

“Isles of Destiny”



**"Listen, O isles unto me; and
hearken, ye people from far"**

“Isles of Destiny”

By

S. Emerson

INTRODUCTION

THE IDEA held by some that Christianity was first brought to Britain by the Roman Catholic Missionary, St Augustine in A.D. 597 is altogether erroneous as is proved by the following evidence. The fact is that the year A. D. 597 was the date of the introduction, not of Christianity, but of Roman Catholicism into Britain, Christianity itself having been brought into the British Isles just after the Crucifixion of Christ, more than five hundred years earlier. There is very strong evidence that Joseph of Arimathea with twelve other disciples of Christ, erected in England the first Christian church above ground in the world between A.D. 36 and A.D. 39. In doing so they would have obeyed the Lord's instructions (Acts 1:8) to take the Gospel to "the uttermost part of the earth" or Ultima Thule, as the Britannic Isles were known in those days. It is my prayer that the contents of this short work may stimulate an interest in our British heritage and our national identity as revealed in the Bible.

Matthew 10 6-7 *“These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not; But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel, and as ye go, preach saying, the kingdom of heaven is at hand”.*

Who are the Lost sheep of the House of Israel? Where are the lost sheep of the House of Israel to be found? To the majority of Christians the answers would be ‘Jews’ and ‘Palestine’. It is my sure conviction, based on both Scriptural and secular research, that the lost sheep were certainly not Jews and that they were not to be found in Palestine. It may surprise some people to know that the first mention of Jews* (or men of Judah) in the Bible is not until (II Kings 16;6) and there they are found to be at war with Israel. To understand this one must study the history of Israel in the old Testament As space is limited let me briefly explain that because of

the sins of Solomon who started off well but later fell from grace God divided his kingdom. This event occurred in his son Rehoboam's reign when ten tribes broke away to form the House of Israel, leaving Rehoboam ruling over the House of Judah which consisted of two tribes, Judah and Benjamin. These two kingdoms then continued side by side, in varying degrees of idolatry, until eventually the ten-tribed Kingdom of Israel was carried captive by the Assyrians and deported to the south of the Caspian Sea (II Kings 18:11-13). They never returned to Palestine and only the kingdom of Judah remained for a further period of 150 years. Then its people, for their iniquity, were in turn carried captive to Babylon where they remained for seventy years.

A remnant of these people returned to rebuild the Temple and the city of Jerusalem. It was they who were first known as Jews this name never being applied to the House of Israel. Throughout the prophetic Scriptures these two Kingdoms are called Two Peoples, Two Families, Two Houses, Two Nations. Listen to our Lord's statement in (Matt 21) '***The Kingdom shall be taken from you and given to another bringing forth the fruits thereof.***'

In view of this statement it is a perfectly logical conclusion that the Kingdom was to be taken from the Jewish remnant of the House of Judah (these had miscegenated and intermingled with the Edomites in southern Judea) and given to the House Israel. On this, we should heed our Lord's statement: "***I am not sent but to the LOST sheep of the house of Israel***".

The Greek word which the Lord Jesus used for **LOST** was "*apollumi*" which literally means punishment to be 'put away in punishment.' He was referring to the House of Israel who were divorced and away because of their national sin. In no way could the word have been used of the Jews in order to describe the lost state of their souls as most ministers read it, and any good Concordance will bear this fact out. At the time of Christ's crucifixion, these same lost sheep were far removed from Palestine.

The bulk of them known by names other than "Israel" one of which was 'Saxon' (Isaac's son) were in the process of migrating westwards across Europe towards the North Sea coasts and the British Isles. The first waves

of this mass migration of those ancient Israelites to the “**appointed place**” mentioned in (**II Sam. 7:10**) had begun centuries before and had already broken upon the shores of the “**Isles of The Sea**” long before the time of Christ.

The statement by God through the prophet Amos tells us (**Amos 9:9**): “*For, lo I will command, and I will sift the House of Israel among all nations, like as corn is sifted in a sieve, yet shall not the least grain fall upon the earth.*” Then in verses. **14-15** God promises to bring his people Israel to their appointed land where they “shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have I have given them.

Note: The promise of this “*appointed place*” was made to King David, when he was already established in Palestine and the Kingdom was at the zenith of its power. Therefore, when the Lord says: (**II Sam.7-10**) “*I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them*” this appointed place cannot be Palestine, but must be some other country.

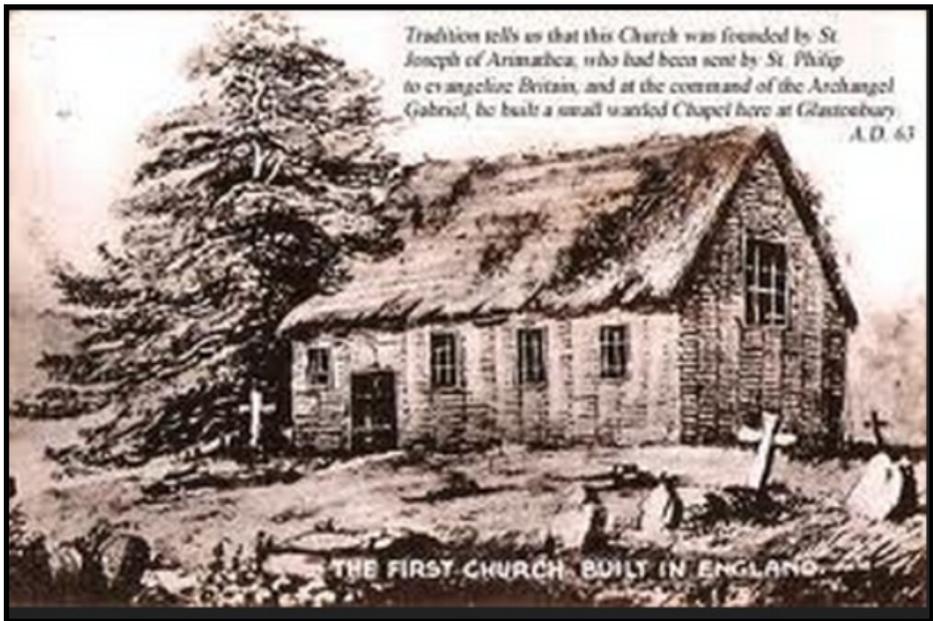
Many clues to the "appointed place" are given in the Scriptures:-

(Jer. 31:10) “*hear the word of the Lord, O ye nations, and declare it in the isles afar off and say, He that scattered Israel will gather him and keep him, as a shepherd doth his flock.*” Isaiah also addresses many of his prophecies to Israel In the isles' such as (Isaiah Ch 24,42,49 and 59) Another clue to the location of the "appointed" land in relation to Palestine is found in Isaiah: (Isaiah 49:1) “*Listen, O isles, unto me: and hearken ye people from far.*” In verse 12, Isaiah referring to Christ’s future second coming to reign over his people who will have spread over the four corners of the world; “*Behold these shall come from far, and lo these from the north and from the west: and these from the land of Sinim.*” He will reign over his people (Jerusalem). Not in the old city of that name but where the **Throne is** and where modern Judah is.

There is only one group of islands northwest of Palestine that bear the marks of this appointed place and that is the British Isles. There is only one race of people today who have borne the marks of Israel prophesied in the Bible and they are the Anglo-Celtic-Saxon-Germanic peoples. They

possess what Israel was to possess and they are doing what Israel was to do. They became a great nation and a company or Commonwealth of Nations and Kings have come out of Britain and still do (**Gen 36:11**) and they have taken the Gospel to the four corners of the earth. It is no coincidence that British in the Hebrew is **BRITH** meaning ‘covenant’ and **ISH** meaning man, so **BRIT-ISH** means ‘Covenant man’ also **AIN** meaning land in Hebrew makes **BRIT-AIN** ‘Covenant land.’

The Apostolic Origin of The Early British Church



A Depiction of the first Church in Glastonbury

That Joseph of Arimathea (who buried the body of Christ) along with other disciples brought the gospel to Britain within a decade of Calvary was well known by early Church Historians. From the scriptures and historical sources we know that of Arimathea was a Joseph of the Sanhedrin, and a convert to Christ. He was an extremely wealthy man who was a high official in the Roman Government and dealt in the tin trade regularly visiting and trading in Britain. According to the Talmud

Joseph was the younger brother of the father of the Virgin Mary, and this would have made him a great-uncle to Jesus. It is believed that Joseph of Arimathea was the Apostle of Britain, and that he with twelve other disciples of Christ, erected in England the first Christian church above ground in the world. The original Church erected by Joseph and his companions would have been built of wattles. At the present day, the ruins of Glastonbury Abbey stand on the site of that old wattle Church. Regarding its antiquity as such, note the following extracts from the various authorities;



Archbishop Ussher.(Left) "The British National Church was founded A.D. 36, a hundred and sixty years before heathen Rome confessed Christianity. The Mother church of the British Isles is the church in Insula Avallonia, called by the Saxons, Glaston."

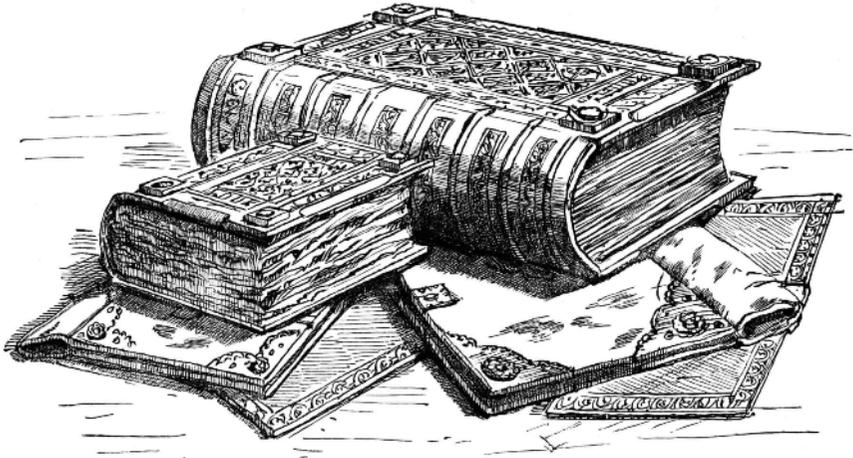
Sir Henry Spelman. "It is certain that Britain received the faith in the first age from the first sowers of the word. Of all the churches whose origin I have investigated in Britain, the Church of Glastonbury is the most ancient."

Fuller. "If credit be given to ancient authors, this church of Glastonbury is the senior church of the world."

Publius Discipulas. "The church of Avalon in Britain no other hands than those of the disciples of the Lord themselves built."

The famous Vatican librarian, Cardinal Baronios discovered an ancient MS. in the Vatican telling of Joseph of Arimathea, Lazarus, Martha and Mary landing at Marseilles in A.D. 35. This is in agreement with the

records of the early English historian William of Malmesbury, who states that Joseph of Arimathea accompanied by twelve missionaries under his charge, came to Britain from France, having been sent by Philip the Apostle, and that the King Arviragus gave them Ynys-vitrin or Glastonbury and twelve hides of land (about 1900 acres) tax free.



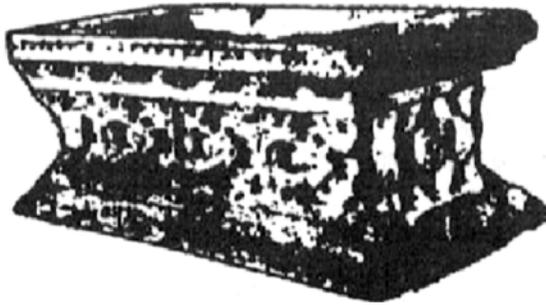
The Domesday Book

Confirmation of this Royal Charter is to be found in the official Domesday Book of Britain (A.D. 1086 which states: 'The Domus Dei', in the great monastery of Glastonbury Church possesses, Church in Britain in its own villa XII hides of land which have never paid tax.' The grant was given to them as "**Judean refugees.**" Having gained legal title to the land from King Arviragus, Joseph and his companions proceeded to build huts for themselves and for Mary who accompanied Joseph to Britain. They then erected what must have been the first Christian Church above ground.

In 1928 the Tomb of Joseph of Arimathea was discovered in the grounds of Glastonbury Abbey.

The 14th century monk, Roget of Boston, recorded the stone sarcophagus as having an epitaph attached to it which was in Latin and which translated said:

“I came to the Britons after I buried the Christ. I taught. I rest”



Tomb of St. Joseph of Arimathea

When Jesus began his ministry in Palestine he preached in the cities of Galilee and not in Judea as some believe. The Galileans were mostly of the tribe of Benjamin which was lent to Judah in preparation for the day when the Son of God could safely pursue his ministry. The Benjamites were the tribe which were detached by God from Israel and given to the tribe of Judah to be light-bearers in the days that lay ahead. (see **I Kings 11:1-11, 34-36**) Had it not been for the presence of these Benjamites in Christ's day there would not have been any Apostles. Eleven of Christ's chosen Apostles were Benjamites, but Judas Iscariot was an Edomite and eventually his place was filled by a Benjamite. In (**Matt 10**) when Jesus sent out his disciples to the Lost sheep of the House of Israel, it was in Galilee that he commanded this and it was in the cities of Galilee they preached. Although these verses In **Matthew 10** apply to the early days of the apostles they must also refer to the whole time of this dispensation, even to the Second Advent; for they finish with these solemn

Words: (Matt. 10:23) “Verily I say unto you, Ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the son of Man be come. It is important to remember that it was the Galileans and not the Judeans who became the very first Christians, and it was they who took the gospel to the Lost sheep of the House of Israel that were on their westward migration across Europe from Assyrian captivity.

When Jesus said to the Jews a few days before his crucifixion, “Your house is left unto you desolate,” It was Judea he was addressing not the Benjamites of Galilee. Some may ask: why did Jesus testify, witness and perform some miracles in Jerusalem? Also, why did the Galilean disciples begin their ministry in Jerusalem? The answer is found in (John 16:22) speaking of why he had come to Jerusalem, Jesus says. If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin: but now they have no cloak for their sin. It was necessary that Christ testify, witness, perform miracles, be crucified and then resurrected in the presence of the Jewish Pharisees so that they would have “no cloak (or excuse) for their sins” They had to witness the sign (Matthew 12:38-40) that Jesus said the Pharisees would be given, that is, His death, three days in the tomb, and his resurrection.

The objection is sometimes made that the Anglo-Celto-Germanic-Saxon-race (The House of Israel) is not good enough to be God's servant nation, but are the Jews any better? The Scriptures say: (**Jeremiah 3:11**) “*Backsliding Israel hath justified herself more than treacherous Judah.*” The Jews (Edomites) rejected Christ and had him crucified, whereas Britain (Israel) was the first nation to recognize him as the Messiah. All is not lost however for Judah (found today predominately in Germany, Ireland and Scotland), for they too have acknowledged the Messiah and ‘mourn for him as one mourneth for his only son’. There shall be a great restoration of both Israel and Judah as foretold in (**Jer. 8:17-18**).

DRUIDISM the Religion of Ancient Britain

It is well known that the Romans were notorious for falsifying history in order to magnify themselves and belittle others. In no instance was this practice more disgustingly carried out than in the case of their writings concerning the Ancient Britons and the Druids. False charges from worship of heathen gods to human sacrifice have been levelled at them.



Regarding these falsifications I quote from *Religions of Britain*, p. 37, in which Charles Hulbert (left) a noted British scholar states, "The Charge of staining their consecrated places with human blood upon the altar of

'Cor-Gawr' or Stonehenge, hath no real foundation in fact; an accusation as wicked as unjust" No less than the eminent archaeologist, Sir Flinders Petrie examined the ground around and under the altar at Stonehenge and found only the burned bones of sheep and goats.

On examination, Druidism is found to be but a preservation of the true religion of the Hebrews, linked up with some of the ritual of Baal worship. On this point I quote again from *Religions of Britain*, page 41, "So near is the resemblance the Drudical religion of Britain and the Patriarchal religion of the Hebrews, that we hesitate not to pronounce their origin the same."



An Arch Druid

There were in Britain at one time as many as forty universities, having at one time an enrolment of over sixty thousand students. Druidism was established in three orders: Druids, Bards and Ovates. The highest degree and spiritual head of the organization was the Arch-Druid.



The High Priest

Caswell's history of England states "Druidical rites and ceremonies were almost identical with Mosaic Rituals... also the Chief Arch-Druid and the Israelite High Priest were similarly arrayed - even to the Breast plate of Judgement with the twelve stones representing the tribes of Israel and the Holy Name on the headgear. Amongst their names for the supreme God which they had in use before the introduction of Christianity were the terms 'God', 'Distributor,' 'The Mysterious One,' and 'The Ancient of Days,' which terms are distinctly of Old Testament Origin. The principal Deity of the Druids was "**Hesus**" the Supreme God whom they worshipped as the great "All-Heal" and they believed in him as the "Saviour" of the world.

Because mistletoe grew upon the oak, it became sacred to the Druids and held symbolic of the coming Deliverer or "Branch" mistletoe was also known as the "all Heal." Talisen, a Welsh bard of the sixth century wrote: "Christ, the word from the beginning was in the beginning our Teacher, and we never lost His teachings. Christianity was a new thing in Asia, but there never was a time when the Druids of Britain held not its doctrines.' Despite its practice of pagan rites in "high places' and "sacred Groves," it was the Druidic faith, rooted in Druidism, that nurtured the essential divine truths and prepared Britain for the Gospel of Jesus Christ. When Joseph of Arimathea came back to proclaim the Saviour under the very name ("Hesus", spelled "Yesu") familiar to every Druid, no wonder he received a welcome at the hands of the druids and the King.

After about a century and a half of faithful preaching the ancient British nation, in A.D. 179, during the reign of good King Lucius, acknowledged Jesus Christ as the Messiah, and was the first nation to do so. Bishop Fuller tells us that Lucius converted the three Arch-Flamens and the twenty-eight Flamens of the druids, into so many Archbishops and Bishops of the Christian Church. The Ancient Britons of the British Isles thus being the first race to recognize Christ, became the pioneer nation in missionary work.

DID PAUL COME TO BRITAIN?



There are authentic records that almost all (if not all) the Apostles visited and taught in Britain. Christ had told Paul that "*I will send thee far hence unto the Gentiles,*" [Acts 22] and had told all the Apostles they were to witness "*unto the uttermost part of the earth.*" (Acts 1:8). That this would have included territories beyond Greece and Rome would be obvious.

That Paul carried the Word to Spain, then into Gaul, and on to Britain, is testified by many early church historians. Bishop Burgess wrote:-

“Of St. Paul's journey to Britain we have as satisfactory proof as any historical question can demand.”



This same view is repeated In the writings of Baronius, Archbishops Parker and Ussher, and other church authorities. Capellus, in his history of the Apostles wrote "I scarcely know of one author from the time of the Fathers downwards, who does not maintain that Paul, after his liberation, preached in western Europe, Britain included" There is also an ancient document given as a gift to a French traveller, C. S. Sonnini by the Sultan of Turkey in 1801. This document asserts that the Apostle, after visiting Spain, came to Britain and preached upon, Mount Lud (Ludgate Hill London) addressing the Druids concerning the Kingdom of God. (The hill of lud now Ludgate Hill on which stands St. Paul's Cathedral, which is strangely enough never called London Cathedral, but simply St. Paul's). Ludgate Hill and Parliament Hill were the Apostle Paul's favourite preaching centres in what is now the County of London.



**Believed to be the site of
Senator Pudens's home in
Rome**

It is also interesting to note that the names of a British prince and princess, who had become Christians are also mentioned in the New Testament by the Apostle Paul. **Linus and Claudia, named in II Timothy 4:21** were the son and daughter of the well-known British King Caractacus who was taken hostage with his family to Rome. The verse reads: *“Do thy diligence to come before winter. Eubulus greeteth thee, and Pudens, and Linus and Claudia, and all the Brethren.”* Pudens

mentioned in the verse was the husband of Claudia, and a Roman Senator. Pudens was stationed at Chichester during the earlier part of the Roman occupation of Britain, and it was during his stay here that he won the affections of the British King's daughter, Claudia. Dating from the marriage of Claudia and Pudens in A.D. 53 their home in Rome had been the meeting place for Christian gatherings to worship. Hernias mentioned in **Rom 16:14** conducted the services. The house Paul preached in while in Rome was hers, and was known as **“The British House.”**

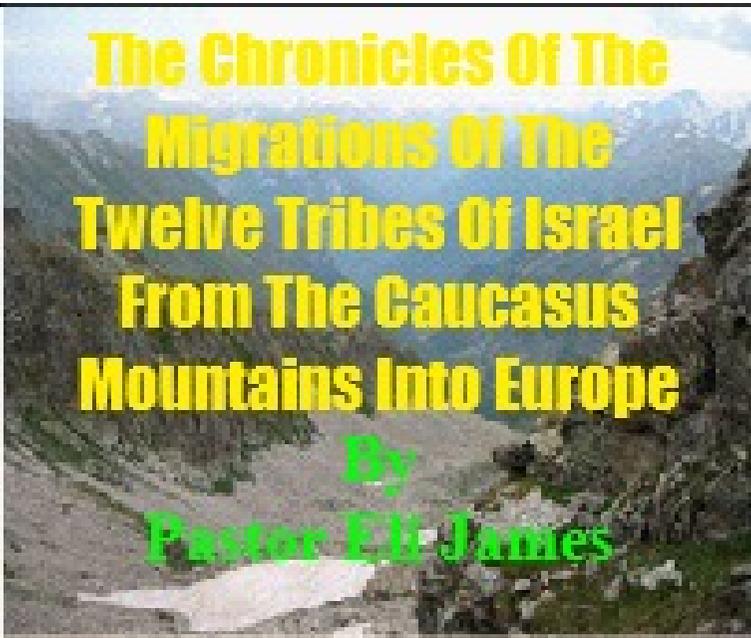
Now a small church stands on the original site, a few blocks from the grand palaces of the Pope where world rulers pay homage. A plaque on the church identifies the site as that of the first church in Rome. They do not know that the **first church in Rome was a British church** and served as a refuge and stopping place for the Apostles on their way to the Isles of Destiny. When St. Paul appeared in Rome he ordained Linus, the brother of Claudia and son of Caractacus, to be the first Bishop or Presbyter of the Christian Church at Rome. Confirmation of Linus becoming the first Bishop of Rome is mentioned by Irenaeus (Bishop of Lyons A.D. 180). He was personally acquainted with the first Church at Rome and wrote: “The Apostles having founded and built up the church at Rome, committed the ministry of its supervision to Linus. This is the Linus mentioned by Paul in his Epistles to Timothy.” Linus is believed to

have been baptized and confirmed in Britain long before being taken hostage with Caractacus to Rome.

I trust this short study of our national identity from the Bible may encourage you to study the Prophetic Scriptures. If anyone reading this be uncertain of their own spiritual condition I urge than to make their calling and election sure. Salvation is not to be found in any Denomination. Sect or ilk, neither is it earned by good works, sacraments, study of scriptures, or knowing that we are the Lost sheep of the House of Israel. Salvation is only found in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ. If you REPENT and TRUST in the atoning blood of Christ for the forgiveness of your sins and with regard to the nations of Israel today now in deep trouble and enslaved by debt, the Scriptures say that: *“I will yet be enquired of by the house of Israel, to do it for them”* Ezekiel 36:37. In other words unless we turn to Yahweh and repent of our wicked ways, as a nation, he will not come to aid his people. In that day people will say that Yahweh is our God! (Not a Jewish God). May that day come soon praise Yahweh!!



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**The Chronicles Of The
Migrations Of The
Twelve Tribes Of Israel
From The Caucasus
Mountains Into Europe**

**By
Pastor Eli James**

The above PowerPoint presentation is
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