

B'NAI

SONS OF

SHALOM

PEACE

JERUSALEM DIGEST

Vol. 13, No. 5

ניסן, 5779, Nisan

April, 2019

*Blessed Are The Peacemakers: For They Shall Be Called The Children of God. Matthew 5:9*

# BEHOLD, THE FIG TREE and ALL THE TREES!

Luke 21:29

by Elder R. E. Dawkins, April, 1964



Elder R. E. Dawkins standing beside the picture of his mentor, Elder Wm. Sowders.

The twentieth Century has been the birth of more nations than has been seen by any millennium previously. New emerging nations have been gaining their independence ever since the close of World War II, and this was all prophesied by Jesus in one of His last public messages as recorded by Luke.

After the Lord set forth the various signs, which would mark the end of this age, He made a profound statement concerning the sign of His soon coming by calling attention to the rise of many new nations which have to stand before the judgment seat.

This He set forth when He spoke the words, "Behold the fig tree and all the trees." Here He has direct reference to the birth of not only Israel in 1948 but also, the host of nations who now fly their own flag and have their own national government.

Israel has been called the fig tree by the prophets of the Old Testament. Joel prophesied about both the Church and Israel in the same verse. Joel, 1:7. Here, points to the future of both Israel and the Church which were both to suffer at the hands of Rome, both pagan and papal, and of every succeeding false religious move from Rome on down to today. Every force, which has ever drawn blood (Jewish) has also persecuted true believers in Jesus. Joel foresaw this when he wrote. "He hath laid my vine (church) waste and barked my fig tree (Israel)." The history of the true Church and of Israel during this past two thousand years has been a parallel of suffering, for the same evil system which has founded the Jew in his wanderings has also been the sworn enemy of that nucleus which has existed since the days of the primitive Church, as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles.

The same power, which took over the reigns of the Church after the death of the Apostle Paul, and forced the Church to come under their domination or perish, also instituted Sunday as the holy day. This move was directly made to separate the Jews from the rest of the people and at the same time fulfill Daniel's vision (see Daniel 7:25) and to think to change times and laws.

*Continued on Page 3*

# A TREASURE IN A FIELD...

By Sister Avialee Burns



SISTER AVIALEE BURNS

*“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.”*

**Mathew 13:44**

The man bought the whole field. However many acres, or dunams, it was just to get hold of the treasure! As the song that we sing goes:

**I’LL NEVER BE THE SAME AGAIN  
SINCE HE BROUGHT ME TO THIS  
HEAVEN,**

[Did you know there are 3 heavens?]

**I Corinthians 12:2**

**PRAISE GOD, I’LL NEVER BE THE  
SAME**

**ONCE I WAS IN DARKNESS AND ON ME,  
THE LIGHT DID SHINE.**

**HIS HAND HAS TOUCHED MY LIFE;  
WHEN I HEARD THE WORD OF GOD,  
MY SOUL IT STARTED LEAPING,  
I FOUND WHAT I WAS SEARCHING**

**FOR,**

**I FOUND A TREASURE HIDDEN IN THE  
FIELD,**

**I PRAISE GOD, I’LL NEVER BE THE  
SAME.**

As a child, I was raised in the Trinity Field and as a teenager I joined the “Oneness Field,” but there were questions in my mind about “the Godhead.” It just didn’t seem to add up.

Brother Burns and I were married and were invited to a meeting in 1945. Brother Fosha was the Pastor in Beardstown, Illinois. I knew no one except Brother Lisenbee who had brought us. So, I was feeling strange also because of the strange way the services were conducted. Excuse me, it wasn’t conducted but turned loose. I had never seen anything like it. As the Spirit moved, they moved.

Brother Mullineaux, from Wichita, Kansas, began to preach with a heavy anointing. He was not speaking about the Godhead but casually mentioned Revelation 3:14, “Beginning of the Creation of God.” Wow! My eyes flew open! God created Jesus first and then Jesus created all things. Ephesians 3:9. I bought the field. I have the treasure, a precious truth! My soul had begun leaping and it was no problem to leave past endeavors and labor in the Body of Christ.

## THE REFORMATION

About 1600 A.D. Martin Luther was the first to move with the enlightenment “THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH.” He took a leap by faith, denouncing the field of Dark Age Religion! Did he suffer?

Yes, of course most moves forward do cause persecution from those left behind but the joy of holding the treasure, precious truths from God’s word, makes it all worthwhile!

Keep it all! The tears paid on your field will protect your treasure in this temple of clay, marching on to the ultimate truth and restoration.

**THE FIG TREE AND ALL THE TREES.....***Continued from Page 1*

Thus, we see that though Israel has been a scattered people who have not had their homeland since the dispersion by Rome and have had no king since Zedekiah was taken by Babylon. It can never be said that God hath forgotten them, together until now. Rather, they are coming back to the homeland with His complete approval and assistance. By the same token, we can see that He is also restoring that which was lost in the days following the martyrdom of the great Apostle Paul. This was promised by the same prophet who had prophesied the rise of Israel, Joel.

**NEW NATIONS? -- WHY?**

One might ask why should the birth of these new nations be of any importance to God if He is primarily interested in the Church and Israel. Here, we are able to see the direct Hand of God in the birth of these fledgling nations who have come into being since the close of the Second World War.

This was brought forcibly to your writer's mind while he was in Jamaica in the company of other brethren. Why should nations who do not have much to do with the plan of God, count in the overall program or Plan of God? The little nation of Jamaica came into being in 1962 and has since begun to chart their national course in this world of pressure politics. Every new nation has to take some sort of stand whether with the west or with the east or try to chart a course through the tempestuous waters of neutralism. This latter course is one fraught with dangerous shoals and rocky reefs.

Many new nations came into being led by men of high moral ideals, and they had hardly left the harbor of Colonialism, Racism and block pressures from both east and west. Some have floundered and shipped long before they were ready to carry any weight, and have been forced to call upon some greater power, west, east, neutrals of the United Nations.

This brings us to the WHY? Since this is to be the judgment time for ALL GENTILE NATIONS and ALL nations MUST give an account to the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, then they must be able to stand upon their own merits and pay for what they have done against God's people and plan.

Matthew 25:32 says, "and before him shall be gathered all nations." These were asked to give an account of their conduct toward God's people, the

Jews, and of their treatment of the members of the Body of Christ.

Certain nations have been guilty of the blood of God's martyrs and have lent their voice to the slaying of the Jews. This does not just include the Germany of today, also Spain, Italy, Poland, Russia and France, for these nations have given their voice to the persecution of and discrimination against the Jew. He (the Jew) has never known full and free rights to certain things, which the host country had to offer to her own citizens. In many lands it was impossible for a Jew to even own land for farming, such as happened in England, that staunch advocate of justice.

In other countries such as Russia and Poland, they were forced to live within a certain area such as "the Pale."

One of the richest men of England, Rothschild, was denied his right to sit in Parliament because he was a Jew. This in Victorian England, ghetto living was the rule for most Jews of Europe, and this existed until very late in the nineteenth century. Jews of Russia were never free from the fear of pogroms, which hounded each succeeding generation,

The Catholic Church and some of the Eastern churches made the Jew the "whipping-boy" on whom they could blame plagues, famines and economic depressions. One crusade was launched with the beating and murdering of Jews. This seemed to give a lift to the spirits of those who were on their way to "free the Holy Land from the infidels."

Every nation that turned on the Jew will have to answer in the judgment to give an account of their treatment of this chosen people. Thus, the new nations who are coming into being at this most historic of all generations will be asked about their conduct toward the Jew and the Church.

It is possible that the New World would not have grown as she has if it had not been for religious persecution, which swept across the face of Europe. America can be thankful for the Pilgrims who were forced from England due to persecution, for after landing in Holland; they seemed to find no place to plant their roots and at last, tried the New World.

From the unkind shores of Catholic and Lutheran Europe, with her state church concept of law and order, to the free virgin lands and the New World came other pilgrims by the thousands from...

*Continued on Page 7*

# **THE GREAT CONTROVERSY OF ROME VERSUS JERUSALEM**

**by Brother Orville Wallace**

In this article, we hope to cover the conclusion of the struggle that has gone on between these two most prominent cities of the ancient world, and their place in the present world, and their place in the future.

Many good things could be said concerning Rome. First of all, when all the cities of Asia were turning against the new sect called Christians, Rome gave them sanctuary. True, they were persecuted, they suffered and oft times had to live in what is called the Catacombs. Oft times, their worship was in quiet secluded places and thus, Rome purchased to herself favor with God because of her kindness toward these Pilgrims.

Rome, under the emperor, had turned against the Jews and had driven some of them out. Thus we find Aquila and Priscilla, Roman citizens. Being forced to leave Rome and living in Corinth. There they met the Apostle Paul.

Later on, as we read in the book of Romans, we find that Aquila and Priscilla had made their way back to Rome and were part of the foundation of the Roman Church. Many of the people in Rome at the time of Paul were sent there by him (Paul) since he knew that he would eventually go to Rome to plant the church in Apostolic Order.

But the intense rivalry that has existed from the days of early Rome until the present time has never slackened. At one time, during the Crusades, it was the hope of the Popes that they would be able to hold direct dominion over Jerusalem, but this dominion was only short lived since the Arabs were able to finally drive the Crusaders from the Eastern Mediterranean area. Thus, this rivalry has gone on for over two thousand years. Now, it is hard to find its culmination. Its future lies in the fact that Jerusalem

is to finally triumph in her struggle to gain her place in the sun.

Possibly, the destruction of Jerusalem, under Titus, did more to destroy Jerusalem's authority than any other event in history. The fact that she was destroyed and her greatest lovers, the Jews, as well as the Early Church, were driven from this area shows that she was struggling under diverse conditions.

This love for Jerusalem has been uppermost in the mind of the Jew during his two thousand years of wandering in the Diaspora. His favorite saying is "Next Year in Jerusalem." This has been a tinkling bell of hope that has caused the Jews, throughout the world to stay united regardless of the conditions that prevailed and the persecutions that they were suffering. So the cry for Jerusalem has been the dominant cry in the life and history of the Jews.

Likewise, the Church, God's true people, has always turned to Jerusalem. Many Christians talk about the New Jerusalem and in their minds they always picture a place somewhere in the clouds up in space. But the New Jerusalem is to be established in the very center of the earth, Jerusalem itself.

The Order of God will be prevailing there and Rome will suffer within a very short span of time. The forces of this world are to band together under the impact of the hate that is building up in the minds of the masses against the false religious practice. The churches, such as the Roman church and all her daughters are going to suffer from this and as a result of this age, will reduce Rome and the Vatican City to a place of insignificance as far as God's people are concerned. The mighty power there is in St. Peter's Cathedral today will be past history. People will forget the part that was played by the Roman Popes during their tenure of power.

But Jerusalem will rise from the ashes and will begin to be that nation, and that city that will be the focal point of the love of the world.

It is said in Zechariah, that the Kings of the earth will bring their gifts to Jerusalem and that Jerusalem will once again be the focal point of love and respect and regard from the nations of the earth. Rome will be relegated to a minor position during the next 1,000 years.

This is the hope of the generation in which we are now living. The Jews are pointing their sights toward this great event and we are pointing our sights this direction also. There will soon be a meeting place, a mutual place where we can meet and understand one another. The Body of Christ hopes they will be able to...

*Continued on Page 7*

# Water Works

## THE HOLY LAND'S WATER PARADISE

By Benjamin Glatt



*“A good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills... But the land, whither ye go to possess it is a land of hills and valleys and drinketh water of the rain of heaven,” Deuteronomy 8:7; 11:11*

It is no surprise that the Israelites' first memory of the Land of Israel is one full of water. And when they cross the mighty Jordan River in order to enter the Holy Land, they do it via one of God's miracles. This is a critical juxtaposition. God is telling the Israelites: there is no Nile River but there is plenty of water here, and you will have access to it all the time as long as you believe in me and follow my commandments. Even in the southern desert, God says, the abundance of water will make the arid area flourish, but to get to that water first, we must travel north.

An historical urban legend has it that the three major tributaries of the Jordan River, in the north of Israel, each made a claim to be pronounced Israel's greatest river. God, furious with these pompous expressions by the Snir, Heron and Dan rivers, also known by their Arabic names, Hatzbani, Baniyas and Leddan, respectively, decided to teach them a lesson on humility. He switched the three rivers' outlines to flow directly to the Jordan River, thus making them all secondary. So, the three rivers lost their prominence, but their flow was just as strong as before and their reputation of providing nourishment

to the inhabitants and great sights and fun for tourists was still intact.

*“Look from the top of Amana, from the top of Shenir and Hermon...” -Song of Solomon 4:8*

The Hermon, later called Baniyas in Arabic due to its proximity to the Greek god Pan's temple in Arabic, the “p” sound is replaced by a “b,” is the easternmost of the rivers and the principle tributary of the Jordan. Located on the foothills of Israel's tallest mountain, as its name suggests, the Baniyas, only 9km long (5 miles) is best known for its waterfall, which is one of the most powerful in the country. At the height of winter, spectators flock to the area so they can stand on a wood balcony and watch the falls drop a thunderous 360 feet into a deep pool full of wildlife and vegetation, all the while feeling the cascade of the mist.

Even in the heat of summer, the Snir River in the North (excluding the Jordan) is probably why it has become the country's major destination for river rafting and kayaking and less for swimming. Several sites are located along the river's routine, as are beautiful grass camping sites with petting zoos, cottages and boutique restaurants.

At the end of August just days before the summer vacation ends, the wading pool at the Nature and Parks Authority's reserve at Tel Dan can be found at all hours of the day full with children and their parents. But there is enough room for everybody. The water is ice cold, and it's only really recommended for visitors to dip their toes in for a few minutes. But, boy it is refreshing.

And then you reach “Paradise”. Hand-in-hand, couples take a detour from the site's suggested trail, to skip among the rocks of Eden – the sound of the Dan River bubbles in the background, the sun glistens through the shade of the towering laurels and a refreshing chill cools the air.

The ancient biblical city of Dan located in the same nature reserve, is a less than 10-minute walk from the wading pool. Visitors can learn about the story of the Tribe of Dan's settlement in the north, as found in the Book of Judges, as well as the ambitions of King of Israel, Jeroboam, to draw supporters away from King Solomon by creating a temple there. The trail is suitable for everyone, and part of it is even wheelchair-accessible.

Indeed, the days are getting shorter, but the weather in the Holy Land is still very suitable for a visit to a water spring. Now is the time to splash...

*Continued on Page 6*

**WATER WORKS.....***Continued from Page 6*

around in the water a bit, before we need to start preparing for the rainy season.

Continuing south, the next water-laden destination is Beit She'an and the valley of the Springs, Emek ma'yanot in Hebrew. The luxurious country club-like Gan Hashlosa (Sakhne). The pools of Ein Muda, which includes one with shallow water and with its abundance of shade is the best place in the area to have a picnic or a barbecue, and the hidden and peaceful spring of Ein Shokekk. But the favorite for youth, teenagers and adults alike is the kibbutz stream, with two slides made from the damming of the river, which is like taking a ride on a huge track.

The final destination is the biggest swimming pool in the country, which Israel has all to itself. On the western coast, Tiberias is a fascinating city, and defined as one of Israel's holy cities, along with Safed, Hebron and Jerusalem. Of course. It must be pointed out that even though the city has a rich tradition of spirituality – Rabbi Meir the miracle maker and Maimonides are buried there, the Jerusalem Talmud was published there and the 71-member Sanhedrin rabbinical assembly which has a tradition that dates back to Moses and 70 elders whom he chose in Numbers 11:16 sat there for a significant period of time, Tiberias can't be compared to Jerusalem.

Tiberias is hot and humid, and registers some of the highest temperatures in the country during the summer. The one crucial factor that Tiberias has over Jerusalem, though, is that no matter what the temperature is, there is always a

very simple way to defeat the heat, the Sea of Galilee.

Camping is the very best way to experience the seal and one of the great things about camping in the Holy Land in the summer is that you never have to worry about it raining on your parade.

With the option to choose from over 13 public beaches, including "quiet beaches" for couples and families there is God's creations - sunrise over the sea. The same emotions, over the same feelings, the same deep connection to the Land of Israel. It is a constant that the Jewish people belong to the Land of Israel and the Land of Israel belongs to them.

## My Personal Note

By Sister Ruth Moore



Well, we have a little space here so would like to extend my greetings to all reading this. I hope something that we placed in here will enhance your appetite in the Bible and history. I know when I was young and was in school, I thought history was a waste of time and I needn't get too carried away with it. But as the years have passed and I find that the only way we can know much of anything is to figure out why things are as they are. So, as a result, I have become quite interested in history and each day makes it more important to me. If you don't know why what

happened, you won't understand the reasoning behind it. Thank the Lord; He gives us history to let us know where he is working and what man has done to change the world that He created. Sometimes, just knowing helps us to make a change in our own lives in order to find peace with God.

In Belton, we have some young people who have gone through some severe physical conditions recently and the whole church is praying for them and other folks, so I thought you might want to hear who they are so you can join us in prayer.

Brother Ryan and Sister Hanna Henson are at this time in Baltimore where their precious Cody who is 4 years old has undergone a major surgery. He was born with out a femur and a hip and they were able to replace the hip and to lengthen his leg, give him a knee and prepare him to be able to walk. The whole church is covering each action and thank the Lord, he is coming through it very well.

Also, we have the son of Brother Craig and Sister Allison Ratliff, little 8-year-old Gavin, also Brother Brad's nephew. A short time ago, they found a tumor behind his eye which when they took him for prayer, he received such a mighty touch from the Lord that it has really made a change in him. At the time they were praying for him, the church was singing "Look What the Lord Has Done." He was so affected by the Lord's touch, when he attended school the next day he asked his teacher if he could sing a song. She told him it was alright and he again sang, "Look What the Lord Has Done", which caused quite a stir among the faculty of the school including...

*Continued on Page 7*

**THE FIG TREE and ALL .....**

*Continued from Page 3*  
every religious walk. These soon found the friendly climate of freedom more to their liking, and gave to their new home her due devotion.

The list of martyrs who died because they dare to act as free men would more than fill any volume, and no country of the Old World is free from the blood of these worthies. So the parallel of persecution which has caused the Jews to suffer has also been the cause which drank the blood of martyred Christians. Now with the emancipation of the new nations, they will be judged by the actions of their own leadership and there is God's reason for forecasting their liberation and independence.

While in Jamaica recently, your writer surprised the people assembled by stating, "Do you know that Jamaica, as a new nation, was forecast in the Bible?" Some looked very questioning when this statement was made. Then, in turning to the 21<sup>st</sup> chapter of Luke, we began to point out the many signs, which Jesus forecast and began to identify them with our times. Among the signs Jesus set forth as markers in prophecy was His statement concerning the fig and all the trees, verse 29. Before the great day of God's judgment, each and every nation must and will stand upon their own merits and answer nationally for their conduct toward the Jew and the Church.

At one time, colonial nations could have used the excuse that they were under the rule of the great powers, that they were not responsible for their acts. But the Lord wanted this excuse eliminated, thus, each nation will answer in that day, for their own sins. As long as South Africa was

under British rule she could lay part of the blame for her conduct on Britain. Now, she will have to be held accountable for her tough stand against the Jews and Israel as well as her policy on Apartheid.

With the family of nations growing almost daily, we can look for each of them to adopt laws that may or may not be used against minorities, of which the Jew is a definite part. ☆

**IN LOVING MEMORY**

**BROTHER ELMER JUELF**  
**Aug. 8, 1931 - Feb. 4 2019**  
**Among our friends,**  
**including his daughter, Susan, in**  
**St. Louis, Missouri**

**BRO. MICHAEL J. STAFOS**  
**Jan. 8, 1951 - Feb. 5, 2019**  
**Husband of Sis. Judy Stafos**  
**Monticello Gospel Assembly**

**BERNADINE OLIVE NUNN**  
**Aug. 8, 1925 - March 20, 2019**  
**Mother of Sister Karen Young**

**BRO. JACK E. DAWKINS**  
**Dec. 4, 1933 - March 21, 2019**  
**Son of Elder R. E. Dawkins**

**MY PERSONAL NOTE.....**

**Continued from Page 6**

Principle. He has been taking treatments for the tumor, and witnessing about what the Lord has done.

We are also in prayer for many others, especially Brother Jim Riggins, Brother Chris Jennings, Sister Deborah Wallace, Sister Juanita Morgan, Sister Amber Ratliff, Brother and Sister Wayne Young, Brother John Holness in Jamaica, West Indies and Sister Avialee Burns, each with physical problems. Please join us to bless all of God's good people.

**THE GREAT CONTROVERSY**

*Continued from Page 4*

be of service to the Jews as they enter their darkest hour, which is in the very near future.

Sometimes we look with horror at the persecutions that the Jewish people have undergone in the past, but it still has not stopped as far as they are concerned. There will still be a persecution that will arise.

The spirit of this world is rank and the spirit of this world is going to despise the Jew as they will also hate the Body of Christ. These two units will suffer side by side but our singular love for Jerusalem will cause us to have the same vision and cause us to have a oneness of purpose which will draw us closer together as the time passes.

So we see the future is bright and glorious for the city of God, Jerusalem. But we see nothing but devastation and trouble for Rome, the once seat of the great emperors and the great Popes who ruled the world from the Tiber River. Now they will be relegated to the background and will be superseded by the City of God, **JERUSALEM.**

**"IF I FORGET THEE  
O JERUSLEM"  
Psalm 137:5**

*Shalom for the Nations with the World We Called Our Father's God Home*

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Publication</b><br>Pastor Brad Ratliff<br>811 S. Cleveland Ave.<br>Belton, MO 64012<br>(816) 563-1264 | <b>Editing</b><br>Sister Ruth Moore<br>6111 E. 129 <sup>th</sup> St #208<br>Grandview, MO 64030<br>(816) 763-1187 |
| Ryan Henson<br>811 S. Cleveland Ave.<br>Belton, MO 64012<br>(913) 763-1187                               | Sister Avialee Burns<br>36295 New Lancaster Rd<br>Paola, KS 66074<br>(816) 805-3771                               |
| Sister Ann Riggins<br>816-535-7152   | Sister Charlotte Kester<br>913-207-8275   |

*Dedicated in Memory of our Apostle,  
Elder R. E. Dawkins 1911-1965*

Return Service Requested  
B'Nai Shalom-Jerusalem Digest  
811 S. Cleveland Avenue  
Belton, MO 64012

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
BELTON, MO  
PERMIT NO.24