

The King's Highway.

And an Highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The Way of Holiness:

The wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein.

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The Israelites; or, the Holy People in Prophecy and History.

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NO. I. INTRODUCTION

THE ARGUMENT STATED.

Prophecy is the great corner stone of evidences for Christianity; the basis of Inspiration; the argument for a Supernatural Book.

These studies discuss three phases: I The Prophecies and History of the Holy Race; the seed of Abraham. II The Prophecies and History of the Holy Book; the record of the Holy Men of that Race.

III The Prophecies and History of their Monument; the great Pyramid in Egypt; the Stone—Bible.

God has given the Nations of Earth an Inspired and holy Race; an Inspired and holy Book; an Inspired and holy Monument! Each is linked and joined to the other. Each supports and proves the other as the chosen Race; the chosen Record and the chosen Monument, chosen of God for his glory and the salvation of men.

St Peter says: 'We have a more sure (more certain than a spoken voice) Word of Prophecy. . . for holy men spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.'

I The argument from Prophecy supposes a man to stand upon the earth and say that a certain event shall take place at a certain time at a certain spot. There are no conditions, no probabilities, no contingencies. It is sure and fixed and definite. He announces that God is speaking through him; that the fulfillment of the prophecy is proof that he is inspired of God; that he is speaking as he is moved by the Holy Ghost.

The argument stated as a syllogism is this:

(a) No mere man without God, can foretell the future.

(b) These men; the Prophets of Scripture did foretell the future.

(c) Therefore they were 'moved'—inspired by the Holy Ghost.

It is not necessary to go into elaborate detail to prove the major promise above (a). Men speculate, and guess on the future, but no man, mere man, without the Spirit of God, ever has, nor ever can foretell events. There are apparent exceptions to this but they are only apparent. Astronomers are said to predict and foretell eclipses, transits and movements of the Earth and heavenly bodies. But this is not strictly true. They can foretell an eclipse, if the sun and moon or earth continues in his usual path and speed. But there is a great IF in there. Who knows if the planets will move, will move in their present orbits, will move at past rate of speed? No one but God. And he has revealed it only to holy men—the Prophets—for the purpose of giving the World a foundation for their faith: to authenticate his Revealed Will to Man.

Politicians attempt to foretell elections, but in spite of all their blue books, poll books, sharp guesses and counting of noses and probabilities they cannot predict the successful candidate. In the halls of Congress at Washington are many famous paintings, and among others the session of Congress is painted by a lady, artist, which in Feb 1877, assembled to decide by an electoral commission of 15 who was rightful President, Hayes or Tilden. Thousands of wagers were made by both sides, but no one bet on a tie in the Electoral

College. Not a soul in America,—Astronomer, preacher, politician, soothsayer, spiritist medium, no one knew that there would be a tie, a special commission and civil war narrowly averted.

We know that the Old Testament in form as we have it now. Genesis to Malachi, was translated from the Hebrew to the Greek language in 280 B C. It was done by order of Ptolemy Philadelphus at Alexandria in Egypt near the great Pyramid by Seventy chosen and learned men; hence called the 'Septuagint version.' The records, histories, monuments, tablets and coins of Egypt, Babylon, Greece, Rome, yea every nation of that day prove and confirm that fact. Hence the Old Testament was not written, as Infidels affirm, after Christ, who fulfills so much of it, was born. The proof of these two propositions (1 and 2) has never been and never can be overturned. No man can foretell the future, without God. The men who wrote the Old Testament did read the future, therefore they spoke of God, i. e. 'were inspired' by the Spirit.

3 Each and every Prophet also carried to his generation the credentials of his calling as a Prophet, moved by the Holy Ghost. The history of their lives makes a thrilling story of supernatural births, battles, deliverances, angelic interventions, triumphant victories which exactly fulfilled the prophecies uttered by them as proof of their calling.

Moses, foremost of this mighty line, was given by God full credentials of his calling and endorsement of his Truth as uttered to his people for three generations; 120 years. He was delivered from Pharaoh at birth, and when he was come to years 'refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter.' God had a higher destiny for him and he followed it. At every stage in his career God testified to his call as a man of supernatural endowments. The five books of Moses are the Record of his Prophecies fulfilled: the history of the miraculous evidences that God, the Holy God, the Great I AM, gave the world inspired truth through his chosen prophet Moses, Adam, Seth, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, whose records they handed down to Moses. He codified them, added his own Record and it became, The Law.

4 No other Race, no other Books, no other Monuments, or Records contain such Truth, such miracles, such holy triumphs dying. All other nations have forsaken the God of Holiness, plunged into idolatry, decayed and perished. This Race and their Book are dominating the Earth, and fulfilling to the letter and to the day all the stupendous and glorious promises uttered by the Fathers and the Prophets and in these last days by his Son concerning them.

5 For further proof search the records on this topic.

The prophecies of Daniel an hundred years ago were the butt of ridicule by French Atheists. Volney was the Ingersol of the 18th century. He traveled in the far East on purpose to gather evidence against Daniel. He wrote many volumes; 'Ruins and Remains of Ancient Cities in Assyria and Babylonia.' He declared that the scripture records concerning the greatness and glory of these people and Cities were utterly false. The Prophets declared that they should utterly perish, and Mr Volney testified

to the truth [inadvertently] of the Prophets by declaring that no such cities ever existed there.

Volney has been dead many years. His writing with those of Tom Payne Bolingbroke Hume and Voltaire swarmed over the earth destroying the souls of men and breaking down the foundations of their faith. They are all sleeping in the tomb. Their books are to be found in every library.

Then God appeared, to confound his enemies, and fortify his truth to their generation and the Twentieth Century. He changed the prevailing winds of the deserts! He blew away the sand-hills of Assyria! He uncovered the palaces of Babylon. A thousand travelers have been there, and a thousand volumes have been written and pictures made, and relics unearthed, which have demonstrated every detail of Daniel's history, his life, his deliverance from the lion's den, his prophecies, and the return of Judah to the Holy land. The higher critics of one hundred years ago are utterly routed. Their positions have all been captured, and for many years past no voice or pen is raised against Daniel. Thousands of cuneiform-alphabet-inscribed burnt clay tablets have been dug up there, which give the detailed records of ancient Ninevah and Babylon; corroborate the history of Noah's flood and a thousand details of Scripture. Thousands of these tablets are on exhibition in the British Museum and other cities of Europe.

The researches of Rawlinson, Sayce Zavadar and scores of others have utterly destroyed the teachings of the 18th century skeptics. Our own Bishop John T Newman printed an interesting volume, "A Thousand Miles Through Babylon on Horseback." Any honest skeptic can read any of these things in almost any city library. The last infidel died recently, The race is about extinct. Ingersoll's teachings are foolishness to a school boy today.

These studies in prophecy will unfold this topic, illustrate the subject, and enforce the above syllogism. I do not undertake to prove [nor disprove] either side of the Post-Pre-Millennial Coming of the Lord. When you brethren that write so bold have spent ten to fifteen years study on both sides of the topic you will have much less to say on it. There is an array of a great many strong, good, wise men on each side. Both sides claim John Wesley. Be charitable, an stick to the simple, plain Word of God.

But, however, the spiritual side of Scripture may be interpreted, the literal, national, historical, is here with us, known and read of all men. History unfolds prophecy. We know the prophecies are fulfilled up to date. We will take the future by faith, and watch the unfoldings of God's word Holy men have spoken. They were ALL in the ancestral line of Jesus; as prophets, belonged to his family.

'The testimony of Jesus is the spirit (the burden) of prophecy.' Whereunto ye do well that ye take heed,' said Peter. 'Blessed are they that keep the sayings of the prophecies of the Book,' says John. Holy men have spoken by the Holy Ghost. They were 'all born in The Holy Land.' They all proved their calling by prophecies fulfilled in their own day to their own generation. That is

the true significance of Daniel in the lion's den; Elijah and the priests of Baal at the fiery altar! Jonah and the whale; Jeremiah cast into the pit. Joshua crossing the Jordan; Moses; crossing the red sea; Gideon's victory over Midian; Barak, Samson, Jephtha, Deborah; the time would fail me to tell! how these by faith in God, called as Prophets, wrought signs and wonders to prove to their day and generation that they were moved by the Holy Ghost, and spoke the Truth and Word of God.

In future chapters I will show how the prophecies came in a three-fold cord of.

I A chosen holy family—Race.

II A chosen country—Nile to the Euphrates.

III At chosen periods of time great astronomical eras.

Some late writers, as Cannon Farrar, try to throw doubt on the authenticity of Daniel, but the following facts seems to us to utterly refuse all the captions of 'higher critics.'

1 The Book of Daniel coincides with Baruch, the scribe of Jeremiah.

2 Its doctrines are closely connected with the writings of the exile.

3 The character of its Hebrew is like that of Ezekiel and Habakuk.

4 The first book of Maccabees quotes the book and the Prophet's Deliverance.

5 Josephus says the prophecies of Daniel gained for the Jews the favor of Alexander the Great, which proves the unquestioning faith of the Jews at that time in the prophecies of the book.

6 The Synagogue and the church have testified they are authentic by using its chapters in worship.

7 St Paul [Heb 11, 33] quotes the two miracles of the lions' den and the fiery furnace; hence he regarded the book as prophetic.

8 St Luke quoted the same Angel Gabriel that appeared to Daniel, thus putting his sanction on the book, Luke 1-17,26.

9 Jesus refers to Daniel's prophecy and quotes its solemn warnings concerning the 'Abominations of Desolation.' Matt 24:15.

If Daniel is not a prophet, neither is Jesus; for Jesus had the whole volume in his hands every Sabbath and quoted it with authority, as it is in deed and truth a prophecy inspired of God. If Daniel is a 'fable' as the 'higher critics' say, so is Jesus. If Daniel was written after the events so were the prophecies of Jesus. To such miserable shifts are the critics driven! Daniel prophesied concerning 'the coming of the Son of Man' 7,27 and Jesus quoted this passage as a prophecy to the High Priest Caiaphas! This only aroused the anger of the mob, who resented his claim as the 'Son of Man' in the prophecy, by sneering and striking him saying, 'Prophecy, who smote thee?' I propose to stand by Jesus and Daniel against Dean Farrar and Caiaphas! Just here I warn my readers against the infidelity contained in the Expositor Bible published by Funk & Wagnall Co, edited [Daniel] by Dean Farrar.

TRUE MANLINESS.

A small boy with flushed, angry face strutted back and forth in a furious rage, declaring: "I am a gentleman; I will not take an insult from anyone." That boy acted out human nature as it is, depraved and wicked. When Jesus Christ was insulted by cruel taunts, jests, and smittings with the palms of the hands, he answered

A Message

We once heard a young preacher say that the time was when he first began to preach that he feared he would sometimes 'run out of texts.' He soon learned the folly of such a thought.

When it is considered that God evidently gave the apostles truth for certain people of their times, which were incorporated in Epistles that have not been preserved because they only fitted those particular times, we have a suggestion of the meaning of 'a message.'—An utterance for the time, people and place.

Consider again that the scriptures we have are preserved for the instruction salvation and edification of mankind—that they fit all times and peoples and one can get liberty to use sermon matter that has before been preached.

But this, like a New Testament epistle; may be a message—may fit.

But it should fit. It should be a message. It should be adapted to the occasion. A leading editor has lately said these earnest and helpful words:

'The prophet Ezekiel was told of old to go unto the house of Israel with a moral message. He was to tell them things worth knowing in the ethical sphere. The message, however, was not to consist just of something or other that might occur to Ezekiel to say, but of a particular divine content—special, not general, orders. The Lord said to His prophet: 'Speak unto them My words.' Ezekiel was to be like an aid-de-camp bearing a dispatch from the Great Chieftain of Israel's hope.

'The minister of Christ today is under a like burden, and charged with a similar mission. When he enters the pulpit it is not enough for him to utter pious platitudes, to disburse glittering generalities, or drowsily to read musty homilies—he must have a message for that occasion, fresh from the Throne on high. Unless before he enters upon the services of the day his lips have been touched with a coal from the altar, his utterance will be but as wordy men's words—ordinary, ineffectual, ill-adapted to the hearer's needs. It may be accepted as a fact that the Almighty has a precise message for each individual man, at every juncture of life. To find that message for ourselves, and to testify to others respecting the message meant for them, constitutes the real art of preaching—there is no other way, there is nothing else that satisfies the divine ideal in preaching. God has a command for every occasion, a counsel for every perplexity, a satisfaction for every need.

'To try to satisfy these troubled conditions of human life with our own little so-called wisdom is futile. We shall never succeed as preachers or as gospel witnesses unless we speak God's words unto the people.

To follow suggestions such as these will make one a true prophet—a forthteller for God.

never a word. His manliness did not require a label. He was acting out human nature as he can make it, clean and holy. It is the office of the Church of Christ to offer him as a perfect Saviour.—Sol.

"How can ye believe; which receive honour one of another?"—Bible.

In taking revenge a man is but equal to his enemy, but in passing it over he is his superior.—Bacon