

## WHO SHALL GO OVER THE SEA? >>>

### DEUTERONOMY 29:1 – 30:13

~ Our last report from our Spiritual Safari expedition through the entire Word of God was a prerequisite report regarding what is known as the Palestinian Covenant. We considered differing viewpoints in relation to precisely what constitutes this particular covenant, so we won't review that again. Our so-called safari does not outline chapters of the Bible as a normal Bible study might; but, if anything, we stick close to the Old Scofield Reference Study Bible that designates chapter twenty-nine as the Introductory to the Palestinian Covenant; and then chapter thirty, verse one through ten, as the Palestinian Covenant proper. Either way, we should consider our last report, dealing with chapters twenty-seven and twenty-eight, and this chapter twenty-nine, as a whole. So, if you have not read our previous report and, indeed, all seventeen reports thus far from Deuteronomy, then I highly suggest you go back and do so now....

### XXIX

***1 These are the words of the covenant, which the LORD commanded Moses to make with the children of Israel in the land of Moab, beside the covenant which he made with them in Horeb.***

~ The covenant made in Horeb concerned the Ten Commandments and the associated statutes and ordinances that comprise what we know as the Mosaic System of Levitical Law. After the law was given to them, and Moses died, the nation Israel came into existence. Most of the people Moses is speaking to at the time in which we are studying were very young children when the Ten Commandments were originally given. Some might have been teenagers, but they were all very well-acquainted with the Mosaic Law....

***2 And Moses called unto all Israel, and said unto them, Ye have seen all that the LORD did before your eyes in the land of Egypt unto Pharaoh, and unto all his servants, and unto all his land;***

***3 The great temptations which thine eyes have seen, the signs, and those great miracles:***

***4 Yet the LORD hath not given you an heart to perceive, and eyes to see, and ears to hear, unto this day.***

~ Isaiah had a lot to say about this; as did Paul in Romans chapter eleven, where he says, "... according as it is written, God hath given them the spirit of slumber, eyes that they should not see, and ears that they should not hear unto this day." That does not mean God just switches them to an off position - or something like that; no, it means they're already off. The Holy Spirit has to turn us ON in the first place. Until God Himself opens our eyes and ears to understanding, we cannot hear the Gospel or comprehend eschatology. We can hear the words that form the sentences that comprise Biblical phrases and form the Gospel, but the spiritual things can never be discerned on our own accord.

Most people view any attempt to teach the Bible as a religious racket. Most will throw the Spiritual Safari right in with Osteen, Hinn, Meyers, the cult of Catholicism and all mainstream denominations. The natural man views every one of us involved in any form of "religion" as being the same. It's too bad I can't make unsaved people read a few reports and see what I am trying to do. Well, it takes a very long time to figure me out, so that won't work. The real frustration comes from an understanding that some people who are reading regularly still aren't getting it. They still come up with the same conclusion that I am a religious fruitcake with an ulterior motive. After all, the Bible is only used for propaganda today according to the world. The only way it is ever presented is in debate. Therefore, I am totally helpless regarding what happens with all of these several million words I am taking my entire life to write down. All I can do is trust that the Spirit of God will make Himself as real to others as He has to me in my own life through these reports. Well, if you have read this far, I hope you do see I am only attempting to present the Word of God properly, correctly and completely. When that effort is made, I know it reaches in and touches the hearts and lives of many people.

God left His people in an awful condition for a while because they had no intentions of hearkening, turning to and obeying Him. All communication between the children of Israel and the True and Living God had completely broken down within the first generation to come out of Egypt – and, my friends, when that happens – God will permit you to wallow in your state of unbelief. That should absolutely terrify any spiritually discerning person – so let's move on. As we do move on, imagine walking forty years in the same clothes and shoes.

Moses describes the wilderness wanderings of Israel in this section of Scripture, and it should have opened their eyes to the condition of their hearts; but - it didn't. Many people say if God would just perform a miracle before their eyes, they would believe. Well, these people saw miracles every single day for forty years and they didn't believe. The fact that God is not visible to our eyes is not the problem with unbelief. Men are not unbelievers for a lack of evidence nor because of the Bible and its difficulty to understand; no, men are unbelievers because in their hearts they DO NOT WANT to believe. They don't want to believe because there is sin in their lives that they refuse to give up!

The ONLY reason ANYONE refuses to accept Christ as Savior is because there is sin in their life that they love more than God. The natural man simply will not bow to the God given authority that He demands because they regard iniquity in their hearts. The man of the world is an innate enemy of God, and they have no capacity for the spiritual things of Christ. This is an amazing picture of the desperately wicked human heart. None of us can conceive – at all – how truly terrible and despicable the heart of man – your heart and mine – really is. The carnal mind is enmity against God; it is not subject to the law of God; neither, indeed, can it be. That's what Paul said after God had tested Israel for roughly fifteen hundred years handling His laws. The final conclusion was they that are in the flesh CANNOT please God. That is the dark and ugly picture that the Artist known as God paints of humanity. That's the preliminary historical record Moses presents as background information before giving the nation Israel the Palestinian Covenant.

We now come to a prophetic history regarding exactly what will transpire in the Promised Land; and Moses spells that all out before giving the covenant concerning boundaries we find in the next chapter. God says He intends to bring them back into the land and bless them and the land. As we have said many times – and it is so important to understand – the land and the people go together. They are inextricably intertwined. The entire Mosaic System is specifically geared for that particular geographical land and those particular people occupying it. The following is the EXACT condition of Israel today and, friends, this is the single most remarkable prophecy that I can find anywhere in Scripture....

***5 And I have led you forty years in the wilderness: your clothes are not waxen old upon you, and thy shoe is not waxen old upon thy foot.***

***6 Ye have not eaten bread, neither have ye drunk wine or strong drink: that ye might know that I am the LORD your God.***

***7 And when ye came unto this place, Sihon the king of Heshbon, and Og the king of Bashan, came out against us unto battle, and we smote them:***

***8 And we took their land, and gave it for an inheritance unto the Reubenites, and to the Gadites, and to the half tribe of Manasseh.***

***9 Keep therefore the words of this covenant, and do them, that ye may prosper in all that ye do.***

***10 Ye stand this day all of you before the LORD your God; your captains of your tribes, your elders, and your officers, with all the men of Israel,***

***11 Your little ones, your wives, and thy stranger that is in thy camp, from the hewer of thy wood unto the drawer of thy water:***

***12 That thou shouldest enter into covenant with the LORD thy God, and into his oath, which the LORD thy God maketh with thee this day:***

**13 That he may establish thee to day for a people unto himself, and that he may be unto thee a God, as he hath said unto thee, and as he hath sworn unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.**

**14 Neither with you only do I make this covenant and this oath;**

**15 But with him that standeth here with us this day before the LORD our God, and also with him that is not here with us this day:**

**16 (For ye know how we have dwelt in the land of Egypt; and how we came through the nations which ye passed by;**

**17 And ye have seen their abominations, and their idols, wood and stone, silver and gold, which were among them:)**

**18 Lest there should be among you man, or woman, or family, or tribe, whose heart turneth away this day from the LORD our God, to go and serve the gods of these nations; lest there should be among you a root that beareth gall and wormwood;**

**19 And it come to pass, when he heareth the words of this curse, that he bless himself in his heart, saying, I shall have peace, though I walk in the imagination of mine heart, to add drunkenness to thirst:**

**20 The LORD will not spare him, but then the anger of the LORD and his jealousy shall smoke against that man, and all the curses that are written in this book shall lie upon him, and the LORD shall blot out his name from under heaven.**

**21 And the LORD shall separate him unto evil out of all the tribes of Israel, according to all the curses of the covenant that are written in this book of the law:**

**22 So that the generation to come of your children that shall rise up after you, and the stranger that shall come from a far land, shall say, when**

***they see the plagues of that land, and the sicknesses which the LORD hath laid upon it;***

***23 And that the whole land thereof is brimstone, and salt, and burning, that it is not sown, nor beareth, nor any grass groweth therein, like the overthrow of Sodom, and Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboim, which the LORD overthrew in his anger, and in his wrath:***

***24 Even all nations shall say, Wherefore hath the LORD done thus unto this land? what meaneth the heat of this great anger?***

***25 Then men shall say, Because they have forsaken the covenant of the LORD God of their fathers, which he made with them when he brought them forth out of the land of Egypt:***

***26 For they went and served other gods, and worshipped them, gods whom they knew not, and whom he had not given unto them:***

***27 And the anger of the LORD was kindled against this land, to bring upon it all the curses that are written in this book:***

~ Even in the days when the Lord Jesus Christ came to the earth, the Mount of Olives was covered entirely with trees and vegetation. In that day, it was a regular area of arbor. It was the Babylonians, Greeks and the Romans who chopped down all the timber. It's barren today because this is the judgment of God - but not upon the people - upon the land itself. Anyone who thinks Israel is the land of milk and honey today just happens to be totally ignorant of the conditions over there in Israel right now. Israel might just be the worst place anyone could possibly visit or live in presently. If you visit, you are going to ask yourself the question in verse twenty-two and twenty-four, if you know your Bible - I can promise you that! Well, the explanation is: verses twenty-five through twenty-nine....

***28 And the LORD rooted them out of their land in anger, and in wrath, and in great indignation, and cast them into another land, as it is this day.***

***29 The secret things belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law.***

~ You should be sensing by now that there are many things God has not told us. However, the things He has told us have complete and total credibility in His Word when we take the time to understand it properly, correctly and completely. Today, the men and women in Israel are doing everything they possibly can to bring water into that land. If the rains returned, and full agricultural potential were met, that land could easily sustain twenty-five million people. Well, that's not happening today because God gave them CONDITIONS on which they would occupy and be blessed by the land - and those conditions are continually rejected by His people. So, God gave them this Palestinian Covenant in chapter-thirty. Notice the complete absence of "IF" as we continue the rest of this leg of our safari; this is another UNCONDITIONAL promise of future blessings....

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***1 And it shall come to pass, when all these things are come upon thee, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before thee, and thou shalt call them to mind among all the nations, whither the LORD thy God hath driven thee,***

***2 And shalt return unto the LORD thy God, and shalt obey his voice according to all that I command thee this day, thou and thy children, with all thine heart, and with all thy soul;***

***3 That then the LORD thy God will turn thy captivity, and have compassion upon thee, and will return and gather thee from all the nations, whither the LORD thy God hath scattered thee.***

~ So, there are seven great unconditional promises God makes, in case you aren't counting. The nation shall be plucked from off of the land because of unfaithfulness. It is more than obvious, as well as historically factual, that this took place. There will be a future repentance of Israel; the nation is going to turn again to the True and Living God. They were disbursed

because of disobedience; meaning, when they return, they will ALREADY have become obedient. This is the order of grace and not law. They will not be returned because they are obedient; but rather, they will be obedient because of their return. God will bring them back into the land and that return is the theme of at least twelve major prophecies in the Old Testament.

Christ their Messiah will return. Make a note of that; because it is extremely important to keep in mind all the way through the rest of the Bible. This is the first recorded mention of the return of Christ to the earth in His second Advent in Scripture, too. When we study the little book of Jude, we will discover Enoch mentioned the return of the Messiah – but that statement of Enoch is NOT recorded in the Old Testament. The land will not be blessed until the fulfillment of all of these remarkable prophecies takes place; and perhaps the primary indicator of their return to the land in fulfillment of Scriptural prophecy will be peace and safety in the land. That's not happening today....

***4 If any of thine be driven out unto the outmost parts of heaven, from thence will the LORD thy God gather thee, and from thence will he fetch thee:***

***5 And the LORD thy God will bring thee into the land which thy fathers possessed, and thou shalt possess it; and he will do thee good, and multiply thee above thy fathers.***

***6 And the LORD thy God will circumcise thine heart, and the heart of thy seed, to love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, that thou mayest live.***

***7 And the LORD thy God will put all these curses upon thine enemies, and on them that hate thee, which persecuted thee.***

***8 And thou shalt return and obey the voice of the LORD, and do all his commandments which I command thee this day.***

***9 And the LORD thy God will make thee plenteous in every work of thine hand, in the fruit of thy body, and in the fruit of thy cattle, and in the fruit of thy land, for good: for the LORD will again rejoice over thee for good, as he rejoiced over thy fathers:***

***10 If thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to keep his commandments and his statutes which are written in this book of the law, and if thou turn unto the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul.***

***11 For this commandment which I command thee this day, it is not hidden from thee, neither is it far off.***

***12 It is not in heaven, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go up for us to heaven, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it?***

***13 Neither is it beyond the sea, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go over the sea for us, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it?***

~ I want to stress that the condition under which the nation Israel occupies the land would be obedience unto God. There is no blessing – no NOTHING – for them there unless they are obedient to the True and Living God. God has made an unconditional covenant that they will be returned someday. Someone is apt to ask if that could not be the case now, because they will be returned and become obedient. Well, there are at least three other prophetic ingredients that must accompany their return, and those are simply not happening. I truly pray I have succeeded in bringing out this remarkable prophecy for your understanding; it's somewhat complicated - but it's also understandable.

At this point in the history of the nation Israel, at the time in which we are studying, they are yet to go through two more dispersions from the land. This information is not locked up in Heaven; and we don't need to go over the sea to bring it to them. There is absolutely NO EXCUSE that the nation Israel does not know this prophecy. God brought it directly to their eyes and ears. They can know it IF they will learn the Bible properly, correctly

and completely. There is a responsibility when we live in a land that has been given the Gospel. We don't have to go to Heaven to find our salvation. It's right in front of our faces today. It's as close as the Christian who teaches you the Word of God in the sound doctrine of the apostles in an educated manner, too, by the way. THAT makes YOU responsible; and that's where your free will comes into play in your life, by the way.

I consider it my responsibility to bring you dear readers these reports. You will never have an excuse to say you couldn't learn the Bible – even if you do not bother availing yourself of a single report. It was there for you the entire time, but YOU rejected taking the time for the Lord. I have certainly taken a great deal of my time to ensure you have it, friends. That is as far as I can take you; from here it's up to you – not me – my mission is accomplished. I must say, it's wonderful to have the opportunity. There is really nothing else I would rather do ~

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