



THE KINGDOM OF YISRAEL COMMUNITY NETWORK
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A P O S T O L I C A D D R E S S

THE LEGACY OF AZUSA STREET

“Then YAHUWAH answered me and said, ‘Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time; but at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it, because it will surely come; it will not tarry.’”

- Habakkuk 2:2-3

In the late winter of 1906, in the tiny ‘colored’ section of Los Angeles, California, a devout Christian woman made a history-changing recommendation to her fledgling congregation; a group of families just broken away from the local Second Baptist Church, and in search of a new pastor. Sister Neely Terry recommended William J. Seymour; an itinerant holiness preacher whose sermon had impressed her while visiting Houston, Texas the previous year. Brother Seymour’s message centered on her congregation’s newly held belief in the ‘second work of grace’ teaching of the landmark Protestant Holiness Movement of the late 1800’s.

At the invitation of the church’s leader Julia Hutchinson, brother Seymour boarded a train in Houston; arriving at Los Angeles in February of 1906. The events that took place over the following three years forever changed the landscape of organized religion among ‘African Americans’ – Hebrew Yisraelites – as well as in America at large, and around the world...

This humble servant of Christ, a son of former slaves, was used of Abba YAH in a mighty and miraculous way to restore the baptism of the Holy Spirit to the lost Kingdoms of Yahudah and

Yisrael – which as a whole, had been held in religious bondage under the ritual-oriented European Christian tradition. And amazingly, every religious organization in the world that preaches the Full Gospel – the “five-fold” ministry and gifts of the Spirit – traces its roots back to 312 Azusa Street; the former livery stable-turned-meetinghouse of Pastor Seymour and his Apostolic Faith Mission.

But ironically, although multiplied millions of professing believers from around the world profess to be Spirit-filled or Pentecostal, the teachings of brother William J. Seymour himself have been all but abandoned by the very revivals and denominations they spawned.

For example, Pastor Seymour taught his followers that speaking in tongues is *not* the initial evidence of being filled with the Spirit. But to be sure, his great legacy has been violated by the “word of faith” community, with its misuse of the gift of tongues, and its anti-Gospel obsession with material prosperity. And the same is true for the Hebrew Yisraelite Movement, with its overreaction to Pentecostal excesses, and its overlooking of the key points of doctrine we all share.

My brethren, it is profound that Pastor Seymour put in writing in a final request that his successor should be “a man of color.” But this key historical footnote has been completely ignored by most Yisraelite-unaware Pentecostals, ‘blacks’ and ‘whites’ alike; who in their cultural confusion, faithfully follow the leadership and doctrine of their Euro-Gentile “word of faith” brethren. And likewise, in their cultural pride, many among the Hebrew Yisraelite-aware have overreacted to sell-out Pentecostal preachers by ignoring the monumental spiritual legacy of Pastor Seymour and the Azusa Street Revival altogether; without so much as a casual study of the matter.

After all, history reveals that the greatest teachers of our true identity as Hebrew Yisraelites emerged from the Holiness Movement – the shared legacy of Pastor Seymour and the Azusa Street Mission – and ultimately, the Pentecostal-Shavu’ot and Messianic Hebrew Yisraelite Movements worldwide. Most notably, through the anointed leadership of Bishop Charles Harrison Mason, founder of the Church of God in Christ (COGIC); and the great Prince Shaleakh Ben Yehuda, also of COGIC, and founder of the School of the Prophets, for the Village of Peace (KOY) at Dimona, Israel. [May They Rest in Eternal Shalom.]

Common roots.

So, how has this great legacy, which began as a genuine move of the Spirit among the lost children of Yisrael, degenerated into rampant “spiritism,” materialism, denominationalism and theological chaos? In short, through America’s religious and social culture of “white supremacy.”

Nevertheless, the amazing legacy of Apostle William J. Seymour is destined to be fulfilled by its true inheritors; by those in whom Abba YAH has placed the revelation of the identity and destiny of Hebrew Yisraelites in Christ. And clearly, this is YAH's end-time strategy for bringing an authentic racial and doctrinal unity to the Body of Christ – to the faithful remnant of the Kingdom Commonwealth of Yisrael.

Although brother Seymour learned through hard experience that his true successor must be “a man of color,” apparently the apostle never fully grasped the purpose of so-called blacks as Hebrew Yisraelites. Therefore, he was without the necessary resources to establish Kingdom order in the Pentecostal Movement. SÉLAH.

All too often, my brethren, we perceive those from among our Yisraelite-unaware Spirit-filled brethren as “sell-outs,” “house niggas” and “holy rollers.” But the truth is, right from the outset, the Pentecostal-Apostolic Faith Movement, like the Hebrew Yisraelite Movement, was mercilessly ridiculed by the “white” establishment as well. And sadly, in the same manner that many carnal brethren among the Yisraelite-aware express their condescending attitudes toward our “Hellenized” brethren today.

For example, the Los Angeles Times reported at the time, that “...a bizarre new religious sect” had begun, with people “...breathing strange utterances and mouthing a creed which it would seem no sane mortal could understand.” They went on to say, “Devotees of the weird doctrine practice the most fanatical rites, preach the wildest theories, and work themselves into a state of mad excitement.”

They further described the congregation thusly: “Colored people and a sprinkling of whites compose the congregation, and night is made hideous in the neighborhood by the howlings of the worshippers who spend hours swaying forth and back in a nerve-racking attitude of prayer and supplication... To top it all off, they claimed to have received the “gift of tongues,” and what’s more, ‘comprehend the babel.’” Sound familiar, Hebrews?

Surely the hour has come for the Hebrew Yisraelite-aware at large to move beyond the smug superiority we often display toward Yisraelite-unaware Spirit-filled Christians. If we as Yisraelites would simply move beyond racial and cultural pride, we would see for example, that the African Methodist Episcopal church (AME) believes “Jesus” is a so-called black man, and that the ancient Yisraelites were ‘black’ as well. And it is no so-called coincidence that it was the Methodist-influenced Holiness Movement out of which brother Seymour emerged. And that the “tumble-

down shack” (as the L.A. Times called it) he used as a meeting place was the former home of an AME church! Is this denomination not fertile ground for spreading our true identity and destiny? In fact, there are many Christians from all factions who know that Christ is a ‘black’ man. And there are many who manifest the fruit of the Spirit even *without* this revelation. And of course, there is the Seventh Day Adventist denomination which keeps the Shabbat.

Behold, saints: Just like Yosef (Joseph), the favorite son of his father, rescued his brothers *before* they knew his true identity, so Yah’shua, the favorite son of *His* Father, often rescues His brothers before they know His true identity as well...

The truth is, there are many among the Yisraelite-aware who came to Christ and were filled with the Holy Spirit *before* they discovered their true identity as Hebrew Yisraelites. And like the late, great Prince Shaleakh Ben Yehuda – Prophet L.A. Bryant of the Church of God in Christ – are they not *spiritual* sons of the Azusa Street legacy? SÉLAH.

When I for one, was “far from the peaceful shore,” I called on Christ with the “transliteration” of Yahushua – Jesus. But rather than being concerned with how I pronounced His name, He chose to rescue His drowning kinsman first; and then make me aware of His true name after I was safely ashore, and fully recovered from the shock and trauma of my distress. Very wise...

Finally, brethren, it is written, “*The word of YAH came again unto me, saying, ‘son of man, take one staff, and inscribe upon it, Yahudah, and for the children of Yisrael his companions. Then take another staff and inscribe upon it, Yosef, the stick of Ephraim, and for all the house of Yisrael his companions, and join them one to one into one staff; and they shall become one in your hand. And when the children of your people shall say to you, ‘Show us what these staffs mean.’ Say unto them, thus says Adonai YAHUWAH, ‘Behold, I will take the stick of Yosef which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Yisrael his companions, and will put them with the staff of Yahudah, and make them one stick, and they shall be one in mine hand’*” (Ezek. 37:15-19).

Although most of us are familiar with the literal meaning of this prophecy concerning the ingathering of the twelve tribes in the last days, we often fail to see the hidden metaphorical aspect of this passage.

Allegorically speaking, the Hebrew Yisraelite-aware in Christ of today are like unto the Judean followers of Christ in the first century who were chosen of YAH to take the Gospel to the Hellenized Hebrew Yisraelites scattered abroad. And the Spirit-filled Yisraelite-unaware brethren

are like unto those Greek Hebrews – in Christ, but without a cultural connection to the Covenants. And now, in this final phase of our captivity, Abba YAH is raising up chosen vessels from among the Hebrew Yisraelite-aware in Christ to reach out in fellowship to our unaware brethren.

Beloved children, just as it was in the first century, when the apostles of Yahudah confirmed and established the Hellenized Yisraelite tribes scattered among the nations, the Hebrew Yisraelite-aware shaleakhim-apostles will confirm and establish our ‘Greco-Romanized’ Spirit-filled brethren scattered among the “denomi-nations.” Indeed.

Hear O Yisrael, and innerstand: YAHUWAH our Father is moving among His Yisraelite-unaware Christian sons in a mighty way! And truly, as it is written, the fields are white unto harvest, but the laborers are few...

Arise now, you Hebrew Yisraelite aware, and be reconciled to your fellow countrymen, the sons of the Azusa Street legacy, who remain stripped of their true heritage, but are yet clothed in the Ruakh; that the House of Abba YAH might be filled... And that the High Priestly Prayer of Yah’shua Ha Mashiach might finally be fulfilled in our midst – that we all become one, even as He and the Father are One! Even so, Amen.

YAH Khai v’HalleluYAH! – YAH lives, and Praise YAH!

IT’S KINGDOM TIME.

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