MAY 2023 A SURE WORD FOR TODAY



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UPDATE

This month marks the 75th anniversary of the most important event of the 20th century. On May 14, 1948, Israel rose from the ashes of the death camps of Nazi Germany and was reborn after being driven out of her homeland over 1900 years earlier. Never in the history of mankind had anything like this ever happened before, but it happened because God had spoken it and He always keeps His promises.

In her May article, Miss Linda commemorates this great event and shares some interesting facts you may not be aware of. How privileged we all are to have lived during a time when God fulfilled a promise spoken to the prophets thousands of years ago. This has been one of the greatest proofs of the existence of God the world has ever seen.

And so we say to Israel,

"Happy 75th Birthday!"

FEATURE ARTICLE: "Are You Valuable?"

WARNING: You are entering the "TRUTH ZONE". You may not like what you read. At times it may make you feel uncomfortable. That is not my goal. My goal is to speak truth that will provide spiritual guidance for you and your family in a time of great spiritual darkness.

You can be sure that what you read here will be TRUTH!

Many people struggle with their sense of self-worth. They have a hard time seeing themselves as valuable to either God or man, and believe it or not, some are okay with this because they feel it means they are walking in humility. But is this true humility, and is this how God wants us to think? In this article, I give you some guidance with these questions.

It is very important to have a healthy view of one's self-worth, but what we base our feelings on must be right. There are two wrong paths we should avoid because both are based on wrong thinking. Too many base their sense of self-worth upon their accomplishments or lack thereof. On the one hand, there are those who see themselves as failures; they have failed to accomplish their goals or anything of great significance and as a result, they find it impossible to see themselves as valuable.

Then there are those who have experienced things that far exceeded their dreams and as a result, feel really good about themselves. Perhaps they became wealthy, could drive expensive cars, or live in a big house, and because of all this good fortune, they were able to influence many. But does this make them more valuable than those who failed to experience any of these things? These are questions that need to be answered if we are to view ourselves properly.

Like so many others, when I was younger much of my sense of self-worth was based upon my accomplishments and most of that revolved around the church I had pastored and what we had seen God do. I must confess that all this caused me to feel very good about my self-worth. However, as I have gotten older much of my thinking has changed. Please allow me to share those changes with you.

It has now become apparent to me that we should never base our sense of self-worth upon our accomplishments because quite easily they can all be taken away or destroyed. The church, the buildings, and Resurrection Christian School were all great accomplishments, but they can all be destroyed and cease to exist. If that were to happen, would it change my value as a person? Absolutely not! I now feel that instead of basing my sense of self-worth upon my accomplishments, who I am as a person is far more important and has far greater value.

Who I am as a person can never be taken away by someone else. My ability to always display Christ to an ugly hate-filled world is the one thing that matters more to me than anything else and gives my life true value. My ability to live each day with a great desire to be a blessing to all I encounter tells me more about myself than anything I ever accomplished. These are the things that matter for eternity and these are the things I believe give my life great significance.

On the day I stand before God, I will never be asked, "How big was your church?" or, "How many buildings did you build?" Rather, I will be judged by how I treated people. Did I pour my life into people and did I live to be a blessing to all I came in contact with? These have become the things of highest value in my mind. I could be wrong, but I highly doubt many young people think this way. I know I didn't.

I pray I have given you some things to think about. What do you base your sense of self-worth upon? People might give many different answers to that question but I tell you the truth, only one is right.

AND THAT MY FRIENDS IS THE TRUTH





"Happy 75th Birthday, Israel!"

May 14 marks the anniversary of one of the greatest events in history. On this day 75 years ago the nation of Israel was reborn after having been thrown into the

dustbin of history and forgotten for nearly 2000 years.

In the natural, this would have seemed totally impossible because the nation disappeared after the Romans destroyed Jerusalem in 70 AD, and the Jewish people were scattered to the four corners of the earth. No other nation in history has ever maintained its ethnicity through almost twenty centuries of dispersion so Israel's rebirth was unprecedented.

For thousands of years, the land had laid desolate and mostly uninhabited, but late in the 19th century a national Jewish awakening began and the Zionist movement was birthed. Despite great danger and hardship Jews began moving back to their homeland. At first, it was just a trickle, but following World War 1 it became a flood, and after the horrors of the Nazi death camps where six million Jews perished, it became a tidal wave. What God had spoken to the prophets of old was coming to pass.

Amos 9:14-15 AMP

14 "Also I shall bring back the exiles of My people Israel, and they will rebuild the deserted and ruined cities and inhabit them: They will also plant vineyards and drink their wine and make gardens and eat their fruit.

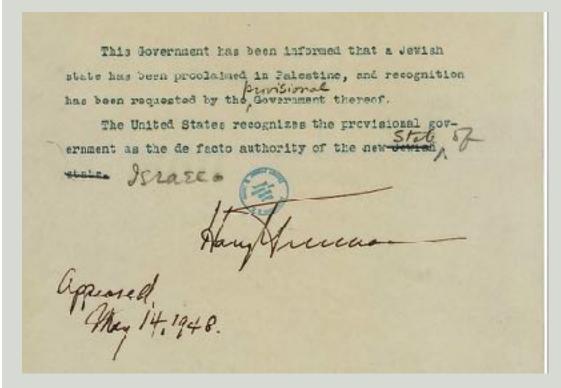
15 "I will also plant them on their land, and they shall never again be uprooted from their land which I have given them," Says the Lord your God.

At the time of this epic event, our president was Harry S. Truman. Mr. Truman was a southern Baptist from Missouri who believed that the covenant God made with Abraham gave the land of Israel to Abraham and his descendants as an eternal possession. He also had a childhood Jewish friend named Edward Jacobson that had paid him a visit several weeks earlier and explained how important it was that the Jewish people have a homeland of their own.

Despite being pressured by many foreign nations and military officials not to recognize the newly birthed state, on May 14th, 1948, just eleven minutes after newly appointed Israeli Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion read Israel's Declaration of Independence, President Harry Truman signed an official document recognizing the State of Israel.

Undoubtedly he felt the U.S. needed to lead the world in recognizing the new state, and that is why he announced U.S. support and signed the document you see on the next page.

"Happy 75th Birthday, Israel!" CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3



As you can see, this was all done with such haste that some last-minute changes had to be penciled in. As a result of his decisive leadership, many other nations followed, thus fulfilling the prophecy God had given to Isaiah.

Isaiah 66:8 Amplified Bible

8 "Who has heard of such a thing?
Who has seen such things?
Can a land be born in one day?
Or can a nation be brought forth in a moment?
As soon as Zion was in labor, she also brought forth..."

Since that fateful day, more than 3 million Jews have made "aliyah" including over 200,000 holocaust survivors who are still alive. Today there are over 15 million Jews in the world, including seven million who live in Israel. We have been there 26 times and never cease to be amazed at what we see. The land that was so inhospitable and desolate has become rich with vineyards, fruit orchards, and lush gardens.

We have also visited Jerusalem and marveled at how this wondrous city is being rebuilt and is spreading out into the hill country surrounding it. Truly, God has kept His promises!

Not only has He kept His promises, but He will also continue to keep His promises. I want to remind you of what God spoke to the prophet Amos.

Amos 9:15 AMP

15 "I will also plant them on their land, and they shall never again be uprooted from their land which I have given them," says the Lord your God.

Several years ago John and I had the privilege of hosting some Jewish friends at our home in the mountains. As we sat on our deck they expressed concern about the future of their homeland. You see, life in Israel continues to be a struggle and it seems each new day brings with it new atrocities of hate and terror. That is why our dear friends looked at us in shock when we told them they need not worry because Israel was never going to be defeated. It was here to stay! They wanted to know how we could say this with such complete confidence and were filled with joy as my husband opened the scriptures and showed them this verse.

The story of Israel's rebirth is a great example of how our God works. When it appears as if God has abandoned us, and when we least expect it, He shows up and does something we could have never imagined. If you are in a dark place today I encourage you to remember this great story of God's faithfulness and hold on to His promises!

PROPHECY UPDATE

"The Bible Is Right" Part 2

Last month I brought you an article about an amazing discovery made by the James Webb Deep Space telescope that proved that the universe has not evolved over the course of billions of years, but rather was brought into existence (created) fully formed as we see it today. (You can find that article in the "Archives" section of our website.)

This month I want to talk about another scientific discovery and this one proves that the Biblical account of the flood spoken of in Genesis 7-8 is very credible. For hundreds of years, unbelievers have scoffed at the idea that there could have been a rainstorm great enough to have covered the entire earth with water. Are they right? Let's take a closer look at Genesis 7:11.

Gen 7:11 KJV

11 In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, the seventeenth day of the month, the same day were all the fountains of the great deep broken up, and the windows of heaven were opened.

The word, "deep" used here comes from the Hebrew word, "thowm" which according to Strong's Bible dictionary means: "An abyss (as a surging mass of water), especially the deep (the main sea or the subterranean water-supply):--deep (place), depth." The word "broken" is not in the original Hebrew text but was added by the translators as an 'implied' word. To understand why we need only look at the word, "Up". The Hebrew word used is, "Baqa" and it means: "To rend, break, rip or open".

Okay, the Bible says the water came up from underground, but is there an underground water reservoir deep under the surface of the earth that contains enough water that were it to be broken open would have been able to inundate the entire earth?

Recently I came across an article about a scientific paper that was published in 2014 titled, 'Dehydration Melting at the Top of the Lower Mantle'. What I read left me speechless because it said scientists had discovered that about 400 km beneath the surface of the earth there were oceans of water whose volume far exceed the oceans on the surface. Here is part of the article.

"It feels like there have been staggering science stories emerging every other day, all of which have blown our tiny little minds. Now, people are realizing that there's a massive ocean hidden under the Earth's crust. "It turns out there's a huge supply of water stored in rock known as ringwoodite" said geophysicist Steve Jacobsen. He continued, "If the rock contained just 1 per cent water, it would mean that there is **three times more water** under the surface of the Earth than there is in the oceans on the surface."

WELL, HOW ABOUT THAT!

Science has revealed that the biblical account of the flood was not only possible but also very credible. I cannot tell you how exciting this is and how much I enjoy sharing it with you. But, now there is a question I need to answer: Why have I put these two articles in the 'Prophecy Update'? These articles look at the past, not at the future.

Yes, they do, but does this not cause you to look at what the Bible says about the future and realize that no matter how impossible it may seem, it will happen? Every word in your Bible is God inspired and will come to pass because God watches over His Word to perform it. That includes the rapture of the church, the return of Jesus, and the establishment of the Kingdom of God on this planet.

For believers, the future is very bright!