



Israel and God's Tsunami

By Peter Tsukahira

Eitan's Note: The following article was graciously contributed by Peter Tsukahira, my dear friend for some 38 years. Peter is the director of Or HaCarmel Ministry Center and one of the pastors at Kehilat HaCarmel (Carmel Assembly). In November of 2011 we travelled together as part of an Israeli team, to Osaka and Tokyo, Japan and Seoul, Korea to participate in the Asia Messianic Forums. At these events, we saw the manifestation of what you are about to read — God's Tsunami in the Spirit sweeping across India, China, Japan, Korea, Singapore and the Philippines. Uniquely, Christians in these nations are receiving God's heart for Israel and for their Messianic Jewish brothers. To contact Peter go to www.Gods-Tsunami.com or e-mail info@Gods-Tsunami.com

As Israel and the nations rise to the fulfillment of their respective callings, we are beginning to see the completion of God's end-time purposes. At the conclusion of Matthew's gospel, Yeshua personally predicted two great prophetic fulfillments that must take place before His return. He said,

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling. Behold, your house is being left to you desolate! For I say to you, from now on you will not see me until you say, "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!" (Matthew 23:37-39)

Yeshua's words mean there must be a Messianic Jerusalem that will welcome Him back as Messiah and King. Today, Israel's Messianic communities are growing and often sing, "Baruch haba baShem Adonai" as an intercessory prayer on behalf of unbelieving Jerusalem.

The second great end-time prediction Yeshua made is about the nations and is found in Matthew chapter 24.

This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come. (Matthew 24:14)

The gospel of the kingdom is more than a message of salvation. The kingdom of God that Yeshua preached was rooted deeply in the identity of Israel as a nation. God became King of Israel in the desert after the exodus from Egyptian slavery and He ruled Israel with laws that extended to every area of society and culture. The gospel of the kingdom therefore is a nation-forming, culture-transforming message. It is revival that reforms.

Two thousand years ago, the gospel moved powerfully out of Israel into the Gentile world. Paul's Macedonian vision in Acts chapter 16 made it clear that God's strategic direction for the gospel of the kingdom was westward. Even though initially the message of the New Testament went out in all directions, the record of where it took root and transformed culture shows the gospel of the kingdom always moved to the west even until today.

During Paul's lifetime the gospel saturated the Greek-speaking world. The earliest New Testaments were written in Greek and contain letters to Greek cities like Philippi, Corinth and Thessalonica. The gospel message continued west, following the roads that, according to the saying, all led to Rome. There the gospel of the kingdom fought a life and death struggle with the Roman imperial system for more than two hundred years. Early believers, both Jews and Gentiles, became identified as enemies of the state. At various times they were cruelly persecuted and brutally martyred. Still they endured and eventually outlasted the mighty Roman Empire.

Rome became increasingly corrupt and eventually collapsed. Barbarians from the north sacked the great empire. Who were these semi-civilized, pagan tribesmen? They



Japanese, Korean, American and Israeli intercessors on the Japanese coast



Peter surveying damage from Japan's tsunami of March 2011

were the ancestors of today's very civilized Europeans. History shows that they were gradually transformed by the message of God's kingdom. Biblical faith moved like a tidal wave across the continent, transforming whole nations and sinking down into the roots of European culture.

The story of how a mighty civilization based on biblical principles arose in Europe is too complex for one person to tell, but in general, the gospel of the kingdom provided Europe with a foundation of truth that many built upon. Artists and scientists, scholars, merchants and lawmakers discovered, created and governed in ways that over time resulted in unprecedented knowledge, wealth, influence and power.

Eventually, the accomplishments of European nations began to tower over the rest of the world. Europeans navigated the globe and became dominant politically and militarily. Were European people smarter than everyone else? Did they work harder? This cannot be true. Chinese scientists invented gunpowder and printing centuries before they were known in Europe. The Arabs were more advanced in mathematics. Why did Europe prosper so spectacularly and become so dominant? We find the answer in Acts chapter 16: The apostle Paul, an Asian Jew by birth, saw a European Gentile in his Macedonian vision and took the gospel of the kingdom west.

While European dominance was a mixed blessing for the world, wherever Europeans went, they also took the gospel message. The seeds of faith were planted in every continent. However, in Europe itself, after the Reformation, new

Protestant movements like the early Baptists, Quakers, Mennonites, Huguenots and Puritans found no freedom to worship God as they understood Him from the Bible. Some, calling themselves "pilgrims" decided to leave Europe and sailed west across the great Atlantic to the New World.

In 1620, a small ship called the Mayflower sailed from Plymouth, England with 102 pilgrims and settlers bound for America. They landed in what later was called Massachusetts and within one year, half of them had died. Still, in the years that followed, an increasing number of pilgrims continued to arrive in the New World. What motivated them to accept such risk and harsh conditions? It was their vision of a "New Jerusalem." They sought a new nation, built on biblical principles that would guarantee the freedom of every individual to worship God according to the Bible.



The forum team traveling through Japan

In a relatively short time, the United States emerged as a powerful nation, bursting with creativity, vitality with "liberty and justice for all." Soon American achievements in science, industry, agriculture, law and business management made that nation tower over all that had been previously accomplished in Europe. Were North Americans more intelligent than everyone else in the world? Did they work harder? The key to American greatness is the same dynamic that had previously elevated Europe: the Gospel that the apostle Paul took

west continued on its westward journey, and so the United States was established on a godly, biblical base by the Founding Fathers.

During the last hundred years the gospel has moved powerfully in Latin America and Africa sweeping millions into the kingdom. Great change is taking place around the world but nowhere more significantly than west from America, across the Pacific Ocean, in East Asia. The wave of transformation through the gospel of the kingdom, predicted by Yeshua 2000 years ago is still moving westward, but it is moving faster now and the wave is much larger. It is a veritable "tsunami" of revival and reform. The modern revival in Korea is only surpassed by what has taken place during the same time period in China. Now it is estimated that there are 130 million believers in Mainland China, about 10% of the total population and almost double the size of the Chinese Communist Party. They display great passion and commitment in the face of ongoing persecution. What massive changes lie ahead for this region?

The leading edge of this tidal wave of spiritual transformation is defined by the fact that in Asia today almost all are first-generation believers. As Asian Christians mature spiritually, they are growing in the revelation of God's faithfulness to His original covenant people, the Jews. There is also a growing vision to bring the gospel "back to Jerusalem." Moving west from Korea and the Chinese coastal regions, the gospel of the kingdom is now impacting India and Southeast Asia with unprecedented and amazing force.

Where is this giant wave of revival and transformation heading? Westward, across Central Asia, through the "back door" of the Islamic world and back to Jerusalem where it all began. The two great end-time predictions taught by Yeshua to His disciples on the Mount of Olives (where He will return) are now being fulfilled. Through the witness of Israeli Messianic Jews in the face of deep cultural and spiritual resistance, Jerusalem will eventually say, "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!" to Yeshua, the Jewish Messiah. This will coincide with the "fulness of the Gentiles" coming to faith through the gospel of the kingdom in every previously unreached nation. The point of convergence is in Israel where the joining of Jew and Gentile in one body through the sacrificial work of Yeshua, the Prince of Peace will demonstrate God's shalom for Jerusalem and the nations. ✨