

THE POSSIBLE NONCONFORMISTS

MY FRIENDS! A prophesied invasion of restored Israel “**in the latter days**” has been the absorbing subject arresting our attention in preceding messages in this series and we have gained our prophetic light from the illuminating chapters of the sacred Scriptures of Ezekiel.

This great prophet of Israel provided us with thirteen names of nations or places involved in this predicted drama and we have been fishing in the tenth chapter of genesis in our effort to clothe those ancient nations with their modern names.

The fish we pulled out of that pristine pool proved highly interesting specimens; Gog, Magog, Rosh, Meshech and Tubal all appeared to be branded with the hammer and sickle, whilst Gog’s partisans Paras, Cush, Put, Gomer and Togarmah were presented as a regular Mohammedan Pan-Islamic Arabic Confederacy which included satellite Germany.

Now these, by the way, were not our dogmatisms, merely our deductions. You will remember that, won’t you?

Well, there remain to us yet three more fish in that illuminating lake: Sheba and Dedan are named in the Scriptures as the sons of Raamah, grandsons of Cush, the son of Ham. The term is kosher, by the way. The descendants of Ham are likely to be those who settled in the countries south of Edom near the Red Sea.

It is interesting to note, by the way, that the names of Sheba and Dedan were also names bestowed upon two children of Abraham by his other wife Keturah.

Where these names apply to peoples and not individuals, we find them described as merchant peoples whose merchandise includes incense and wearing apparel. I am of the opinion that Northern and Southern Arabia will most likely discover these ethnic groups.

Now, what of “**the merchants of Tarshish, with all the young lions thereof**” (Ezekiel 38:13).

To what nation or nations, as they exist today, can we attach this ancient designation of Tarshish?

It would be very gratifying if we could hazard a satisfactory deduction as to the possible identity of Tarshish because Tarshish appears to lead in a role different from that of Gog and his hordes.

As we have seen in previous messages, Tarshish leads the way in what is either the launching of a protest against Gog or the initiating of a parley with him.

Be it protest or parley, it would be most interesting to attempt an identification and I think I can suggest a method which will appeal to you.

Let us together draw out of the fabric of the Scriptures each single characteristic thread descriptive of ancient Tarshish and from those single threads let us weave a Tarshish garments. Then, when our Tarshish garment is complete, let us see if it will fit any national entities of this present day.

Are you ready to join me in this fascinating experiment? Good! Observe, then, that there are some twenty-eight places in the Holy Scriptures where the word “Tarshish” occurs; these are the threads from which we will hope to weave our Tarshish garment.

No less than nine of these threads display the blue-green splendour of the oceans as they all refer to the “ships” and the “navy” of Tarshish. So, then here’s a start. Since ancient Tarshish was a Maritime Nation, our garment must fit a Maritime Nation today.

The activities of Tarshish as well as the express declarations of Ezekiel (27:12 and 38:13) disclose that Tarshish is a Merchant Nation. Thus we have merchant threads to weave into our maritime threads.

Again, Ezekiel’s phrase in chapter 38 and verse 13 **“the merchants of Tarshish and all the young lions thereof”** is a very interesting thread of evidence because it reveals that Tarshish is a Manifold Nation, and not a single nation but a group of nations.

Observe, however, that the **“young lions”** are **“thereof.”** What nation today, do you suppose, could be depicted as an old lion standing with her offspring around her? The offspring are **“young lions,”** mark you, not cubs. Cubs are dependent upon their mother; young lions are independent entities!

That was rather an interesting thread we drew out, now wasn’t it? And here are others, for we find that this maritime merchant, manifold nation is also a Mineral Nation. Examine this thread in Ezekiel, chapter 27 and verse 12 — **“Tarshish was thy merchant by reason of the multitude of all kinds of riches; with silver, iron, tin, and lead, they traded in your fairs.”**

Our threads are beginning to weave quite a distinctive garment, do you not think so? And here is still another highly colourful and informative thread. Listen carefully. Those same ships of Tarshish carried ivory, apes and peacocks (I Kings 10:22 and II Chronicles 9:21) and in the Hebrew Bible those words translated ivory, apes and peacocks are not Hebrew words at all, but belong to the Tamil dialect, one of the Dravidian languages of India! Tarshish, then, has had contact with India.

Threads drawn from the Book of Jonah and II Chronicles (20:36, 37) disclose that to get to Tarshish from the Promised Land it was necessary to take a ship. Of course, a ship was a good means of conveyance to Tarsessus in Spain but a ship would be a necessary conveyance in those days if Tarshish were completely surrounded by water. Now, I do not say that it was so — I am merely examining threads to weave a characteristic garments, that’s all.

However, it does remind me that there exists a land completely surrounded by water and once known as the Barratanic Islands from whence came the name Brittainia and finally Britain. By the way, “Barrantanic Islands” means “Tin Islands” and the tin mines of Cornwall are rather famous, aren’t they?

How remarkable! We do not seem to have carried our Tarshish garment around looking for a possible fit. It rather seems that as we held the garment in our hands it filled out with the ethnic groups before our very eyes!

Surely the maritime, merchant, mineral, manifold Tarshish garment was leonine in shape. Did it fit an old British lion?

Was it also large enough to fit the **“young lions thereof,”** the now independent nations once reared in the old lion’s lair? U.S.A., Australia, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa, possibly India and perhaps others? Rather a fascinating garment we’ve made.

Just to finish it off, there are a few threads that relate to individuals, to men bearing the personal names “Tarshish.” These nomenclatural threads are equally revealing because they disclose that the origin of the Tarshish peoples is Japhetic. (Genesis 10:4; I Chronicles 1:7)

Yet another thread found in Isaiah, chapter 66 and verse 19, expressly states that Tarshish is a Gentile nation. Why do I mention this? These important threads are sufficient to choke the wild, unscriptural, unhistorical, anti-Semitic and fantastic so-called “British-Israel” theories, for Israel is Shemitic not Japhetic, and Tarshish is Japhetic.

Well, my friends, our Scripture threads have woven an interesting garment and if our method of manufacture has been reasonable and valid then we can understand why, either in parley or in protest, Britain, U.S.A., and our allies should ask of Gog, **“Are you come to take a spoil?”** when Russian, satellite Germany and the Arabic confederacy launch the **“latter day”** invasion of Israel and touch off a drama in which Gog doesn’t figure as the prominent actor but God, He will be the Principal Actor.

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(1900-1964)

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