

Kingdom Vision Report

For the week of 20 January 2018

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Concept Idea:

We need new levels of God's people coming together to get work done, This requires new and deeper levels of commitment to one another which the Bible describes as "covenants". We are severely restricted in what we can accomplish in a local church. Not enough people and not enough vision or commitment to tackle really big problems...so we leave it up to government and big business. It is time to move to a larger vision of the Church....

Roadmap to Growing the Coming Holy Nations

Last week I introduced you to a very radical idea which basically amounts to this:

The nation of Israel is a template or a divine pattern that the Lord has given us as to how we "disciple the nations".

We don't form political parties and take political power and seize the reigns of power. We don't try to impose our way of life on an unbelieving world.

The fact of the matter is that they are incapable of obedience to the Lord. I made the case that the Kingdom of God is at its core a family affair. You must be "born again" to enter that family and then you must be trained like a new child to learn what are the rules of family behaviour.

But the very important point about the Israel template is this:

There is a natural growth of one man like Abraham being converted from the pagan gods of the Chaldees to coming into a covenant relationship with Yahweh and when you follow the history of that man you see a progression over the years from a man to a nation!

The progression that I see is ever larger and growing units of the 'Abraham family' all united every step of the growth path in not just the what we call the Abrahamic covenant but each growth phase gets a covenant promise.

The personal covenant with Abraham becomes a family covenant with Isaac.

The family covenant with Isaac becomes a clan covenant with Jacob and his 12 sons and their clan of 70 that migrate into Egypt.

In Egypt the clan grows into a great people called "the Hebrews".

The Lord then moves the Hebrews out of Egypt and under the leadership of Moses transforms them into a new nation Israel, by making a new and expanded covenant with them at Sinai.

"Hebrew" comes from "eber" meaning "those who have crossed over". "Israel" means "ruled by God"... "Ish = man, "ra" = ruled, "el" = God.

And this new nation is given a new vision...go and possess the land!

Now it is important that you grasp the implication of the covenant that the Lord made with Jacob that I quoted from Genesis 35:11:

God told Jacob that he was to father a nation (which we call “Israel” and from there “a multitude of nations”).

God laid down the pattern of how to create a multitude of nations in the earth by giving us the roadmap with the creation of Israel.

But why create a multitude of nations?

Let me explain from my personal history. I found out very dramatically in my own life that there was a big difference in my effectiveness in both ministry and business when I transitioned from a single life to getting married. Two people coming together in the life long covenant of marriage get far more done in life than two individuals on their own.

Then as time went on our little family grew into a clan. We started businesses and then I found that I could get far more done when I grew from family to a clan...I entered into a new covenant relationship with a large group of people...I will care for them through work and a monthly income....I get to use the surplus value of the work for investment into the growth of God’s Kingdom and the growth of our family.

Every time you bring more and more people together in a new covenant relationship you bring talents and giftings and assets together and you can tackle ever greater problems and create ever larger areas of life where the rule of God’s Kingdom has been extended.

When you have moved from what a family or a clan can do when in a covenant relationship and you move on up through the steps I have outline to “a city Church” to a regional grouping called a Tribe and bring tribes together to form a covenanted nation of people...then you can get a lot done!

Let me show you a very interesting scripture comparison from the New Testament and the Old Testament that will show you that the Lord has never changed His plan about forming nations in the earth....

Here is what the Lord told Israel....

Exodus 19:6: ***“And you shall be unto me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.”***

Deut. 7:6: ***“For you are a holy people unto the Lord your God: the Lord has chosen you to be a special people unto himself...”***

Now read what 1 Peter 2:9 says...

“But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people that you should show forth the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.”

Let me make some observations here that some might find controversial but that needs to be said....

It is very obvious that the calling that God placed on national Israel at Mt. Sinai to be a nation of priests and to be a light to the world never happened. First they refused to be a nation of priests and told Moses we do not want to talk to God...you talk to Him. God had to select one tribe, the Levites to be a tribe of priests.

Second they eventually decided they actually did not want to be a holy nation or a special people...they wanted to be just like everyone else around them and serve their gods.

So the Lord cut them off and with the coming of the Jesus Christ made a New Covenant with “gentiles” to be His holy nation, his kingdom of priests, his peculiar people.

The vast majority of evangelical preachers regardless of them loving to preach about “the priesthood of the believer” still think national Israel is God’s “holy nation”.

Let me show you where this false theology is wrong....

When scripture says we are to be a “holy nation” what does it mean? Well “holy” in Hebrew is “kadosh” and it means “set apart”.

So you are to be “holy”...meaning you are to be set apart for God’s use. Your family is to be “holy”...that is you are to dedicate your children to the Lord...they are set apart for His use and all our family are to be for God’s use.

Your business is to be “holy”...God raises up new entrepreneurs to create new products and services and those businesses are to be repurposed for God’s purpose.

Up to this point all preachers will agree with me. They will also preach this, they will also preach the truths of how we are called to be a new “royal priesthood” being the children of the King we are royal and having free entrance into the presence of God we can act as intercessors and bless and reconcile all to Christ.

Still ok....

But try and talk about anything higher than an individual, a family or a business being “holy” or “separated unto God for His purpose” and you run into trouble with preachers.

First you get accused for preaching “replacement theology”. For them that means you are trying to equate the Church with Israel and to them there can only be one “holy nation” and that is the nation of Israel born on May 1948.

Now if you try to ask “but what about God’s promise to Jacob that there will come “a multitude of nations” ...you get a blank stare.

If you try to say but did Jesus not say to the Jews “the kingdom has been taken away from you and given to another” or that Paul teaches in Romans that national Israel has been cut off and the Gentiles grafted onto the Israel tree... No...you are preaching “replacement theology”

But what about Peter calling us to be not just a royal priesthood but a “holy nation”?

I can go and on with scripture showing you the prophetic dead end that the church today has moved in. But I do not have the space here.

So let me answer the question.. ”why holy nations?”

Because all the earth belongs to the Lord but the earth has been given to man to rule over but through the rebellion at Eden the entire purpose that the Lord has for earth has been lost.

Planet earth and the whole cosmos of creation needs to be repurposed and made “holy”.. That is it must be returned to its original purpose for God’s use.

The repurposing of planet earth is such a large task that we need to move into ever higher groupings of covenanted people of God so that we can tackle the big problems that lie ahead.

Solutions to international problems require a multitude of new nations each dedicated to God’s purposes for its region and all working together to create a new heavens and a new earth.

Forget about the old national boundaries of Europe or Africa or Asian nations. They are all crumbling in any case.

The new boundaries of planet earth will be as designated in Rev. 21 & 22...on one side is the New Jerusalem the new empire of God’s rule on earth...on the other side of the city walls are the lost. The walls of the City of God is the boundary where Jesus has been made Lord over that territory and on the other side is the lawless wilderness of the barbarian sinners.

And it starts with an individual and it grows into a nation.

The Roadmap ahead....from local church to Holy Nations

As mentioned to you I do not know any preacher who would actually agree with me on what I see ahead...especially with Israel and the Church.

They all think the Church must be taken out of the earth so that God can go back to make national Israel once again His “holy nation”, His royal priesthood etc.

And of course to help national Israel in its task the Christian Zionists have been strongly urging each American administration to bomb all potential enemies of Israel into a stone age rubble...Iraq, Libya, Syria, Afghanistan, Yemen, and next on the list...Iran. They will probably get Pres. Trump to do that.

After this devastating carnage I fail to see how this nation of Israel is supposedly going to be a “light to the gentiles and a holy nation and royal priesthood”.

So my first prediction is a major international tragedy in the Middle East that will involve the demise of the state of Israel. How I don't know. But I have a sense that in the same way that the Jerusalem Church under the leadership of James the brother of Jesus was deceived about the restoration of the Kingdom of God to national Israel, God had to dramatically destroy both Jerusalem and the temple to rid the early church of the Judaizer heresy that Paul tried to fight in every church.

That Christian Zionist heresy is firmly entrenched in today's evangelical church.

Next I see a dramatic exodus of the church out of the world Babylon system the same way that Israel had to exit out of Egypt.

God told Pharaoh “let my people go that they may serve me.”

In the section of I Peter 2 that I quoted before, right after Peter describes how we are to be a holy nation in the earth he acknowledges that we are not there yet.

In 1 Peter 2 12-25 he describes our present reality and how we are to conduct ourselves:

- be obedient to every law of man
- Honor the king and governors and obey their laws
- Servants be obedient to your masters

You can be in Egypt and Babylon like Joseph and Daniel were. You can be promoted to high office and bless the land.

You can prosper in goods and wealth like Abraham and his heirs did.

But there comes a time in the plans of God that when we have strengthened ourselves and grown in number and skills and abilities and knowledge and understanding that the Lord determines we as a people are ready for bigger things.

Then He says to the world system...”Let my people go that they may serve me.”

Our current church strategy is geared around winning souls and then encouraging our people to do well within the current world system.

Obey the laws. Work hard. Be productive. Be a witness for Jesus in the work place, be a witness in society.

Absolutely nothing wrong with that. I support that.

But the world is changing. The church is growing. We are more and more strangers in a strange land. The world system is holding us back from moving God's Kingdom agenda to a new level....

The problems and the blessings ahead.....

I will follow this roadmap I now outline in future with more detail but here a simple outline....

The problem of the growth of the move of God.

The world evangelical movement is now the major religious and culture force in the world today. We are 700 million strong and growing rapidly. That is 1 in 10 of the world population.

Here is the problem....

Population growth in all major countries is now demographically declining. The sinners are dying out...but the righteous keep increasing.

This means that more and more we are a truly international non-national force. We have less and less attachment to our home nations and their culture and more and more affinity with the family of God around the world. National and cultural identities are increasingly more meaningless to us.

For us here in South Africa this is especially true. We are rapidly losing our national identity. The most binding reality among our 11 ethnic groups are the evangelical Christians in each population group.

Here is the problem for the church in the near future:

At the moment the dominant belief in Churches is that the next thing on God's calendar is the Second Coming of Christ. So we are basically uninvolved in most national and international issues. So coming together in local gatherings on a Sunday morning in loose fellowship is ok for an interim period while we wait for Jesus to come.

But unaware to most is the onrushing crises.

The economic crisis is on its way and unavoidable:

- \$233 trillion in world debt and growing every year.
- The pensions crisis of an aging world population and not enough young people to keep paying taxes to pay national debts and still support a growing aging population.
- Resource depletion will increase the cost of all items such as food, energy, minerals etc.
- Job destruction by rapid technological advances that will rapidly replace low skilled work with automation, robotics and artificial intelligence.
- Destruction of adequate buying power as the middle class evaporates and not enough income to buy the amount of goods and services available on the market.

Cultural degradation...

Whole sections of the population increasingly addicted to all forms of destructive behaviours such as drugs, electronic games and passive entertainment, porn, gambling, alcohol etc.

Nation states and traditional politics breaking down. The problems of the nation state are now too overwhelming for national governments to address regardless of how many promises they make to voters.

Transformation time for the Church...

In the next 20 years I predict that the Church will prophetically realize we are here to stay. We are the only ones who can create a New World order. We have been given all the tools necessary to create a new world and save mankind.

But we will need to come together in greater numbers to get the job done...we need to grow into "holy nations".