

DEEPER TEACHINGS
(MEAT OF THE WORD)

#68

GOD'S GREAT AND HOLY NATION

by Jack Enlow

Brother Jack was a missionary in Peru when he came into our midst. He was a very anointed teacher of the Word and was used to help get this end-time Word to the people of Peru. He traveled extensively among our groups and was much appreciated by this part of the Body of Christ. He has passed to the other side and will be remembered for his contribution to our perfection.

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Deuteronomy 4:1-10. *"Now therefore hearken, O Israel, unto the statutes and unto the judgments, which I teach you, for to do them, that ye may live, and go in and possess the land which the Lord God of your fathers giveth you. Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you. Your eyes have seen what the Lord did because of Baalpeor: for all the men that followed Baalpeor, the Lord thy God hath destroyed them from among you. But ye that did cleave unto the Lord your God are alive every one of you this day. Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments, even as the Lord my God commanded me, that ye should do so in the land whither ye go to possess it. Keep therefore and do them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all these statutes, and say, Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people. For what nation is there so great, who hath God so nigh unto them, as the Lord our God is in all things that we call upon him for? And what no son is there so great, that hath statutes and judgement so righteous as all this law, which I set before you this day? Only take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently, lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but teach them thy sons, and thy sons' sons; Specially the day that thou stoodest before the Lord thy God in Horeb, when the Lord said unto me, Gather me the people together, and I will make them hear my words, that they may learn to fear me all the days that they shall live upon the earth, and that they may teach their children."*

When we were down in Peru and we gathered together with the eldership that was there from different places and the different farms. It was a time similar to the one we had in Colombia last year, and it was a time to do some teaching;

but it was a time to receive questions from them, and then for the ministry to try to give them the answers in the best possible way. The first question that was asked when we were down there was about divine order. That is a big subject. What is the order here? What is the proper way to move here? We need to be careful about rules and regulations and laws, and you begin to think about law and order. Well, surprisingly enough, we did not have a whole lot of questions after the first question- about divine order. Do you know why? Brother Buddy said that he can define divine order in three words. He says: "Hear and obey." You know, you cannot argue with that! There was not much that the brethren had to say. They would say: "Well, how about this?" "Hear what God is speaking, and obey." "Well, how about this particular situation?" "Hear and obey." I like that definition of divine order.

That is the way our chapter begins right here. "Now therefore hearken, O Israel, unto the statutes and unto the judgments, which I teach you, for to do them . . ." Hear and obey. Is it important to hear and obey, well, if you want to remain alive it is. "That ye may live..." it says. Remain alive spiritually. That is how we do it. If you do not have much life, well you know why, you are not hearing and obeying, but hear and obey "that ye may live and go in and possess the land which the Lord God of your fathers giveth you."

Let us go on down to verses 6, 7, and 8 because that is our topic. Let us re-ad them again.

"Keep therefore and do them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all these statutes, and say, Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people. For what nation is there so great, who hath God so nigh unto them, as the Lord our God is in all things that we call upon him for? And what nation is there so great, that hath statutes and judgments so righteous as all this law, which I set before you this day?"

So we see three times in these verses it mentions God's great nation. And that is what we are going to talk about.

We are going to talk about God's great nation. Now you know, if we went out among Christendom, all of those who proclaim that they are Christians, and we asked in a general way in different churches, "Who is God's great nation?" You know what a lot of them would say, the Jews, the nation of Israel. I was just in a home last night and they had a magazine there and the title of the magazine was "God's Chosen People." Well, I rejoice in every Jew that receives the Lord Jesus Christ. I rejoice in all that is in the heart of God in that which He plans to do for the Jews in days ahead; whatever that might be. But I want you to know something. "God's chosen people" is not natural Israel; it is the sons of God, the family, everybody born again, Jew and Gentile, all those redeemed by the blood of the Lamb.

So, what I want to show you first of all is that there are three requirements or characteristics here, concerning God's great nation. And I want to show you that they never were fulfilled in Israel as a nation, because Israel was only a type and a shadow and a prophecy. As a nation they do not fulfil the Scriptures that are listed here. For a lot of people that is no trouble; I cannot understand that. There are so many Christians that do not even know what yet must be fulfilled in the word of God. They think it has been partially fulfilled or fulfilled in a measure, and that is okay. One thing that I understand is God's word is going to be FULLY fulfilled in a people in this hour. That is one thing we need to understand. That is the reason we gather together, just to understand what God is speaking to us, so that we might prepare ourselves and be the people that will be the fulfillment of His word.

All right the first thing it says then in verse 6, the last part, about this great nation, is "Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people." Do you think that would be descriptive of the Jews? A wise and understanding people? Wise in the things of God, understanding in the things of God? Turn over to Deuteronomy Chapter 32, verses 28 and 29: "*For they are a nation void of counsel, neither is there*

any understanding in them. O that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end!"

So it does not exactly say that Israel as a nation was a wise and understanding people. They lacked wisdom; they lacked understanding; they lacked counsel. So we see that part is not fulfilled in them.

Going back to Deuteronomy 4, the second thing it says in verse 7: *"For what nation is there so great, who hath God so nigh unto them. . ."* A nation and God is very near to that nation! Well, now let us look at another Scripture (Isaiah 59:1,2. There are a lot of them we can look at, you realize.

"Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy that it cannot hear: but your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear." There is a separation. God cannot draw nigh because of sin, because of unbelief, because of rebellion. The fact of the matter is, if you look at the history, what happened? Moses drew nigh, but what did the people say? Moses, you go right ahead. We will just stay back. Whatever God says we will obey, but we are not going to draw nigh. And so there was a separation and this scripture never was fulfilled in them either.

The third thing it says in Deuteronomy 4:8 about this great nation is this: "And what nation is there so great, that hath statutes and judgments so righteous as all this law, which I set before you this day?"

And so God's great nation was given statutes and judgments, God's righteous law. Now how about Israel as a nation? What does it say. They received the law, the statutes and the judgments, the commandments, on tables of stone. But do you know what they were doing while God was giving those tables of stone? You know, Moses was up in the high place in the mountain receiving the high revelation of God and receiving the commandments. What's the first commandment? "Thou shalt have no other gods before me."

And what were they doing? They were down there and they were saying, "We don't know where our God is. Make god for us." They were breaking the first commandment and then they began to break all the commandments. Right when they were sinning and breaking the commandments, Moses came down with the tables of stone, and when he saw what the people were doing, he broke the commandments. It was just an indication of exactly what they were doing. It was also an indication that the law in tables of stones can never be fulfilled by man. It cannot be fulfilled by man even if he has the word of God in a black book with white pages and black print. You can carry this book around 24 hours a day under your arm, and you are still not going to keep it, that is fulfil the righteousness of it. We will get into that, but we know what has to happen to the word if it is going to be fulfilled.

So we see that God's great nation cannot be Israel. There are a lot of people that will not accept this. They say "Oh, you are against the Jews and all the rest." No, praise the Lord. Not at all. We will rejoice in everything that God does for them, but we need to understand that Israel is not God's great nation.

Then we might say, well, God's great nation must be the church. That is fine. God's great nation is the church, considered ever since Pentecost up to now. That is God's great nation. Let us go back and see these three requirements again.

The first thing it says, "It is a wise and understanding people." Now when Jesus came it does say concerning Him "a wiser than Solomon is here." And it also tells us that He is our wisdom. And so, there is a people that have wisdom, because He is our wisdom. Let us notice one of Paul's prayers, or part of it. In Colossians 1:9. Now you see, Paul is writing to Spirit-filled, and evidently, mature Christians. He is writing some deep things. They must have grown a little in understanding and so forth. But he says this, or he prays in this way:

"For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that you might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding. . ."

Something was lacking yet in this people. You know they had a measure of wisdom and a measure of spiritual understanding. But Paul was praying for something other than a measure. A lot of people are satisfied with a measure; a measure of maturity, a measure of overcoming, a measure of getting rid of sin, and all the rest. But you see, the beautiful thing about this is these Scriptures concerning God's great nation are going to be COMPLETELY fulfilled. So really the church has never up to now been fully a wise and understanding people. They only fulfilled it in part.

We see the same thing again in Deuteronomy 4:7, as we apply it to the church. It says: *"For what nation is there so great, who hath God so nigh unto them . . ."* Well, praise the Lord, He is nigh unto His people. There is a Scripture you know well that says the word is nigh unto us, even in our mouths and in our hearts; and God is nigh unto us through His word. Then the Lord Jesus said, "I am going to go away, but I am going to come again and I will be with you. I will not leave you comfortless, I will come in the person of the Holy Spirit." And so there is a good measure in which God draws nigh unto His people. But there is a little qualification. James 4:8. A little explanation that we want to notice. It simply says this: "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you . . ." Ah, yes, it is a little conditional. God will draw nigh to us to the measure that we will draw nigh to Him, but you see up to now, it has only been in a measure. You see what we are heading for, what we are looking for in God's great nation?

It has not been fulfilled in the church of Jesus Christ up to now. God has drawn nigh unto us as much as we will allow Him to. It says: *"But what nation is there so great who has God so nigh unto them."*

Then the third thing it says, applying it to the church again, in Deuteronomy 4:8: *"And what nation is there so great, that hath statutes and judgments so righteous as all this law..."* And you know, beginning with the church of Jesus Christ, God has had a covenant people; and it was not the covenant with the law written in tables of stone, out here, but what is the promise? That He was going to write His laws and His statutes, His Word, in our minds and in our hearts. So to the degree that we have allowed God to do that and that the whole church of Jesus Christ has allowed it, in that measure they do have God's holy, righteous law, His statutes and His judgments.

But again, what we are pointing out is that we have not yet seen, either in Israel, which is only the type and shadow, or in the church of Jesus Christ, the fulfillment of what is written here about God's great nation. God's great nation is yet to be manifest. This world is waiting yet to see God's great nation. Look at Matthew 21:43. *"Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof."* Ah, there has got to be a nation that is bringing forth fruits, and that is the one that is going to receive the Kingdom of God.

Now what I want to show you, beginning in the Old Testament again, are some Scriptures where we find the promise given by God of a great nation that is going to come forth. Let us look in Genesis 12:1-3. *"Now the Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: and I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: and I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed."*

Was that through the natural seed? Who was the natural seed? Ishmael. But we know it was not talking about that. The natural seed was not the great nation that was to come

forth. Later on we will look at the Scripture where God speaks to Abraham about his only son. That is some scripture, is it not? God did not recognize Ishmael at all. Take your ONLY son, Isaac. So the promise of a great nation was through the son of promise, through Isaac by faith. One of the revelations that is so fundamental and yet so many Christians do not understand it, is that Scripture teaches so clearly who is a Jew. He is not a Jew who is one outwardly, but inwardly. Circumcision is of the heart. Our father is Abraham if we are of the faith. And through Isaac are the promises and so forth. So here we see the promise of a great nation. God is very interested in His great nation coming forth.

Genesis 35:9-12. "And God appeared unto Jacob again, when he came out of Padanaram, and blessed him. And God said unto him, Thy name is Jacob: thy name shall not be called any more Jacob, but Israel shall be thy name: and he called his name Israel. And God said unto him, I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall be of thee, and kings shall come out of thy loins; and the land which I gave Abraham and Isaac, to thee I will give it, and to thy seed after thee will I give the land."

Here is the promise to Jacob of a nation to come forth from him. And it is very interesting when we go beyond the letter, what it says about that nation. In verse 11: "be fruitful and multiply; a nation. . ."

So it is God's great nation; it is a nation, but it says "a company of nations," actually a multitude of nations. This nation is a company of nations; it is a multitude of nations; it is come from every tribe and tongue and nation. That is God's nation. It is even made up of kings—"and kings shall come out of thy loins. . ." So we see the promise given to Abraham and now here to Jacob.

Let us look in Exodus Chapter 19:5,6. *"Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all*

the earth is mine: and ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation... ”.

Do you begin to get the picture that God is talking about a people coming forth as His nation? And do you realize what kind of a nation it is? It is a holy nation. Holiness has to come forth in us. "These are the words that thou shall speak unto the children of Israel." Unto whom? Unto the children of Israel. Why we know who the children of Israel are. Most Christians would say sure, that is the Jews, that is the

chosen people, that is Israel as a nation. Well, Peter somehow understood a little more.

Over in 1 Peter 2:9,10. "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people . . ." You realize it is talking about the same scripture, right? Well, who is included here?

There is one good requirement. “. . . that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light." If you are a part of God's holy nation, you have come out of darkness and are in His holy light. The fact of the matter is if you are going to be a part of God's great nation, you are going to come completely out of darkness and enter fully into His light.

Peter goes on to say: "Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God." I want to add a line here; it is consistent with what the Scripture is saying: "which in times past were not a nation, but are now the nation of God." Was there, before Jesus came, such a nation? No! What kind of a nation is it? Well, it is a nation, and a company of nations, and it is out of every tongue and tribe and nation. It is a people that were not a people; it is a nation that was not a nation, but now is the nation of God. We belong to the nation of God. “. . . . which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy."

Look at Psalm 33:12. "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord." You know, there has never been but one nation whose God is the Lord. That is God's great nation. That is

HIS nation. That is the only one that recognizes fully God as the Lord. And if we have any doubt about who it is talking about, it says: ". . . and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance." That is God's great nation.

Look at Isaiah Chapter 26:1-4. "In that day shall this song be sung in the land of Judah;" And we sing it, don't we? "We have a strong city; salvation will God appoint for walls and bulwarks. Open ye the gates, that the righteous nation.. ." You know, the Lord is speaking so much about holiness and righteousness. We have got to come out of unrighteousness and self-righteousness, and come fully into His righteousness. It is a righteous nation. "That the righteous nation" and it says something else about this nation: which keepeth the truth, may enter in. Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee. Trust ye in the Lord forever: for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength."

I am very much interested in God's great nation because you and I are called to be a part of it. It has not yet been seen. Only in Israel after the flesh was it seen as a little type and shadow. The church has only been in a measure God's great nation, but truly God's great nation is yet to be seen.

We will give you some more scriptures on that. Isaiah 66:5-8. "Hear the word of the Lord, ye that tremble at his word.. ." You know something? That used to be quite meaningless to believers in general, But you know, there is a people all across the face of the earth that are really beginning to tremble at his word. Tremble! If we really tremble at it, we are going to hear and obey. Isn't that so?

Your brethren that hated you, that cast you out for my name's sake, said, Let the Lord be glorified: but he shall appear to your joy, and they shall be ashamed. A voice of noise from the city, a voice from the temple, a voice of the Lord that rendereth recompence to his enemies.

Now I want you to listen carefully to what I have to say about verses 7 and 8. The reason is, you may not agree with

what I am going to say. Listen carefully to see. But I want to present to you what I see in these two scriptures.

Verse 7, first of all: "Before she travailed, she brought forth; before her pain came, she was delivered of a man child." Now who is that talking about? Well, it says before she travailed. You know, when Jesus came forth as the first man child we do not read anything about travail. He just came forth. Is that not true? And I believe it is talking about Him; but I believe that verse 8 is talking about something else. That is my point. Let us see what it says:

"Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children."

Now if you were to ask the average believer that has that much understanding, maybe a lot of them do not even have that much, let us say you ask the average pastor, or the average professor in a Bible institute about this nation to be born at once in a day. You know what their answer would be, generally speaking? "What day"? Well, if they went back to the letter, they would say 1948. But what if they see a little more into that and see that it is spiritual language, you know what day most of them will point you to? The day of Pentecost. Now that was a partial fulfillment. There was in a sense a nation born in a day.

One hundred and twenty that were gathered together and received the fullness. But you know something? I do not really read anything about much travail there. It says when Zion travailed, she brought forth a nation in a day. Now when the disciples were gathered together, praying, becoming one, they were just waiting, not travailing. Now there is a day when the sons of God are called to travail. Do you know what day it is? It is the Day of Atonement. That is right where we are! Some of you are young in this message, but God moves you along in a hurry. As we receive salvation, and receive the Baptism of the Holy Ghost, we begin to move in celebrating the feasts, that is the first

two feasts we celebrate, and then we come to the seventh month, and what is the first feast in the seventh month? Trumpets. Do you know what that is? Well, that is what you have been getting from the pulpit here, a trumpet message. Let us go on to perfection! Let us overcome all things! Let us come forth as manifested sons! Let us come forth and be a part of God's great nation in this hour!

That is the trumpet that is sounding. Now if you are hearing it, as we proclaim it, and walk in it, we are celebrating the Feast of Trumpets. That is the way it is celebrated.

The next feast after that is the Feast of the Day of Atonement, and that is where God has us now. There is going to be a nation born in a day. And it is going to be the Day of Atonement, when God is through with us in this day; we are going to see that nation come forth: God's great nation. It is going to fulfill all the prerequisites that we read about, a holy nation, a righteous nation that keeps the truth; and all the rest that Scripture says.

For as soon as Zion travailed. . . Now I do not know how much you understand about the Feast of the Day of Atonement, so let us look in Leviticus Chapter 23. You see, it is kind of important that you keep this Feast; I will show you why. Let us read about it. In Leviticus 23 you will find all the feasts listed, and you will find them also in Numbers 28 and 29. We will not look there, but those are the two places that you see the complete list of the feasts. I am going to begin reading with Chapter 23 and Verse 23:

"And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, In the seventh month. . ."

You see, the first month is the month of the Passover, our first experience. The third month is the feast of Pentecost. But the seventh month, seven being the complete number, all, or perfection, indicates that this feast is the one which will take us all the way into perfection. Now there are three parts to this feast!

"In the seventh month, in the first day of the month, shall ye have a sabbath, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, and holy convocation."

Can you blow a trumpet? Are you musical? You understand now what blowing a trumpet means? It means proclaiming a message. That is what you do. Blow the trumpet. Maybe some do not hear the trumpet, that is all right, you are blowing. You are saying: "Let's go, let's become one, let's go on to perfection, let's overcome all things, let's come forth as manifested sons, even as God's holy nation." That is blowing the trumpet.

"Ye shall do no servile work therein: but ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the Lord."

In fact you cannot work on any of these Feast days. That ought to let you know who is going to do the work. I like that. Now you have got to let God do the work. You have got to turn to Him and call on Him! We must respond when He puts His finger on something, "Okay, Lord, go to work on it. Set me free." It is all rest, a complete ceasing from all my own works! You try to do it and you are not going to do it; I will guarantee you will not be able to. I cannot do it apart from God! With God, however, all things become possible, in order to be with God I have to cease from all my own works! The Scripture goes on:

"And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Also on the tenth day of this seventh month .

Now, since we are seeing in part and knowing in part, there is a little difference of opinion about the number ten. I could give you a number of Scriptures to show you at least one aspect of the number ten. I do not know what the number ten speaks to you of. But let us see. You remember Daniel. He said, "I do not want to eat of the king's meat. I do not want to defile myself. Just test me ten days." In the book of Revelation when it talks about one of the churches, it says "You shall be tried for ten days. . ." You know, the disciples were up in the upper room and they had a little test

before them to wait on the Lord for his promise. How many days? Ten. You know, I could give you a lot of Scriptures like that. Ten is the number of testing. And we are celebrating the Feast of the Day of Atonement. Guess what we are experiencing? Testing, trial, and fire ... Amen, that is the feast, that is where we are.

"Also on the tenth day of the seventh month there shall be a day of atonement . . ." Now the word "atonement" is translated many different ways in the Old Testament. The Hebrew word "to atone" means to pacify, or to have mercy, or to reconcile, or to cleanse, or to purify. You get all of those words together and you get an idea of what God is going to do on this Day of Atonement. "It shall be an holy convocation unto you . . ."

Now I want to read these scriptures beginning in verse 27, and I am going to read through 32. And I want to tell you this before I read them. There are two main requirements if we are to keep this feast. You see, every main feast has what we must do and what God is going to do. What we must do in salvation, we know. We have to repent, to confess, to apply the blood and to be cleansed. And what does God do? He forgives, plants His life within and cleanses us, and so forth. There is an inner work. God always does an inner work. We do what we can, come before Him and present ourselves. On the Day of Pentecost, our part is just to yield our members to Him and to believe and to ask him for the fullness. Then the Holy Spirit comes, and there is an inner work done. And again we see there is our part on the Day of Atonement, and then there is God's part. Right now I am talking about OUR part. Maybe I will take time to show you God's part just to be sure you understand what is going to happen to us within, when we have fully celebrated the Day of Atonement.

But what I was going to say is there are two requirements that are spoken to us in these verses several times. Let us see if you can pick them out. There is not just one, but two main requirements, and you will read about

them several times. How can I fulfill this Feast? You see, we are to keep every feast. So we must keep this. What will I have to do? Well, let us read it. Verse 27:

"Also on the tenth day of the seventh month there shall be a day of atonement: it shall be an holy convocation unto you; and ye shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire unto the Lord. And ye shall do no work in that same day: for it is a day of atonement, to make an atonement for you before the Lord your God. For whosoever soul it be that shall not be afflicted in that same day, he shall be cut off from among his people."

You can see it is kind of important that we celebrate this feast.

"And whatsoever soul it be that doeth any work in that same day, the same soul will I destroy from among his people. Ye shall do no manner of work: it shall be a statute for ever throughout your generations in all your dwellings. It shall be unto you a sabbath of rest, and ye shall afflict your souls: in the ninth day of the month at even, from even unto even, shall ye celebrate your sabbath."

Now what two things does it repeat several times? Afflict your soul and do no work. Sounds kind of contradictory. Afflict your soul can be translated in different ways. A correct translation of that from the original would be: Abase self; humble self. But I want to give you a loose translation that would be quite "right on" and that is: Deal firmly with that old nature. That is what it is really talking about. Hallelujah!

I can see that God is, in this Day of Atonement, going to bring forth His great nation. So we have got to afflict our souls. And of course, we know that concerning the old Adam, what does it say about him? The first Adam was a living soul. Ah, that is the guy we are going to afflict. He was a living soul. We are going to afflict our soul.

But we are triune beings, are we not? Spirit, soul, and body. Well, there is a part of us that we have to afflict! Our soul! What does that mean? We must let God deal with our

minds, thoughts, our wills and our emotions, so that there is a transformation of the mind, a denying of self. "Not my will, but thine be done." Then our minds, our wills, our deeds will come forth after God's will, after His mind, and in keeping with His thoughts, which are far above our own. We are not controlled by our emotions, but have our emotions under the control of the Holy Spirit. You see, the emotions are good when they are under the control of the Spirit; we can dance, and all the rest. But let us not let them get out of control of the Holy Spirit!

And so we afflict our souls. Here we are, ready to afflict our souls, do not do any work! How are we going to do that? Well, let me give you one verse. Let us look at Romans 8:13.

"For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify (or put to death) the deeds of the body, ye shall live."

How are you going to do it? Through the Spirit. Ah, that is rest! I do not have to do it. I just yield to the Spirit of God. I let the Spirit of God do the work in me. I walk in the Spirit and live in the Spirit, and the Spirit of God is going to put to death that old nature within us. So we can rejoice and we can rest. For if I have to do it, I am sunk. But if God has promised to do it, and I just yield to Him, that is rest. No work of any kind, just let Him do it. Amen.

Now, I think I will go ahead. What I am going to give you is a little off the subject of God's great nation, because I am talking about that nation that is born in a day, the Day of Atonement. But I said there is our part in fulfilling this Feast, and there is what God does. I am interested in what God does. So let me show you in Leviticus 16:29,30.

"And this shall be a statue for ever unto you: that in the seventh month, on the tenth day of the month, ye shall afflict your souls, and do not work at all, whether it be one of your own country, or a stranger that sojourneth among you: for on that day shall the priest make an atonement for you, "(to

do what?) *"TO CLEANSE YOU, that ye may be clean from ALL your sins before the Lord."*

Now that is not talking about back there at salvation, the blood of Jesus Christ that is wonderful, that is precious, that is provision. That is so positional we can just be right in the presence of the Lord, be cleansed constantly. But how about our present condition? How about experientially. Do we want to be completely cleansed so there is no more sin within us? We are celebrating the feast. When we get through celebrating it we are going to be cleansed from ALL of our sins before the Lord. I get a little excited about that, you know. We CAN do a little dancing and all the rest. Hallelujah!

So, it says as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth a nation in a day, on the Day of Atonement. Now let me give you some other Scriptures. Turn with me to Matthew 23. I am going to give you some scriptures, and I am going to relate all of them to God's great nation that He is bringing forth. You might say one or two might be a little farfetched. Okay, that is fine if you think so. But there is something about the scriptures that I am going to give you that we find in every one of them that is alike. And that is that in every one of these scriptures God calls twice. And He is calling twice about something that He is pretty concerned about, and it is really His great nation. Let me show you.

Matthew 23, beginning with verse 37. Here the Lord is talking, and He says: "*O Jerusalem, Jerusalem,*" Twice. He could have just said Jerusalem, but he said it twice. And while we know that Jerusalem represents a city, it also to me represents a nation. This is a message to a nation. What is the message?

"Thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!"

Israel was not willing to be gathered together and to walk in obedience, and enter in and possess their promised land.

And so they were rejected. There are so many scriptures that show us that so clearly. "Behold your house is left unto you desolate." So here we see a nation that is rejected. Verse 39, by the way, shows one aspect of how we can become candidates to be a part of God's great nation. What does it say? "For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth." You want to see Him? Well, it says, "You won't see me henceforth till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord." What does the name speak of? The nature. When we can say: Ah, blessed is that one that is coming forth more and more each day in His nature, we are going to see Him. I like that - "Ye shall not see me henceforth . . ."

You know, it is interesting. I will take the time to mention it. In Matthew 23 Jesus is talking to the Pharisees and He is pretty point-blank. He does not mince words. Look at verse 16: "Woe unto you, ye blind guides. . ." Verse 17: "Ye fools and blind..." Verse 19: "Ye fools and blind . . ." Verse 24: "Ye blind guides . . ." Verse 26: "Thou blind Pharisee." I think that God was trying to tell them something: That they were blind. But it is amazing that right in the midst of saying all of that He says: But you can see Me. "For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord."

So you can be blind; but if you can say, blessed is the one that is coming in the name and nature of the Lord, He opens your eyes and you begin to see Him.

But here "Jerusalem, Jerusalem," the Lord calls twice. This is the nation that has been rejected because of its unbelief and all the rest. Now look in Genesis 22. This is that marvelous chapter where Abraham is called to offer up his son, and I made reference to this in verse 2. He said: "Take now thy son, thine only son, Isaac..." God did not recognize Ishmael at all. Thine only son, Isaac. Offer him up; sacrifice him. Why that is the one through whom God had said, "I am going to bless you." Abraham said, "I am childless." Well, I will give you a child. And this was the

child of promise. He said offer him up. Well, how about the great nation that is going to come forth? Offer him up. And so we are going to go to sacrifice. Verse 5: "And Abraham said unto his young men, Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad

will go yonder" and do what? "Worship." We have received that revelation, have we not? We have heard that before. Service, sacrifice is worship. What he was going to do was offer up his son, sacrifice him, He said, "We are going to go to worship." Have you ever been in a praise service where it did not seem like you were exactly worshipping the Lord? You know why? You did not sacrifice. We must offer something. What kind of sacrifice does the Lord want? Well, we can say different kinds of sacrifice; but I will tell you the main thing He wants: He wants us every time we gather together and start to praise Him to offer ourselves up as a living sacrifice. We say, "Okay Lord, I am in your presence, here am I. I present myself to you. Do Your work in me." Ah, that is worship. You are going to feel His presence; you are going to be just praising Him.

All right. But what I want to show you now is verses 10 and 11. *"And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son. And the angel of the Lord called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham:" (And God called twice again.) "and he said, Here am I. And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me."* Verse 17: *"That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.*

And so, God spoke twice, Abraham, Abraham, that is all right, that is the promised son, you do not

need to sacrifice him, only in a figure because it is through him that my great nation is going to come forth.

Genesis 46:1-4. "And Israel took his journey with all that he had, and came to Beersheba, and offered sacrifices unto the God of his father Isaac. And God spoke unto Israel in the visions of the night, and said, Jacob, Jacob." (And God called twice) "And he said, Here am I. And he said, I am God, the God of thy father: fear not to go down into Egypt; for I will there make of thee a great nation."

And there is the promise again of God's great nation. And so it goes on to say: *"I will go down with thee into Egypt and will also surely bring you up again and Joseph shall put his hand upon thine eyes.*

So God had a nation that went down into captivity, but came out, and was set free, and they had to pass through suffering. You know, there are some characteristics about the nation of God that apply to God's great nation of today that is coming forth. It is a nation that is called to sacrifice and to worship and to suffer, but to come forth as God's great nation.

Exodus 3:1-5. "Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb. And the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed. And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt. And when the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I. And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground."

You see, Moses was receiving the call to lead God's people out. To bring forth a great nation. In fact, I think Moses saw the great nation. He had a vision. What did he see? A burning bush that was not

consumed. A bush that can go through fire and go through suffering and tribulation and purifying, but it is not going to be consumed. That is God's great nation. Amen! Praise the Lord!

Luke 10. Now, if I were to ask you what are the requirements for being a part of God's great nation, we can answer a lot of different things. But I want to show you one thing that is needed.

Luke 10:38-42. *"Now it came to pass, as they went, that he entered into a certain village: and a certain woman named Martha received him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and hear 'his word. But Martha was cumbered about much serving . . . "*

Guess we are going to have to be careful, brethren.

". . . and came to him and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me. And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things: but one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her."

You know, some of the ministry is going to gather together for three weeks before convention. You know what we are going to do. We are going to sit at Jesus' feet and hear His word. That is the one thing that is needful. That is what Mary did. And that is what we need to hear. You know, we can be so occupied, even in ministry or in serving the Lord, that we do not wait upon Him. And I see that is a real danger, There is some of the ministry that is travelling the world, but the Lord has spoken to them to take this time out, fasting and in prayer and waiting upon Him; because if we are going to be a part of God's nation, one thing is needful: to sit at Jesus' feet and hear His Word.

Acts 9:1-4,15. "And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest, and desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they

were man or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem. And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven: And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?"

Now verse 15. You see, Saul was receiving his conversion, but he was also receiving a call, right then. And God through the Lord, was calling him twice. What was that call? Well, the Lord spoke to Ananias in a vision to explain about it in verse 15: "But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me," What is his ministry, what is his calling? ". . . to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel

Why that makes up God's great nation: Gentiles, children of Israel, kings. . . "For I will show him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake."

You know, God's great nation is yet to be manifest. God speaks to us in many different ways of the work that He wants to do in us and through us. Through it all there is one thing that He is speaking to us: to become a part of His great nation. You see, we have only seen it in type, first of all, and in shadow. Recently a vision came forth when I was ministering this word. It showed a wooden platform, like the first step, and then there were some more steps, and other parts to it; the steps farther on kept going up and up, and the banisters (so to speak) turned into flowers; it was necessary to grab hold of the flowers as one climbed on up. The flowers speak to us of the truths. We need to get hold of the truths, that is the way we are going to go up. The vision started with wood, the wooden platform, and I felt the Lord was saying that first we have got the type and the shadow in natural Israel, but that was just the type and shadow. Then we move on up into the spiritual understanding and reality of it in God's truth until we come into that high place where we become a part of God's great nation. That is our calling.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you have been rejected. Israel as a nation, no. The branches can be grafted back in; whatever

God has in store for Israel in regard to many turning to Him, we do not know. We rejoice in anything that God does. But then it says, Abraham, Abraham, you do not need to slay that son. That is the one through whom I am going to raise up my great nation. And of course that was the son of promise and that was only the type and the shadow for us of the true Son of Promise, Christ!

Jacob, Jacob, go down but I will make of thee a great nation: Moses, Moses, I am calling you. You see that burning bush? That is like my great nation that I am going to raise up. It will have to go through purifying fire and through great tribulation, but will come forth. It is not going to be consumed, but it is going to be manifest.

Martha, Martha, one thing is necessary: hear and obey the voice of the Lord.

Saul, Saul, I am calling you to raise up those who will be a part of my great nation. But God's great nation has not been seen yet. Most people are not concerned about the fact that Scripture has not fully been fulfilled. But there must come forth a great nation, a holy nation, a righteous nation which keepeth the truth; a nation composed of the people who are wise and understand. Praise God for the measure that he has given to us, but we want to fulfil our calling completely. A nation that has a God so very near, that He really becomes all in all in us! A nation that is a covenant people in whom God is implanting His word in their minds and in their hearts so that once again, this time, in a nation of many members, the Word will become flesh.

When is that going to be? In the Day of Atonement. Afflicting our souls, but resting. Coming forth, being fully cleansed. A nation born in a day, even the Day of Atonement.