**HWA did not plagiarise. Note is acknowledgement of JH Allen’s book**

<http://www.herbert-w-armstrong.com/sermons.html> (Galatians)

<http://www.cog-ff.com/galatians_5_and_6_by_herbert_w_armstrong_sermon_transcript.html>

Now, the kingdom of Israel, after the death of Solomon, was divided into two different nations. And I have been surprised that so few seem to understand that. For example, I have been looking through a book here, “The Encyclopedia of American Religions.” It was just published in the last year and a half or two years. It’s brand new. It even has my son, Garner Ted’s, Church of God, International, mentioned in it. It mentions all of the little offshoots that have come off of us. It mentions a lot about us, and of course, gets it a little twisted around, and it says that I got all of the truth from the Sardis people, except that I borrowed some truth from some other people. But I got it all from people.

   Now, that is a boldfaced lie. I did not get it from people. It’s true that I had read one or two other writings, and a book of J. H. Allen on the truth about the lost ten tribes, but in my original conversion... my wife had taken up the Sabbath. To me, that was fanaticism. I couldn’t talk her out of it. I went into this biblical study because I insisted that the churches couldn’t be wrong, but the Bible had to say, “Thou shalt observe Sunday,” because all of the churches observed Sunday. And I said, “They all get their religion right out of the Bible.”

   Well, when I began to examine it, I was very shocked and surprised very early in my night-and-day research. The first intensive part of it lasted six months, and of course it never has ended, it’s still going on. But when I discovered that the churches did not get what they teach out of the Bible, but they teach exactly the opposite of what the Bible says. Now, then I learned that what I had grown up believing was wrong.

   Now, I had also studied evolution, and my head was really swimming for a while, because I said, “Well, is there even a God?”

   I said... I realize now, but I never realized before, I’d always supposed that God existed. I was sure He does. I was taught it from a boy. I was raised up in church in Sunday school. So I just took it for granted.

   But I said, “I have never proved it. I have never seen proof that there is a God, and that God exists.” So I said, “Now, I won’t accept it unless I can prove it.”

   So I went into that first. And I just sidetracked my wife’s contention about keeping the Sabbath, for the time being. I had to prove whether God exists first. I did prove it, and I completely disproved evolution. Now I have since proved it to others too, but it didn’t make any difference to me whether I proved it to others or not. I had to prove this to myself. I have convinced atheists, since, that God does exist, and forced them to admit it. One of them said, “ But I won't worship that God if you do make me admit He exists.” Then I told him that he would in the end, and after that he left me alone.

   But I came to the place where I found that what I believed could not be relied on. I found that other churches had gotten their religion from other men. And I said; “I will not get it from other men. I will not believe what other people say. I will believe only what I find God says.”

   Now, the next thing, after I had proved the existence of God, I had to prove, is the Bible the word of God?

   Now, at first, before I had proved about God, I said, “If there is a God, I’m going to find if He communicated to mankind.” Now, there are a lot of religions, and every religion had their book, their kind of Bible. Like the Mormons have the book of Mormon, and the... well, we call them Mohammedans, but that’s not the name that we should call them the - Moslems, yes. They have the Koran, and they all have their sacred writings.

   And I said, “I will go into everyone of them and see if any one of them proves to be the word of God.” Well, I took the Bible first, and before I got through, I PROVED to my totally complete satisfaction, that the Bible, in its original writings, is the precise, exact, inspired word of the living God. And I proved that God exists.

   I said, “Now, I will believe what God says. But I will not go by anything that man says.” I didn’t, though, say that I will shut out of my mind even examining anything that any man or different churches say and believe. I did examine the beliefs of some of them. And I examined this so-called Anglo-Israel theory, they like to dub it. But I checked it very carefully with the Bible. And I only believed what I saw in the Bible. I didn’t believe, and I threw out a lot of what they have.

   Now, in this book, I am recorded as the leading exponent of that theory today, and yet it goes back about two hundred years. And the whole thing, they say, is anti-Jewish, it is anti-Semitic, and it is racial. Now, I have never had anything like that in my mind from the beginning or up till now. But he assumes because some of them did have that idea. And I think that some in England did. And for a while, Jews were barred from entering England for quite a while. But finally you know, they had a Jewish Prime Minister, Disraeli, but that just shows you that when men write things, they never get it straight.

   And I’m supposed to have gotten most of what I believe from the Sardis people, and I got this from the Anglo-Israel people, and I got something else from some other people, but they can’t understand that you could get truth from anybody but people, because he got everything he believes from people. Most people do. I don’t know any religious leader on the face of the earth who received what he knows except that he got it from other people. Do you? Tell me if you do. Who is he? They get it from other people.

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Notice the following:

In Transformed by Truth, Mr. Tkach Jr. wrote, “In fact, it is no secret that Herbert Armstrong’s The United States and the British Commonwealth in Prophecy was copied from a book titled Judah’s Scepter and Joseph’s Birthright by J.H. Allen.” He offers no support for this plagiarism charge. It’s just true because he says so—it’s “no secret”—everyone knows Mr. Armstrong “copied” it. But if you actually take the time to examine the two books, you will find that they are entirely different. Yes, entirely.

Just because both books discuss the modern identity of the lost 10 tribes of ancient Israel does not mean Mr. Armstrong “copied” Allen. If William Manchester and Martin Gilbert both write biographies about Winston Churchill, does that mean one plagiarized the other?

And it’s not like Mr. Armstrong tried to conceal the fact that he read Allen’s book when studying the subject of ancient Israel’s migration into Europe. He said, “It’s true that I had read one or two other writings and that book of J.H. Allen on the truth about the lost 10 tribes.” But it would be a “bald-faced lie” for anyone to say it was copied, Mr. Armstrong said.

“I examined this so-called Anglo-Israel theory,” he continued. “But I checked it very carefully with the Bible, and I only believed what I saw in the Bible. I didn’t believe and I threw out a lot of what they had.” Isn’t that the way any honest theologian would study a biblical commentary or history? If it squares with the truth of the Bible, then Mr. Armstrong was entitled to expound upon it just as much as any other theologian.

J.H. Allen introduced his book by writing, “Although it is not generally known, it is nevertheless true that God made two covenants with Abraham ….” Compare that to the introductory statement in The United States and Britain in Prophecy: “A staggering turn in world events is due to erupt in the next few years. It will involve violently the United States, Britain, Western Europe, the Middle East.” These opening remarks, like the titles for both books, highlight the vast difference between the two.

J.H. Allen organized his work into these three sections: 1) the birthright promise; 2) the scepter promise; and 3) the veil being lifted from the Abrahamic nations. The first two sections revolve around the promises God made to Abraham in Genesis 12 and how they played out in history. And to Allen’s credit, he tried to be honest with the Bible as compared with secular history.

The third section is also mostly historical and secular. And when Allen does venture into explaining the prophetic significance, he veers way off course.

Mr. Armstrong’s book, on the other hand, is about a prophesied captivity to come upon our peoples unless we repent of our sins. That is the book’s central focus from beginning to end.

In expounding on these end-time prophecies, Mr. Armstrong devoted some space in the book, between chapters 3 and 8, to establish Israel’s present-day identity based upon Bible and secular history. These are crucial historical facts that must be explained for readers to understand the truth about end-time prophecy. J.H. Allen is to be credited for teaching the truth about some of these historical facts. But he certainly did not grasp the tremendous significance of this history as it relates to Bible prophecy.

And yet, that’s what the last six chapters of Mr. Armstrong’s book are devoted to—expounding upon the real significance of this history as it relates to end-time prophecy. In chapter 10, for instance, Mr. Armstrong wrote about how the birthright promises were withheld for 2,520 years. There is nothing like this in Allen’s book. Another chapter asks the question, “Why did Israel lose its identity?” J.H. Allen not only failed to answer that question, he never asked it. Then Mr. Armstrong concluded his book by discussing what is prophesied to happen to the American and British peoples in the very near future—a conclusion that is not only different, but at complete odds with J.H. Allen’s conclusions.

While it is true that Mr. Armstrong read Judah’s Scepter and Joseph’s Birthright, along with other books about the “Anglo-Israel” theory, he did not copy those works. Joe Jr. made that dishonest claim without any supportive evidence whatsoever, simply because he dislikes Mr. Armstrong and doesn’t agree with the book that more than 6 million people requested. (Flurry S. Credentials. Philadelphia Trumpet. January 2007, p. 33).