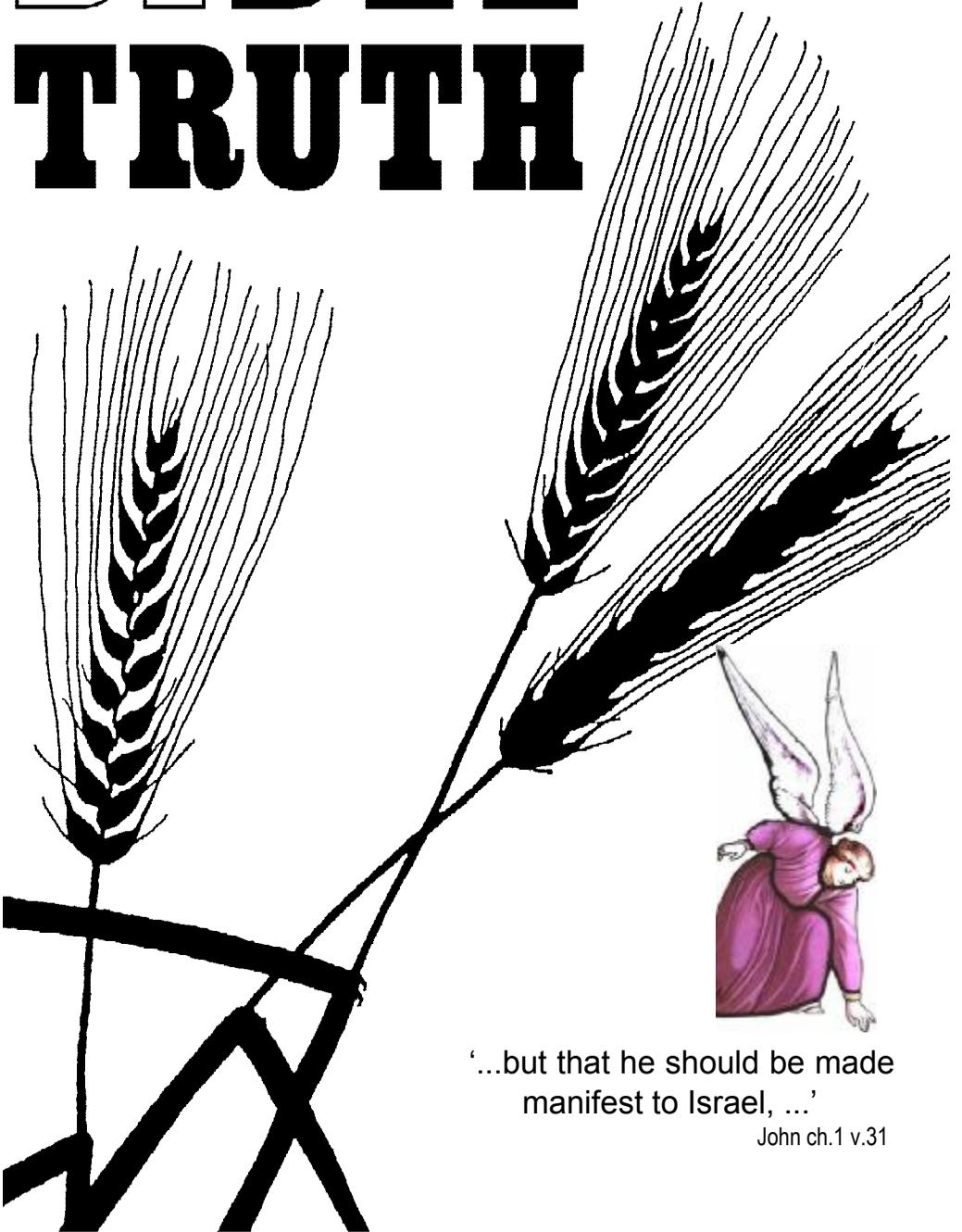


BIBLE TRUTH

No. 273
January/March 2014



'...but that he should be made
manifest to Israel, ...'

John ch.1 v.31

2940 years and the United Kingdom

by Dr. Michael D. Bennett

The United Kingdom of Judah and Israel was divided into two separate kingdoms (Israel and Judah) at the start of king Rehoboam's reign in 930/29 BC (see I Kings ch.12 vv 1-24).



On 11 January AD 2012 Alex Salmond, the First Minister of Scotland, announced his intention to hold a referendum on Scottish independence in Scotland in 2014. This is planned for 18 September 2014, but the date for this referendum was set on 21 March 2012.

It was 2,940 years from 929 BC (when the United Kingdom of Judah and Israel was divided) until 2012 when the First Minister of Scotland first pledged to hold a referendum on Scottish Independence in 2014 (which could soon divide the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland into two separate independent kingdoms). The arithmetic is set out below

	2012	
Plus	929	
Minus	<u> </u> 1	as there was no year 0 between 1 BC and AD 1
Total	2940	years

Interestingly, 2940 equals 42×70 . So 2940 years comprises 42 sabbatic periods of 70 years. Bible students will recognise the importance of the numbers 42 and 70 in Bible prophecies, for example: 42 months in Revelation chapter 11 verse 2, and 70 years in Jeremiah chapter 25 verse 12, and seventy weeks (= 490 years) in Daniel chapter 9 verse 24.

It is worth noting too that 2940 equals 49×60 , so the period also comprises 60 (or 2 months each of 30 days) of jubilee counts of $7 \times 7 = 49$ (see Leviticus ch.25 v.8). As seventy weeks (70×7) equals 490 years, so 2940 equals six times seventy weeks ($6 \times 490 = 2940$).

It seems interesting that the last ruler of David's United Kingdom of Judah and Israel before its division was king Solomon, whilst the first minister of the Scottish Government (and leader of the Scottish Independence Party) is Alex Salmond. The similarity between their two names is striking, and may provoke the question: will the events ensuing from the referendum in 2014 have striking and similar outcomes for the government in modern Israel as transpired 2940 years ago? Whatever the outcome of the 2014 referendum, God's word to Rehoboam will apply: "This thing is from me", for ultimately He alone rules and overrules in every realm, as even king Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon discovered.

'How great are his signs! And how mighty are his wonders! His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and his dominion is from generation to generation.' Daniel ch.4 v.3
