A Light to the Gentile Nations

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"Behold My Servant (speaking of Jesus), whom I uphold; My Elect, in whom My soul delights; I have put My Spirit upon Him. He shall bring forth justice to the Nations. He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause **His** voice to be heard in the street. A bruised reed **He** shall not break, and the smoking flax **He** shall not quench. **He** shall bring forth justice unto truth. **He** shall not fail nor be discouraged, until **He** has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands (other nearby nations) shall wait for **His** law. Thus says God the LORD, He who created the heavens, and stretched them out; He who spread forth the earth, and that which comes out of it; He who gives breath unto the people upon it, and spirit to those who walk upon it; 'I the LORD have called **You** (speaking of Jesus) in righteousness, and will hold Your hand, and will keep You, and give You as a Covenant of the people, and as a Light of the Nations; to open the blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, and those who sit in darkness out of the prison house. I am the LORD (Yahweh): that is My Name; and My Glory I will not give to another (reserved only for His Elect Servant Jesus), nor My praise to graven images. Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things do I declare; and before they spring forth I am telling you of them. Sing unto the LORD a new song, and His praise from the end of the earth, you who go down to the sea, and all that is therein; the coastlands, and the inhabitants of them (Gentile nations)." (Isaiah 42:1-6-10)

Light: from the Hebrew word <u>leowr</u> which means: <u>as-a-light</u>; from **owr**: a-light, the common word for light, as contrasted with darkness. Just as we can see things better during the light of daytime, and not able to see things as well in the darkness of nighttime; so also, in a spiritual sense, Jesus brings light to Gentile peoples living in the spiritual darkness of their lives apart from the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Nations: from the <u>Hebrew</u> word <u>gowyim</u> which means: <u>nations</u>, peoples, (Gentiles). In context: all the other <u>non Jewish</u> nations.

Nations: from the <u>Greek</u> word <u>ethnon</u> which means: <u>nations</u>, peoples, races, gentiles; people joined by practicing similar customs or common culture; usually referring to non Jewish peoples. From <u>ethnos</u>: a nation, or a race of people, a gentile.

Gentile: an <u>english word</u> transliterated from the Latin word <u>gentilis</u> which means: a nation, or a family, or or people of the same clan or culture; (used in the Latin Vulgate Bible to refer to non-Jewish peoples). In the New Testament the Greek word for Gentile is <u>ethnos</u>.

Jesus Himself quoted the prophet Isaiah as follows:

"Then the Pharisees went out, and held a council against Him (against Jesus), how they might destroy Him. But when Jesus knew it, He withdrew Himself from there; and great multitudes followed Him, and He healed them all; and charged them that they should not make Him known; so that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying, 'Behold My servant, whom I have chosen; My Beloved, in whom My soul is well pleased: I will put My Spirit upon Him, and He shall show justice to the Nations. He shall not strive, nor cry; neither shall any man hear his voice in the streets. A bruised reed shall He not break, and smoking flax shall He not quench, until He sends forth justice unto victory.' (Psalm 42:1-3). And in His Name the Nations will hope." (Matthew 12:14-21)

God spoke again through the Prophet Isaiah as follows:

"And now, says the LORD (Yahweh) who formed Me (speaking of Jesus) from the womb *as* His Servant, to bring Jacob back-again to Him, so that Israel is gathered; yet shall I be glorious in the eyes of the LORD, and My God shall be My strength. And He (the LORD) said, 'It is a small thing that You (speaking of Jesus) should be My Servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel; I will also give You as a Light to the Gentiles, that You may be My Salvation unto the end of the earth.' " (Isaiah 49:5-6)

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When the parents of baby Jesus, Joseph and Mary, brought Him to the Temple to dedicate Him to God the Father, a prophet of God was there waiting for Him! Please consider the following:

"And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the **Consolation of Israel** (a title of the coming Messiah – Jesus); and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Spirit, that he would not see death, before he had seen the Lord's (God's) Christ (Messiah). And he came by the Spirit into the Temple; and when the parents brought in the Child Jesus, to do for Him after the custom of the law, then he (Simeon) took Him (baby Jesus) up in his arms, and blessed God, and said, 'Lord, now let You servant depart in peace, according to Your word; for my eyes have seen Your Salvation, which You have prepared before the face of all peoples; a Light of Revelation to the Nations, and the Glory of Your People Israel." (Luke 2:25-32)

One of the greatest compliments that Jesus gave to a person, was to a Gentile Roman soldier; please consider the following:

"And when Jesus had entered into Capernaum, there came unto Him a centurion, beseeching Him, And saying, 'Lord, my servant lies at home paralyzed, grievously tormented. And Jesus saith unto him, 'I will come and heal him.' But the centurion answered and said, 'Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof; but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed. For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me; and I say to this man, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it.' When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, 'Truly I say unto you, I have not found such great faith, no, not in Israel. And I say unto you, that many (people) shall come from the east and west (from Gentile Nations), and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the Kingdom of Heaven. ..." (Matthew 8:5-13 read in context)

Later, just before His ascension back into Heaven, Jesus gave His final great commission to His disciples in regards to the nations of the world; please consider the following:

"And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, 'All power has been given unto Me in Heaven and on earth. Go you therefore, and <u>teach all Nations</u>, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; teaching them to observe all things whatever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the age. Amen." (Matthew 28:18-20)

The Salvation of first gentile converts occurred as follows:

"While Peter yet spoke these words, the Holy Spirit fell on all those (Gentiles) who heard the word. And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as had come with Peter, because on the Gentiles also was poured out the Gift of the Holy Spirit." (please read in context the conversion story of the centurion Cornelius in Acts 10:1-48)

"... When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then God has also granted to the Gentiles repentance unto life." (see in context Acts 11:1-4; ... 15-18)

God did have a special person chosen for evangelizing the Gentile peoples: the first great persecutor of the first Christian followers of Christ Jesus: Saul of Tarsus; later renamed Paul:

And there was a certain disciple (of Jesus) at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him the Lord (Jesus) said in a vision, 'Ananias.' And he said, 'Behold, I am here, Lord.' And the Lord said unto him, 'Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and enquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus; for, behold, he is praying, And has seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight.' Then Ananias answered, 'Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he has done to Your saints at Jerusalem. And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on Your name" (i.e. Christians). But the Lord said unto him, 'Go your way; for he is a chosen vessel unto Me, to bear My Name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel." (Acts 9:10-15)

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Now, consider the words of Paul, the chosen vessel of Christ Jesus:

"And the next sabbath day came almost the whole city (Pisidian-Antioch) together to hear the word of God. But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy, and spoke against those things which were spoken by Paul, contradicting and blaspheming. Then Paul and Barnabas grew bold, and said, 'It was necessary that the word of God should first have been spoken to you; but seeing you reject it, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, behold, we turn to the Gentiles. For so has the Lord commanded us, saying, 'I have set You to be a Light of the Gentiles, that You should be for salvation unto the ends of the earth.' (Isaiah 49:6) And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord; and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed." (Acts 13:44-48)

Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? No; but by the law of faith. Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law. Is He the God of the Jews only? Is he not also (the God) of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also; seeing there is (only) One God who shall justify the circumcision by faith, and uncircumcision through faith." (Romans 3:27-30)

"By which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the <u>Mystery of Christ</u> which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto His holy apostles and prophets by the <u>Spirit</u>: that the <u>Gentiles should be fellow heirs</u>, and of the same body, and partakers of <u>His promise in Christ through the gospel</u>; of which I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of His power. Unto me, who is less than the least of all saints, is this <u>Grace given</u>, that I should preach <u>among the Gentiles</u> the unsearchable riches of <u>Christ</u>." (<u>Ephesians 3:4-9</u>)

Finally, please consider the following very good news:

"And I saw no Temple in it (New Jerusalem); for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the Temple of it. And the City had no need of the sun, nor of the moon, to shine in it; for the Glory of God illuminated it, and the Lamb is its Light. And the Nations of those who are saved shall walk in the Light of it: and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it. And the gates of it (the City) shall never be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there. And they shall bring the glory and honor of the Nations into it." (Revelation 21:22-26)

Jesus is A Light to the Gentile Nations

In Jesus is Life; and His Life is the Light of all Nations!
In Him are the Riches of the Glory of God's Mystery among the Nations!
In Jesus all the Nations of the world have been granted repentance and salvation!

Jesus is the Light of the World!

The people of the Nations who follow Jesus shall not walk in darkness!

Anyone who walks in the Light, as Jesus is in the Light ...

... then the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin!

Thank You Jesus for being the Light of my life!
Thank You Father for sending Your Servant Jesus to bring us Justice and Light!

I look forward to bringing glory and honor into the City of Eternal Light for You!

All Praise, and Blessing, and Power, and Dominion, and Honor, and Glory are Yours !!!

Forever and Ever – Eternally Yours !!!