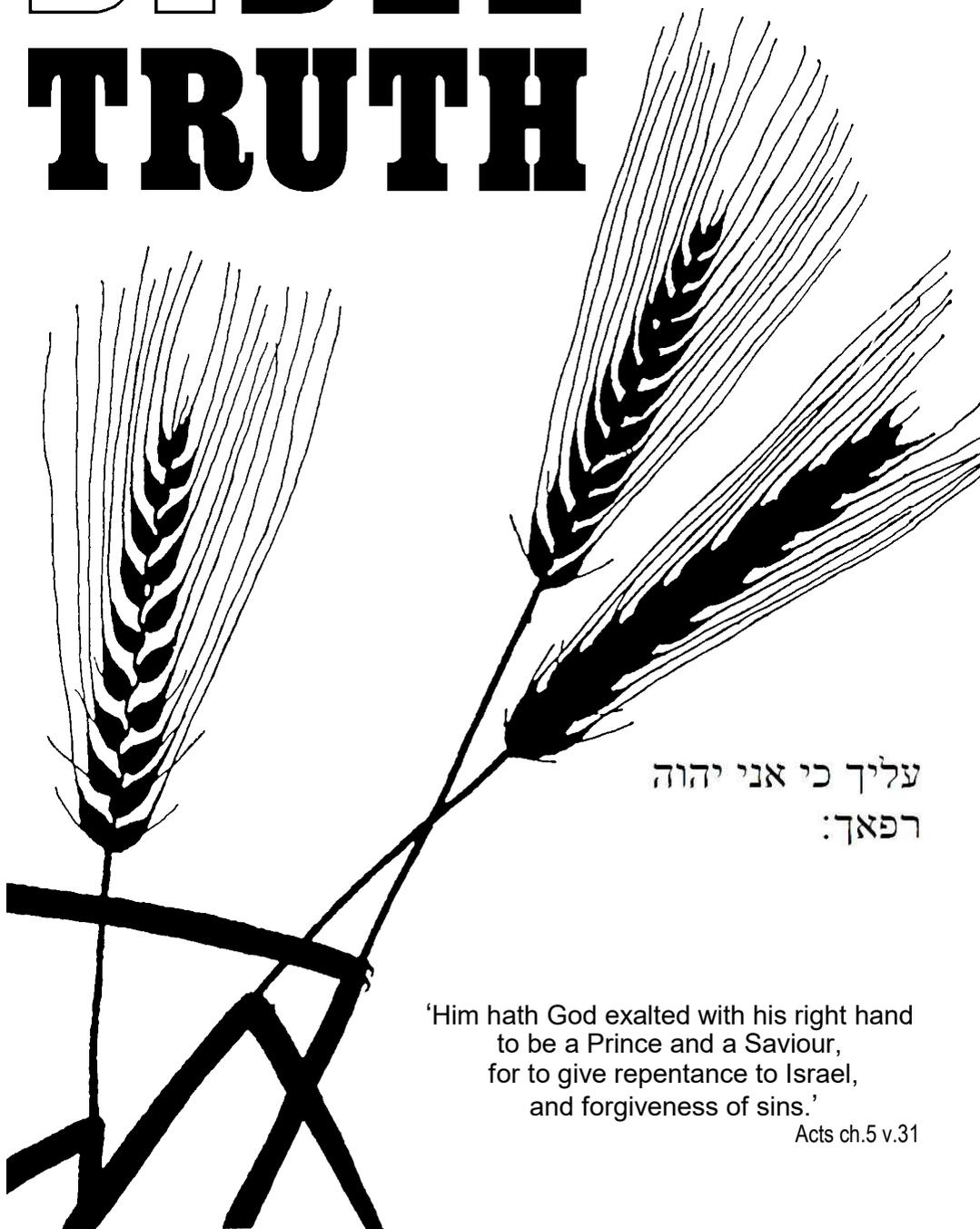


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עליך כי אני יהוה
רפאך:

'Him hath God exalted with his right hand
to be a Prince and a Saviour,
for to give repentance to Israel,
and forgiveness of sins.'

Acts ch.5 v.31

Hebrews

by J. Ray Johnson

The apostle who wrote the Epistle to the Hebrews continued his purpose of being all things to all men by, not just writing to the Israelites, but was reaching as well to those few Jews who were truly descendants of Judah.

‘God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;’

Hebrews ch.1 v 1-2

How essential it is that we, as Moses also instructed us, hear what the Son, the word of God made flesh, has spoken for our complete restoration to God of self, nation and world.

We only have a little information regarding what happened to the world between verses one and two of Genesis chapter one, but the rest of the scriptures reveal how it is being restored back to a greater glory than it had before.

First we have **God (Eloim)**, the God who loves His creation, working to restore the world back to a habitable planet. For a brief period, when Adam transgressed, we have the name LORD, but this will be referred to later.

The next name is **God Almighty (El Shaddai)**, as He reveals Himself unto Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, as He chose their seed, in the Abrahamic covenant to be used in the restoration of mankind. God Almighty refers to Him having all power over every thing and creature He has created, and is therefore able to use what and when as He requires them.

‘Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.’

Philippians ch.3 v.21

He is also the Great Provider as Abraham, Isaac and Jacob realised.

The name **Most High God (El Elyon)**, the God of all nations is met with when Abraham defeats the kings to set Lot free and Melchizedek, king and priest, met him and blessed him.

We now come to the **Hebrews**, where there must have been other nations descending from Eber.

‘Unto Shem also, the father of all the children of Eber, the brother of Japheth the elder, even to him were children born.’

Genesis ch.10 v.21

Note that in the Scriptures only Israel is called by this name. To these the Creator reveals Himself as Jehovah (Authorised version), the righteous redeemer delivering the whole multitude of Israel from bondage in Egypt into the wilderness, to make of them a righteous nation fit to enter the promised land. Being a righteous God as well as a redeemer He gives them laws to live by, with blood sacrifices to cover any transgressions, that He may make them invincible in any confrontation with other nations. But as Joshua ch.7 vv 1-5 shows, unrepented sin had great consequences.

Though they had the pillar of fire by night and the pillar of cloud by day, the manna daily, plus all the other wonders the LORD had done, they were unconverted, a stiff-necked people and the LORD could no longer dwell in their midst, lest He consumed them, so He dwelt without the camp. There were judgments to death and to banishment from Israel, but for the rest because all their transgressions, on repentance, were covered by the shedding of blood, it could be said that iniquity could not be found in Israel.

‘He hath not beheld iniquity in Jacob, neither hath he seen perverseness in Israel: the LORD his God is with him, and the shout of a king is among them.’

Numbers ch.23 v.21

When they were settled in the Promised Land they gradually drifted further away from the LORD, even embracing the evil practices of the nations that had dwelt there before them. This left no choice for the LORD but to cast them out; first the majority of Israel and Judah into captivity to the Assyrians, then most of the remnant of Judah and those who were with them were taken into Babylonian captivity. Those that were left went into Egypt, in disobedience to the word of the Lord, and according to the word of the Lord they would never return.

The name ‘**Adonai**’ was used in His relationships to things or persons. His name ‘**El Olam**’ reveals His ways in each dispensation, the God of the ages, working upon His creation of mankind from when He formed them in His image until His will is performed upon earth as it is in heaven, when they are made in His likeness.

To restore the Israelites back to Himself the Lord clothed Himself in flesh (the only begotten Son of God), a perfect sacrifice for the redemption of all mankind. In Him dwelt all the fullness of the Godhead bodily, all the power invested in the names of God were in Him, He now has a name that is above all names and all this glorious power is here to bring back His people, His inheritance, unto Himself.

This wonderful victorious King of kings is by a new covenant drawing His people back into a relationship with Himself, by removing their transgressions through His shed blood. We cannot add to the righteousness His blood imparts unto us, if we try we fall from grace. But we need to become obedient unto God and do His will that we may attain the high calling of God and enter His kingdom. His people are not just His battle axe and weapons of war, nor is the fact that they possess the gates of their enemies and are a blessing to all nations the main purpose for them. The Lord God redeemed Israel from the Old Covenant by His death on the cross, bringing them into salvation by the New Covenant, and gathering out of those a kingdom of priests, this has been the Creator's purpose with Israel for the salvation of other nations. They will all be crowned, they will be kingly priests, the kingdom of God, each one thoroughly trained for the work they have to do, having a clean heart and a right spirit. They will be given positions of power in all nations when the Lord Jesus returns to the earth.

The New Covenant is with Israel for they are the only people that the LORD ever made a covenant with, they are His special vessel, no other nation has had this relationship with God. Since their release from the Seven Times Chastisement the two sons of Joseph have become a nation and a company of nations. These are seen as the USA and British Commonwealth of nations, who now bear all the marks that Israel were prophesied to have in the last days. For those who will hear what the Lord Jesus said, He said go not unto the Gentiles but unto Israel. People of other nations can join the Israelites as they did under the Old Covenant, but the Lord is gathering His 144,000 out of Israel. The New Covenant was preached in all the world to reach the Israelites who were scattered over it.

We must, as much as we are able, proclaim all the council of God, not just our favourite parts and this way we may get those who know so little of God's covenants to see and hear.
