuba or North Korea are going to hold up the advance of the church?

The task now ahead of us is this:

We need new wineskins for this new outpouring of the Holy Spirit all over the world.

The old models of Church cannot contain the coming great upheavals and influx into the Kingdom of God.

We need to be planning much larger structures or storehouses to contain the people, the gifts, the callings, the resources that the Lord wants to give us to disciple the nations.

I will now propose to you what I believe those new structures will look like.

Jesus called them the “sheep nations”.

The key to discipling the masses of souls coming into the Kingdom into “sheep nations” is the vision of the City Church...the “Ekklesia of God”, the Mountain of the Lord.

And if we get these two right, here in Southern Africa we can raise an “ensign” to the nations to say this is the new vision of the Kingdom taking form and shape in Southern Africa and if we can do it here than it can be done anywhere in the world.

Chapter 4: The Coming Kingdom Nations

Introduction

When we here in South Africa pray “Lord heal our land...” we need to understand the transformation that is required to answer that prayer. Jesus describes that transformation as turning “goat nations” into “sheep nations.” The prophets Isaiah and Micah described this wonderful transformation will come one day when nations will flock to the mountain of the Lord. Revelation prophecise that all nations, tongues and tribes will flow into God’s Kingdom.

This is a very difficult prophetic reality to grasp. It seems impossible. We are used to believing for saving of souls, of healing a family, of bringing people together into a local church to be discipled. But to transform a nation? To disciple a nation? That is something very difficult to grasp or to believe.

God has given mankind and His Church two great commissions:

Two Great Commissions: Genesis 1:26-28 and Mathew 28:18-20

The Mathew Great Commission

” Mat 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

Mat 28:19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

Mat 28:20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen

The Genesis Great Commission:

Gen 1:26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

Gen 1:27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

Gen 1:28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

The Genesis 1:26-28 is God's great commandment that we should take dominion over His creation, be productive and multiply through families empowered by productive wealth creation.

The Mathew 28: 18-20 great commission is to go into all the world and make disciples of all nations. The Matthew commission is to re-birth sinners so they can be adopted into the family of God through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit.

God created the Church to fulfill the Matthew 28 Great Commission as a platform for discipleship.

God created the nations state as a platform for families to multiply and work productively and live in peace.

God has given us a template of how we are to be discipled and what the discipleship end product looks like: Jesus Christ!

God has given us a template with guidelines on how we can model a nation state: Israel!

Chapter 4: The Coming Kingdom Nations

The Nation State and the Genesis 1:26-28 Commission

We do not have as a church a good relationship with the state nor the state with the church. I identify the problem as this:

We view the state as basically corrupt as are its practitioners.

We view the state as a platform that will inevitably be controlled world wide by Satan

We view the state as a bad actor, irredeemable until Christ comes to establish the Kingdom on earth.

We view the state as basically a man made social construct at war with God.

There are truth and falsehoods in the above statements. However our mistake as a people of God is to have abandoned the vision of the state as an instrument of God's blessing and have failed to repurpose it as the instrument of God for our good.

All nation states in the world today are dysfunctional and not fulfilling their Godly mission. There are only two types of nations states in the world. Rich ones and poor ones. And none of them are working as God wishes them to be.

Rich states are those whose per capita income is above \$10,000 pa. They are all characterized by one distinction: Every one has a fertility rate below 2.1 children per woman that is called the replacement level. Most are between 1,3-1,8 which means they are dying...all the rich nations of the world are dying of old age and not enough replacement children.

The poor nations of the earth are distinguished by the fact that although they may be producing children, those children are being born into dire poverty with little to no chance of fulfilling their potential and destiny that God created them to have.

We as a church need to have a developed theology of God's structure and purpose of the nation state. How can we even pray for the Lord to heal the nation if we do not know either what a healthy nations is or how it is supposed to be structured and what are its characteristics.

So here are our foundations declarations:

1) God Forms the Nations

The world belongs to God! ***"The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof; the world and they that dwell therein."*** (Psalm 24:1) That means it does not belong to the devil or the Antichrist!

The Lord gives the world to whomsoever He pleases!

"I have made the earth, the man and the beast that are upon the ground, by my great power and by my outstretched arm and have given it unto whom it seemed meet unto me." (Jer. 27:5)

God creates nations:

Acts 17:26 says, ***"For God has made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on the face of the earth and has determined their times beforehand and the bounds of their habitation."***

This happened after the flood and after the Tower of Babel incident when God divided the nations by confusing their language. Scripture describes 70 nations being formed. Genesis 10:31

:

"These are the families of the sons of Noah after their generations in their nations: and by these were the nations divided in the earth after the flood."

Chapter 4: The Coming Kingdom Nations

Moses however in Deuteronomy 32:7-9 gives us an important piece of information that I believe Jesus was referring to. It says this:

“Remember the days of old consider the years of many generations: ask your father and he will show you and your elders and they will tell you (Moses was referring here to the Tower of Babel incident). When the Most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when he separated the sons of Adam, he set the bounds of the nations according to the number of the children of Israel. For the Lord’s portion is his people; Jacob is the lot of his inheritance.”

God creates nations for His purposes. He sets their boundaries and He sets their times. But here another critical piece of the puzzle to understand why nations are “goat nations”. They serve other gods. In fact the Lord has allowed fallen angels to rule over the nations who rejected His rule. In Psalm 82 the Lord judges these fallen angels for their violence and misrule over the nations:

“God stands in the congregation of the mighty, he judges among the gods. How long will you judge unjustly and accept the persons of the wicked? Defend the poor and the fatherless: do justice to the afflicted and needy. Deliver the poor and needy: rid them out of the hands of the wicked.....I have said You are gods and all of you children of the most High. But you shall die like men and fall like one of the princes. Arise O God, judge the earth for you shall inherit all nations.”

This is incredible truth! Fallen angels whom the Lord calls gods who have been given rulership over the nations...The Lord accuses them of abuse, injustice, lack of compassion for the needy, oppression and vain glory desiring worship from the people instead of true worship of the Lord God.

He judges them and says they will be cast out of the heavens and will die like men losing their power and immortality.

God has a wonderful plan to redeem the nations of the earth and defeat their false gods and rulers and transform them into His people, His new nations. God sent His Son to redeem the nations by His blood God the Father promised His Son Jesus Christ....

2) God sets the boundaries of nations in time and in area

Act 17:26 And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation;

God creates boundaries of nations....

Land given to Moabites Deu.2:9

Land given to Ammon Deu.2:19

Deut:32:8 God sets the boundaries of the nations

Cyrus acknowledges God gave him lands and orders Ezz.1:2

Psalm 115: 15-16 God has given the earth to men.

3) God rules over all the nations (not the devil!)

Psa 22:28 For the kingdom is the LORD'S: and he is the governor among the nations.

Chapter 4: The Coming Kingdom Nations

Jer 27:5 *I have made the earth, the man and the beast that are upon the ground, by my great power and by my outstretched arm, and have given it unto whom it seemed meet unto me.*

Jer 27:6 *And now have I given all these lands into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, my servant; and the beasts of the field have I given him also to serve him.*

4) God promised Abraham that He will make many new nations in the earth.

Gen. 17:4-5:

"Behold my covenant is with thee and you will be a father of many nations neither shall your name any more be called Abram; but your name shall be called Abraham for a father of many nations have I made you."

So Abraham was to be father to many nations...and the same promise was made to Jacob....(Gen 35;11)

"And God said unto him I am God almighty be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall be of thee..."

I know this comes as a shock to the majority of evangelical believers who are praying for the salvation of Israel but the facts of scripture are that God intends to make a multitude of "Israel" nations in the earth!

5) God promised that all nations which He will make will serve Him

9 All nations whom Thou hast made shall come and worship before Thee, O Lord; and they shall glorify Thy name. 10 For Thou art great and doest wondrous deeds; Thou alone art God. (Psalm 86:9,10)

3 ... "Great and marvelous are Your works, O Lord God, the Almighty; righteous and true are Your ways, King of the nations! 4 Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy; for all the nations will come and worship before You, for Your righteous acts have been revealed." (Rev. 15:3,4)

So stop spreading the devil's propaganda that all nations will serve the supposed "Antichrist"! And if your preacher is doing this find another church!

6) The Nation State is God's platform on which power is generated to create wealth.

God has in His wisdom created what I term "platforms" On each platform there are laws and boundaries and each platform has a purpose.

The earth was created as a platform for all mankind to dwell on and produce endless growth for God's family.

The family was created as a platform to produce and train children.

The human being was created in the image of God as a temple of the Lord to house the presence of God.

The church was created as a platform to bring souls to repentance and rebirth and be trained to be God's kings on earth and priests in the heavens.

The nation state was created by God to be a platform upon which mankind can take dominion over the earth, create productive wealth and thereby allow families to multiply.

When God promised Israel "I give you power to create wealth to establish my covenant".....that power is a multifaceted interplay of factors that produce and direct power from which wealth is created. But a critical component to that power to create wealth is when the Lord gave Israel His legal guidelines for the establishment of a nation state constructed and organized for maximum wealth production by the people of that nation.

Chapter 4: The Coming Kingdom Nations

The unique ability of the nation state is that it can bring people together within boundaries and then the following takes place:

- There the people can be protected from outside predatory powers so that they can safely pursue their destinies.
- They can create a common law of action whereby common rules of behaviour can be established so that "all things must be done decently and in order".
- It allows for people to associate and specialized labour can be developed and trade in goods and services can be fostered.
- They can pool labour and capital and thereby create common infrastructure and tools to enhance the productive powers of labour.

The other unique factor of the national boundaries that God draws is that no nation is able to produce all that it needs from the resources within its borders. And no individual on his own is able to produce enough goods on his own to truly prosper.

Both nations and individuals need to trade with others. God creates a world of abundant resources but those only become available through trade with others. And so we need to have good relations with neighbours and nations. Nations and people are to gain wealth through production and trade....not war and looting

A properly run nation is key to prosperity for all! That is why we have all the principles for national government and a national economy clearly exemplified for us in the Word of God....through His example nation...Israel.

God has given us an example a template of the principles for national government and proper systems of government: Israel.

We have made a grave mistake as the people of God in totally ignoring our nation state and its structure. The most we do is "we must pray for our government". Pray what? How do we pray if we do not know what are God's policy prescriptions for both government and the economy?

The issue is serious. Every year our nation is getting poorer. The growth of population is greater than the growth of the economy. Another matric class has graduated and 71% of the young people will not find a job. Most for the rest of their lives will never find work. Families are disintegrating. Morals are in decline. Crime is rampant. National debt has skyrocketed and foreigners own most of productive national assets.

Government is not working and therefore the nation is not working. And if you are a preacher with a congregation of people who you love and care for and pray over you are already seeing a drastic decline in church income and church attendance.

Every structure that God creates whether individuals, marriages, churches, nations....there comes a time of fruit inspection. God wants fruit from His investment. That is why God judges people, families, churches and nations. Or blesses them.

We are a failed state. Because the church has left the nation to people to both operate the government and the economy who do not "seek first the Kingdom of God." We did this because we are waiting for Jesus to come and run our government and economy. God is waiting for us to run our government and economy by His policy prescriptions. In the meantime while we wait for the Kingdom to come or our idea of what the Kingdom should look like when it comes....our nation is dying as is our economy and the lives of our young people and our families.

Chapter 4: The Coming Kingdom Nations

7. God is Creating New Nations

Jesus made a very important announcement to the Jews at the end of His earthly ministry. In Mat.21:43 He warned them...

“Therefore I say unto you the kingdom of God shall be taken from you and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof.”

Evangelical Christians do not want to engage with this declaration of Jesus. They are looking for the nation of Israel to bring in the Kingdom of God on earth. This is not what Jesus said would happen. Jesus said that He will be making new nations that will indeed be bringing forth the fruit of the Kingdom. And those who do not will be judged and cut off.

There is a very peculiar prophetic statement of Jesus found in Math. 25:32-33. Jesus said that He will gather the nations before Him and separate the sheep nations from the goat nations. Prophecy writers don't really know where to place this in a prophetic timeline or how this works. I want to share with you the following:

There is no nation on earth that is a sheep nation (that includes modern Israel). What constitutes a “sheep nation”? What is the fruit that Jesus is looking for?

Let me give you the scriptural background to what I believe Jesus was referring to in these verses:

“And before him shall be gathered all the nations and he shall separate them one from another as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats.” (Math 25:32)

The question is: What did Jesus have in mind when He talked about sheep and goat nations? We need to answer this before considering when does this happen on God's prophetic timeline. And how can we transform Southern African nations from “goat nations” to “sheep nations”.

You shall inherit all nations!

Now look at this wonderful prophecy in Psalm 2....

“The Lord has said unto me, You are my Son this day have I begotten you. Ask of me and I will give you the heathen for your inheritance and the uttermost parts of the earth for your possession. You will break them with a rod of iron and shall dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel”

Satan offered Jesus His inheritance, the nations of the world, the easy way. Jesus refused. He had a better plan. His plan is to break the nations and peoples into pieces with a rod of iron and out of those broken nations...grow new nations...His sheep nations.

Once again God will create new nations out of “one blood for all nations to dwell on the face of the earth”...that new blood is the blood of the New Covenant!

God's New Adopted Family

God decided to start with a man and his family. Abraham and his descendants. And Moses especially points out the command to Abraham's grandson...Jacob was to be God's lot, His inheritance. This is what God told Abraham and Jacob....

Gen. 17:4-5:

“Behold my covenant is with thee and you will be a father of many nations neither shall your name any more be called Abram; but your name shall be called Abraham for a father of many nations have I made you.”

Chapter 4: The Coming Kingdom Nations

So Abraham was to be father to many nations...and the same promise was made to Jacob:

Gen: 35:9-11 "And God appeared to Jacob and blessed him...and God said unto him Your name is Jacob: your name shall not be called any more Jacob but Israel shall be your name and he called his name Israel. And God said to him, I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall be of you..."

Now note the plan of God that He promised to Jakob....

First a nation...Israel... was to come from Jacob and then a "company of nations".

The Hebrew word for "a company" is "kaw-hawl" meaning "company or multitude". So Jacob was renamed and indeed "a nation" came from him, Israel, but the Lord also said "a multitude of nations" would come from him as well!

Where and who are supposed to be the multitude of nations that are to come out of Jacob?

Here is where the dispensationalists and Christian Zionists get all confused. They get caught up with the one nation: Israel. All prophecy centred around one nation. Everyone rejoicing to see "Israel" restored. But what ever happened to the many nations that God prophesied would come forth?

Now here is the idea I want to introduce to you:

God formed the nation of Israel with all their history and covenants and victories and trials and tribulations as a sort of template, a guide, an instruction manual as to how to form all the coming company of many nations to come. Now while He was busy forming the Israel template He placed all the other peoples of the world under temporary rule by all sorts of other governments and placed times and territory restrictions on them.

But His ultimate plan was that all peoples would eventually come under His rule. This is clearly stated in Rev.7:9 *"After this I beheld an lo a great multitude which no man could number of all nations and kindreds and people and tongues stood before the throne and before the Lamb clothed with white robes...."*

Don't let anyone tell you only a handful are getting saved. In the generations to come you cannot count the multitudes of nations and peoples coming under His Kingdom rule! But God is a wise builder. He does all things by order, discipline. People need to be saved, discipled and brought into new covenant relationships using the Israel template as a guide. What do I mean?

How Do You Make New Israel Nations?

How? By following God's example on how He created Israel!

Let me give you the growth order of how Israel was formed:

It starts with a man: Abraham

Then a family: Abraham, his wife Sarah and his son Isaac and grandson Jacob.

Then a clan: Jacob and his extended clan of 70 who enter Egypt.

Then the clan grows into tribes: The twelve sons of Jacob grow into 12 tribes.

Then the tribes come out of Egypt and claim a land for themselves and form a nation: Israel!

I know the objections people will have with this. They were Jews, they were the descendants of Abraham. They had a special father. They had a special calling. Actually no, this idea is wrong.

Chapter 4: The Coming Kingdom Nations

Here is a very important fact for you to understand:

If you look closely at the Israel template on who made up the new nation of Israel, it was not physical biological descendants of Abraham or Jacob...this is where the Christian Zionists miss the whole idea of who Israel is. Most of those coming out of Egypt were Egyptians who became Hebrews by adopting the God of Abraham. And were eventually enslaved and abused by subsequent Pharaohs because of their supposed apostasy and refusal to believe in the many gods of Egypt!

The church has been obsessed over 'racial Israel'. Who is a Jew? We are still today caught up with this even though Paul clearly says that there is no difference between Greek and Jew. We know that as part of the New Covenant. But what people don't realize is that there was no difference either in ancient Israel between Jacob's immediate children and their children and the millions of Egyptians who became first Hebrews and then they all became Israelites!

What I have just written above is not believed by most evangelicals. They are focused on "genetic" offspring of Jacob, his literal biological children are the Israelites. This is not born out either by scripture or history. And because they obsess over "racial Israel" they fail to see that even before the law and during the time of the law and into the New Covenant era...men have always been justified by faith. Abraham believed God and it was counted to him for righteousness. And a multitude of Egyptians believed the God of Abraham and Jacob and it was counted to them for righteousness and they were adopted into Abraham's covenant family...as Israelites!

I am going to take some effort here to prove what I have just said by examining dates and years and prophecies in the Bible regarding Israel's stay in Egypt to show you that they actually only spent 215 years in Egypt (other reckonings are 210 years) and therefore you cannot have millions coming out of Egypt if they are only the descendants of Jacob and his 12 sons. Most Hebrews were in actual fact Egyptian converts.

I do this because Israel is not only a good template on how to run a nation according to God's principles but also the template on how God creates new "Israel nations" out of a multitude of different races and tongues and tribes...by grace and not by race!

Jacob and the new nation of Israel

Before Jacob and his clan arrived in Egypt the Lord had prepared the way for Jacob to turn Hebrews into Israelites, because Abraham and Joseph had already turned a multitude of Egyptians into Hebrews! How? They gave testimony to the whole nation from the Pharaoh down to the people that there is One God! Not a multitude of gods...first the Lord caused the incident with Abraham, Sarah and Pharaoh using the beauty of Sarah to get Abraham before Pharaoh, then Joseph saved the nation from starvation and became a national hero...and people turned from their gods to accept the God of Joseph and Abraham. They were called "Hebrews".

I know most commentators think the term "Hebrew" comes from one of Abraham's forefathers 'Eber'...but "heber" in Hebrew also means "to cross over"...those who crossed over from the gods of Egypt to Abraham's God...were called 'Hebrews'!

When Jacob the clan father arrived with the brothers of Joseph, people joined the clan under the different tribal names. Ancient societies had this practice. When you became a Roman citizen you joined one of the many Roman clans and tribes in order to participate in voting for the Tribunes and Consuls.

Now I am going to give you some very important scriptural and historical information about the millions who came out of Egypt as Hebrews. Jacob and his clan of 70 went into Egypt...*and 215 years later Moses*

Chapter 4: The Coming Kingdom Nations

came out with millions of “Hebrews”!...yes 215 years, not 400 years!

Here is the important point....the idea of “Israel” has never been about a racial identity...that you are an Israelite because you are the genetic offspring of Abraham. That is why it is important to understand that most of the people who came out of Egypt as “Hebrews” were in fact Egyptian converts...and that is how we today also make up new Israel nations!

How do you get Jacob and his extended family of 70 going to settle in Egypt (when they discover that Joseph is still alive and has become the Prime Minister under Pharaoh) and then 215 years later out come about 3 million Israelites under Moses heading for the promised land?

Here is the problem: If you take the 12 sons of Jacob and their wives and you start assuming each had to have so many children, who in turn had so many children you just are not able mathematically to come to a figure of 2-3 million. That figure of 2-3 million Israelites is extrapolated from the census taken by Moses of about 600,000 men of fighting age. If you then add their wives and their children and the aged above fighting age you get to a good guess of 2-3 million people.

People assume from reading Paul in Gal. 3:17 that Israelites were in Egypt for 430 years. That is not what Paul was saying. Here is what the scripture says:

Gal 3:17 And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect.

The 430 years refer to the time from the calling of Abraham at age 75 to when the Law was given to Moses at Sinai was 430 years.

The other confusing scripture in Exodus 12:40 in our King James translation says “Now the sojourning of the children of Israel, who dwelt in Egypt, were 430 years.” The Septuagint translation which Paul used and Jesus as well says 215 years. The “sojourn” of Israel started with Abraham at 75 leaving Ur till the Exodus out of Egypt...a journey of 430 years of which 215 years of that “sojourn” was spent in Egypt.

Actually it is easy to work this out from the ages of the patriarchs how to come to 215 years in Egypt:

Abraham was 75 years old when the promise was made to him (Gen 12:3-4)

From that time to the birth of Isaac, Abraham was 100 years old (making 25 years).

Isaac was 60 when Jacob was born (Gen 25;26) Jacob was 130 years old when he went into Egypt (Gen. 47:9) add 215 years of the Israelites in Egypt until the Exodus and you get 430 years from the call of Abraham at 75 to the Exodus of Israel out of Egypt....with 2-3 million Israelites and only 70 came in with Jacob!

What is not very well known among preachers is that among rabbinic scholars and Talmudic commentaries the fact that Israel was only 210 or 215 years in Egypt is actually well known and accepted. This is supported not only by careful scriptural analysis but also by two historical documents:

Josephus the Jewish general of the 70 ad war against Rome and a contemporary of Paul in his "Antiquities of the Jews" (II,15,ii) had this to say...

"They left Egypt in the month of Xanthicus (also known to the Jews as Abib and Nisan) four hundred and thirty years after our forefather Abraham came into Canaan but only two hundred and fifteen years after Jacob removed into Egypt" (the dispute among scholars is whether it was 210 or 215 years, not if it was 400 years!)

Chapter 4: The Coming Kingdom Nations

The ancient book of Jasher which is mentioned in Joshua 10:13 and again in 2 Sam. 1:18 was lost for many years and was rediscovered in 1613 and translated into English in 1840 has this to say (Jasher 81:3-4):

"And the sojourning of the children of Israel who dwelt in the land of Egypt in hard labour was two hundred and ten years. And at the end of two hundred and ten years the Lord brought forth the children of Israel with a strong hand"

The first important date is that Abram was 75 years old when we encounter his first covenant made with the Lord. There are two important date statements that the Lord makes here: Genesis 15:13:

"Know for certainty that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs where they will be enslaved and oppressed four hundred years."

The fact of Abram's descendants being strangers and oppressed in a land that is not theirs started with Isaac (who was oppressed by both older brother Ishmael as well as the residents of Canaan) as we can see from the above dates and carried on for 400 years until their Exodus out of Egypt. But then the Lord makes a very interesting comment about their time of actual Egyptian captivity in the same prophesy in Genesis 15:16: After arriving in Egypt from Canaan....

"Then in the fourth generation they shall return here (i.e. Canaan) for the iniquity of the Amorite is not yet complete."

Important to note: They would only be in Egypt for 4 generations. 4 generations is not 400 years!

This promise of the Lord to Abraham that his descendants would be four generations in Egypt is supported by Numbers 26:59 that shows the genealogy of Moses making his great grandfather to have been Levi the son of Jacob. Jacob and sons go into Egypt and Levi's great-grandson Moses, the fourth generation, comes out with 2-3 million Hebrews. From 70 to 2-3 million in 4 generations? How?

As you can see from the timeline above the 430 years Paul mentions is correct from the first covenant made with Abram in Genesis 15 until the Exodus and Mount Sinai giving of the law. This 430 year timeline that Paul gives in Galatians makes no room for Israelites being in Egypt for 400 years. If the Hebrews were in Egyptian captivity for 400 years then there would only be 30 years from the time of the covenant given to Abraham at age 75 till the entrance of Jacob and family into Egypt. Abraham would then be 105 years old and then be with Jacob and children in Egypt!!

These facts make real problems for Christian Zionists. So they go into denial. They do not discuss it and they do not mention it. It is absolutely critical to their theology of Dual Covenantalism that God has an enduring covenant with the literal, genetic offspring of Abraham and through Isaac and Jacob. But history and scripture plainly show the majority of Hebrews were Egyptian converts! After 4 generations from Jacob there were probably only a couple of thousand direct descendants of Jacob in the exodus. The rest were Egyptian converts.

But now I have presented you the facts of the exodus from Egypt which is this:

If you believe in the literal truth of the Bible that about 2-3 million Israelites left Egypt with Moses then all you have is 210 (or 215) years to go from 70 coming with Jacob into Egypt to 2-3 million literal genetic descendants of Jacob leaving Egypt....and that is impossible from 70 people even if you still want to hold to 400 years in Egypt....which you cannot.

Now here is the unpalatable truth that Christian Zionists do not want to accept but which is wonderful news for the Kingdom of God:

The vast majority of the children of Israel leaving Egypt with Moses were Egyptians!

So how did they become Israelites? The same way all other peoples of all races at all times have been grafted into the Israel family: By adoption through faith in the God of Abraham who is Jesus Christ our

Chapter 4: The Coming Kingdom Nations

risen Lord. And praise God, He is still today turning Egyptians into the Israel of God along with multitudes from all nations.

And so through the ages the apostolic missionary work of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob have been repeated by missions all over the world and in all times. We go to the pagans of the world. We tell the old gospel story with prophetic power and deliverance. They believe. They cross over from unbelief to faith in the God of Abraham. They become Hebrews. They then submit to the discipleship program of God that transforms Hebrews into Israelites...a people ruled by God's Word and faithful to His covenant promises.

And that is why this great world wide movement of God's salvation has never even from its inception been about race but it has always been about grace. Abraham believed God and it was counted to him for righteousness.

He called Abraham to start that nation and He called Israel to be a template for nations of the future to follow. God laid down the pattern of how to create a multitude of nations in the earth by giving us the roadmap with the creation of Israel.

This multitude of nations to come out of the seed of Abraham are prophesied in scripture to inherit the whole earth. That's right, these multitude of new nations made up of the seed of Abraham will not just inherit the small patch of ground in Palestine but are destined to inherit the earth!

We evangelicals just concentrate on the "a nation" meaning Israel and forget about the promise of a multitude of nations made of "Abraham's seed" that will be formed all over the earth. Who are these new Israelites? Who then according to scripture is a Jew? He who is of the faith of Abraham, not the genetics of Abraham

Rom 2:28 For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh:

Rom 2:29 But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.

Now remember what I am trying to show you here...God is not about one nation in the end times, national Israel...He is about a multitude of nations that are the sheep of His pasture. I am proving to you from scripture that God has plans for a host of new nations on earth that are called by Him into His kingdom and they all will have Abraham as their father....not biological father like the Jews claim to be but spiritual father as scripture is really about.

But before you get the wrong idea of who this seed of Abraham was to be and which multitude of nations God is referring to let Romans 4 clarify the real picture. I will print it here in length to give you the context and then I will pick out the relevant portions:

Rom 4:11 And he (Abraham) received the sign of circumcision, a seal of the righteousness of the faith which he had yet being uncircumcised: that he might be the father of all them that believe, though they be not circumcised; that righteousness might be imputed unto them also:

Rom 4:12 And the father of circumcision to them who are not of the circumcision only, but who also walk in the steps of that faith of our father Abraham, which he had being yet uncircumcised.

Rom 4:13 For the promise, that he should be the heir of the world, was not to Abraham, or to his seed, through the law, but through the righteousness of faith.

Rom 4:14 For if they which are of the law be heirs, faith is made void, and the promise made of none effect:

Chapter 4: The Coming Kingdom Nations

Rom 4:15 ***Because the law worketh wrath: for where no law is, there is no transgression.***

Rom 4:16 ***Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all,***

Rom 4:17 ***(As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were.***

Note the following:

vrs 11-12 : Abraham was counted righteous before he was circumcised so that he could be the father of all those who are of the faith; those circumcised (the Jews) and those not circumcised (the gentiles). The very important point is this....Abraham is the father of a particular seed of people...not just the Jews but all those who are believers. Being a biological seed of Abraham does not make you an inheritor of Abraham's blessings, you are not his seed through birth but through re-birth.

vrs 13 The promise to Abraham was ***that he would be the heir of the world!!!*** Please folks read this again!!! This is important....the inheritance of the seed of Abraham is not just Palestine or the land of Israel. - The land promised to Abraham is the whole world! And there will be a multitude of nations to make claim as the spiritual seed of Abraham to the whole world...not just Palestine.

vrs 14-17 The only seed that will inherit Abrahams inheritance are his real seed...those of faith! Not those of genetic birth. If people who are Abraham's genetic heirs have right to claim Abraham's inheritance then faith has no part in it, just genetic birth. It is by grace through faith that we are heirs of Abrahams inheritance, that is the true seed of Abraham....and that means that the Jewish settlers of 1948 who claim Abraham's inheritance of the land of Israel by right of genetic birth have no claim in the court of heaven. God has not given them the land...the United Nations has granted them that right.

God's promise that Abraham would be the father of many nations plus God's promise to Abraham that he would be the heir of the world, means that it is Abraham's many nations that will grow all over the earth to inherit the earth.

Where did Paul get the idea that Abraham and his seed would be the inheritors of the whole world? He got it from Psalm 2:6-8...

Psa 2:6 Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion.

Psa 2:7 I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee.

Psa 2:8 Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession.

Scripture says the Father has given His Son the whole earth to the uttermost parts of the earth and as children of God through Christ we are then heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ.

Romans 8:17 ***“And if we are children of God then heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ”***

God's Promise to Jacob/Israel

God appeared to Jacob in a dream vision and made a very important prophecy promise to him and it concerns we the people here in Southern Africa. Read this carefully:

Genesis 28:13-14...

“I am the Lord God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac: the land that you lie on I will give to your seed. And your seed shall be as the dust of the earth and they shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south: And in you and your seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed.”

Chapter 4: The Coming Kingdom Nations

God told Jacob that “a nation and a multitude of nations” would come from him. That is what this verse says. First his “seed” will be a nation on the ground where Jacob was sleeping on that night of his dream. Jacob called that place “Bethel”. That land became Israel. But then something would happen. From that land and nation of Israel, Abraham and Jacob’s “seed” would “spread abroad” from Israel to the west and east and north and south all over the earth to form a multitude of new Israel nations with populations so great that it would number like the dust of the ground...and they would be a blessing to all the families of the earth.

The “seed” spoken of here that will be of great multitudes all over the world are the families of the earth becoming the spiritual seed of Abraham through faith in the Lord God of Abraham who is Jesus Christ our Lord and saviour. And they will form new Israel nations like those Egyptians who believed in the God of Abraham and became Israelites and formed a nation, Israel in Palestine....so this will happen all over the world.

Our job as God’s people in Southern Africa is to ensure that the promise that the Lord made to Jacob that his seed would spread abroad to the “south” and the promise the Father made to His Son Jesus Christ that the uttermost part of the earth would be His possession is to create in our region of planet earth a wonderful collection of new Kingdom nations!

Can you see why Jesus said “***The meek shall inherit the earth***”? (Math. 5:5).

He called Abraham to start that nation and He called Israel to be a template for nations of the future to follow. God laid down the pattern of how to create a multitude of nations in the earth by giving us the roadmap with the creation of Israel.

Here is what the Lord told Israel....

Exodus 19:6: “***And you shall be unto me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.***”

Deut. 7:6: “***For you are a holy people unto the Lord your God: the Lord has chosen you to be a special people unto himself...***”

But after repeated attempts by the Lord to have Israel be that holy nation of priests to the world He divorced them. God decided to start all over again. The Lord has decided to give the nations of the world to His Church who will present them to Jesus Christ as His rightful inheritance!

Jesus told the Jews of His day:

Mat, 21:13 “***Therefore I say unto you The Kingdom of God shall be taken from you and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof***”

But He told His disciples:

"Fear not little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." (Luke 12:32)

Now read what 1 Peter 2:9 says...

“But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people that you should show forth the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.”

God has called His church to be the new Israel, the new priesthood, the new temple, the New Jerusalem to heal the nations by becoming a multitude of new sheep nations in the earth patterned on the original Israel.

“and there was given him (Christ) dominion and glory and a kingdom that all people, nations and languages should serve him...” (Dan. 7:14)

Chapter 4: The Coming Kingdom Nations

“And Jesus spake unto them saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and of the Holy Spirit; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you and lo, I am with you always even unto the end of the world.” (Matthew 28:18-2)

It is a new era. It is the Kingdom Era.

It is time for new nations, a multitude of new nations to appear on the earth...and we can start it here in Southern Africa because that is our prophetic destiny. The nations and people “beyond the rivers of Ethiopia” in Southern Africa where Isaiah prophesied that there the Lord will raise His “ensign” as a sign to the world....In this part of planet earth Jesus is Lord!

Chapter 5: God's Purpose for the Nations

Introduction

God creates nations for a purpose. There are certain outcomes that must become visible in the earth that God requires from the nations state and that only the nations state can deliver.

When God in the Old Testament gave guidelines through Moses to the people of Israel on how the new nation was to be organized then it was with a view to maximizing the kind of results He wanted from the nation state. Everything that is planted by the Lord must bear the fruit of that planting and if it doesn't He prunes it and if it still does not then He cuts it down. This is true of people, churches and nations.

I am going to show you indications from scripture directly from the Lord as to what He expects from a nation as a result of His planting and pruning. Then I want to show you some national guidelines that the Lord gave for the best ways for a nation to organize itself to achieve those results.

The Outcomes of blessed Sheep Nation

Right at the start of His ministry and at the end of His ministry the Lord Jesus laid down some outcomes that He expects from His Kingdom on earth: We can see this in Luke 4:17-21 and Matthew 25:31-40

At the start of His ministry He sets out His Kingdom goals:

Luk 4:17 And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written,

Luk 4:18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

Luk 4:19 To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

Luk 4:20 And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him.

Luk 4:21 And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears.

And before leaving back for heaven Jesus takes His disciples aside after 3 years of ministry and teaching and says I am leaving you now but I will return and this is what I expect from you when I return....

Mat 25:31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:

Mat 25:32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:

Mat 25:33 And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

Mat 25:34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

Mat 25:35 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:

Mat 25:36 Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

Mat 25:37 Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink?

Mat 25:38 When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?

Mat 25:39 Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?

Mat 25:40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.

Chapter 5: God's Purpose for the Nations

Are you beginning to see the agenda of heaven for the earth. Are you seeing what God wants done through His disciples on earth? We know all about the spiritual goals of winning the lost and bringing people to repentance. But He also expected that there were to be nations discipled into the Kingdom. Nations that will do what only nations can do: Create the kind of governmental and economic conditions that will result in:

- The production of food and water
- The production of clothing and housing.
- The caring and healing of the sick.
- The rehabilitation of criminals
- Good news for the poor, hope for those brokenhearted from failed dreams, deliverance for those caught in demonic vices of drugs, sex, drink, and occult activities.
- And very important...the preaching and practice of "the acceptable year of the Lord which in Leviticus is described as 'The Jubilee year'". This was God's 49 year economic program cycle by which the poor were to inherit the earth and become economically free and prosperous.

These outcomes were all closely linked to social, economic and governance policies of the nation state of Israel and subsequently are outcomes that the Lord prescribes for all the multitude of Israel nations that were to spread to the north, south, east and west of the earth.

These outcomes were expected of Israel but they never achieved them. This was why the Lord through the prophet Isaiah proclaimed to the nation they had forgotten about God's priorities. They were so caught up in what they thought were very spiritual rituals in service to God that they forgot about the needs of the people:

Isa 58:1 Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins.

Isa 58:2 Yet they seek me daily, and delight to know my ways, as a nation that did righteousness, and forsook not the ordinance of their God: they ask of me the ordinances of justice; they take delight in approaching to God.

Isa 58:3 Wherefore have we fasted, say they, and thou seest not? wherefore have we afflicted our soul, and thou takest no knowledge? Behold, in the day of your fast ye find pleasure, and exact all your labours.

Isa 58:4 Behold, ye fast for strife and debate, and to smite with the fist of wickedness: ye shall not fast as ye do this day, to make your voice to be heard on high.

Isa 58:5 Is it such a fast that I have chosen? a day for a man to afflict his soul? is it to bow down his head as a bulrush, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? wilt thou call this a fast, and an acceptable day to the LORD?

Isa 58:6 Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke?

Isa 58:7 Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh?

They sound to me like a lot of where we evangelicals are today...."Lord we delight in your ways, we seek you daily, we have evangelism outreach, we have teaching seminars and ministry conferences and we forsake not the gathering of ourselves together and we tithe and support missions....what more are you saying?"

Here is the more of what He was saying....He says this is what an acceptable day to the Lord looks like:

- loose the bands of wickedness, undo the heavy burdens, let the oppressed go free break every yoke, feed the hungry, house the homeless, clothe the naked.

Chapter 5: God's Purpose for the Nations

And since Israel did not do this God said, Ok I will come down out of heaven and get my agenda moving in the earth. So he comes to earth and on His first sermon in Nazareth, opens to Isaiah and announces from Isaiah This is my ministry agenda...Luke 4:18!

It Is Time

In April of 2017 we as a people of South Africa were called to prayer and humbling ourselves by that great man of God Angus Buchan in a rally called "It is Time".. Hundreds of thousands gathered outside Bloemfontein for this great call of God. The cry was 2 Chronicles 7:14 "Lord heal our land". That was a start. But did we follow up with practical action? We must then ask ourselves and take inventory....is our nation healed? Or are we progressively getting better as a nation or getting worse?

The fact of the matter is that every year since then we have gotten poorer, sicker and more corrupt and violent. And I can tell from scripture that the Lord has certain measures for whether a nation is operating according to His prescribed ways. Here are a couple of the national economic outcomes He requires...

***Deu 15:4 "... there shall be no poor among you; for the LORD shall greatly bless thee in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee for an inheritance to possess it:
Deu 15:5 Only if thou carefully hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all these commandments which I command thee this day***

Here is another national economic outcome.....

Deu 15:6 "For the LORD thy God blesseth thee, as he promised thee: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, but thou shalt not borrow"

Southern Africa has the greatest natural endowment of minerals, energy, agriculture potential, fisheries, of any region in the world (along with only Russia). How do we stand before God as a nation and as a people and with what kind of excuse when as He said "the land which I give thee for an inheritance to possess" is so naturally abundant, how do we end up with the world records in unemployment, crime, poverty, homeless, hungry and an indebted nation and people.

The Lord's expectation from us as a nation is no poverty in the land and a debt free national treasury.

I suggest to you that the way to those economic goals along with the many other requirements that God has for national life which also include social and judicial justice, safety and security of person and property, care and management of His property, planet earth and all its creatures.....the answers to the way forward on all these issues is to be found in scripture.

So what I am saying is that the issue is not we don't have the resources. The issue is that we have outsourced the Kingdom agenda of Isaiah 58 and Luke 4:18 to others....government and corporations. They took our money and resources and not solved our problems but left us poor and a new peasant class in a new feudalism.

How do we begin to address the societal issues of Isaiah 58, Mathew 25 and Luke 4:18? Where are the resources to even think of how are we going to meet these needs? We feel like we are facing 5000 hungry people and Jesus tells us feed them and all we have are 5 loaves and 2 fishes.

The scope of the problems we face as a nation and a church are immense. The response in the past has been "It's not our job let someone else do it".

Chapter 5: God's Purpose for the Nations

This is the kind of response Israel gave Samuel...."Give us a king like other nations to fight our battles for us."

So here is the situation we have here in South Africa. We the majority Christian population of South Africa have said, this is not our problems, let the government handle it....so this year we have handed over to government R1,900,000,000,000.00 (R1,900 billion in taxes and loans for expenditures by government and provinces) and we have given to the financial industry R5,000 billion (R5 trillion) of our financial assets and said please make jobs and please care for us in old age.

And the result? A respected economic analyst described our government as the largest organized crime syndicate in the nation. Theft, corruption, looting, incompetence, stagnation, clueless. The corporate and financial sector is probably a bigger looter and waster of our national assets. They do everything possible to hide tax liabilities and quick to export money overseas from wealth created in our nation by our people. They are just far more clever and sophisticated in how they loot. Our police and judicial system seem incapable of even bringing one looter and corrupt official to prison.

The coming revolution of Luke 4:18 is when the people of God realize the rapture is not going to save us from a national collapse, the end times we constantly hear about for the last 70 years is not the end of the world or the end of the church in the world but is in actual fact the end of nation states and their corrupt ways and the time has come for the Spirit upon all God's people is present and willing to give us power to do what Isaiah 58 asks us to do.

I am going to present you with the economic and governance template that God gave to Israel on how they can be blessed as a nation. This is the roadmap into the new future of how we can change our "wicked ways" and implement a divine plan for our nation. But first a strong "caveat" ...warning:

The Civic Nation and the Spiritual Nation

When God speaks of "sheep nations" or "His nation" He is not referring to geographical entities recognized by the UN as a "nation state". His nation and His "sheep nation" are the "sheep of His pasture" the "seed of Abraham." That nation is the people of God. They happen to live within the borders of various nations.

There is a difference between the "Civic Nation" and the "Spiritual Nation".

The civic nation of South Africa consists of all people who live within the border of the nation and are in covenant relationship with each other by virtue of their citizenship of the nation and that covenant of citizenship is governed by the civic laws of the nation which applies to all citizens as well as strangers in the land.

I believe God creates civic nations and He appoints rulers and God has guidelines for civic law and order so that we may all live peaceful lives and serve the Lord all must live by the civic laws of the nation.

However within the civic nation is the nation of God's people. They are bound by a higher citizenship and are required by God to obey a higher law....the law of the Spirit of Life in Christ. (Romans 8:2).

The civic law of the national government makes a threat...."Thou shalt not steal...and if you do we have the following punishments to discourage you."

Chapter 5: God's Purpose for the Nations

The law of the Spirit of Life in Christ makes a promise...."I will not steal because I am a new creation in Christ and I don't covet my neighbours goods and I have found that Godliness with contentment is great gain and besides Christ is my all sufficient provider.

We cannot expect the ungodly to live according to the law of the Spirit of life in Christ. All attempts in the past by well meaning Christians to create utopia's on earth and expect sinners to live by our rules have been a failure.

However there are good guidelines within scripture by which civic authorities can prosper a nation by following basic laws as God proposed for Israel with regard to the economy and law and order and other relationships that can create a nation that will prosper. Beyond this our duty as God's nation of "kings and priests" is to evangelize the lost in our nation and raise them to obedience to a higher law of the Spirit. When we do this increase blessing on the nation, crime goes down, families grow, the economy grows, the nation prospers for all.

Distinguishing Old Testament Law: What applies, what does not.

I know many of you have heard for years from the pulpit "we are not under law but under grace" and so we tend to just ignore a lot of useful guidelines for a national economy that is prosperous and blessed. All except for the law of "tithing" which is always preached but all the other economic laws ignored. So when you try to interpret Old Testament scripture and its laws as pertaining to personal and national life...don't get caught up like the Pharisees in legalism.

The first thing you do is take out all the ceremonial laws of purity and sacrifice and temple worship etc and see it fulfilled in the sacrificial offering of Christ the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Where you see "temple" see the Church of Jesus Christ. Where you see "kings and priests" see all believers who are anointed by the Holy Spirit with authority by God to be priests and kings unto God and the world.

Next: Recognize who these laws were written for. The sons of Jacob that we love to idolize....Judah....Levi...etc....these and their descendents were savage barbarians who had no compunction or moral compass about mass murder, theft, rape, assault, lying cheating etc. For the Lord to get this lot to obey the idea of "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth" instead of a leg or a body or mass murder for an eye was the first step to create a lawful people instead of the lawless bandits He started with.

For us who are in Christ "an eye for an eye" is no longer an acceptable standard of justice as Jesus proclaimed an even higher standard of personal conduct.

But what is very useful in Old Testament laws are the national outcomes and guidelines that the Lord provides to His people. And these are all applicable to us today and are very useful for us in guiding our national destiny to a prosperous future.

One of the greatest economic guidelines is on the political front of governance. The outcome that the Lord wants is this: Civil government is there for our good to punish evil doers (Rom. 13:4) so that

1Ti 2:1 "..., supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men;

1Ti 2:2 For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

Chapter 5: God's Purpose for the Nations

We need good government so that we can lead quiet and peaceable lives so we each can fulfil all our God given potential.

And we need a good justice system so we can have this outcome that God expects...

"Then the Lord raised up judges who delivered them out of the hand of those who plundered them"
(Judges 2:16)

Scripture says we need good government and a good judicial system. That is basic.

But how does that look like?

1) Government Principle – Separation of Powers

Within the governing laws of Israel there was a clear difference between the work and responsibility of the king and the work and responsibility of the priests and Levites.

These are two powers and two authorities that the Lord has established and He calls them both His “ministers”. These two authorities are recognized in the New testament as a continued structure created by God to serve His nation states. In Romans 13 we have a description of the duty of the civil government and our responsibility to them:

Rom 13:1 -7

¹ Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. ² Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. ³ For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: ⁴ For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. ⁵ Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. ⁶ For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. ⁷ Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.

Civil government's responsibility to keep law and order in society and protect the citizens from evil does so we can lead quiet and peaceable lives. To carry out their duty the Lord gives them the right to the use of “the sword” for punishment.

Our responsibility is to pray for our civil rulers, recognize them as ministers of God, be obedient, law abiding and pay our taxes.

The priests and Levites in Israel also were ministers of God and were responsible for the ministry of the Temple by the priests in Jerusalem and the ministry of the Levites in the cities of Israel. The Levites were educators, teachers of the law, took care of social needs of the people, marriage, burial, health and welfare of the people. They taught the people the law of God and adjudicated disputes.

Here is our problem today. The civil authorities have taken on far too many responsibilities than what scripture tells them. They have encroached far too much in the world that Levites were called to do. They do not do it properly, they charge too much in taxes and they become a burden to the people. And on top of that they do not do their primary responsibility which is to keep the people safe and regulate law and order and punish wrong doers.

Chapter 5: God's Purpose for the Nations

Let me clarify another point here. The Church is not called to do the job of civil government and the civil government is not to do the job of the Church. Christians need to be in government as civil servants. But that does not mean that the Church runs the government.

Let me give you an example:

The law of the Lord says "Thou shalt not steal".

Civil government's job is to catch thieves and punish them.

The Church's job is to change the hearts of thieves so that "Thou shalt not steal" becomes a promise and a way of life. I will not steal because I don't want to not because I am afraid I might get caught and punished.

When the Church does its job to turn sinners into saints then the job of government becomes that much easier.

2) Limited Government

The best government is local government and self government. Israel was to have no king except the Lord but the nation was divided into provinces each with its own government right down to cities. So there was limited government and separation of powers and responsibilities. Israel was divided into 12 provinces (called tribes) in a what we would today call a "federal structure". Each province had a governor and self rule with the king in Jerusalem responsible for national protection.

The nation was not to have an expensive overbearing government like a king that would waste the national resources. But Israel wanted a king! They came to Samuel and demanded a king. Samuel tried to plead with them not to do this. But the Lord told Samuel...

1Sa 8:7 And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them.

God told Samuel to tell the people they were making a mistake. Why? And that is very interesting reason: The Lord told them that He was already their King. But if they wanted a human king they are really going to suffer. Read the list of problems the Lord told them they would have with a king:

- he would tax them and waste their money.
- he would get them into wars
- he would use their children for his wasteful projects
- he would take the best of their land and assets for his own use etc.

What God was doing through the prophet Samuel was making a case for what we would call today a free enterprise and libertarian economy based on the rule of law. Today we would call that a republic form of government. All that form of government needed was officers and judges and a people who are willing to obey the law. You don't need a king, he is only going to waste your money, destroy economic growth and get you into useless building projects and wars. You would prosper far more without one.

Can you see how radical this was 3500 years ago! No king, no big central government, no high taxes, private property rights, rule of law. That would have produced profound prosperity, an example to the surrounding nations, a witness to the world of the wisdom of the God of Israel!

But no, their response to Samuel was...

1Sa 8:19 Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, Nay; but we will have a king over us;

1Sa 8:20 That we also may be like all the nations; and that our king may judge us, and go out before us, and fight our battles.

Chapter 5: God's Purpose for the Nations

3) The Rule of Law

Israel was to be the first nation in the world without a powerful king but would have what we call a "Republic". A people with a constitution and the rule of law. The Lord told them that when they possess their promised land this is what they are to do:

Deu 16:18 Judges and officers shalt thou make thee in all thy gates, which the LORD thy God giveth thee, throughout thy tribes: and they shall judge the people with just judgment.

Meaning they were to have local "officers" meaning city mayors and local leaders and judges and courts to keep law and order but no need for a king. The Lord gave them an extensive law to regulate their conduct and three times a year they were to gather to hear the law read to them so that all understood what the law of the land was.

4) Honest Money....God hates Inflation!

In Israel's day money was measured in weights of metals. God required that a "shekel" of weight be an honest weight in your scales so that a shekel weighed the same today and in a year's time. That meant that God hated "inflation" and He requires honest money with the same value today as last year.

- A just weight and balance are God's work (Prov.16:11)
- Those who use unjust and deceitful weights are wicked (Micah 6:10-11)
- You are not to have in your bag differing weights, a heavy and a light. You are to have a perfect weight and a just weight and measure. (Deut. 25:13-15)
- Produce and commodities and money are to follow just weights and measure in their use and exchange. (Lev.19:35-36)
- A false balance and diverse weights are an abomination to the Lord; but a just weight is his delight. (Prov.11:1; Prov.20:10,23)
- God requires punishments for not using just weights and measures. (Amos 8:5-9)

5) Property Rights

God's law throughout scripture teaches the right of every person to own property. And property rights are to be respected by everyone. The great commandment is "Thou shalt not steal". Exodus 20:15; Lev. 19:11,13; Prov. 21:7

6) Fair Business Practices

- You are not to deal falsely or dishonestly with others when you buy or sell (Lev.19:11 ; 2 Kings 22:7 ; Acts 5:1-6)
- When you buy and sell to others you are not to oppress one another. (Lev. 25:14-17)
- You are not to be unrighteous or have unjust gain in trading, selling or buying. (Prov. 28:8 ; Isa. 33:15 ; Ezek. 28:4-8,18)
- Better is a little with righteousness, than vast revenues without justice. (Prov.16:8)
- Ill-gotten gains do not profit. (Prov.10:2)
- It is wicked to borrow and not repay. Ps.37:21 ; Prov.3:27 ; Rom.13:8)

As you can see from these scriptures our world economy and monetary system is riddled with 'Iniquity'....unfairness! Or what 2 Chronicles 7:14 says "wicked ways".

Chapter 5: God's Purpose for the Nations

7) Welfare System based on work for the Poor

If you read carefully in the law of Moses there is an interesting program of poverty alleviation set out for the nation of Israel. There is a welfare plan for immediate help to those who are hungry and have no prospect of work and need immediate help. I will not cover those scriptures here.

Then there is the next step to poverty alleviation....the creation of jobs for the poor who want to come off of welfare and want to work. But first let me say this. I am proud of our country's welfare program of social grants to some 17 million people who are helped every month. For so many that is the difference between food on the table and starvation.

However not many actually want to live on welfare handouts. I think especially of those more than 10 million unemployed who do not qualify for social grants and desperately want to work. Multiply that across the 10 nations of Southern Africa and we have a crisis of unemployment that is heartbreaking to see.

Here is what scripture says about job creation for the poor:

Lev 23:22 And when ye reap the harvest of your land, thou shalt not make clean riddance of the corners of thy field when thou reapest, neither shalt thou gather any gleanings of thy harvest: thou shalt leave them unto the poor, and to the stranger: I am the LORD your God.

When this was written and proclaimed by the Lord, agriculture was 90% of the GNP of the Israel nation. What the Lord is saying is that a certain portion of the productive output of the national economy must be set aside as job creation for the poor. The Lord is not saying, after you bring in the harvest which is the income of the nation, set aside a certain portion of that and give it to the poor and the stranger as a welfare handout. He says give a certain portion of the productive economy of the nation for the poor to work and reap the economic benefit for themselves through work. That will allow them to work their way out of poverty.

I appreciate what churches and welfare groups and government are doing to distribute welfare to the poor, but people need to work....they need work for the dignity it gives a person, they need it for the character development it produces, the young people especially need to grow up with an ethic of work and the connection between production and consumption.

God tells Israel, give the poor work to do! There are many 'work scheme' ideas from government and industry. But I believe the church in South Africa needs to get into this issue. So here is my interpretation and application of this scripture for an economic prosperity revolution for Southern Africa:

We need to ask ourselves: What can the poor do that we can give a portion of our national economy for them to contribute their labour?

There are vast areas of consumer goods for instance that the poor can make:

They can make clothes – so why are we importing so many clothes from overseas?

They can raise chickens and process them so why are we allowing other countries to supply our poultry?

They can make our shoes, why import from abroad?

They can farm so why do we allow sugar imports?

They can produce agricultural raw materials from which we can make ethanol and replace 10% at least of our petrol supply.

We can stop wasting money on imported diesel/electric train locos and make our own steam locos with 100% local content and 100% local fuel supply and restore national train connections to all the small towns of South Africa with cheap train fares. No need for expensive overhead electric cables that get

Chapter 5: God's Purpose for the Nations

looted the moment they are replaced.

You can go through lists and lists of things which we can make for ourselves rather than import. We protect those categories of work creation set aside for the poor of our land through tariff protection. There is no country in the world that industrialized their nation without tariff protection. Yes the products are probably more expensive and consumer choices are fewer but their income from work is someone else's income from sales circulating their income around the economy.

God's Jubilee Economic Liberation Program

When Jesus said in Luke 4:19 that He came to proclaim the "acceptable year of the Lord" all Bible scholars will tell you He was referring to the Jubilee of Leviticus 25.

This is a very exciting proclamation. This is God's economic program whereby "the meek shall inherit the earth" as Jesus promised. I want to give you an idea of what kind of radical economic program the Kingdom of God is aiming at. There is a lot to unpack in this economic program and requires a separate book but I want to at least give you an idea of what this plan of God is.

Every mention you have heard of Jubilee is always phrased as "a debt Jubilee" and this is entirely wrong. The Jubilee year was the 50th year. This came at the end of 7 cycles of 7 years. After every cycle of 7 years all debt was to be cancelled. So yes debt cancellation was part of the Jubilee process. However this important economic reform in God's Israel economy introduced the idea of "debt limitation". Nobody is allowed to be in perpetual debt servitude. Today this issue is addressed in a modern economy in a limited way through "limited liability" corporations and of course bankruptcy procedures.

But the end purpose of the Jubilee program was not just to get people out of perpetual debt but very importantly was what the outcome in the economy was to be after 49 years:

Every family of Israel was to be the owner of a portion of the productive assets of the nation so that the effect would be that every family had two sources of income: Labour income and passive income from productive assets. These assets could then be handed to the next generation as a capital base for family growth.

That is how the meek are to inherit the earth!

This radical economic program was never done in all the history of Israel and it has never been done in all the history of the world! And I can assure you that only a national government that is run by God's people will be able to produce a national Jubilee economic liberation for the people.

The Jubilee plan of the Lord is that over a period of 49 years the entire nation of the people of God are able to reach both goals so that on the 50th year a trumpet is blown declaring "Freedom" throughout the land. Freedom today is political slogan used by political parties to gain power over people but has no practical meaning. The goal of Jubilee freedom is for the whole nation of the Israel people to be debt free and owners of productive assets and fully employed in the various callings of productive work able to carry out their family obligations including the transfer of wealth assets to the next generation.

Here is what the scripture says:

Lev. 25:10 ***"You shall thus consecrate the fiftieth year and proclaim a release through the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a Jubilee for you and each of you shall return to his own property and each of your shall return to his family."***

Micah 4:4 Gives us a result that the Lord is looking for with the Jubilee Economy....

"But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree and none shall make

Chapter 5: God's Purpose for the Nations

them afraid for the mouth of the Lord has spoken it."

Hebrews 4:9-11 Expands on God's plan and it's end result...

"There remaineth therefore a rest for the people of God. For he that is entered into his rest he also has ceased from his own works as God did from his. Let us therefore labour to enter into that rest"

The Lord has an economic program for both individuals as well as nations. The end result that He wants for us that in our labour through the years we accumulate enough capital assets (our own vines and fig trees) that at some point we can cease from labour and come into rest. With no fear of the future or of unforeseen lack of resources.

Similarly the Lord gives a whole chapter in Deuteronomy 28 to tell the nation of Israel that His prosperity plans for the people is a nation that is debt free and able to produce surplus wealth to lend to other nations and invest in national productivity.

In God's Jubilee Economy the Lord makes this important observation. Everything in life and economics works in cycles. The Russian economist Kondratieff published a thesis showing that the free world economies fluctuate in cycles of 54 years from peak to debt collapse. Eccle. 3:1 tells us **"To every thing there is a season and time for every purpose under heaven."**

We are to work economically through careful capital accumulation over a period of 49 years. For some it can be done sooner. If you look closely at the Lord's economic plan it was basically this. The land was worked for 6 years and the 7th year to lie fallow. In the 7th year also all debts must be finished. Here is the advice of God's cycles of life:

Your capital is not land or property or shares or money necessarily. Your capital to be accumulated through your Jubilee cycle are skills, character, family, home, financial assets and spiritual growth. The idea of "resting the land" in the 7th year is the idea of regenerating the land to produce more. You need to regenerate your productive skills throughout the cycles of your life. There is a time to study. There is a time to work. There is time to marry and have children, there is a time to build a financial asset base.

God's program as outlined by Leviticus 25 and other many economic scriptures tell us..

We are to buy up productive assets of the nation as well as create productive assets.

We are to hire our own Christian brothers and sisters in the Lord.

We are not to pay them slave wages and treat them as if they have no financial security.

We are to make sure that they also participate in the Jubilee and are able to accumulate productive assets by sharing the profits of the enterprise.

We are not to just buy up the assets of the sinners to place them in God's Kingdom but God's economic Jubilee program was also there to free the economic slaves through redemptions...Israel was to "redeem" or buy back the slaves and free them.

Our economic liberation program is for all people in the land.

Today the average wage slave in the world is living from paycheque to paycheque. They have no savings, no pension for old age, no security. A slave in the days of Israel had the security of a place to live, food to eat and was the responsibility of the master till old age and death. Today the "masters" of the corporation will fire you the moment you are a liability. There is no financial security in the world today for the average worker the way our current economic system works.

But is this Jubilee vision possible?

Let me give you some examples of wealth accumulation and liberation from poverty in 40-50 year time frames:

Chapter 5: God's Purpose for the Nations

- South Korea moved from abject poverty after Japanese occupation in 1945 to national prosperity by 1985...with no natural resources.
- Singapore moved from dismal swamp of poor people in 1960 to one of the most prosperous nations in the world by 2000...no natural resources.
- Taiwan from 1948 breaking free from communist China to prosperous nation by 1988
- China a billion people in abject poverty under communism and Mao's cultural revolution kicked out communist economic policies in 1978 and by 2017 had brought 600 million people out of poverty to middle class prosperity.
- Israel in 1948 a new nation poor and farming in Kibbutzim and 40 years later a rich and prosperous nation.
- The Japanese in the Meiji Restoration of 1868 went from Feudalism to world economic power in 40 years

I can list many more examples. But here is the points I wish to make:

Every example I mentioned above were financial success stories because they followed to some degree God's economic principles for prosperity as laid out by Moses 3,400 years ago....and that included: sound money, rule of law, private property, savings and investment, skills development....and bringing people together for a common purpose!

We evangelical Charismatics now number about 700 million people world wide and at the rate we are growing we will soon be 1 billion. If we had leaders with a Jubilee vision we can easily within 49 years own all or substantially all of the economic assets of the world.

God has strategically placed His people all over the world in all nations and wherever you find Christians you also find that they are mostly honest, hard working, highly skilled, entrepreneurial and able by their lifestyles to save money, have families and children.

The worldly of the earth abort their babies, have homosexual relations with no children, others place career before children and families. In short...the ungodly have no future and nations are in such deep debt and serious demographic collapse.

The ungodly have no long term future...the world and all its assets are there for the people of God to possess. The wealth of the wicked is laid up for the righteous and all the great technical breakthroughs that are flooding the world are there as gifts from the Lord for us to use for His Kingdom.

None of the success stories above happened by one person acting alone. Groups of people whether in the form of a nation or in the form of a company came together and made a covenant with one another, this covenant being either a national constitution or a corporate association, they came together for a covenanted purpose to do great things together as a people.

The Church of Jesus Christ needs to get out of its useless divisions, and it's endless talking and bring the people of God together for a vision of the Kingdom as a world liberating force to redeem the earth and its assets and its people to be repurposed for God's purposes.

"Fear not little flock for its the Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom" (Luke 12:32)

Chapter 6: Ekklesia: The City Church and the Healing of the Nation

Introduction

The next great move of God is the creation of the New Testament concept of the City Church...the Ekklesia. The City Church is a city wide platform on which the whole Body of Christ in city region can network and form new ministry cells that extend the Lordship of Jesus Christ into all areas of life in order to heal the nation. It is the platform on which the saints can do "the work of the ministry" that the Lord has given to each one.

The technology revolution of the 21st Century will allow us to connect God's people across whole city regions, create virtual communities, create new economies and build the virtual New Jerusalem's we need to heal the nation and create a new world order.

We are at a critical point in world history and the historical destiny of the Kingdom of God. The potential for world changing impact is now available. The anointing is there, the time is right, the people of God have been prepared and the skills and technology are there.

I Will build My Church

When Jesus said "*I will build my church and the gates of hell will not prevail against it*" He clearly indicated a building project that He has undertaken. I do not believe that what we think of as "church" is a big enough vision of this great building project.

In the world of architectural design there is a concept of "form follows function" meaning first determine what function your building serves then design the building. What is the purpose of the construction called "the Church"? It is the vehicle through which Jesus Christ will obtain His inheritance as described in Psalm 2...all the nations of the earth! It is therefore the platform from which as Revelation 22:2 describes "for the healing of the nations".

The Greek word for this multipurpose entity is "ekklesia". As such we are given three concepts in scripture to describe its purpose and structure:

- 1) It is the city of God on earth to heal the nations.
- 2) It is the temple or tabernacle to house the presence of God on earth.
- 3) It is the body, the bride, the army of Christ on earth to destroy the works of the devil.

Jesus has been active for 2000 years building to complete this structure so that He can disciple nations into His kingdom, manifest His presence on earth and destroy the works of Satan on earth. If we are to "heal our land" then we will need to create a bigger vision, a larger platform to fulfil the mission of the church: We need to create 'The City Church' platform for action.

Jesus has been building this New Jerusalem for 2000 years in all the nations!

"I will build my Church and the gates of hell will not prevail against it"

You remember when Jesus said "*I will build my church and the gates of hell will not prevail against it.*" (Math 16:18)? Consider the possibility that what He had in mind was not necessarily what we have in mind when the word "church" is used. Please note that Jesus did not say "I will build my synagogue". Synagogues were common in Jesus day. The Pharisees built them everywhere. Jesus attended weekly. Synagogue comes from two Greek words meaning "meeting together". A Synagogue was people coming together for a meeting. That is our present idea of a "church", people coming together for a meeting. Actually in Jesus day we would be a Sunday morning synagogue meeting...and wonderful news, Jesus still today attends our



Chapter 6: Ekklesia: The City Church and the Healing of the Nation

synagogue meetings wherever two or three are gathered in His name.

Jesus used the word "Church" as the Greek idea of, "ekklesia". And in His day on earth that was a well known entity. Athens was an "ekklesia". It was a political, commercial and religious entity that was a city state that governed its affairs, that organized its commerce and that had courts of justice, taxes, and a gathering of people that debated its issues and plans.

Acts 7:38 describes the camp of the Israelites in their tribes around the Tabernacle with Levites and Priests in attendance, with the people divided in camps of warriors with leaders as an entity called "**the church in the wilderness.**"

God is not building Synagogues. He is building an army of warriors in a camp of the saints overshadowed by the fire and cloud of His presence, an army He calls "His Ekklesia", His governing polity, His Tabernacle, His warriors that must enter enemy territory and establish His rule....and the gates of Hell will not prevail against this army.

This is a Church This is what Stephen in Acts 7:38 called " the church in the wilderness. " A "church" in Greek is an "ekklesia" ..the called out assembly. It was a political term for a governing assembly of a Greek "Polis".	This is a Synagogue Jesus regularly attended Synagogue every Friday evening. He read the scripture there. He taught there. The weekly synagogue meeting was initiated by the Pharisees to teach people the Torah. law of God.
	

The New Testament Ekklesia

It will help our understanding of we look at the original Greek words used in the New Testament as well as some good dictionaries. In the Oxford Universal English Dictionary we have the following meaning for Church:

Old English, circe; Middle English, chirche; whence: church. From the Greek, kuriakon; Scottish form Kirk. The Greek word "kuriakon" means belonging to a lord. This word is used twice in the New Testament: In 1 Corinthians 11:20 it is used in "the Lord's supper" and in Rev.1:10 it is used in "the Lord's day". So a "kuriakon" or a Kirk or a Church is "something belonging to a lord."

The Greek word used 115 times in the New Testament for "church" is ekklesia coming from two Greek words, "ek" meaning out and "kaleo" meaning call, giving a meaning of those who have been "called out". The other three times where this word was translated properly is found in Acts 19:32,39,41 where it is correctly translated "assembly" to describe the town council and civil body of Ephesus. The Expository

Chapter 6: Ekklesia: The City Church and the Healing of the Nation

Dictionary of Bible Words by Lawrence Richards (Zondervan Publishing House) gives us a good description of what an “ekklesia” was understood to be at the time that Paul used the word.

*In Greek culture an ekklesia was a political assembly. By the fifth century BC ekklesia had come to mean an official gathering of the full citizens of a Greek city-state (Polis) who were called together to make political and judicial decisions. **The Greeks never used ekklesias to refer to religious gatherings.***

In fact if Paul wanted to use a word for a religious gathering he could have used “Synagogue” which is not a Hebrew word but a Greek word meaning a gathering of people. Synagogue’s were everywhere. Paul preached in them all over the Roman world. They were well known religious meeting places and are the equivalent of what we today would call “church”. But the Synagogue system of religious meetings was not what Paul had in mind when he thought of what the church was meant to be; he purposely used a political word well used and understood in his day. **Athens was an ekklesia. An assembly of people gathered together in a city-state. The church is an ekklesia, a body of people in community who are called out of the world and called to live as a community under God’s laws as a witness to the world.**

The City Church as Isaiah’s “Mountain of the Lord

Isaiah 2:2-4

And it shall come to pass in the last days that the mountain of the Lord’s house shall be established in the top of the mountains and shall be exalted above the hills and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say Come ye let us go up to the mountain of the Lord to the house of the God of Jacob and He will teach us his ways and we will walk in His paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law and the word of the Law from Jerusalem and he shall judge among the nations and shall rebuke many people and they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

We as a church are too used to let the world set the agenda and the government do the work that the church used to do and did better.

Oxford scholar Niall Ferguson in his book *The Great Degeneration* cites the incredible work done in about 1900 by the Protestant churches of New York before there were government programs for all sorts of social welfare. I quote from page 116:

“Tocqueville did not exaggerate nineteenth-century America’s love of voluntary associations. To give just a single example...the associations affiliated with 112 Protestant churches in Manhattan and the Bronx at the turn of the 20th century were responsible for 48 industrial schools, 45 libraries or reading rooms, 44 sewing schools, 40 kindergartens, 29 savings banks and loan associations, 21 employment offices, 20 gymnasias and swimming pools, 8 medical dispensaries, 7 full day nurseries and 4 lodging houses.”

Before 1600 AD the whole world had about the same economy regardless of where you lived and about the same standard of misery. Then something happened in the west to propel mankind into unheard of levels of prosperity. Before this time economic production consisted of each family producing for their needs and with a little surplus to trade in town. This was basic home production and universal poverty.

Then men realized that if we wanted to really do big things like build a ship to trade overseas or build a railroad to connect cities for trade we cannot do this by individuals doing their thing. We need to get people together to work together, we need to get capital savings together. That was the start of the first corporations and the first banking institutions, started for a specific purpose: Create a receptacle to bring people and resources together to tackle big problems that you cannot solve on a family level.

Chapter 6: Ekklesia: The City Church and the Healing of the Nation

What they discovered was that by bringing people together with their labour and skills and combine that with their savings and investments you can accomplish really big things that have far more value to everyone than all those people working for themselves at home. That launched the Industrial Revolution and with it the enormous wealth creation of the last several hundred years.

Now let me apply that principle to the church and the issues and problems before us...

There is precious little that you can accomplish on your own. God has created this world in such a way that you are continuously confronted with problems and challenges. The vast majority of those problems He has created the world with cannot be solved by individuals, they can only be solved by people working together. God forces us to need one another so we can develop the character He wants in us for eternity. That is what you leave this earth with, your character, all the problems stay behind. He wants you to see His "fruits of the Spirit" developed in your life. For that He gives you problems in this life to tackle but He expects you to work with others otherwise they will never get solved. So He gave us families and the church...

Corporations and banks were created by men to bring labour, skills and capital together to solve problems. Nation states were created to bring larger pools of labour and capital together to solve even bigger problems.

But here is the big problem we are now facing: While companies, banks and government were functioning reasonably well we could carry on with church as a Sunday morning meeting, get people saved and wait for the return of Jesus. But something has been happening over the last 20 years that is now becoming very urgent: Governments, banks and corporations are no longer functioning. They are no longer solving problems. They are creating problems. The result is that massive unemployment, social dislocations, non-functioning schools, collapsing health standards...and I can go on and on....the world system of order and productivity and social standards are in an accelerating state of collapse.

This is starting to make increasing hardships for our Christians who are functioning or not functioning in these areas of life. It is affecting our marriages, our finances, our schools, our children. How do we as leaders of the church called by God to be shepherds of His flock to care for them, to protect them from wolves, to feed them, how do we respond to these challenges? Well I know what is not going to work in the future. More meetings, more sermons, more books, more seminars...these are not going to be the future of the church. At some point we are going to have to roll up the sleeves and get to work! With every great challenge that faces the world we need to stand up and say. "The Church of Jesus Christ has the answer!" And then we have to go out and do it!

The answer to "What now?". Is the same as it has always been: We face such enormous challenges that none of them can be solved by any of us individually. We have to find a way to bring God's people together with all the resources they possess in the form of their anointing, their labour, their skills, their love, their dedication, their capital...take all these and find a way to harness those giftings into an army of the Lord to do the work of God in the earth.

We can no longer just carry on with church as a Sunday morning meeting because at its core is a lie: We assume that if we just give that person in that meeting more knowledge, another sermon, another exhortation, he can go out on Monday and armed with faith and knowledge he can conquer the set of problems facing him and his family. Yes some problems can be solved by a person and his faith in the Lord. But most of the challenges facing our people today can only be solved by being part of a larger group of people working together. And that is what the Church, the Body of Christ is all about. But we are not there yet...

As much as people talk about "the Body" or "the fellowship of the saints" the sad reality is that our

Chapter 6: Ekklesia: The City Church and the Healing of the Nation

"fellowship" revolves around meetings, talking, listening passively etc. I do not believe this is the future of the Church. I believe the Lord is going to take those comfortable feathers out of the nest and He is going to force us into a new form of fellowship - a family of believers whose fellowship is centred around the work we do together and not the talking we do together.

I believe the next great move of God is not more and bigger mega-churches meeting on a Sunday morning. I believe the next major move of God is going to be the formation around the world of actual Christian communities. How? The early Puritans needed to leave Europe and come to a new continent to create the kind of communities where they could conduct their lives and work according to God's laws. We don't need to find new lands or separate communities in the desert or far away places.

The modern technology exists to create virtual interactive communities in every city!

The Virtue of a City

Throughout scripture we are pointed to the vision of the city. The city on earth is actually an analogue of that which is in heaven...the city of God. When Cain left Eden he built a city. Abraham looked for a city not built with hands. The Bible ends with a vision of the future...the city of God on earth healing the nations.

The concept of the city is the idea of people coming together for creative interaction, fellowship, trade, culture, education, protection...

And it is the vision of the city that I see the church of the 21st century headed. For so many reasons. By the way for those of you that want to study this further I can recommend two outstanding books. Edward Glaeser's "The Triumph of the City" which has a subtitle "How our greatest invention makes us richer smarter, greener, healthier and happier". (and that about says it all) and Leo Hollis's book "Cities are Good For You: The genius of the Metropolis".

The trend worldwide in the church is towards the phenomenon of the "mega-church". Why? Actually it is an interesting phenomenon. It is not about great preaching although that has something to do to start it. But in reality after a certain number of people as a threshold is reached then "a crowd draws a crowd". People love to socialize. When large numbers of people come together then a large number of activities can take place. Parents want their children to develop friends with other Christian children. Schools can be organized. Special classes and outreach groups can be organized. You can organize your family and social life around church activities.

When you bring people together you bring resources together. When you have people interacting then creative things start happening. This is the genius of the city.

The Foundation for the City of God is Finished

As great as the "mega-church" phenomenon has been its time to move on. And that is especially true of the multitude of small church denominational structures in every city of the world. Let me explain....

Ephesians 2:20 says we are built on the foundation of the prophets and apostles with Jesus being the chief cornerstone. Go to any Sunday morning service and invariably the sermons are what I call "prophets and apostle stuff". Foundation stuff. The same messages that we have heard a thousand times. Don't get me wrong that is crucial teaching. But when do we get beyond the foundation and start doing the building of the City of God, the Temple of God that will manifest the presence and power of God in the earth?

Eph. 4:11 says God gave us the five-fold ministry for the perfecting of the saints "unto the work of the

Chapter 6: Ekklesia: The City Church and the Healing of the Nation

ministry"...the saints need to get on with the ministry of building the Kingdom of God! Frankly a lot us are just plain bored and we come to church because it is wonderful to praise the Lord with other saints but when it comes sermon time...well I basically sit and meditate on my own thoughts.

The Next Great Move of God....Building the City Church

The answer for the church of the 21st century church is not more mega-churches with one man "pulpiterring" and more religious entertainment to draw the crowds.

I don't need more sermons and more entertainment. I need to be interacting with other believers so that I can work with others on the creative projects that the Lord wants to launch in the world for the healing of the nations.

I need a new kind of church platform that brings the people of God together for creative work. We have an unemployment crisis in the church. In its present structure the church functions for the work of pastors, apostles, evangelists etc. What about the rest of us? Are we just to be the audience for other people's ministries? We have church meetings by the hundreds in our cities but we don't know who is a fellow believer, we don't know what giftings and resources are in our city, we don't know who has vision for what because we are divided up in small audiences for someone's ministry.

Creating the Virtual City Church.

So here is my answer to building the city church, bringing the people together of all churches in a region for the purpose that cities are created....to bring people together for creative work. God has given us the exciting new technologies for today to bring together the people of God in a region. You don't need to be physically in a building holding a meeting.

I saw the kernel of the virtual city in an article in Wired magazine about the nation of Estonia. A small Baltic state of about 1,2 million people. The article by Ben Hammersley was entitled "Why I am now an e-resident of Estonia. And you should be too." The first paragraph was this:

"The most advanced digital society in the world is a former Soviet republic on the edge of the Baltic sea. And by handing over 50 euros and a photograph allowing my fingerprints to be taken and waiting a few weeks while my credentials were being verified I have been issued with an identity card, a cryptographic key and PIN code to access its national systems. I am now an official e-resident of the Republic of Estonia, as is the Japanese prime minister, and you will want to be one too. And what is more by doing so you'll be part of a system that could not only reinvent public services for the internet age but fundamentally redefine what it means to be a country."

The author goes onto explain that by being an e-resident of Estonia he can live any where in the world but he has the right to open a business and bank accounts in Estonia and conduct his business and banking from that tax friendly country without actually living there. And Estonia has taken all their national data and stored it offshore in back up systems so that if they were to be invaded, they can get their country back online with all its essential social and economic data intact. Any e-resident of Estonia has all his banking and social service data available to him and can do world wide commerce using his verified e-chip card in his computer to gain access to the system. Now what are we describing here?

What the country of Estonia has done is remarkable. The entire national operations have been placed online and all citizens plugged into the digital world of Estonia. All voting, legislation, records, banking, interaction with government, taxes, education etc ...all created into a virtual world. Estonia can be invaded

Chapter 6: Ekklesia: The City Church and the Healing of the Nation

but cannot be destroyed because the entire national system has been downloaded into multiple storage sites....offshore.

The world boundaries of national identities are breaking down everywhere. Soon nationality and country boundaries will mean nothing. Technology now allows you to create a virtual country in cyberspace. Estonia is already doing this and many other countries are going to follow.

Creating the Virtual New Jerusalem

Now imagine this: How we can create a virtual nation of God's people in a City!

Elders in a city verify who in their group are truly born again Christians and adhere to the basics of evangelical belief: Salvation through faith alone in Christ, inerrancy of scripture, etc.

Believers are issued with a similar e-identity card as in Estonia that can be plugged into a computer (special card reading attachment) and then they are part of the city fellowship.

What can be done through such a closed Christian social network?

Well lets just imagine some things already being done out in the web....

Special closed groups can be formed who want do Bible study on special topics.

Video capability means home cell groups can link up with other cell groups for specialized studies. Youtube teachings can be created by the best of Christian teachers and groups can take Bible studies on line.

People who have specialized ministry to homeless or runaways or drug issues can recruit those who also have this vision and work together.

News sites can advertise what is happening around the city in special meetings or outreaches.

Business possibilities are endless....

The entire new trend on the web is the idea that you don't need to own so many things when you can share when you need it.

Uber became the biggest taxi company in the world without owning a single taxi.

Airbnb became the biggest provider of hotel rooms without owning a building.

Amazon is delivering a multitude of products direct from manufacturer to customer without owning a store.

What about a specialized Christian Facebook social network?

What about in our local communities sharing things that people need without them having to buy it? Do we all need a lawnmower, drills, welders etc?

How about knowing who in our community are plumbers, electricians, builders?

Can you see yourself travelling to another city and you are looking for accommodation, why pay for a hotel when you can pay Christians to stay in their home? Or be picked up in a Christian version of Uber at the airport?

You see where I am heading with this idea? We Christians, if we can only connect with each other in a meaningful way are able to create a virtual alternate parallel society, economy and social justice system.

We can use the technologies of the blockchain and Bitcoin to create a virtual currency and trading system

Chapter 6: Ekklesia: The City Church and the Healing of the Nation

and banking system.

We can use the Youtube system to create our own virtual schools and universities.

We can link up with other Christians nationally and internationally to create a new world order.

The Israel of God are meant to be a covenant people separated out of the world system and its way of doing things and conducting their lives and communities and businesses in such a way that the world can see by their example that this is how God meant people to live. Being witnesses by their lives and work.

It is extremely difficult to do this in our present world system. Yes we can be a witness. Yes we must live Godly lives within a corrupt society. But we must also be aware that the Lord is making a way for us to be a better witness in this world by creating a community of believers who are able to connect and transact business and so many other activities through the new technology that builds the kingdom of God and not some secular world empire.

We have the ability to disrupt their world with our ability to network, support one another. There are now more than 700 million evangelical Christians in the world. We can not only create our own local cyber-communities, we can create a world economy and out compete anyone in the world. The technology is now available to us to connect all of us into a virtual social and economic world...our own Uber's, our own Airbnb's, our own entertainment streaming Netflix service (of good entertainment!)

We have the technical ability to withhold our money and savings out of their system where it is used to build other peoples businesses and instead we can create virtual financial systems where our money is safe and it is being invested in ways that glorify God and build His Kingdom.

We can create education systems with this new technology that can creatively teach our children and give them real knowledge and understanding of God's world and real training for skilled jobs instead of wasting so many years of their young lives on useless education that never prepares them for the real world of productive work.

We can create like the Estonian government a verified e-card identification system that says this person has been verified by their ministry fellowship as a committed born again child of God who is willing to submit to the laws of the Biblical covenant on their business and social dealings and have a good name and reputation among their brothers and sisters in Christ.

Having such a verified e-card system allows one to create a banking, business and social network system whereby we can lower our over head costs, do collaborative consumption strategies, pool our resources, support one another, do collaborative production (buying from fellow Christian manufacturers and service providers) etc.

Chapter 7: Southern Africa: The Ark of Safety

The world has become a very dangerous place. There are not going to be many nations or places on planet earth that are going to make it to the new century of 2100 AD.

Proverbs 13:22 describes our challenge...

"A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children and the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just."

Scripture tells us in so many ways to have a very long term perspective to our lives and actions. A good starting perspective would be making sure our grandchildren get to live in a prosperous nation. That requires a planning time line of 80 years. What does the world look like in 80 years time? What Proverbs says is that if the righteous will plan their communities for the long term and sinners do not then the grandchildren of the righteous will inherit not only their own family wealth but all the wealth that sinners have laid but have no children or grandchildren over time to inherit that wealth. How many of the world's elite wealthy are having children? How many of the increasing homosexual communities are producing children?

But we must have a world for our grandchildren that is worth living in and where they can live prosperous and meaningful lives. There are many dangers ahead that will destroy the dreams and futures of multitudes in the earth. I can just list a few without elaborating:

- Drastic climate change that will impact where we can farm and where we can live
- A world of corporate, government and personal debt that will implode into an economic collapse long before we get to 2100 AD.
- A resource crisis of all the easily available natural resources depleted.
- An energy crisis of easily available energy resources exhausted before the world is able to transition to renewable energy supplies.
- A demographic implosion where major nations of the world grow old with not enough children to keep the economy functioning, pay taxes, pay off debts and still raise children and care for the elderly.

I can list many more. The point I am making is that if we are to make it through the tumultuous decades ahead and ensure that our grandchildren have a future we need to be planning now and preparing now.

Which is why I am using the metaphor of Noah's Ark. The Lord warned Noah that the world he grew up in was nearing its end. The Lord warned him 120 years before the world's demise. The Lord told him to build a vehicle, a means to survive the coming destruction and restart with everything he needed to start a new civilization. The Lord told him to build an Ark and stock it with everything he needed to rebuild the world.

I propose to you that the 10 nations of Southern Africa together have the people and the resources for all of its people working together to safely make it through to 2100 AD. No nation in Southern Africa on its own will make it on its own.

I present to you in this chapter a radical proposal for the future of the 10 nations of the SADC (the Southern Africa Development Community). There are some things very unique about this part of the globe that leads me to believe that the Lord has divinely created a set of circumstances that will eventually lead us to be one of the most blessed and prosperous places on planet earth...all to the glory of God and the long term establishment of His Kingdom on earth.

Why? Because....

- 1) The majority of the population in all our nations are Christians who can create the unity of common

Chapter 7: Southern Africa: The Ark of Safety

purpose to navigate the politics and obstacles to this new Southern African.

2) We have one of the best geographical and geological regions on planet earth to provide us with all we need to create a long lasting prosperous Christian civilization while large parts of the rest of the world fall apart.

And that is also why the Lord created the exact circumstances we need to fulfil the prophecies of Isaiah 18 and Zephaniah 3:10 as the people of Southern Africa, who are “beyond the rivers of the Ethiopia” who will raise the “ensign” the flag of Jesus as Lord over our region to say...here we establish the Kingdom of God.

To use what I think is an appropriate metaphor I look at Southern Africa like Noah’s Ark. A boat that took 120 years to construct and when the deluge came he could load it up with all that he needed to start a new life in a new world cleansed of wickedness. I see Southern Africa as a unique boat for all our people, a boat that needs building to carry us through the coming collapsing world system, a boat that will carry all that we need to stay alive, and prosper to build a new world on the other side of the coming world collapse.

Here are my reasons for the above statements....

If you want your grandchildren to see a prosperous 2080-2100 then there are only two places on planet earth that can assure their own prosperity from their own natural resources by 2080. The Russian mainland and the geographical region of the 10 nations of the SADC countries.

To clarify: If you want to survive and prosper in a world that is already fragmenting and where “globalization” is dying and where you cannot assure a supply of critical materials for life on a planet soon to peak with a population of 9-10 billion people, then you need be in a region of the world where all the basic materials needed for a prosperous economy are located within your borders. In the coming world confusion and chaos you cannot trust on anyone or any other country to supply your critical needs.

To me critical materials for a sustainable civilization are minerals, food and energy. And not just a few of each. The whole array of what is needed. For instance:

Minerals: You cannot have an industrial economy without the ability to make steel and stainless steel. You need the full compliment of iron ore, manganese, chrome, vanadium, zinc, limestone, etc And copper for the electric sector. And it also helps if you had access to rare earth elements like lithium..

Food: You need the full range of a wide variety of fruits, vegetables and grains and fish and meat products and you need the three critical fertilizers that ensure abundant food; potash, phosphate, nitrates. And you need such a large geographic area that all possible weather and soil conditions are available for producing those foods and a climate change results in shifting rain and weather patters you need to be able to shift your farming to best possible conditions.

Energy: You need any or all available sources of energy in abundance to sustain a growing economy as prosperity is directly linked to the amount of energy produced and consumed per capita. That means abundant supplies of sun, wind, coal, gas, uranium and thorium. And platinum group metals for a future hydrogen economy. And then there is an abundance of oil and natural gas located offshore in both the east coast and the west coast of Southern Africa.

Here is the amazing coincidence: All of the above is found in abundance in only 2 geographical areas of the planet: The Russian mainland and the 10 nations of the SADC.

Chapter 7: Southern Africa: The Ark of Safety

Now here is another interesting fact that has emerged over the last 40 years. There has been a spiritual revival all across the nations of Southern Africa to the extent that the majority of every nation are now confessing Christians with the highest percentage of people who actually attend church on a Sunday morning than any other region on earth. And the Christians of Southern Africa have a greater identity with each other than a national identity of nominal citizens of any particular nation state in the SADC.

Combine that with the fact that along with the great political reform in South Africa after 1991 with the demise of Apartheid, that has allowed a new unity and cross border interaction of the people of Southern Africa. A fact recognized by the political leaders that has led to establishing the formal legal and trade structures of the SADC community. This is intended to proceed towards greater regional integration with free trade and free movement and eventual closer forms of political and financial integration of the region.

What does all this mean from the view of the Kingdom of God manifesting on the earth? What does the Lord want the Church to do for the future? I do not believe we can answer that question if we don't plan and expect to be here for the long term future...the very long term future. Because if we have a very long term future as a Church in Southern Africa and the Lord delays His return by any reasonable time frame and by that I mean we have already been active as a church for 2000 years...then I believe that Southern Africa is indeed the best place on planet earth to plan and work for a very long term prosperous future.

I have a new grandson who will see the year 2100. I have children who will see the year 2070. Most of you reading this are in the same situation. What kind of world are we leaving them? Which nations will still be around in 2100 AD? Which companies will still be in business in 2070?

I have a radical proposition of the Christians of Southern Africa. If we are to create prosperous future for our children, grandchildren and the generations to come then we need to stop looking to the rest of the world as a source of help or a source of resources. We don't know which of them are going to make it. We need to create a major world power that can define it's own destiny by bringing the 10 nations of Southern Africa into some sort of union with open borders and common currency so that we can build a major international economic power within the borders of our 10 nations. Let me explain why this is going to be critical for our future.

The 21 St. Century is Africa's Century



Chapter 7: Southern Africa: The Ark of Safety

Africa is so big you can fit America, Great Britain, China, India, Europe, Eastern Europe, Japan....all these great land masses can fit into Africa.

All those countries in the continents I just mention that fit into Africa...all those nations are dying! They are dying a demographic death. Most will not make it into the next century.

Why? No children and huge numbers of old people and mountains of unpayable debt and resources used up and land masses poisoned with pollution. The old age populations in these nations are growing more every year and the new born children are getting less every year. There will not be enough money for welfare from taxes and not enough tax payers to repay trillions of government debts and not enough workers and consumers to keep their economies functioning.

Africa is the only continent producing a young population and we have all the resources we need and most of those resources are still in the ground and there is an abundance of farmland to feed Africa and the world.

And we will pick and choose the best technologies we need from a dying world to build the new civilization of God's Kingdom on earth and the world will give it us in exchange for food and energy and minerals.

Poverty and the Exploitation of Africa

We are the richest continent on planet earth and the poorest people on planet earth. Why? Well here is a large part of the problem: The financial rape of Africa!

Leonce Ndikumana and James Boyce wrote the excellent expose of the rape of Africa entitled "On the Trail of Capital Flight from Africa: The Takers and the Enablers" (Oxford University Press 2022) Here are some facts presented in their research:

Africa loses much more through capital flight than it gains through inflows of development assistance, external borrowing or foreign direct investment. It is, in fact, a 'net creditor' to the rest of the world.

For the past five decades, Africa has lost more than \$2-trillion through capital flight. This amount far outweighs the current stock of debt owed by African countries as of 11 October 2021, that is, \$702-billion, the continent's highest debt burden ever. That is a major reason why the continent is home to 70% of the global poor, 63% of the world's food insecure, 34% of the world's illiterate, 49% of the world's deaths from communicable diseases, despite representing only 16% of the world's population.

Imagine if that \$2 trillion of illicit capital flight had been invested in Africa's infrastructure, factories, education, hospitals, farms....

The book shows how capital flight is facilitated by what the authors refer to as "transnational plunder networks", a combination of both domestic elites, key among them being kleptocrats and big corporations, and a global network of enablers including bankers, accountants, lawyers and politicians who not only facilitate the movement of capital from Africa, but also its concealment in offshore secrecy jurisdictions.

The book goes deeper into this phenomenon by making in depth case studies of three countries in Africa: South Africa, Angola, Ivory Coast. The figures for South Africa and Angola are tragic:

The book reveals that between 1986 and 2018, total capital flight from Angola, (one of Africa's biggest oil producers) was \$103-billion, averaging an annual loss of \$4-billion since the early 2000s. These

Chapter 7: Southern Africa: The Ark of Safety

figures far outweigh Angola's current public debt of \$67.5-billion, which the government calls "sustainable".

For South Africa, total capital flight from the country between 1970 and 2018 was \$329-billion, averaging an annual loss of \$15-billion since the early 2000s. Surprisingly, in 2020, the national debt of South Africa amounted to around \$242.82-billion.

The plunder and rape of Africa's resources has always been the object of why the colonial powers divided Africa into 54 states. Divide and conquer and then loot.

If we are to come out of poverty and start rebuilding a new future we need to be a world power and a world economy. We need to do what Europe did. They have a 1000 years of division, war, exploitation and political manipulation behind them. And then they woke up after 2 World Wars within 40 years and said...that is enough! We need to create a new Europe. We need to unite, drop the borders and create a united economic power with a powerful international currency to compete with America and Asia.

What are we to do here in Southern Africa?

How about a new USA? The Union of Southern Africa

Let me explore the possibilities a bit further for your prayerful consideration.

The 10 nations of Southern Africa comprise a land area of 5,980,000 sq. kilometres. Our combined population is 171,000,000 people.

The land area of the Europe that includes eastern and western and southern Europe and Scandinavia and Greenland is same size....5,900,000 sq. kilometres. Their population is 601,000,000.

India is half our size with 1,3 billion people.
America is 8,081,000 sq. kilometres with 330 million people.

We have by far the best open lands and better resources than any of these places. We can create a new civilization from scratch which has all the multitude of industrial minerals you need, all the various agricultural land you need for all sorts of varieties of crops, all the energy resources you need and all the marine resources you need.

The barriers of national boundaries are artificial. They are colonial legacies. They do not work. The people of Africa in any case just ignore these artificial boundaries and move where there are opportunities. There are already very strong "pan-African" movements among African intellectuals going back more than a hundred years. It just means finding a good means to create a new union. There are many existing political models in the world today. The prime one being the European Union. Borderless trade, national identities, single currency.

A new union will create a common market of 170 million people. If we are to create a new prosperity for our people of Africa then world economic realities tell you that you need a common market and a common monetary region of at least 100 million people. That kind of population makes your region a world power. That kind of region gives you the large population to create world class companies. That kind of potential creates enough people for all the things great nations must do:

- you need to have people resources to devote to not just agriculture but you can create a large pool of

Chapter 7: Southern Africa: The Ark of Safety

scientists, technologists, engineers.

- the more people you have the more specialists your society can create instead of depending on other nations to import expertise.
- The more people we have the greater the buying power the lower the cost of production for mass production of goods and services.

We need a sound monetary system so that the poor are not robbed of their savings through inflation. South Africa is already blessed with one of the best financial service sectors in the world with our banks being among the top in the world. Our problem now is that the financial service sector has grown too large for the size of our economy. It constitutes 16% of our GNP when it should be no more than 8%. We need a much larger economy of over 150 million people in a far larger region. The stability of our financial sector extended to the whole region will create enormous economic growth. That coupled with borderless travel and trade in our region will create wonderful economic opportunities for of the people of Southern Africa.

We need to eliminate the great wasteful expenditures of too high an overhead cost that so many independent nations of Southern Africa create. There are far too many politicians, too many parliaments, too many bureaucrats, too much red tape, too much useless regulations, too many armies and military waste, too many blockages from borders, too many foreign embassies by too many small nations...and I can go on and on.

As far as military and security all we need are good naval patrol boats to stop our sea resources being stolen by the fishing fleets of the Chinese, the EU, Japan, Taiwan etc.

And for the rest do what Costa Rica has done...just disband all the armies and use that money to strengthen police services and education and health care.

We also need to integrate the incredible resources of Southern Africa into one mega-economy. We need our farmers to be able to farm in all the regions of Southern Africa so that when there is drought in one region there is always food being produced in another. Our region if properly farmed can feed all of Africa. There is absolutely no need for hunger in our region.

We have all the energy and mineral resources in our region to be the major low cost producer in the world of steel and stainless steel. We have some of the best resources for the production of next generation tech...rare earth minerals, lithium, cobalt and nickel for the big market in electric vehicle batteries. We have great thorium resources for the next generation of thorium fueled small modular nuclear reactors. Which are inherently safe and low cost to build.

Our other energy resources are also vast: The best sunlight and wind resources for unlimited renewable energy. We have coal resources for a thousand years. And yes I am a supporter of coal use. We can scrub the sulfur dioxide pollution. And then of course great natural gas as well as oil off our shores.

We urgently need to integrate our whole subcontinent with a vast rail connection so that we can move people, minerals, food and goods to markets. And that rail system should not be expensive imported diesel electric locomotives. We need to start at the first industrial revolution before dreaming of the 4th industrial revolution. The first industrial revolution of Europe and America was steam locomotives. They were in use right through to after World War 2. The entire world industrialized on them. Why? Because they are cheap to make, can pull enormous loads, use cheap energy and do the job. It's just crazy that South Africa spent R54 billion on 1004 imported diesel electric locos. We can make thousands of steam locos 100% from our own materials and our own factories and export them into Africa...at less than 10% the cost. And we can service them ourselves and make our own spares.

And of course for Christians a borderless Southern Africa is ideal for preaching the gospel. We can travel anywhere. We can move money and resources to any region. We also love being with and meeting with

Chapter 7: Southern Africa: The Ark of Safety

our family of God in other nations. We would greatly benefit from such a re-organization of Southern Africa.

Is all this doable? Can we create a new USA ...a new Union of Southern Africa? If it were left up to the politicians, no never. They like being heads of nations, the prestige, the blue light convoys, the pomp and ceremony. They won't do it. Let me tell you who will do it:

- The Christians of all nations of Southern Africa are the majority of people in each nation. If they catch the vision of "sheep nations" instead of nationality nations...we can be the binding factor that unites the region.

- The young people will love it. They have no nationality ties. They are urbanized and want expanded economic opportunities.

- The powerful banking and business community will be very excited about this development and will be natural allies. They need a far larger internal economy for growth.

- And believe it or not the international community will be for it. China wants stable and well run economies they can invest in and 100 million new middle class consumers are what they want. The EU and other trading blocs will welcome a prosperous Southern Africa.

What About the Church in Southern Africa?

The great 5-fold ministries of the church have for hundreds of years laid a strong foundation for the Church in all the nations of Southern Africa. There are churches everywhere in all neighbourhoods in all places from corner buildings on main street, to garages in the suburbs and townships, to large mega structures holding thousands. We are on our own TV channels, we have magazines and podcasts, we are on media and Youtubes. There is absolutely no shortage of preachers and sermons and books and videos and meetings.

Where are we going with all this spiritual energy? More meetings? More broadcasts? More books and sermons?

We have two possible future directions:

From the American church the loudest and most authoritative prophetic voices are saying "it's the end time", "last days", "Rapture", "Antichrist", "One World Government", "sings of the times". I have full sympathy with those voices. I used to be a passionate preacher of that message many years ago. Unfortunately none of the great signs of those times and predictions ever came true as we were certain the rapture should take place in 1981 or latest 1988. What a different world we are in now. And nobody predicted or prophesied what has happened in the last 40 years.

Our other possible direction for the Church in Southern Africa is what I have laid out in this vision for Southern Africa. It is a long term vision. It is a vision of a victorious Church. It is totally different to what is coming out of the American church. Maybe they are right about the "end times", except of course I believe it is "end times" for the world Babylon system and that is why they have such apocalyptic visions of their future. But let them impose their "end times" on our new beginning.

Our heavenly Father said of His Son our Lord Jesus 'ask of me and I will give the heathen for your inheritance...the uttermost parts of the earth". Let's have a prophetic vision of making that desire of the Lord fulfilled here in Southern Africa. Lets bring a "gift" a "present" unto the Lord as Isaiah 18 and Zephaniah 3;10 predicted we would do.

That "gift" and that "present" by the Church that is "beyond the rivers of Ethiopia" in Southern Africa are the nations of Southern Africa. This is a new thing that will happen in the earth. That is why the prophets

Chapter 7: Southern Africa: The Ark of Safety

in America have not even seen this yet. We need a vision from our own prophetic community here in Southern Africa....a fresh Word from the Lord for our time for our people.

Chapter 8: The Coming Christian Civilization of Southern Africa

I will be proposing a number of very controversial ideas in my concluding chapter. They are predicated on the truth of the following statements which I will make. Some I have already shown from scriptures. Others I surmise and extrapolate as inevitable knowing what I know about the inevitability of the Kingdom of God.

The biggest problem I have in sharing the vision of the Kingdom of God and His plans and purposes for Southern Africa are the following objections:

- This is not the time. We must wait for the Millennium when Jesus will come to earth to set up the Kingdom.
- We are not the people. It is the Jews who will bring in the Kingdom and the Church will not be here on earth, we will be raptured in heaven.
- This is the end times when Satan and the Antichrist will rule over all the earth.

I answer all the scriptural issues of the “end times” and “rapture” and “Antichrist” in my book “**The Radical Gospel of the Kingdom**” which you can download freely on my ministry website (www.kingdomvision.co.za) so I am not going to answer those objections here.

However I do want to say something important about the “time” element that is indicated in scripture. One of my greatest problems with our evangelical movement and our teaching on the Kingdom of God is that we do not realize the enormous scale of time and the enormous scale of space that God is working with in His ultimate plans for the realization of the Kingdom.

This Kingdom project of God is utterly beyond our comprehension in both time and space the multitudes that will come into the Kingdom. And it is this dawning comprehension of the scale of this great work that impels me to believe for nations to be discipled into the Kingdom. And compels me to believe that this great work is the job of the Church, the Body of Christ. And that this great Kingdom project will not end till the job is finished.....and “then comes the end, when He shall deliver the Kingdom to the Father” as Paul says in Corinthians 15.

So I confidently proclaim: We are not in the “end times” as most of my fellow evangelicals believe. We are at the end of an era and transition to a new and exciting era in the long term plan of God.

There lies a period ahead of us that Hebrews 12:26-27 describes: ***“Yet once more I shake not the earth only but also the heavens. And this once more signifies the removing of those things that are shaken as of things that are made that those things which cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore we receive a kingdom...”***

We are in that time where both heaven and earth are being shaken and everything not built by God will fall and that includes economies, nations, ideologies, and all the vain imaginations of world that thinks they can maintain their civilizations apart from the Lord.

I have said we need a bigger platform to operate on to heal a nation and that platform is the City Churches of a nation. But there are bigger things ahead than healing our nation. A healed nation is capable of producing a Christian Civilization. And that civilization can do far greater things than what an individual or a local church can do.

We need to make it through the coming storms and build the new manifestation of the civilization of the Kingdom of God that will last for generations. And if it will be able to take dominion over all the handiwork of God as promised in Psalm 8 it will require the sub-continent of Southern Africa as a self-sufficient major power of the world that is grounded in the Word of God.

Chapter 8: The Coming Christian Civilization of Southern Africa

Every indication of scripture is that the Lord time and again gives us glimpses of scales of time ahead that is measured in thousands of generation, people in His Kingdom that are measured in quantities like the sand of the sea and the stars of the heavens. A Kingdom of God that stretches beyond earth and that reaches outward to encompass our solar system and then our galaxy in extent.

Therefore for those who have been expecting from their interpretation of prophecy that everything is about to end, that the end is upon us, that the earth is not our home, that we should not even be bringing children into this world because the future is bad and uncertain....what I am about to write here is just not believable.

But I promised in the title of this book to tell you what is ***"The Prophetic Destiny of Southern Africa."*** It is one of those kind of revelations that "eye has not seen nor ear heard, neither has it come up in the heart of man the things which God has prepared for them that love him. But God has revealed them unto us by his Spirit" (1 Cor. 2:9-10). I need to give you a very long term perspective of what the Lord is planning to do and only a Christian Civilization built on the solid foundation of the Word of God will be able to take this vision forward into the ages to come....until the real end of time!

When is the End?

Jesus said He is the beginning and the end. There is a beginning and there is an end. He created all things. He is busy with an incredible project called "The Kingdom of God". He started it, He is constructing it, He will carry on until the project is completed.

Rev. 1:8 ***"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending"***

Rev. 1:11 ***"I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last"***

Rev. 1: 17 ***"....fear not I am the first and the last"***

Rev. 22:13 ***"I am Alpha and Omega the beginning and the end, the first and the last."***

Isaiah 41: 4 ***"Who has wrought and done it calling the generations from the beginning? I the Lord the first and the last; I am he***

Isaiah 44:6 ***"I am the first and I am the last and besides me there is no God."***

Isaiah 48:12 ***"I am he, I am the first and I am the last".***

You see "...all things were made by Him and for Him and He is before all things and by Him all things consist." (Col. 1:16-17)

Paul wrote to the Corinthians to say that when Jesus is completed with the project of the Kingdom then He will hand over to the Father. ***"For then comes the end when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God even the Father when he shall have put down all rule and authority and power...that God may be all in all."***

Jesus said to His disciples, ***"Heaven and earth shall pass away but my word shall never pass away."*** And they asked "When shall this be?" The answer was not for their time. But since 1995 cosmologists can answer it . And it has profound implications for the vision of the Church of the 21st Century.

In Matthew 24 the disciples looking on and admiring the great temple in Jerusalem, Jesus startled them by declaring that the day is coming when ***"there shall not be one stone upon another that shall not be thrown down."*** Meaning the destruction of Jerusalem and its temple was coming. They being intrigued wanted Him to elaborate on this coming catastrophe so asked Him three questions: (Mat. 24:3)

- "Tell us when shall these things be?"

- "and what shall be the sign of thy coming?"

- "and the end of the world?"

Most prophecy writers get the answers wrong to these three questions. I want to give you a radical idea of

Chapter 8: The Coming Christian Civilization of Southern Africa

the answer to the third question which only our generation can understand and there is a reason for that.

But let me make just a quick answer to the first two: The answer to when will Jerusalem and the temple be destroyed is an easy answer because Jesus answers that straight forward..."***this generation shall not pass away till all these things be fulfilled.***" (verse 34)

Now be careful here because from verses 4-34 He describes all the things that would happen before that generation passes....and that generation was from 33 AD to 70 AD when Jerusalem and the temple were destroyed. And by the way that included Jesus coming in the clouds of judgment as He said He would to carry out the judgment on Jerusalem in 70 AD that He said He would do. That is what He meant in these verses when He talks about His coming to earth after death and resurrection.

But what about the third question? The end of the world. Well He answers that also very straightforward...verses 35-36

"Heaven and earth shall pass away but my words shall not pass away. But of that day and hour knows no man no not the angels of heaven but my Father only."

Now please note here that Jesus is answering the question of when is the end of the world that they wanted to know by assuring them that heaven and earth will pass away but the day and the hour nobody knows. He is not answering the question of when will He return as every prophecy writer I know of uses this scripture.

Now what I want to do here is to try to answer the question of when will heaven and earth pass away. I know this seems impossible as Jesus clearly says that no man knows except the Father. But let me say this to that....Jesus also said that "***there are many things I wish to say to you but you are not able to bear them now but when the Spirit of truth is come he will guide you into all truth.***" (John 16:12-13)

So I make the following conclusions: Every generation has a job to do for the kingdom and God gives that generation truth and revelation for their time.

Truth is found in the written word of God and also found in the spoken Word of God, the Logos by which Jesus created all things...so by studying cosmology, the stars of the heavens and physics, we discover truths of His creation. In fact Psalm 19 tells us to listen to the stars for they silently have a message for us.

Psalm 19:1-3 "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard.

Here is what that scripture is saying. The very cosmos is speaking a message every day and every night. This message is given to all nations and tongues. Most generations of mankind before us have misinterpreted what the message of the cosmos and ended up worshipping the creation rather than the creator. Our generation however with the aid of Godly science and technology for the first time in human history is understanding part of that message. Is the Church ready to interpret that message to the world and to the people of God. Are we ready to confront the reality of the enormity of the creation that the Lord has given us to take dominion over?

Genesis 1:14 says "***let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years.***"

- So the lights of the heavens, the stars are there with a message, they tell us of times and seasons and years and ages to come.

Chapter 8: The Coming Christian Civilization of Southern Africa

Now here is my argument...we are now able to look deeper into the heavens than any other generations before us and they tell us not only of years...but of ages! And there are very clever cosmologists who only since 1995 after looking at all the data are now able to tell us about how many ages to come....until the end of the heavens and the earth. Not the day or the hour...but within about billions of years.

This is not idle speculation. It is crucial information for our generation to know and plan the expansion of the Kingdom of God and the great work ahead of us. And the message they speak to me is that only a great civilization of God's saints will be able to fulfill this great creation dominion mandate. Sinners will never be able to do this task.

I recently bought a fascinating book by Paul Parsons entitled:

**“The Beginning and the End of Everything:
From the Big Bang to the End of the Universe”**

Written recently in 2018 it is a great journey through the latest scientific discoveries of the field of cosmology. What is important about this field of study is that all the important discoveries that give us a truly staggering vision of the size and age of the universe were all made very recently.

The most recent was the very exciting Hubble photos looking very deep into the space and when a small area of space was thoroughly examined they found 10,000 galaxies never before seen in a very small area of the universe. So calculations were made for the how many possible galaxies in the observable universe and came up with a figure of somewhere between 1-3 trillion galaxies, each with an average of 100's of billions of stars.

Previous to this in 1995 a staggering discovery was made: The expansion of the universe is not steady or slowing down...it is speeding up. So from this many calculations were made and recorded in Paul Parsons book to try and answer the question.... How long will the expansion and contraction of the universe take I have seen calculations from anywhere from 40 billion to 950 billion years with others claiming that the expansion is endless.

What does this mean for us?

There are many scriptures that seem to indicate that there is a staggering period of time ahead of mankind. I mention this because Christians are so caught up with the idea of ‘end times’ or the end of the world etc and thinking in time spans of a maybe a generation maybe a Kingdom of God that lasts a 1000 years.

This is extremely faulty! Read the following: There is no end to the growth of His Kingdom...

Isa 9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end.

"...from the beginning of the world...throughout all ages, world without end. Amen." (Eph. 3:9,21) Folks wrap your mind and spirit around these scripture!

Now try this idea...God promised that He would never again destroy mankind on the earth and on top of that promised to never again curse the ground.

Chapter 8: The Coming Christian Civilization of Southern Africa

"Never again will I curse the ground because of man even though every inclination of his heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creatures as I have done. As long as the earth endures seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease." (Gen. 8:21-22)

So how long will the earth endure? *"Generations come and generations go, but the earth endures forever"* (Eccl. 1:4). But that must mean that there will be thousands of generations still ahead? Yes that is right because that is exactly what Exodus 20:6 and Exodus 34:7 says...*the Lord punishes the wicked to the third and fourth generation but for the righteous He is merciful for thousands of generations*".

Moses further declared in Deut. 7:9...*"He is the faithful God keeping His covenant of love to a thousand generations of those that love Him and keep His commandments."*

The psalmist also confirms this by saying that the earth is established forever (Ps. 78:69) and that the earth and its foundations will never be removed (Ps. 104:5; Ps. 93:1; Ps. 96:10) In Psalm 119:90 he says, *"Your faithfulness continues through all generations; you established the earth and it endures forever."*

So here is what scripture tell us: The earth is not cursed, in fact it is blessed by the Lord and will fulfil exactly the purpose for which He created it. The earth will never end because God has eternal purposes for this wonderful creation of His. But let us keep in mind when we speak of "the earth" we are really also talking about the vast planetary and galactic systems of the universe which brings us to the next great thought found in Isaiah 45:18.

Now here scripture introduces us to a staggering thought that is going to be very hard for "end of the world" believers to grasp and actually believe, it is this:

"For thus saith the Lord that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he has established it (forever); he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited; I am the Lord there is none else." (Isaiah 45:18)

Do you see what the Lord is saying here? He says He created the earth and the heavens for them to be inhabited! That means: **Space Colonization is in our future for the Kingdom of God!**

Before the modern era of satellites and telescopes we did not know that the heavens were endless, or that they had billions of galaxies or that those galaxies had billions of stars and planets...but we do know that now! And that is why these scriptures are important for our understanding. Now we know that if the earth endures forever, and if the Lord has plans for thousands of generations, then we can understand why we need vast endless heavens to grow into!

But even before we get to other star systems we are asked by the Lord to consider the heavens around our solar system and what we find here close to us are staggering resources!

And all of this is ours! Psalm 8:3-6 raises a question and challenge to you and it is this...

"When I consider the heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars which thou hast ordained; What is man that thou art mindful of him or the son of man that thou visits him? For you have made him a little lower than the angels and has crowned him with glory and honour. You made him to have dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet."

All things! Under out feet? Does that include 1-3 trillion galaxies? Yes it does. And the Lord not only gives us all the resources to take dominion over this great inheritance but He gives us the time in which to do this...thousands of generations!

Chapter 8: The Coming Christian Civilization of Southern Africa

Now further consideration:

A 1000 year rule of Christ on earth is not feasible in either fact or scripture. A 1000 years of 1% growth will give us a population of about 83 trillion people. You need 10,000 earths for that population density. Meaning what? Meaning that God is not interested in just 1000 years of Kingdom growth on this earth. It cannot handle it. He wants endless growth! And that requires galaxies by the multiplied trillions...earth is not room enough! So why would Jesus want to be confined to Jerusalem when there are billions of planets and galaxies filled with His people that need His care and attention?

And consider this as well. The growth we are talking about here very practically are children and families! The place for making babies and raising children is not in heaven. People do not marry in heaven and do not have sex in heaven. That is what the physical universe is for. This is God's great womb, His great nursery and playground to conceive His children and to train them in righteousness and wisdom.

But does God want more children? What did God say to Abraham? I will give you children the number of which are like the stars in heaven and the sand of the sea. So how many stars in the universe and how many sand grains in the seashores of earth?

Prof. Sean Carroll of Cal. Institute of Technology in his book "From Here to Eternity" (Page 380) calculated the sand grains of all the seas at 10 to power 20 (1 with 20 zeros after it) and the number of stars at 10 to power 22. These are unimaginable numbers. That is how many children He wants.

God told Abraham not only multitudes of children but also said a multitude of nations would come from him to care for those uncountable multitudes of children.

Please note: Multitude of nations....not just one nation Israel... will come from you. God promised that His blessings are for thousands of generations! Those are endless numbers!

Do you think scripture and God are exaggerating? If God knows the hairs on your head do you think he has difficulty counting the stars He has made or the sand grains of the sea?

The dispensationalists obsessed with one nation Israel demand that we take literally the rule of Christ as being 1000 years. When are they going to take literally that God says He has plans ahead for thousands of generations and multitude of nations? What are those plans? The essence of those plans are that He is a Father and He is creating a family and He wants an endless supply of children to be produced for His family and those children need to be perfected and trained and grow into maturity and that is what this earth/universe is for.

So can we care for 83 trillion people over a thousand years? Yes we can....again Space Colonization! I have a wonderful book by planetary scientist John Lewis called "**Mining the Sky**" which makes incredible claims about the abundance of material wealth in our local solar system. We have enough metals, minerals and chemicals on our planets and moons and asteroid belt to support populations of a million times the earth population in space colonies and enough energy to keep them going for millions of years.

In his chapter 12 "**The Asteroid Belt: Treasure Beyond Count**" he gives an inventory of the possible incredible riches in the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter. For instance, the amount of iron ore there is sufficient to supply the earth for 400 million years based on our current consumption of 2 billion tons per year. Or put another way, there are enough building materials to build space habitats that can comfortably support a population of a million earths. That means that we can build and support for millions of years just in our own solar system a population numbering 7 billion (our present population) times a million!

Chapter 8: The Coming Christian Civilization of Southern Africa

But besides iron ore there are incredible riches of copper, tungsten, nickel, gold, platinum, aluminium, every metal needed by man.

In his next chapter titled "**The Outer Planets: Power Beyond Measure**" he shows how we cannot quantify the amount of available gas for power, chemicals etc. And then on the moons of Jupiter and Saturn are all manners of useful chemicals, water, and places like Titan, veritable oceans of liquid petroleum and nitrogen (needed for farming).

Our moon contains vast quantities of a wonderful chemical called He3 (helium three) that scientists consider the best candidate for fusion fuel. He3 does not occur naturally on earth but we can mine it on the moon where it is plentiful. With fusion energy we can have unlimited amount of abundant power. With fusion fuel space drives we can build space ships that get to Mars in 3 days.

Why do I relate all this data about the riches of our solar system? Because this is part of the message that Psalm 19 says is being broadcast to all humanity. The Church needs to hear that Gospel...gospel meaning "good news". It is good news that The Lord who is our Father has given to us an absolute abundance beyond our reckoning of riches of minerals, planets and endless power. It is all ours!

Do I believe in the end? Yes I do. I believe at some time in the incredible uncounted billions of years in the future Jesus will say it is finished and will then present the Kingdom to the Father

What does "the end" look like when Jesus hands the Kingdom over to the Father, wraps up the universe and all in it and raises the dead and the living and all stand before the Father....Revelation 7:9 gives us this glorious picture.....

"After this I beheld and lo a great multitude which no man can number of all nations and kindreds and peoples and tongues stood before the throne and before the lamb clothed with white robes"

An uncountable number of people from all nations and galaxies and tongues and people praising our Lord who has saved them and redeemed them. But before that the Bible speaks of new heavens and new earths. There will be new heavens and new earths where they will all be born and live and raise families and serve the Lord and take dominion over all the universe for the Lord.

Can you see why I believe we need a far greater platform than just a small country with limited resources. We have a very long future ahead as the Kingdom of God grows to fulfil Christ's great plan. We are going to need a Kingdom civilization across all of Southern Africa to develop a space faring capability. We are going to need the resources and all the people of Southern Africa to fulfil our great long term destiny.

Thankfully praise God, He has given us the greatest piece of planet earth, Southern Africa, that has all the resources needed to build a great civilization. One of only two places on earth to do it! Have you heard of the last shall be the first and the meek shall inherit the earth and that God delights to confound the mighty with the foolish of the earth!

What is next for the Church?

Here is what I see happening in the years ahead as the Lord's plans for the liberation of the people of planet earth unfold....

Firstly there is judgement on the world systems and power structures...

The rich do not inherit the Kingdom of God....the meek inherit the earth. That means there is coming a

Chapter 8: The Coming Christian Civilization of Southern Africa

decimation of the world wealthy elite coming as financial, corporate and banking systems come under judgment. This will be accompanied by international debt jubilees and a reapportionment of wealth as prophesied by Proverbs 28:8, ***"He that by usury and unjust gain increases his substance, he shall gather it for him that pitieth the poor"***

Secondly, there is coming new revelation of the purposes of God in the earth and a new understanding in the Church of the Word of God to be applied to establishing His Kingdom...

The Church is mostly caught up in a defeatist dead end theology of the devil taking over the world and the Church escaping through the Rapture. Instead what is now spreading worldwide is the Gospel of the Kingdom...the dominion of Jesus Christ is now, the victory of the Church over all the works of Satan is for now, the glory of the Lord filling the earth is for now...not some future Millennium!

With this new understanding of the purposes of the Lord for His Church is coming new understanding of His Word to apply it to the issues of the day...for instance, Biblical application to establish a new economy, monetary system and social systems to bring economic prosperity to all and social justice to the people. To create new communities that will reflect Godly values. To educate our children according to Biblical principles. To live in safety and security among Godly neighbours.

Thirdly, just as the Israelites had to go through a time of desert testing so the world and the Church is going to enter a time of international travail as the world systems collapse and a new world order emerges. This will be a time when the Lord will raise up a new generation of Kingdom warriors like Joshua and Caleb who will boldly proclaim "We are well able to possess the land!" while the old generation and old theology withers away waiting to be rescued.

Fourthly, when the new generation of leaders and warriors are ready to possess the Kingdom for the Lord then will come a new anointing of power to do the greater works the Lord promised, to bind the demonic forces and bring liberation and salvation to the people of the earth.

The first job will be to rebuild the waste places of a collapsing world system.

Rebuilding the Waste Places: The Coming Great Move of God

Our previous Minister of Finance Mr. Tito Mboweni in his speech before parliament called out a challenge to the nation with a quote from scripture. I believe he was speaking this prophetically from the Lord to the nation. This is his quote...

Isa 58:12 "And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in."

Through our finance minister the Lord was giving the Christians of South Africa their instructions of what lies ahead. This is what is going to happen. I say this is our prophetic destiny what I am about to write here because the scripture he quoted says "you shall"...it is going to happen.

And to make it happen is going to require the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on all flesh as Joel prophesied because a new anointing is going to come upon the people of God in Southern Africa which is going to manifest itself in a way not yet seen anywhere in revivals of the past.

So the scripture is addressed to the "they that shall be of thee" which are the people of God. They are to do two things:

Chapter 8: The Coming Christian Civilization of Southern Africa

- 1) Build the places that have been laid waste
- 2) Raise up and establish new foundations for the nation that will last for many generations to come. New foundations for the nation that can sustain and promote growth for generations in the future.

And when we have done this there will be marvel in the earth and people all over the world will call the people of God in Southern Africa, “the repairers of the breach” and “the restorers of paths to dwell in.” Meaning we fixed a broken nation and we provided new paths, new directions, new leadership for the future of the nation for all people to be blessed.

We have an enormous task ahead of us. This is not new in the history of God’s people.

The prophet Joel lamented to an Israel nation in the same condition as we are now in describing the waste, the theft, the corruption, the destruction of the nation...he lamented....

Joel 1:4 That which the palmerworm hath left hath the locust eaten; and that which the locust hath left hath the cankerworm eaten; and that which the cankerworm hath left hath the caterpillar eaten.

We know that reality here...Africa has been raped by colonialist powers, international corporations sucking out profits from our resources and our labour, political corruption in the land that have not eaten, the hidden deep state bureaucracy has stolen and wasted, what they have not wasted the state enterprises have wasted and stolen (Eskom, SAA, Transnet, SABC, Denel, etc). The jewels of the South African economy have been sold to foreigners and huge overseas debts piled up so we can live as a nation far beyond our means. We have one of the highest unemployment rates in the world and one of the highest crime rates in the world.

The waste places are not only in the government sector. The leaders of the business community have squandered multiple billions of people’s investment capital in foreign boondoggles and the utter waste and corruption of collapsed Ponzi schemes and tax evasion and off-shoring of transfer pricing is probably more economic damage than state owned enterprises.

I looked carefully at the economic numbers that the minister forecast and the comments that economists made and the conclusion that nobody really wants to shout out is this...we as a nation are hopelessly in debt and the increasing demands on government resources mean we will never pay off our debt but that we will enter into a debt trap we cannot come out of (debt trap meaning we will continue to borrow more and more money to pay the interest on previous borrowings.)

To this state of affairs the prophet Joel lamented also to Israel of his day....the prosperity and blessing of the nation eaten up and ravaged and he cried out...

Joel 1:14 Sanctify ye a fast, call a solemn assembly, gather the elders and all the inhabitants of the land and the house of the LORD your God, and cry unto the LORD,

And this is what we have done as Church of all denominations at Bloemfontein in 2017 and other gatherings. But now is the time for action. It is time. It is time for God’s remedy given to Joel “***I will pour out my spirit on all flesh...***” I will explain in a moment. Let me first respond to an immediate objection from many leaders in especially our evangelical charismatic churches.

I am talking here about laying down foundations of prosperity for generations to come. The problem is that our church leaders don’t believe that this is the time for that. They believe along with most Christians this is the end times and Jesus is coming to rapture us out of here and one day in the Millennium we can tackle

Chapter 8: The Coming Christian Civilization of Southern Africa

these projects.

I am not even going to touch the scriptural misconceptions of where we are now in God's timeline but only to say this...We are not at the end. We are not even at the beginning of the end. But we are at the end of the beginning....we are now entering the time of the "restoration of all things", we are in Rev.21&22 time...healing the nations and taking dominion over all the works of God's hands.

We, the Church of Southern Africa are in a critical decision point in our history.

The great 5-fold ministries of the church have for hundreds of years laid a strong foundation for the Church in all the nations of Southern Africa. There are churches everywhere in all neighbourhoods in all places from corner buildings on main street, to garages in the suburbs and townships, to large mega structures holding thousands. We are on our own TV channels, we have magazines and Podcasts, we are on media and Youtubes. There is absolutely no shortage of preachers and sermons and books and videos and meetings.

Where are we going with all this spiritual energy? More meetings? More broadcasts? More books and sermons?

We have two possible future directions:

From the American church the loudest and most authoritative prophetic voices are saying "it's the end time", "last days", "Rapture", "Antichrist", "One World Government", "signs of the times". I have full sympathy with those voices. I used to be a passionate preacher of that message many years ago. Unfortunately none of the great signs of those times and predictions ever came true as we were certain the rapture should take place in 1981 or latest 1988. What a different world we are in now. And nobody predicted or prophesied what has happened in the last 40 years.

Our other possible direction for the Church in Southern Africa is what I have laid out in this vision for Southern Africa. It is a long term vision. It is a vision of a victorious Church. It is totally different to what is coming out of the American church. I believe it is "end times" for the world Babylon system and that is why they have such apocalyptic visions of their future. But don't let them impose their "end times" on our new beginning. If the Spirit of the Lord is telling the American church that they are facing the end times...so be it. Jesus told the same thing to the Laodicean church in Revelation. But He had a different message for the other churches of Asia. So that is not our destiny or our message from the Lord

Our heavenly Father said of His Son our Lord Jesus ***'ask of me and I will give the heathen for your inheritance...the uttermost parts of the earth'***. Let's have a prophetic vision of making that desire of the Lord fulfilled here in Southern Africa. Lets bring a "gift" a "present" unto the Lord as Isaiah 18 and Zephaniah 3;10 predicted we would do.

That "gift" and that "present" by the Church that is "beyond the rivers of Ethiopia" in Southern Africa are the nations of Southern Africa. This is a new thing that will happen in the earth. That is why the prophets in America have not even seen this yet. We need a vision from our own prophetic community here in Southern Africa....a fresh Word from the Lord for our time for our people.

And here is my further prediction: When the judgements of the Lord are in the earth in the northern hemisphere nations, you and I are going to rejoice we are thousands of miles from them and multitudes of our people who are scattered among the nations of the world will be returning to join us to build the future Christian civilization of Southern Africa.