



Sydney NEWS Letter

July 5, 1961

SUMMARY OF SERMON
By Mr. Waterhouse

FOURTH BOOK OF PSALMS

The FOURTH Book of Psalms (Psalms 90-106) pictures Israel with Christ at the commencement of the millennium with a number of flashbacks to reveal the circumstances which will finally bring Israel to have an attitude of submissiveness to serve Christ. Christ must be absolutely confident the Nation Israel will serve unconditionally throughout the millennium. For this reason, there are yet many "bitter experiences" ahead of Israel -- Australia, Great Britain and the United States -- which will inscribe indelibly into the minds of the Israelites vital lessons. To have turned from God to the Gentiles ("lovers") -- following their customs, religions, and societies -- is a MISTAKE Israel must come to admit they have made, SEE WHY IT WAS SO TERRIBLY WRONG, COME TO REPENT OF SUCH WICKEDNESS, AND TURN TO SERVE CHRIST WITH THEIR WHOLE HEART IN A PERPETUAL COVENANT. Once these lessons are properly learned, Christ can be assured Israel will be a nation through which He can work in dealing with all nations of this world -- as He brings peace, joy, health, happiness, abundant living and the WAY OF ETERNAL LIFE to the WHOLE world! In Psalm 90:1 is pictured the time when Israel comes to see there is a plan being worked out here below and that in this plan God has put Israel through definite experiences to groom them for the WORK to which they have been called -- a nation of law-abiding people through which Christ could reveal His righteousness to the nations of the world (Exo. 19:5-6; Dt. 7:6-7; Dt. 4:5-8). Israel has refused to fulfill this responsibility to this day but after the GREAT TRIBULATION, they will be very thankful for the opportunity (Jer. 50:4-5; Jer. 32:37-40; 33:6-9; Jer. 31:31-34; Isa. 61:6). Verse 3 shows they will have to be sent into captivity before they are willing to "return" to God and serve Him. After they come to see how puny man is in comparison to God, they will abhor their past when they trusted in the armaments and devices of men (vs. 4-11). In captivity they will recall the things heard over The WORLD TOMORROW broadcast and what they read in the booklet "Why Were You Born?" and ask God to spare them that they might make the PROPER use of any remaining time by qualifying to enter His Kingdom. Then they will cry out to God while in TRIBULATION to save them from the enemy (vs. 13-15; Hos. 5:15). They will come to see how wrong they were to have trusted in defence, leagues and pacts with Gentiles and in the Baalism -- called Christianity -- instead of in God and His ways (Isa. 64:6; Hos. 2:13-23). When they come to see their foolishness, then the nation will ask God to "let thy work appear unto thy servants" -- a time when Christ will fulfill 3½ additional years ministry with Israel, completing the 7 years he is to spend with them in finally bringing them to the place where they want to be used as a nation of MINISTERS AND PRIESTS (Dan. 9:27; Eze. 4:6; Hab. 3:2) -- realizing they are merely "clay" in the hands of the MASTER POTTER Who has a definite work for them to perform under His supervision (v. 16; Isa. 64:8). And instead of rebelling against Christ as they have to this day, they will come to see the goodness, lovingkindness, mercy and GREAT PLAN of God and earnestly seek Christ to USE THEM in fulfilling God's plan through them (v. 17). When this time comes, God will have stripped them of their "lovers" in whom they had trusted (Lam. 1:19; Jer. 30:14; Hos. 2:7) and brought them to where they will want to trust God for all of their needs -- to defend them, to heal them, and supply all their needs (Psalm 91). Psalm 92 reveals the praises and thanksgivings Israel will offer up to Christ after they have learned these vital lessons and the trust they will place in Christ as the 1000 years of peace commences. The

millennium will not commence until after Christ is on earth, established it, reigning on the throne of David and has sent out His testimonies (Ps. 93). Holiness can never come to Christ's house (Ps. 93:5) until Israel learns the vital lesson of letting Christ run His affairs and take vengeance on Israel's enemies as He sees fit. Psalm 94 is a flashback to show how Israel is to learn this important lesson. Notice the prayer of Israel in Psalm 94:1 is an admission of something not yet understood among Israelites -- that vengeance belongs to God! When Israel learns that peace is not gained through the crucible of war or the building of great defence installations, radar networks, big armies, navies and air forces, they will cry out to Christ to "shew thyself" (v.1). They will admit Christ is judge of the earth and is to reward the wicked (v.2). They will start asking "how long" before Christ intervenes to chasten the heathen and deliver Israel out of their hands (vs. 3-10). Finally they will come to understand that God sent them into captivity to turn them from their "lovers" and from worshipping the "works of their hands" TO HIS RIGHTEOUS LAW (vs.12-13; Eze. 16:37-41; Isa. 2:8; Isa. 31:7; Mic. 5:13; Psa.119:67,71). In captivity recalling The WORLD TOMORROW broadcast and what was read in the literature sent out by Christ through His Church, the Israelites will come to understand that everything happened just as they were told up to the captivity and will then know that Christ will intervene to deliver them out of captivity (v.14; Hos. 7:12; Hos. 8:12; Hos. 5:14-15; 6:1-3). If Christ doesn't intervene, there would not be left alive one Israelite (v.17; Mat. 24:22; Isa. 65:9; Isa. 27:12-13; Jer. 31:2; Isa. 1:9). Finally the Israelites will understand that "the Lord is my defence" -- not military installations and alliances -- "and my God is the rock of my refuge" (v.22). That He will put down Israel's enemies for them (v.23; Jer. 50:33-34; Jer. 51:24-26, 49-50; Isa. 10:24-25, 27 and 20; Isa.26:12-15; Rev. 17:12-14). Psalm 95 pictures the GREAT JOY and PEACE OF MIND Israel will experience when they finally come to understand Christ is their King Who will teach and protect them and that instead of spending billions of pounds on defence, all of this wealth can be directed in constructive and peaceful ways. Instead of believing in either atheism or evolution, Israelites will come to know God exists and the Bible is His inspired Word -- they will remember the booklets, "Does God Exist?" and "Proof of the Bible" (v.6). Verses 8-11 is inserted to show this will not occur until they admit our fathers turned from God and would never obey Him and finally come to see how wrong they were. Then they will sing a NEW SONG unto Christ (Ps. 96:1). The history of Israel's straying from God, bringing on themselves many hurtful things, suffering terribly in the LATTER DAYS (a term always used to refer to the end time, just before, at the time of and right after Christ's return) is finally going to be recited through a song after Christ returns. Moses was inspired to write of this in the Book of Deuteronomy. In Deut. 31:16-30 is outlined the evils Israel is to experience until finally in captivity and ready to sing this song -- an admission of their evil past and that they need Christ to come reign over them (Isa.42:10-14). The SONG is recorded in Deut. 32 -- these were fulfilled by Moses and Israel in past ONLY AS A TYPE OF THIS END-TIME FULFILLMENT. After they understand these things and SEEK CHRIST TO REIGN OVER THEM, He will return to deliver them and reign over them forever (Dt. 33:1-5). Following His return, then the TRIBES OF ISRAEL are going to receive their rightful inheritances as outlined in Deut. 33. After these lessons are learned, the Israelites will be sent to the heathen to declare God's wonders to them (Ps. 96:3) -- the Gentiles will then see how they have worshipped idols and not God (v.5; Jer. 16:19-21). Then the Gentiles will come up to present gifts to Christ and worship Him (vs.8-9; Isa. 60:3-12; Isa. 66:19-24). Yes, the whole world will be established by Christ and be at peace (vs.10-13; Mic. 4:1-5). In verse 13, the word "cometh" should be translated "is come" in both instances (see Jewish translation). Psalm 97 reveals that when Christ is ruling, the world will cast away graven images and idols and worship and serve the TRUE GOD! Then all the earth -- the heathen included -- will learn to rejoice in God's way and serve Christ (Ps. 98 & 99). Psalm 100 pictures Israelites and even some Gentiles entering the literal courts of Christ in Jerusalem to worship Him. In Jerusalem will be only righteousness, for Christ will cut off the wicked from the city (Ps. 101). But by this time, Israel will have learned that it just doesn't pay to go contrary to God's way of life and FEW will have to be cut off in such a manner. Psalm 102 is a flashback to reveal how Israel finally comes to learn this vital lesson of trusting God for everything so that there will not be many who rebel after Christ has restored Israel to the land of Palestine. IN great tribulation, they will offer up a prayer to God for deliverance (Ps. 102:1-2; Isa.26:16;

Hos. 5:15). They will know that there is a set time for God to send Christ back to deliver His people out of captivity -- they will recall what they heard on the broadcast and read in the literature (Eze. 33:33) -- and restore them to the promised land (v. 13; Hos. 6:1-3). Psalm 103 sets forth a most encouraging and beautiful picture, portraying the time when Israel will be restored to the land of Palestine -- Christ will forgive them of their sins and heal them of their sicknesses, diseases and afflictions (Jer. 31:8, 34; Jer. 33:8; Eze. 36:24-28). This will be done because Israel will finally want to make an everlasting COVENANT with Christ (v. 18; Jer. 50:5; Jer. 31:31-34). This desire to make a NEW COVENANT will come about as a result of seeing some of the greatness and might of Jesus Christ -- then Israel will really want to be an obedient, chaste wife to Christ (Ps. 104; Hos. 2:16). They will remember His faithfulness and mercy extended to them for thousands of years in spite of their rebellious and abominable ways (Ps. 105). Psalm 106 further illustrates God's mercy toward them in spite of their rebellious ways, in spite of how they always forgot His wonderful works and failed to trust Him. That because of their rebellious and wicked ways, God had to send them into captivity time and again to wake them up to the fact that they ought to trust Him. But the lesson will not be fully learned until this final and horrible affliction or tribulation -- then when they cry out to God and seek Him with their WHOLE HEART, He will remember His covenant with Abraham and intervene to permanently establish Israel in the land promised to our father Abraham (Ps. 106:44-48; Jer. 29:13-14; Jer. 24:7). After such a history, ending up in a national captivity with the loss of 90% of the Israelites (Amos 5:1-3; Eze. 5:12; Isa. 6:13; Isa. 1:9), Israel will truly repent, give thanks to God's holy name, "BLESSED BE THE LORD GOD OF ISRAEL FROM EVERLASTING TO EVERLASTING: and LET ALL the people say, Amen" -- that is, SO BE IT (willingly confess that God's way of doing things is absolutely perfect and He is to be reverenced and faithfully served (Dt. 32:3-4). All Israelites will say "PRAISE YE THE LORD"!!

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

We were inspired by having 96 in attendance last Sabbath. And we would like to extend a hearty welcome to Mr. & Mrs. Chidley and their daughter who were with us for the first time.

MELBOURNE CHURCH

On July 4th the office staff said farewell to Mr. & Mrs. Tony Hammer who left for Melbourne. After they have moved into their flat there and made other necessary arrangements, Mr. Hammer will start the NEW CHURCH on July 15th, God willing. All of the brethren in the Melbourne area will rejoice in this GOOD NEWS! Let us all pray fervently for the success of this SECOND Church in Australia.

BIBLE STUDY IN BRISBANE

It is our earnest desire to commence a Bible study in Brisbane as soon as arrangements can be worked out. This will probably be only ONCE IN THREE WEEKS at first, later to every other week. Eventually we hope to start a church with weekly Sabbath services. We must go slow for a time, however, since the cost of flying to Brisbane is an exorbitant expense item to add on a weekly basis. Mr. Waterhouse hopes to conduct a baptismal tour through northern New South Wales and Queensland within the immediate future. While on this tour he will come through Brisbane and secure a hall for the Bible study. You will be informed of news about any further developments on this. In the meantime, BRETHREN IN THE BRISBANE AREA should write Mr. Waterhouse, informing him as to whether or not you could attend regularly a Bible study in Brisbane on every THIRD Sabbath -- most of you within a 150-mile radius should be able to make such arrangements unless there are unusual circumstances which would make it almost impossible. The study will probably be conducted in the afternoon, allowing sufficient time for you to reach Brisbane by leaving your homes in the morning -- eliminating the necessity of staying in Brisbane Friday night.

BAPTIZING TOURS

Brethren, you will rejoice to hear Mr. Hammer and Mr. Faulkner baptized 13 of the 22 people met on their recent tour, 7 of them from the Melbourne area! Now plans

are being made for two additional tours -- one to Western Australia and another as far north as Rockhampton in Queensland. Pray that God will make these tours possible and bear much fruit through them.

FEAST OF TABERNACLES

It appears God has opened a very nice auditorium in which we can conduct services during the Feast of Tabernacles this year -- IN BLACKHEATH, just 7 miles from Katoomba. It is even better and much larger than the hall we have been using in Sydney. The seating capacity is about 600; the acoustical system is superb; the chairs are far above average; the lighting system very unique; an electric fan-type heating system, thermostatically controlled and ideal kitchen facilities. Can you imagine our thrill in being led to such a fantastic hall in Blackheath! And the hall is alongside a very neatly-kept park, covering about one-half acre. IT SEEMS JUST MADE-TO-ORDER for our needs. We are now negotiating for adequate living accommodations in Blackheath. As soon as definite arrangements have been worked out, you will be notified in a lengthy letter, explaining the entire set-up for all of us during the coming Festival of Tabernacles. We hope to get this word to you within two weeks, but be patient as there are many things to be worked out before final commitments can be made.

SENDING IN TITHES AND OFFERINGS

You brethren should make sure you are remitting God's tithes and your generous offerings to God's Work regularly! We have done about as much as we can to safeguard its arrival. A locked-bag service has been instituted in the North Sydney post office and other vital steps have been taken to insure safe delivery of mail. You do your part in making sure cheques are crossed or your cash is remitted only by money order or in a registered letter. And then keep a record of all that is sent and periodically check to see that a receipt has been issued for each amount remitted. If you should find that a receipt is not sent on every occasion, then you should notify us immediately. We feel that very little mail intended for God's work will be lost in the future, but we must be careful to keep a close check on the matter. God will surely respect our concern for His Work and reward us ACCORDING TO OUR WORKS.

LIFE WITH A SPOKESMAN

Another Spokesman Club has come and gone with a wealth of new experiences. This weeks meeting brought into the limelight the personal lives of five men from the local club here in Sydney.

Between the laughter and serious moments from those speaking, all the members felt a much closer bond. We are not only learning about each others past, but also learning how to properly evaluate and assist each other in overcoming and achieving our over-all goal.

The Club was blessed to have Mr. Hammer as a guest and enjoyed his company immensely.

The best speaker award went to Mr. Porter accompanied by Mr. Pye as best evaluator.

Mr. Waterhouse in his over-all evaluation, as usual, gave us much food for thought for which we are all very thankful. It is truly a blessing to have spiritual elders to guide us in all matters.

FIRST CHURCH SOCIAL BIG SUCCESS

History made again! Last Saturday night the Sydney Church had its first official social function directed by the newly instituted Spokesman Club -- a Cabaret dance! Music was provided by records played over a magnificent Hi Fi Stereo gram made by Mr. Molenaar. Eats and refreshments were provided by both the brethren and the Club. A highlight was a "Welcome to Sydney" and "Welcome Home" cake for Mr. & Mrs. Simpkins and Mr. Hammer and Mr. Faulkner. A marvellous time was had by all and the function went off quite well.