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OUR SURE DEFENSE

“The Lord hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.” (Isaiah 52:10)

These divinely inspired words of the prophet Isaiah were addressed to Israel in exile. God’s Chosen People had been taken into Babylonian captivity. Their miraculous adventure that was begun at Sinai had come to an inglorious end. **As a matter of fact, Babylon was far worse than Egypt. In Egypt, for 430 years, they managed to maintain contact with Jehovah. But in Babylon they expressed their feeling of ultimate extinction: “Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost: we are cut off for our parts” (Ezekiel 37:11).** In that strange land they not only felt cut off from their homeland but also from Jehovah himself. The atrocities which they suffered and the despair and fear which gripped them left these exiles without even a singing faith.

Now you can understand what the inspired words of the text meant to these terrified rejects. The prophet brings into clear view the sovereign posture of the everlasting Father in defense of his children of every land and clime unto the ends of the earth. “The Lord hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations.” His eternal concern for the downtrodden renders all at one with himself. Therefore, anyone who bucks him will encounter his fury. **For he rolls up his sleeves in rageful defense of his people, while nations look on in horror, wonder, and awe.** This explains the Lord’s wrathful action against oppression anywhere and anytime.

Let us begin with the divine purpose for mankind. That purpose is justice and freedom for all peoples. Regardless of what place on the globe or the peoples involved, God’s purpose of justice and freedom is timelessly relevant and current. No greater thought can be imagined, outside the reality of God himself, than for people to become convinced of God’s purpose of justice and freedom for their lives. **This thought is the bedrock of the Constitution of the United States of America – “Liberty and justice for all.”** The nation’s intention is there, at least, on paper, if not in practice. **AMEN.**

**~Dr. Dearing E. King
[To Be Continued]**

“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” Matthew 28:18 – 20

