

A STANDARD FOR THE PEOPLES

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"And there shall come forth a Rod out of the Stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots. And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; and shall make Him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD. And He shall not judge after the sight of His eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of His ears. But with righteousness He shall judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth. And He shall smite the earth with the rod of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked. And righteousness shall be the belt of His loins, and faithfulness the belt of His waist. The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the viper's den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea. And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, who shall stand as **A Standard for the Peoples**; to Him shall the Gentiles seek; and His rest shall be glorious." (Isaiah 11:1-10)

Standard: from the Hebrew word *nes* which means: "a standard, an ensign, a banner or flag, a signal, a sign or emblem of something."

Standard: an object that is supported in an upright position; in particular: a banner, or emblem, or flag that represents something; and is usually carried or displayed on a pole.

Peoples: from the Hebrew word *am* which means: "men, nation, people, folks."

This prophecy from the Book of Isaiah is Messianic in content; and describes some details of the reign of the Messiah, the Christ. The use of the title 'A Standard for the Peoples' signals a very important prophetic concept of salvation for both Jews and Gentiles. Consider these scriptures:

"And they journeyed from Mount Hor by the way of the Red Sea to go around the land of Edom, and the soul of the people was much discouraged because of the way. And the people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no bread, neither is there any water; and our soul loathe this light bread." And the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and many people of Israel died. Therefore the people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray unto the LORD, that He take away the serpents from us." And Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said unto Moses, "Make you a fiery serpent, and set it upon a Standard. And it shall come to pass that every one who is bitten, when he looks upon it, shall live." And Moses made a serpent of brass, and put it upon a Standard; and it came to pass that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he looked to the serpent of brass he lived." (Numbers 21:4-9)

Jesus said, "And no man has ascended up to heaven, but He who came down from heaven, even the Son of Man who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up; so that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that He gave His Only Begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved." (John 3:13-17)

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Jesus said, "Now My soul is troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save Me from this hour; but for this purpose I came unto this hour. 'Father, glorify Your name.' Then there came a voice from heaven, saying, "I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again." The people therefore, who stood by, and heard it, said that it thundered; and others said, 'An angel spoke to Him.' Jesus answered and said, 'This voice came not because of Me, but for your sakes. Now is the judgment of this world; and now shall the ruler of this World be cast out. And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto Me. This He said, signifying what kind of death He should die.' " (John 12:27-33)

So then, just as the People of Israel, who were bitten by the poisonous snakes, could look to the Standard holding the brass snake, and then be saved from the deadly snake poison; so also may People anywhere look to Jesus, who was lifted up and crucified on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins! Those people who do so, and believe in Him will be saved from the deadly poison of sin, and shall be granted everlasting life with Jesus forever!

Finally consider these passages:

"For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; **Looking for that blessed hope**, and the glorious appearing of the great God **and our Savior Jesus Christ**; who gave Himself **for us**, so that He might redeem **us** from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works." (Titus 2:11-14)

"Therefore seeing we also are encompassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily besets us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, **Looking unto Jesus the Author and Finisher of our Faith**; who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is now seated at the Right Hand of the Throne of God." (Hebrews 12:1-2)

"But you, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, **keep yourselves** in the love of God, **looking** for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life." (Jude 1:20-21)

Jesus is ... The Standard for the Peoples

**who was Lifted up on the Cross - and died in our place!
So that when we look to Jesus - and believe in Him - He might save us from our sins!**

**Lord Jesus You are a Standard of Salvation for us from sin!
You are an Emblem of Eternal Life for those who believe in You!
You are an everlasting Banner of Love over us!
Always, and Always!**

Truly, truly You are, Amen and Amen!