



The tribe of Issachar understood the times and knew what Israel should do

Issachar Ministries UK seeks to be a people who understand the times, listen to the Lord and know what should be done

Issachar Comments Papers

Expounding biblical concepts on the world scene today

THE SHAKING OF EUROPE

June 2014

In last month's Comments Paper "The Coming Storm" I said that "a cataclysmic time of trial is now on the horizon". Before the month was out the European and local elections in Britain produced the 'UKIP earthquake' that shook the political establishment in Westminster and throughout the country. But it was not only in Britain that political parties which have held power for decades were left trembling and facing an uncertain future.

Political Earthquake

The shock waves of the political earthquake rumbled right across Europe with far 'Right' parties and far 'Left' parties both doing well in the polls. How strange that such politically diverse groups should both do well in the election! The one thing they had in common was their dislike of the European Union. Right across the Continent millions of voters chose to abandon their traditional political parties and support candidates who declare opposition to Europe's political elite who have become a law unto themselves, obsessed by their own self-importance.

Struggle for Freedom

The German dream to rule Europe through force of arms that failed twice in the last century looks set to fail again through the use of economic and political power. The ordinary people of Europe have staged the first round of 'A Peasants' Revolt'. "We want to rule ourselves" is the cry from nations right across Europe: we do not want to be dictated to by Brussels and Strasbourg who have invented a new kind of totalitarianism to enslave the Continent under the yoke of bureaucracy. Clearly Europe will never be the same again; the great battle of the 'People vs Brussels', the struggle for freedom from the control of the professional political classes, has begun. The great shaking that began 100 years ago with the outbreak of World War I in 1914 has entered a new phase, and is increasing in intensity.

What is God Doing?

But where does God fit into all this political turmoil? The answer lies in Isaiah chapter 2. Three thousand years ago the great visionary prophet had a picture of a day coming when God would shake the whole earth. "The Lord Almighty has a day in store" he wrote, "for all the proud and lofty, for all that is exalted and they will be humbled." He foresaw the day coming when "all the lofty towers" would fall. He said "the arrogance of man will be brought low and the pride of men humbled; the Lord alone will be exalted in that day, and the idols will totally disappear... when he rises to shake the earth."

The Great Shaking

Isaiah was not the only one to foresee such a day. All the prophets of ancient Israel foresaw a day coming when God would deal with the arrogance and injustice of the nations. They believed that the God of Creation, who flung the stars into their orbits around the universe, who created the world and all living things; who created human beings in his own image to be his family, retained control over history so that everything that happens in every generation is either the direct will of God or his allowable will. He uses even the sinfulness of humanity to work out his purposes.

Time to Choose

God has not only dealt with human sin through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, but he has shown the way of the kingdom. When we base our lives upon kingdom principles and when we choose to organise our communities upon kingdom values, we discover life in its fullest and richest and most prosperous dimension.

But we are given a choice - to choose life or be driven by the forces of death. Joshua told the people of Israel that they could not serve the Lord and the gods of this world. They had to choose between life and death. Jesus said the same; that you cannot serve two masters.

We are drawing very close to the Day of the Lord. It is time to choose which way we will go. This is the message we should be conveying to our friends and loved ones. There is not much time left.

*This paper come to you as part of the Issachar Ministries Intercessionary prayer e-mail in June 2014
Reproduction is permitted but the office would like to know 'how many and to whom' © Dr Clifford Hill*