

Hope in Captivity, part 2

Hope in Captivity: The Biblical Cycle of Judgment and Deliverance

Is there hope in captivity? This is part two. Last week I said, and most Americans find it hard to deny, that captivity at the hands of our enemies may be in the future if something drastic happens. The enemies of America and Christendom are growing stronger as the years go by, and we as a people, as a nation, and our allies and friends around the world are growing weaker. The stage has been set for what the enemy thinks is the final takeover of the world, to establish a one-world Communist or Socialist state.

So rather than discuss what they intend to do, we read the Scripture, because it says in Romans 15:4, "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope." This is the answer for Christians in troubles, or trials, or problems, whether they are personal, whether they are family, or whether they are national or international, as we consider the world problems today. You can find hope in the Scriptures. You can find the answers in the Scriptures.

Since the subject, or at least the discussion, was the possibility of captivity of our Christian nations by the world Antichrist Communists, we turned to the Scripture to read about captivity. We read quite a bit in the book of Judges last week, because that is a book of captivities and deliverances. We read in Judges 2, starting in verse 11: "And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord, and served Baalim: And they forsook the Lord God of their fathers, which brought them out of the land of Egypt, and followed other gods, of the gods of the people that were round about them, and bowed themselves unto them, and provoked the Lord to anger. And they forsook the Lord, and served Baal and Ashtaroth. And the anger of the Lord was hot against Israel, and he delivered them into the hands of spoilers that spoiled them, and he sold them into the hands of their enemies round about, so that they could not any longer stand before their enemies. Whithersoever they went out, the hand of the Lord was against them for evil, as the Lord had said, and as the Lord had sworn unto them: and they were greatly distressed."

We saw this over and over, six times in the book of Judges. Israel was delivered. A short time later they turned away from God, disobeyed His law, and began to worship other gods. The result, inevitably, was the same. They lost the favor of God. God turned His hand from them. At least in one case we saw where their enemy was not strong, and God actually strengthened the enemy.

We know from the history of the last sixty years that Communism is an economic, political, or military failure. It cannot succeed. Yet we stupidly suppose that we are helping build the strength of the world Communist state. Well, let us not just say we. Let us say it is God. God is actually building up their strength for the same reason that He built up the strength of the enemy of ancient Israel. Israel had turned and worshipped other gods, and God raised up enemies to take them in.

In each case we also read that it was not just disobedience of the law, but it always involved the worshipping of other gods. Here God said He did this as He had said unto them. Turn with me back to Deuteronomy 7, because here is a portion of what God had said to the children of Israel. This is a portion of His covenant with His people, the law and judgments, and of course the warning of what would happen to them if they did or did not do certain things.

Deuteronomy 7 begins: "When the Lord thy God shall bring thee into the land whither thou goest to possess it, and hath cast out many nations before thee, the Hittites, and the Girgashites, and the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, seven nations greater and mightier than thou." Now we apply this to America, and if we do, I do not believe there is any question in our minds but that God actually brought our forefathers to this land.

In fact, the comparison of God bringing the Israel people out of Egypt to God bringing the Pilgrims and the Puritans to America was so common that even by the time of the Revolution, when Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson and John Adams were appointed a committee to design a seal for the United States, here was the proposal of two of these men. Benjamin Franklin proposed Moses standing on the shore, extending his hand over the sea, thereby causing it to overwhelm Pharaoh. Thomas Jefferson submitted his idea for a seal for the United States with these words: "The children of Israel in the wilderness, led by a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night." So two out of the three men, and these men were founders and signers of the Declaration of Independence, when they were asked to choose a seal, in other words the symbol that would represent officially this new republic, they chose symbols of Israel coming out of Egypt, out of captivity, into the wilderness and into the promised land.

This was very common in colonial America in the 1600s and 1700s, to liken the founding of America to Israel coming out of Egypt. So think of that as we read on here the words of God to the Israel people when He brought them out of Egypt into the wilderness and into Canaan land. "And when the Lord thy God shall deliver them before thee; thou shalt smite them, and utterly destroy them; thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor shew mercy unto them. Neither shalt thou make marriages with them; thy daughter thou shalt not give unto his son, nor his daughter shalt thou take unto thy son. For they will turn away thy son from following me, that they may serve other gods: so will the anger of the Lord be kindled against you, and destroy thee suddenly."

The Israel people were to make no contacts, covenants, treaties, or agreements with any non-Israel people, and they were not to intermarry with them, because the result would be that they would turn away and worship other gods. Then God, according to what He had promised, would have to, would be required, to bring them low. "But thus shall ye deal with them; ye shall destroy their altars, and break down their images, and cut down their groves, and burn their graven images with fire. For thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God: the Lord thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth."

Now, God has done that with the United States of America and its people. Whether you believe we are the descendants of the Israel people or not, you cannot deny God's hand in the raising up of America without denying God's sovereignty over people and nations. Our forefathers were obviously right. God had a hand in building this nation. There is no other answer. He said to Israel, "The Lord thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself above all people that are upon the face of the earth."

Verse 12 says, "Wherefore it shall come to pass, if ye hearken to these judgments, and keep, and do them, that the Lord thy God shall keep unto thee the covenant and the mercy which he sware unto thy fathers: And he will love thee, and bless thee, and multiply thee: he will also bless the fruit of thy womb, and the fruit of thy land, thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep, in the land which he sware unto thy fathers to give thee." We believe that God did this. The first two hundred years of the history of this nation were exactly as written here to the children of Israel. God blessed His people as no other people had ever been blessed.

It was not uncommon in early America, as many of you know, for families to have six, eight, ten, twelve, and fourteen children. We look at that today and we say, "Oh, is not that something?" Well, God said He would bless the wombs of the women of Israel when they obeyed His law. Verse 14 says, "Thou shalt be blessed above all people: there shall not be male or female barren among you, or among your cattle. And the Lord will take away from thee all sickness." A hundred years ago it was not uncommon for our people to live into their eighties and nineties. In Bradford's history of the Plymouth Colony he gives information about most of the people who were there, and the records which follow tell us that, except for the people who died of the famine in the first two or three years of that colony, almost all of those people lived into their nineties. There were no hospitals, and doctors, and shots, and medicine. God blessed them with long life because they were keeping His commandments.

"And thou shalt consume all the people which the Lord thy God shall deliver thee; thine eye shall have no pity upon them: neither shalt thou serve their gods; for that will be a snare unto thee." That is what we read in Judges, when Joshua told the people that if they did not drive out the heathen from before them, God would leave the heathen in the land, and their gods would become a snare unto the children of Israel.

Now it is true in America today that there are not many of the old people left in this land. But I believe it is God's purpose, and it is God's doing, that is bringing the heathen into this land by the hundreds of thousands and millions. God did not tell the Chinese not to worship Buddha, but He certainly told Israel not to. Yet we are bringing in Asiatics and these other people into this land, and they are setting up their Buddhist temples and all of these things in this land in violation of God's strict command to the children of Israel.

Chapter 8, starting in verse 7, says: "For the Lord thy God bringeth thee into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills; A land of wheat, and barley, and vines, and fig trees, and pomegranates; a land of oil olive, and honey; A land wherein thou shalt eat bread without scarceness, thou shalt not lack any thing in it; a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills thou mayest dig brass." That sounds like a description of America.

Even folks who live here in this desert area know that some of the rivers here in Arizona begin by water coming right out of the ground in the desert, up in northern Arizona. We have underground water supplies here. There are hundreds of thousands of acres of land in this desert which are watered by wells pumping water out from underground. That is totally impossible, by the way, as you know, in the ancient land of Palestine today. But it is true in this great nation of America. Great mineral resources and mines were to bless the children of Israel with the wealth of the earth, as He promised to Joseph in Genesis 49 and Deuteronomy 33. These things, of course, were given to us.

But then follows a warning, and this warning, as I read it, is obviously to ancient Israel, but it applies to us today. Verse 10: "When thou hast eaten and art full, then thou shalt bless the Lord thy God for the good land which he hath given thee." We know something about the teaching in many churches today, and some of you perhaps realize how few there are in America today who bless God for the good land He has given us. Yet this is what God told the children of Israel. When I bring you into this good land, and have all of these blessings, you remember that I was the one that gave you this good land.

Today we hear Christ preached, and we hear the Bible preached, and all sorts of things, and very little said about the good and wonderful land God has given His people on this North American continent. He goes on: "Beware that thou forget not the Lord thy God, in not keeping his commandments, and his judgments, and his statutes, which I command thee this day." We have a

great number, millions of professing Christians, who claim they remember God, and they have faith in Christ, and they believe God. And what do they do? Most of them turn right around and they will have nothing to do with His laws, statutes, and judgments. God said if you do not keep My commandments, that is, in effect, to forget Me.

Verse 12: "Lest when thou hast eaten and art full, and hast built goodly houses, and dwelt therein; And when thy herds and thy flocks multiply, and thy silver and thy gold is multiplied, and all that thou hast is multiplied; Then thine heart be lifted up, and thou forget the Lord thy God, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage; Who led thee through that great and terrible wilderness... who brought thee forth water out of the rock of flint; Who fed thee in the wilderness with manna... that he might humble thee, and that he might prove thee, to do thee good at thy latter end."

Then here is what we were to watch that we did not do: "And thou say in thine heart, My power and the might of mine hand hath gotten me this wealth." How many there are in America today, patriots, Christian people, who say, "Oh, the reason we have all this is because our liberties have made us great and given us all of this wealth." You read the patriotic publications and newspapers, and they say it is our free enterprise system that has given us all this product in the farm crops and all of these things we have, or even our Yankee ingenuity or desire for hard work has made this nation the wealthiest on the face of the earth. No. Verse 18 says, "But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth."

In other words, this is one of the great dangers to the children of Israel. It has always been one of the great dangers. When they get wealth, when they become rich, when they have leisure time, and when they have all the material things of the world, instead of blessing God for it and thanking God for it, they turn to the world and forget God and turn away and disobey His law and actually turn to other gods. You can see it happening in America today. If you are from out of town and you want to see a heathen temple where a number of young white people are, you will find one on McDowell Avenue, or McDowell Road, just a few blocks east of Central. You will see the young people down there with their turbans and their long robes and everything, worshipping these gods, in violation of what God said, in an America that has grown fat and lazy and affluent.

Here He follows again with that same warning: "And it shall be, if thou do at all forget the Lord thy God, and walk after other gods, and serve them, and worship them, I testify against you this day that ye shall surely perish. As the nations which the Lord destroyeth before your face, so shall ye perish; because ye would not be obedient unto the voice of the Lord your God." Of course, immediately, at least some will say, "But that is the old covenant. We are not under the old covenant any more. We are under the new covenant." Well, in Deuteronomy 7, the previous chapter, I skipped one verse which I should read. Verse 9: "Know therefore that the Lord thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations."

David knew that. David wrote a psalm, which is partly recorded in 1 Chronicles 16, starting in verse 13: "O ye seed of Israel his servant, ye children of Jacob, his chosen ones. He is the Lord our God; his judgments are in all the earth. Be ye mindful always of his covenant; the word which he commanded to a thousand generations." Now, depending upon how you reckon generations, a thousand generations would be at least twenty-five thousand years, or as long as sixty thousand years. We certainly have not reached either of those points in time, and yet God's covenant was commanded for that length of time.

Jesus said in Matthew 5:17, "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil." Paul wrote in a letter to the Christians at Rome, in chapter 7 and verse 1, "Know ye not, brethren, (for I speak to them that know the law,) how that the law hath dominion over a man as long as he liveth?" If the law was put away by Jesus Christ on the cross, as some teach, then why would Paul say, thirty years after the resurrection, that the law has dominion over a man as long as he is alive?

This same Paul said of Israel, in the ninth chapter, starting in verse 3: "For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh: Who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises." Again, if the covenant of law had been put away in Jesus Christ, why did Paul list the covenant and the law as possessions of Israel, thirty years after the resurrection of Jesus Christ? No. That law and that covenant must still be in effect.

I have one more question. If God's law covenant with Israel was put away in Christ, why is it that all of the things which are happening to America are the things written in the law covenant to the house of Israel? Can you give me any other reason why what has happened to us is exactly what God told Israel would happen to them at Mount Sinai over three thousand years ago? Turn back to Deuteronomy 8. Let me repeat verses 19 and 20: "And it shall be, if thou do at all forget the Lord thy God, and walk after other gods, and serve them and worship them, I testify against you this day that ye shall surely perish. As the nations which the Lord destroyeth before your face, so shall ye perish; because ye would not be obedient unto the voice of the Lord your God."

Now, from the natural view, from everything that we can glean from the public press, from the pronouncements of our officials, from the warnings of the patriots, America is perishing. Some people deny this. They say, "Oh, we are going upward and onward." But that is not true. America is being taken over by forces hostile to Christian civilization. Is it not about time we began to wonder if what is happening to us is happening because God has dictated it? At the same time, and I am speaking to those people who hear this on tape, I am not talking to you people here, is it not about time that some of you who attend and support churches where you know they are not teaching you the truth of the Bible, and they are not teaching you the truth about current events, actually began to examine what they really do teach?

Is it possible that some of you are attending churches which worship Baal, hidden under the name of Christ? They preach Christ, but they teach the doctrine of Baal. If you do not know for sure, and I am not going to take time to show you how to know, I would suggest, if you have not done so, that you listen to my four sermons, and that means three hours of preaching, titled There Are Disciples of Baal in America. In those sermons I give thirteen identifying points of how you can tell whether your church actually worships Jesus Christ of the Bible, or worships the god Baal of the ancient Canaanite. I am afraid some of you will discover, as some of us did, that some of the so-called greatest professing Christians in America today are actually secret priests of Baal, preaching and teaching the doctrines of Baal under the guise of teaching Christ.

Let us turn over to Leviticus 26 and read some more things that God said would happen to the children of Israel if they obeyed Him, and other things which would happen if they did not, but turned to other gods. Leviticus 26, starting in verse 1: "Ye shall make you no idols nor graven image, neither rear you up a standing image, neither shall ye set up any image of stone in your land, to bow down unto it: for I am the Lord your God. Ye shall keep my sabbaths, and reverence my sanctuary: I am the Lord. If ye walk in my statutes, and keep my commandments, and do them; Then I will give you rain in due season, and the land shall yield her increase, and the trees of the

field shall yield their fruit." Again, many great blessings that God would give to the children of Israel when they obeyed His laws, statutes, and judgments.

But verse 14 says, "But if ye will not hearken unto me, and will not do all these commandments; And if ye shall despise my statutes, or if your soul abhor my judgments, so that ye will not do all my commandments, but that ye break my covenant: I also will do this unto you; I will even appoint over you terror, consumption, and the burning ague, that shall consume the eyes, and cause sorrow of heart." Of course, that is disease. America is a land which is slowly becoming a nation of sick people. A man who listens to my broadcast called me the other day, and I do not remember what he was quoting from, but he had some sort of article where the medical profession had made some prophecies of the trend of illness and disease in America. They came up with the probability that in twenty years there would be one person ill and unable to work for every person healthy enough to work in America.

Cancer, heart disease, and all of these other things are increasing so rapidly that they are now trying to work out some sort of a system where people can be outpatients rather than be hospitalized, because they are running out of hospital beds in the land. The cost is going up to the point where, if this takes place, most of the workers will be working to pay money to the government and to health insurance in order to take care of the ill people who cannot work. That can happen in less than another generation. The trend is already set. This is what God said would happen to Israel if they turned away from His law.

He said further, "And ye shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it." Of course, that began some years ago and continues every year. The farmers in the grain belt of America, who can produce crops unknown in the rest of the world, plant them, work all year, harvest them, and they are eaten by our enemies, just as God said it would come to pass. "And I will set my face against you, and ye shall be slain before your enemies." In other words, you will not be able to win your wars. You will lose in battle. That too has come to pass to America.

"They that hate you shall reign over you; and ye shall flee when none pursueth you." It is almost true today, and perhaps will be more true in the next few years, that Christians as such are literally unknown in the upper branches of the government of the United States of America. They are almost all non-Christians. In fact, in the executive branch, most of them are what the Bible describes as Antichrist. They are Edomites, from Kissinger on down. These are the people who hated Christ. They hate Christians. They have worked for centuries to destroy Christianity from the face of the earth, and they are taking over the government of the United States of America.

God said to Israel, "If you refuse to obey me, they that hate you shall reign over you." You cannot answer the question of why the United States government is becoming such an enemy to its people, except if you acknowledge that those who run the government hate the American people. There is a reason why from thirty to forty percent of your income is taken in taxes, and why the government does things which most of the people of America disapprove of, all the way from giving our money and our grain to our enemies, to busing our children to a school six, eight, or ten miles away, to spending money for things which are of no consequence to this nation. They are destroying America by their policy. The reason they are doing it is because they hate this nation.

Well, what is this? This is captivity. This is what we began this sermon on. The final result of what is happening to America can be none other than that we will become captives under the hands of our enemies. It will not necessarily take a military invasion by the Soviet Union and China. If the Communists and their agents can take over our government from within, we will become captives

in our own land, and it is happening to us. It is time God's people began to wonder, Is the hand of God doing this? Why is this happening to us?

Now there is hope in this captivity, and one of the great hopes will come when we understand that the captivity of God's people at the hands of their enemies is part of God's covenant with His people. In other words, this is a promise, a covenant, an agreement by God Almighty, that if His people would not obey Him, He will put them into captivity. I say this: if our captivity is at the hand of God, He can deliver us. If our captivity is just something that is happening without God's hand upon us, then there is no hope for deliverance whatsoever. Once we understand that, of course, then we can see that our captivity is possible, and it is possible only through God.

This same passage has that hope in it. Starting in verse 40, it tells us how God will deliver His people from the captivity which He places upon them: "If they shall confess their iniquity, and the iniquity of their fathers, with their trespass which they trespassed against me, and that also they have walked contrary unto me; And that I also have walked contrary unto them, and have brought them into the land of their enemies." In other words, if they will confess they have sinned against God, and if they will confess that God has turned against them, and has brought them into the land of their enemies.

Now we say, "Well, this is our land." But if you will do a little checking through some of the information that has come out in the Congressional Record and some of the financial institutions, you will find that many of the multinational corporations, which are owned and controlled by aliens who are not even citizens, in many cases, of the United States of America, actually own much of America. This is becoming a land owned by aliens. We have heard a little bit about the Arabs buying several billion dollars of America every year from their oil money. But what most of the people are not told is that companies like Shell Oil, which is owned by Britain and men in Belgium and in Israel, are also buying up corporations and banks and great farms and tracts of timberland. This land is being purchased with our own money, and it is being purchased by aliens, a land that is not ours.

Then the passage says, "If then their uncircumcised hearts be humbled, and they then accept of the punishment of their iniquity." Notice that last requirement, that they accept the punishment of their iniquity. What does that mean? Well, at least it means that we must know and understand and acknowledge that what is happening to us is happening to us because God is punishing us for our sins. I do not believe that a great part of America is yet willing to accept that. They say, "Oh, our trouble is because we have not wakened up and fought the enemy," or, "Our trouble is we are not diligent enough in attending church," and all sorts of things. No. Our trouble is one thing. We have disobeyed the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He is putting us into captivity.

Until the day comes when we as a people acknowledge the sovereign hand of God upon us, we will stay in that captivity. That means America has to be prepared to accept the truth that her troubles, her tribulations, her failures, and her defeats before her enemies are due to our own sin and iniquity. Not even many Christians are willing to accept that. A few, thank God, are coming to see it. Then, when that happens, God says in verse 42, "Then will I remember my covenant with Jacob, and also my covenant with Isaac, and also my covenant with Abraham will I remember; and I will remember the land." God will deliver the land of His people from the captivity of their enemies when they acknowledge that God is the One who has put us there, and He has put us there because we have sinned against Him.

It is not because we are ignorant. It is not because we just do not know what is going on. No, our problem is that we do not know what this Bible says, and our problem is because we have turned

away from God's word. Turn over to Jeremiah 16, starting in verse 10. You know that Jeremiah was a prophet to the children of Israel at a time of great disobedience, and his job, as we understand it from reading the book of Jeremiah, and as Daniel tells us how he understood it in Babylon by reading Jeremiah, was to tell the Israel people that because of their sin and iniquity God was going to send them into captivity in Babylon. Period. To some extent, that is our message to Israel today. Because of your sin and iniquity, we are going into captivity.

Jeremiah 16, starting in verse 10: "And it shall come to pass, when thou shalt shew this people all these words, and they shall say unto thee, Wherefore hath the Lord pronounced all this great evil against us? or what is our iniquity? or what is our sin that we have committed against the Lord our God?" Sometimes when some of us get some sort of a message across to other people, and say, "Well, God's hand of judgment is upon America," they say, "Well, why would He do that? Why would God strip this nation of its wealth? Why would God cause our soldiers to fall in battle in South Vietnam and lose that war?" Millions of professing Christians, who are in violation of God's laws, statutes, and judgments, do not even know they are disobeying God. They think they are obeying Him.

Verse 11: "Then shalt thou say unto them, Because your fathers have forsaken me, saith the Lord, and have walked after other gods, and have served them, and have worshipped them, and have forsaken me, and have not kept my law." That is the answer we are to give to God's people when they say, "Why has God done all this evil against us?" Verse 14 says, "Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that it shall no more be said, The Lord liveth, that brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt; But, The Lord liveth, that brought up the children of Israel from the land of the north, and from all the lands whither he had driven them."

We have studied this in other sermons, and we know that is this North American continent. Our people came from the north of Europe. They were brought here by the hand of God to this great and mighty wilderness, and they were succored by God and built into a great nation, just as He had promised. Someday Israel will turn and say they have forgotten how God brought us out of Egypt, but they remember how God brought us into the Zion of Bible prophecy, the United States of America and Canada, this North American wilderness.

He said, "Behold, I will send for many fishers, saith the Lord, and they shall fish them; and after will I send for many hunters, and they shall hunt them from every mountain, and from every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks." We have discussed that before. Fishermen, as you know, go fishing. They never see their prey. They just cast their line in the water and catch whatever takes hold on it. But hunters know who they are looking for and what they are looking for. We are the hunters. We are preaching to the children of Israel, and we know who they are.

"For mine eyes are upon all their ways: they are not hid from my face, neither is their iniquity hid from mine eyes. And first I will recompense their iniquity and their sin double; because they have defiled my land." America is being punished because we have defiled the land that God gave us with our whoredom and our turning to other gods. "They have filled mine inheritance with the carcasses of their detestable and abominable things. O Lord, my strength, and my fortress, and my refuge in the day of affliction, the Gentiles shall come unto thee from the ends of the earth, and shall say, Surely our fathers have inherited lies, vanity, and things wherein there is no profit. Shall a man make gods unto himself, and they are no gods?"

Therefore, behold, and here is the end of Israel and her captivity, "Therefore, behold, I will this once cause them to know, I will cause them to know mine hand and my might; and they shall know that my name is the Lord." In other words, in this punishment, in this recompense for our sin

double, in this captivity, God will make us know His hand of judgment, and make us know that He is the God of our people, of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Yes, my friends, the hope of our captivity is that the captivity itself, the judgment of God upon our people, will cause our people to turn to this word, to seek God's face, and find in here that it is God's hand upon us. We are His people. We are the sheep of His pasture. He has put us in captivity, and in that captivity He will make us know His hand and His name. We will not be delivered out of this captivity until we acknowledge the God of the universe and our Redeemer, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Let us stand. Our Father and our God, we thank Thee for the great and precious promises in Thy word. We pray that Thou wilt make this a real and wonderful thing to us, that we shall see Thy might and Thy power displayed even unto these ends of the earth. We thank Thee for that promise. We thank Thee that Thou art a faithful God, keeping covenant to a thousand generations. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.