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ist, David: "Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power." They are not willing now and have not been willing for eighteen centuries past. But when the day of His power comes they will be willing to hear, they will gather up to their promised land, for it will be the day of the Lord's power. In what respect will there be power manifested then? As power was manifested when the Lord brought Israel from the Egyptian nation into the wilderness of Sinai and spoke to them by His own voice, so will the power of Almighty God be made manifest among all the nations of the earth when He brings about the redemption and restoration of His people Israel; or in other words the former display of power will be eclipsed, for that which was done in one land, among the Israelites and Egyptians in the wilderness will be performed among all nations. So says the Prophet. Let us quote prophecy to show what the day of the Lord's power means, when the people of Israel will be willing. The first to which I will call your attention will be found recorded in the 20th chapter of Ezekiel, commencing at the 33rd verse.

"As I live, saith the Lord God, surely with a mighty hand, and with a stretched out arm, and with fury poured out, will I rule over you:

And I will bring you out from the people, and will gather you out of the countries wherein ye are scattered, with a mighty hand, and with a stretched out arm, and with fury poured out.

And I will bring you into the wilderness of the people, and there will I plead with you face to face.

Like as I pleaded with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so will I plead with you, saith the Lord God.

This will be when the times of the gentiles are fulfilled, and you, Elders of Zion are sent to the house of Israel. You will go in the Lord's power, and so great will be that power that you will have influence over them. You will tell them that their warfare is accomplished, that their iniquity is pardoned and that they have received at the Lord's hand double for all their sin; and the Lord will bear witness of this by His mighty power, with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm will the Lord do this, and with fury poured out. Poured out upon whom? Upon all the nations and kingdoms of the gentiles who will not receive the truth, their times being fulfilled. It will be expressly the day of the Lord's judgment, or in other words, the hour of the Lord's judgment that is spoken of in the 14th chapter of Revelations, when the angel brings the gospel.

It is not only a gospel to be preached to all the nations of the earth, but in connection with it you will have to make proclamation connected with it, to all people, to fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment is come. And as these judgments come, kingdoms and thrones will be cast down and overturned. Empire will war with empire, kingdom with kingdom, and city with city, and there will be one general revolution throughout the earth, the Jews fleeing to their own country, desolation coming upon the wicked, with the swiftness of whirlwinds and fury poured out, recollect, as it was poured out on the Egyptians.

Let us read the 35th verse.

"And I will bring you into the wilderness of the people, and there will I plead with you face to face."

"No more miracles," say this christian generation; "no more power to be made manifest; we have a form of godliness, but we don't need this display of power." This is their cry with all these prophecies staring them in the face.

"I will bring you into the wilderness."

Bring whom? The house of Israel which are gathered from all these various nations. "I will bring you into the wilderness, and there I will plead with you face to face as I plead with your fathers in the wilderness, in the land of Egypt." How did He plead with them there? He plead with them by His power, by splendid miracles, by His own voice He caused Mount Sinai to tremble under the sound and power of His voice, while lightnings and thunders were made manifest before all the congregation of Israel. He spoke to them by the voice of a trumpet which, when the twenty-five hundred thousand of the hosts of Israel heard, they fled, and stood afar off,—they were afraid and fearful because the Lord had descended upon Mount Sinai. So will He plead with Israel in the latter days, and show forth His mighty hand and power, when He gathers them from the nations; and He will give revelation as He did to their fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt.

But as a still further testimony of the power that will be made manifest in the restitution of Israel, let me refer you to another passage, which is contained in the 11th Chapter of Isaiah: "He shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth." Here is a declaration that the two great kingdoms of Israel,—its "outcasts," the ten tribes, scattered seven hundred and twenty years before Christ, and the "dispersed of Judah," dispersed among all nations shall be gathered. But before He gathers them He will set up an ensign,—an ensign is to be raised in the latter-days especially for the gathering of Israel.

Again says the Prophet: "and the Lord shall utterly destroy the tongue of the Egyptian sea." How? "With His mighty power shall He shake His hand over the river and shall smite it in the seven streams and make men go over dryshod. And there shall be an highway for the remnant of His people which shall be left from Assyria like as it was to Israel in the day that He came up out of the land of Egypt."—The same thing, not a spiritual, but a literal transaction, as the Lord smote the tongue of the Egyptian sea in ancient days, and caused His people to go through on a highway in the midst of those mighty waters which stood like walls on each side of the assembly of Israel. So in the latter-days He will not only cut off the tongue of the Egyptian sea, but the river in its seven streams will also be divided and men will go through dryshod. This is the testimony of the prophets concerning the events that are to take place when the times of the gentiles are fulfilled.

But in regard to this ensign, the Lord has never said that He will lift it up before the time comes to gather Israel. And now let us enquire where will it be lifted up; in what part of the earth will He commence the great work? He must begin it among the gentiles, as I have already said, and as Isaiah tells us in the 49th chapter,—a standard or ensign to which the people will gather, will be reared among the gentiles. Recollect this is something to be commenced among the gentiles, not among the Jewish nation, not away yonder in Palestine or Jerusalem. "Thus saith the Lord God, behold I will lift up mine hand to the gentiles and set up my standard to the people,"—the same ensign that Isaiah speaks of in the eleventh chapter,—for a standard and an ensign are synonymous terms.

Now, notice what follows, as soon as this standard is raised among the gentiles: "They shall bring thy sons in their arms, and thy daughters shall be carried on their shoulders;" that is, those who receive that standard, or who embrace the work and gather to the standard, "shall bring thy sons in their arms and thy daughters on their shoulders." Will the kings of the earth help on this work? Yes, for the prophet says: "And kings shall be their nursing fathers and their queens thy nursing mothers." What more about the gentiles? "And they shall bow down to thee with their face toward the earth, and lick up the dust of thy feet." Israel is to be honored; the Lord will require even the kings of the gentiles,—their great men, lords, nobles and rulers to bow down and lick up the dust of their feet, for He intends to make Israel the head and not the tail.

To show still more fully the place where this ensign or standard is to be raised, let me refer you to the 18th chapter of Isaiah, wherein you will find these words: "Woe to the land shadowing with wings, which is beyond the rivers of Ethiopia." In the 3rd verse of that chapter, after uttering the prediction concerning the judgment to come upon the land beyond the rivers of Ethiopia from Palestine,—a land that has the appearance of shadowing with wings, like North and South America, the prophet says "All ye inhabitants of the world and dwellers on the earth, see ye, when He lifteth up an ensign on the mountains, and when He bloweth with a trumpet hear ye,"—something that the Lord considered worthy of the attention of all the people of the earth. It was not to be sounded to one nation alone, not a work like that of ancient days—to be done among the Egyptian nation alone, but "all ye inhabitants of the world and dwellers on the earth, see ye when He lifteth up an ensign on the mountains, and when He bloweth with a trumpet hear ye."

Now Webster and other lexicographers in their definitions of the word "standard" say it is something to which the people rally, and around which they gather, as you Latter-day Saints have rallied to these mountains from all the various nations and kingdoms of Europe; from Australia, Southern Africa, Hindostan and other parts of the earth. Here the "standard" has been lifted up, the "ensign" has been raised; the angel has come, the voice of inspiration is again heard; the church of the living God is again reared; Zion is rising in the earth; the times of the gentiles will soon be fulfilled, and when that epoch arrives all the inhabitants of the earth will be required to see, understand and listen to that which God is doing in the midst of the mountains. He is raising up a people there that are called His church, His kingdom, that never is to be destroyed but is to continue forever.

This agrees with the testimony of the prophet Daniel. In his second chapter we are informed that Nebuchadnezzar, the king, had a dream in which it was revealed

to him concerning the kingdoms of this world, down to the latter days. Daniel came forth before the king, related the dream and gave the interpretation thereof. Said he:

"Thou, O king, sawest, and beheld a great image. This great image, whose brightness was excellent, stood before thee; and the form thereof was terrible.

"This image's head was of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass.

"His legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay.

"Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces.

"Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshing-floor; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them; and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth."

The mountain referred to by Daniel is the place where the standard is to be raised and the ensign is to be reared; the same place whence the proclamation was to go to all the dwellers on the face of the earth requiring them to listen to the same, and to see the stone that was cut out of the mountains that was eventually to fill the whole earth; while the great image representing all human governments was to become like the chaff of the summer threshing floor.

Are there any statesmen in this congregation, among the strangers who are visiting in our midst, who are desirous to know the future destiny of the nations, kingdoms and governments of our globe? Read the prophecies: there you will find portrayed the destiny of all governments organized by human wisdom: they are to become like the chaff of the summer threshing floor,—the wind is to carry them away and no place is to be found for them, from the head of gold to the feet and toes of iron and clay, all are to be broken to pieces together. And what is to remain in their stead? A stone cut out of the mountains without hands,—little in its beginning, insignificant in the estimation of the great and powerful kingdoms of the world; but it is to roll forth, become a great mountain and fill the whole earth and to continue for ever. Hear what the prophet has said:

"And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever."

The kingdom that was set up eighteen hundred years ago by our Savior and His apostles was destroyed out of the earth in fulfillment of the prophecies of Daniel and John the Revelator. They said that the powers of the world would make war with that kingdom and overcome it. That has been fulfilled to the very letter. The kingdom of God with its inspired prophets and apostles, was rooted out of the earth, also the priesthood with all its powers; and instead thereof churches, creeds and governments have been reared and built up by human wisdom; but the kingdom of God that is to be established in these latter days, instead of being overcome and destroyed out of the earth is to stand for ever; it was not to be delivered to another people, that is, it is never to change hands, but once established, once organized on the earth, it is to continue from that time henceforth and for ever, while the kingdoms of this world will vanish away like the dream of a night vision.

Now we begin to understand the latter part of our text. Not only is Israel to be saved; but "prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert an highway for our God." What do we want with an highway in the desert? We have already read about the highway through the Red Sea, and through the seven streams of the river of Egypt that is to be cast up like it was in ancient days; but what need have we for a highway in the desert? It is for the ransom of the Lord to pass over. What ransomed of the Lord? Those who are ransomed from among the nations, by the proclamation of the everlasting gospel, those who listen to that angelic message that comes from heaven; they who have toiled with ox teams, mule teams and hand carts and wheelbarrows to get themselves here, to lay a foundation of the work of God in the midst of this desert. They need an highway, here, that the balance who are to come hereafter, and they will come by hundreds of thousands, may come swiftly, and more speedily than by hand cart conveyances. And this puts me in mind of another passage in regard to the highway connected with the proclamation of the gospel to all the world.

Isaiah says, "Cast up, cast up an highway, gather out the stones, lift up a standard for the people, prepare ye the way of the people, for behold the Lord hath proclaimed unto the ends of the world, say ye to the daughter of Zion, behold thy salvation cometh; behold his reward is with him and His work is before him. They shall call them a holy people, the redeemed of the Lord; and they shall be called, sought out, city not forsaken." What a curious work to take place in the latter days! A highway to be made, and the stones to be gathered out! When these men, sitting here on these seats, were working out in these rugged mountains for some two or three hundred miles fulfilling these prophecies, did you blast out the rocks and gather out the stones?

Another thing connected with the pro-

phesy says, "Go through, go through the gates; cast up an highway," etc. I have no doubt that the Prophet saw the construction of this highway in vision, in fact he must have seen it or he could not have predicted it to such a nicety. He must also have seen these trains crossing this great continent, "dodging" into what seemed to be holes in the mountains, and after watching a little while see them come out at the opposite side. He did not call them tunnels in those days, but said "go through the gates," etc.

In order to show how swiftly the people would come on this highway in the latter-days let me refer you to the 5th chapter of Isaiah and the 26th verse: "He will lift up his ensign to the nations from afar, and will hiss unto them from the ends of the earth; and behold they shall come with speed swiftly." Not with handcars and ox teams as we did for many years; but they are to come from the ends of the earth swiftly. But he tells us that an ensign is to be lifted up. All these predictions centre in one: The standard, the ensign, the proclamation, the casting up of the highway, and the coming with speed swiftly all concentrate, as it were, into one, to fulfil the great purposes of Jehovah in the latter-days.

"Lift up an ensign to the nations from afar!" Where was Isaiah when he delivered this prophecy? In Palestine. Do you think you could get much further from Palestine and have an ensign raised up from afar? It is not an ensign that is to be raised up in the land of Palestine, right where the prophet predicted it; but he saw from afar, from a great distance, the great work God would perform in the latter day. "Lift up an ensign for the nations," not for one nation, not for a few people; but it was a work that was general in its nature,—an ensign or standard the raising of which was to affect all the inhabitants of the earth. And when this is accomplished an highway was to be built and be made straight in the desert,—an highway for our God. Why? Because, says our text, the glory of the Lord was to be revealed and all flesh was to see it together. This does not refer to the first coming of the Messiah, but to that great advent spoken of by all the Prophets when He shall come in His glory and power, when the mountains and hills that are on the east, west, north and south of this valley will be leveled; when the crooked places shall be made straight, and the rough places plain; and when the glory of the Lord will be revealed; and instead of a few seeing it, as they did in ancient times "all flesh shall see it together;" for every eye will see Him when He comes in His glory and power to reign as King of kings and Lord of lords. Amen.

AGRICULTURE.

At a Poultry Show at Birmingham (England), Mr. Simpson of the N. Y. State Poultry Society took the first prize for the heaviest turkey shown which weighed 36 1-4 lbs., beating "all England" by one pound and two ounces, the Rouen ducks took the first prize as to weight—a drake and duck of this weighing 19 1-4 lbs. The prize goose and gander weighed 62 1-4 lbs.

O. S. BLISS, an experienced dairyman of Vermont, sums up success in butter-making as depending on three fundamental rules: 1. An abundance of good rich food at all seasons of the year, with shelter and fodder in inclement weather, in summer as well as winter. 2. Good healthy cows, and gentle, even to tender treatment of them. 3. A proper room, and appliances for setting the milk, by which it may at first be cooled by the use of water, and afterward gradually warmed simply by surface exposure, the temperature of the rooms at all seasons being kept as high as sixty degrees, and permitted to run above rather than below that. It is claimed that better butter and more of it can be made by thus treating the milk, and the keeping qualities of the butter are improved.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Massachusetts Ploughman found black knots on his plum trees; he cut them off all of the trees but one. That tree never leaved again, and he says it is as dead as a hammer; but the rest he thinks is saved. He cut open several of the knots and found them filled with small worms or grubs. He thinks they are dangerous to a plum and cherry orchard as epizootic aptha is to cattle, and advises his brother farmers to cut them off and burn them. We have never noticed the presence of black knots on our plum and cherry trees in this country; but plum trees have died from some cause, and this idea of knots may suggest an examination of the trees.

ENGLISH gardeners successfully use strips of indian rubber instead of grafting wax. The rubber used is very thin. In this state it is very elastic, and perfectly impervious to air and moisture. The strips are cut about an eighth of an inch wide, and of a convenient length, say from one to three inches. These are wrapped round and round the graft until it is sufficiently covered. The