

THE US AND BRITAIN IN PROPHECY IS NOT A TRUE DOCTRINE

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PART 9 PHYSICAL FULFILLMENT OF 'A NATION' AND 'A COMPANY OF NATIONS'

These are the numbers for Manasseh (the elder) and Ephraim (the younger) in the two censuses of the book of Numbers. The first census was when they came out of Egypt in the wilderness of Sinai. (Num 1) At this time Manasseh had 32,200 males 20 years old and up able to go to war. (Num 1:35) Ephraim had 40,500 males. (Num 1:33) The second census was in the Plains of Moab before they entered the Promised Land 40 years later. (Num 26) At this time Manasseh had 52,700 males 20 years old and up able to go to war. (Num 26:34) Ephraim had 32,500 males (Num 26:37). This shows that Manasseh had fewer than Ephraim initially, but increased greatly during this time while Ephraim decreased.

The map (Fig 11) shows the portions of lands given to each of the tribes. As we see, Manasseh was given much greater land than Ephraim. His lot was on both sides of the Jordan. Thus it could be said that he became a 'great nation'.

Ephraim did not seem to have as great numbers as Manasseh. Nor did he inherit as much land as Manasseh. So how did he become a 'multitude of nations'?

After King Solomon sinned, God rent the kingdom away from him except for the one tribe of Judah. Then Jeroboam of the tribe of Ephraim became leader of the ten northern tribes and the name Ephraim became synonymous with all the northern tribes of Israel as shown in these scriptures.

Isa 7:2 And it was told the house of David, saying, Syria is confederate with Ephraim. And his heart was moved, and the heart of his people, as the trees of the wood are moved with the wind.

Isa 7:17 The Lord shall bring upon thee, and upon thy people, and upon thy father's house, days that have not come, from the day that Ephraim departed from Judah; [even] the king of Assyria.

Jer 7:15 And I will cast you out of my sight, as I have cast out all your brethren, [even] the whole seed of Ephraim.

Eze 37:19 Say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I will take the stick of Joseph, which [is] in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel his fellows, and will put them with him, [even] with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they shall be one in mine hand.

This is how it could be said that Ephraim became a 'multitude of nations'.

If there is a physical fulfillment of 'a nation' and 'a multitude of nations' in Ephraim and Manasseh, this seems to be the only indication of it in ancient Israel. Mr. Armstrong did not see any physical fulfillment of these promises in ancient Israel. So he concluded wrongly that the fulfillment was to come about as great and wealthy nations of our day today. On page 20 of his

booklet he concluded that we must look for a multitude of nations that was not fulfilled in the church (one nation) or in the Jews (one nation).

Consider now that the spiritual fulfillment explained in Part 10 is the true fulfillment of these promises.