

BLESSING FOR THE NATION

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Evangelisation and the increase of the Word are directly related to the belief and action of Christians as concerning the Scriptural promises of the triumphant Gospel.

“And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, *saying*, In thee shall all nations be blessed.” (Galatians 3:8).

The Gospel is that “Christ hath redeemed us” (Galatians 3:13a). When the Word came to Abraham concerning the blessing for all nations, it was that Christ’s work would be for the whole world. The Scripture shows that God is particularly concerned with getting the heathen, so that they are no longer “heathen” but justified.

Throughout history, the Gospel has gone forth, and reached many nations. It has been preached all over the world. In the 1800s, Churches and organisations were sending King James Bibles and missionaries everywhere. This has led to blessing in various nations. Yet, at present, it appears as if the Gospel is barely reaching the heathen, let alone, nations. Nevertheless, the promise is that many, even nations, should be justified, meaning that not only should there be preaching, but also, many conversions.

The chaplain of the First Fleet and first preacher in New South Wales was Richard Johnson. He was an evangelical Anglican who brought many King James Bibles from England to Australia. He specifically believed that there would be a future Christian revival in Australia, quoting verses such as that Christ would have “the uttermost parts of the earth *for thy possession.*” (Psalm 2:8b), and that “all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.” (Psalm 98:3b).

It is evident that in the first half of the 1800s, people believed the Scriptural promises to be literally true. That is why they prayed, evangelised the Aborigines, and worked in establishing Gospel works in Sydney, Melbourne and other places. They did a lot of sowing, and there must be a great reaping. This reaping includes Christian revival, reversal of the sinful culture and great national blessings. In fact, there are great promises for it, such as, “Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for *I am God, and there is none else.*” (Isaiah 45:22).