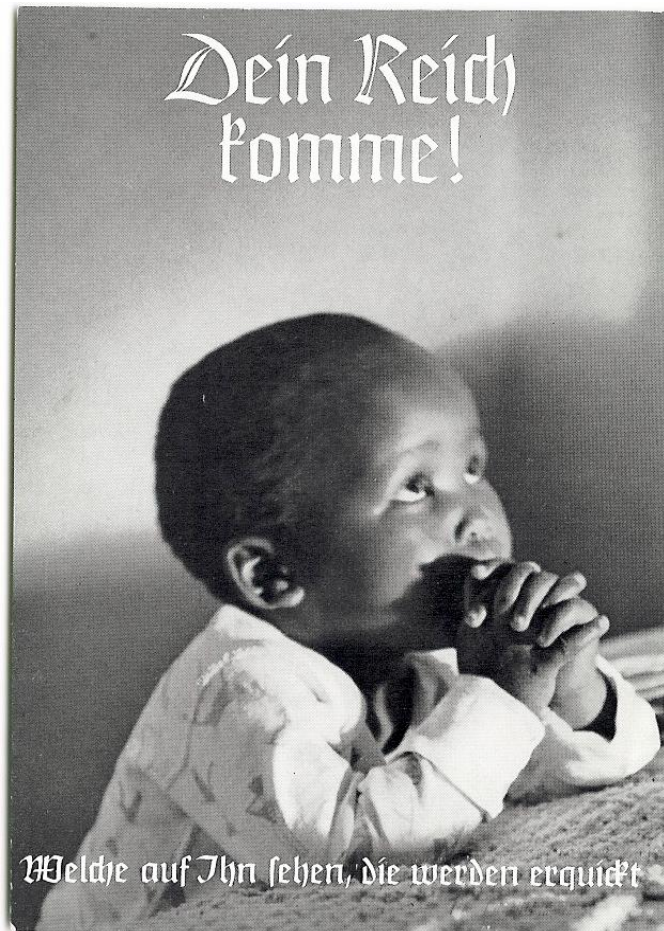


**“Africa shall spread out her hands unto
GOD.”**

Psalm 68:31



1

**GOD PUT IN THE HEART OF AFRICA
THE LONGING, THE YEARNING TO HIM**

THE PSALM OF THE ASCENCION OF CHRIST

PSALM 68

PSALM 68:18 – EPHESIANS 4:7-16

Psalm 68:18 is quoted in **Ephesians 4:7-16** and therefore prophesies CHRIST'S ASCENSION. It is one of the 16 Messianic Psalms which speaks from HIM as SON OF GOD and SON OF MEN.

Here the Psalm prophesies the glorious Ascension of our LORD JESUS CHRIST – 1000 years before his fulfilment – and of His ministry from the throne of GOD for His Church, His Bride.

For you, His children, how He said to His disciples 2000 years ago: **“Neither I pray for these alone, but for them also who shall believe on Me through their word” (John 17:20).**

Like our High Priest He is praying for us from heaven. For there His blood speaks for us. He is doing it just now.

CHRIST'S COMING – HIS MESSIANIC KINGDOM IN ISRAEL

2

Verses 21-23 speak from the gathering of Israel, the Jews, back into her country. And therefore we hear in this Psalm about the Messianic Kingdom.

When CHRIST arose He established His reign, still not visible, but in soon future, because He gave His precious blood unto His Father as His claim to His redeemed.

In this connection we read His word: **“Africa shall spread out her hands to GOD” (Psalm 68:31).**

Yes, Africa will participate on His Kingdom. She will participate over all on her King Himself, on her LORD JESUS CHRIST personally.

Africa *will do* it as continent in the future visibly. She *does* it in the presence still invisibly through **“the good seed”** the **“children of the kingdom” (Matthew 13:38)** by faith and obedience of faith. Africa

does it now through the overcomers as showed in **Revelation 2+3**, in the 7 messages to the 7 churches from Pentecost to the Rapture.

What was the sign of the overcomers? What says the LORD in **Revelation 2+3** and in **Matthew 13**:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. At the church of Ephesus: | Revelation 2: 7 |
| 2. At the church of Smyrna: | Revelation 2:11 |
| 3. At the church of Pergamum: | Revelation 2:17 |
| 4. At the church of Thyatira: | Revelation 2:20 |
| 5. At the church of Sardis: | Revelation 3: 6 |
| 6. At the church of Philadelphia: | Revelation 3:13 |
| 7. At the church of Laodicea: | Revelation 3:22 |

“He that has an ear, let him hear, what the Spirit says unto the churches.”

The **“overcomers”**, the **“good seed”** are the people of GOD, who have an ear and who **h e a r** .

3

In this manner JESUS had declared it His disciples in **Matthew 13:23**: **“But *he* that received seed in the good ground is *he* that hears the word and *u n d e r s t a n d s* it, who also bears fruit, and brings forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty”**.

All had heard, but only the last one, the fourth, heard not only, but also **u n d e r s t o o d** .

Therefore in Lucas the LORD had supplemented saying it still more especially: **“Take heed, therefore, *h o w* you hear” (Luke 8:8+18)**.

Hear understanding: purified, humble, thankful

Bringing all matters to Me:
Let serve you all things!
Hold good! Stand the test!
Bringing all matters to Me:

🎵 Trust and obey. For there is no other way! 🎵

GOD`S HISTORY WITH AFRICA

GOD, the Creator of the nations and the peoples, He emerged the nations, because He loved them. Therefore He gave each of them responsibility. So He shall judge them.

Matthew 25:31-46: Judgment of the Gentiles

He will judge them according to their love of His most little brothers, of the people of Israel (Matthew 25:31-46). The time of this judgment is “when the SON OF MEN shall come in His glory”, i.e. at the second coming of CHRIST after the tribulation.

The subjects of this judgment are “all nations”, i.e. all Gentiles (Gr. *éthne*) then living on earth (Matthew 25:31-46).

Three classes of individuals are mentioned:

1. Sheep, saved Gentiles
2. Goats, unsaved Gentiles
3. Brothers, the people of Israel.

4

The scene is on earth. No books are opened. It deals with the living.

The test of the judgment is the treatment by individual Gentiles of those whom CHRIST calls “My brothers”, living in the preceding tribulation period when Israel is fearfully persecuted (Genesis 12:3).

The good works mentioned are the proof but not the ground of faith and salvation.

The fact that the righteous and the unrighteous are still mingled and require separation after the establishment of CHRIST`S throne on earth makes evident that no Rapture or translation of the saints could have taken place at the time of CHRIST`S coming to the earth *after* the tribulation.

In such a case the separation here described would have already occurred before the establishment of the throne.

The sheep are Gentiles saved on earth during the period between the Rapture and CHRIST`S second coming to the earth.

GOD`S HISTORY WITH AFRICA
OF THEIR **FAITH**
AND THEIR **MISSION**

GOD reveals us in the Holy Scriptures three men, whom He has elected as examples out of AFRICA, the people of HAM, to proof His wonderful love to all nations, Israel and the Church.

These three men are:

1. **Ebed-Melech** in *Israel*– **Jeremia 38:15-18**
2. Minister of Queen **Candace** of *Ethiopia*– **Acts 8:26-40**
3. **Symeon Niger**, bible-teacher in *Antioch* in *Syria*– **Acts 13:1**

From the first is told us in the Old Testament 600 b.Ch.

From the second and third is told us in the New Testament 33 a.D.

Two men as ministers of her kings,

Ebed-Melech under **King Zedekiah** in *Israel / Irak*
in the Old Testament

The Treasurer under **Queen Candace** in *Ethiopia*
in the New Testament

One man as prophet and teacher

Symeon Niger in the *church* at *Antioch* of *Syria*
in the New Testament

Two men as represents of a state, the authority stately.

One man as represent of the church, the authority spiritual.

1. Ebed-Melech in *Israel* – Jeremiah 38:15-18

Ebed-Melech, an Ethiopian, „servant of the king“ at court of Zedekiah who saved the prophet Jeremiah from dead (**Jeremiah 38:7.10-12; 39,16**).

This African was a minister, an official, named at that time “servant”, of the last king in Judah, the southern reign of Israel, still before Israel was put from GOD apart and began with Nebuchadnezzar **“the times of the Gentiles” (Luke 21:24)**.

For this beginning of the “times of the Gentiles”, who not was Israel, GOD elected for Himself the African **Ebed-Melech**, to teach Israel and the nations, what pleases GOD: this is: faith! How Jeremiah it mentions in **Jeremiah 5:3: “O LORD, are not Your eyes upon the truth?”**

This truth, this faith, the LORD worked in the descendant of Ham, in Ebed-Melech.

What did Ebed-Melech through faith? **“Now when Ebed-Melech, the Ethiopian, one of the eunuchs, who was in the king’s house, heard that they had put Jeremiah in the dungeon (the king then sitting in the gate of Benjamin), Ebed-Melech went forth out of the king’s house, and spoke to king, saying, My Lord, the king, these men have done evil in all that they have done on Jeremiah, the prophet, whom they have cast into the dungeon, and he is (likely) to die of hunger in the place where he is; for there is no more bread in the city.”** This Ethiopian then no feared the wrath, the anger of the king, but feared the LORD and therefore put a word for the prophet of the LORD, interceded for him. He would have can lose his life for saving the life of the prophet. But the faith of the African worked for saving the man of GOD.

GOD recompensed this work of faith out of the continent of Africa and gave him the “yes” from king Zedekiah. **“Then the king**

commanded Ebed-Melech, the Ethiopian, saying, Take from here 30 men with you, and take up Jeremiah, the prophet, out of the dungeon, before he dies." "So Ebed-Melech took the men with him and went into the house of the king under the treasury, and took there old rages and worn-out garments, and let them down by cords into the dungeon to Jeremiah." "Then Ebed-Melech said unto Jeremiah, Put now these old rags and worn-out garments under your armpits under the cords. And Jeremiah did so." "So they drew up Jeremiah with cords, and took him up out of the dungeon; and Jeremiah remained in the court of the prison" (Jeremiah 39:10-13).

After the glories experience of faith of Ebed-Melech the benediction could not fail to come. The African heard the word of the LORD through the mouth of the prophet Jeremiah, whom he had helped to his salvation: **"But I will deliver you in that day, says the LORD, and you shall not be given into the hand of the men of whom you are afraid.**

For I will surely deliver you, and you shall not fall by the sword, but your life shall be for a prize unto you (save your life as a spoil, as a winner), because you have put your trust en Me, says the LORD" (Jeremiah 39:17+18). BY F A I T H ! "For whoever shall call upon the name of the LORD, shall be saved" (Romans 10:13).

JUSTIFICATION, VINDICATION BY F A I T H ! **"Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in CHRIST JESUS,**

Whom GOD has set forth to be a propitiation through faith in His blood, to declare His righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of GOD" (Romans 3:24+25). "But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on Him that raised up JESUS, our LORD, from the dead; Who was delivered for our offenses, and was raised again for our justification" (Romans 4:24-25).

How the GOD of Israel has lifted up Su heart-desire, Su heart-request - **THE FAITH, THE TRUST TO HIM** - here on the sill, the threshold to **"the times of the Gentiles"**! For this He gave His word,

the Bible, through Israel for all peoples: **“That your trust may be in the LORD I have made known to you this day, even to you” (Proverbs 22:19).**

And He did it through His prophet of tears, **Jeremiah**, who is a wonderful picture for our LORD JESUS!

Jeremiah: **“But I was like a Lamb or an ox that is brought to the slaughter; and I did not know that they had devised (plots) against me, saying, Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, and let us cut him off from the land of the living, that his name may be no more remembered” (Jeremiah 11:19).**

But example for this became **Ebed-Melech**, the descendent of Ham, the faithful official out of AFRICA.

2. Minister of Queen Candace of *Ethiopia*

– Acts 8:26-40

With the treasurer of the queen Candace GOD elected Himself for second time an official, now from Ethiopia, to reveal and to confirm **“Seeing it is one GOD, Who shall justify the circumcision by faith, and uncircumcision through faith” (Romans 3:30).**

He gave after the Pentecost of the Jews in Acts 2 the Pentecost of the Samaritans, this people of mixture in Israel, in Acts 8. And still before the nations too experiment her Pentecost in Acts 10, the Holy Spirit seeks the minister of the queen Candace from Ethiopia, one that feared GOD, to bring the Black Continent the gospel – still before it arrives the roman centurion Cornelius who also feared GOD.

He leads the African directly to the centre of the gospel, to the LAMB of GOD, Who was slain for our sins in **Isaiah 53**. The official of financiers just comes from Jerusalem – **“for salvation is of the Jews” (John 4:22)** – and **“out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem” (Isaiah 2:3)**. He comes from Jerusalem and reads the scroll of the great Prophet Isaiah, what he has brought from the temple, and does not understand, what he reads.

“And he said to Philip, one of the first missionaries after the fourth persecution of the just born church at Pentecost: **‘How can I, except some man should guide me?’”**

And then this great from Ethiopia sought Philip **“that he would come up and sit with him”** in his chariot (Acts 8:31b+29).

The Holy Spirit had prepared the heart of this African man and awakened and now sows at this good soil the seed to be born again, the seed of the eternal word from the evangelist of the Old Testament Isaiah. His name means the LORD saves. So his name demonstrates, is a sign for the Saviour Himself, the name marvellous **“JESUS”, “for He shall save His people from their sins” (Matthew 1:21).**

“The place of the Scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened He not His mouth.

In His humiliation His judgment was taken away, and who shall declare His generation? For His life is taken from the earth” (Isaiah 53:7+8 + The Acts 8:32+33).

How marvellous, when the Holy Spirit Himself touches the heart so that the man from himself receives for the Eternal and asks as the African from Ethiopia the missionary from Israel: **“I pray you, of whom speaks the prophet this, of himself or of some other man?” (Verse 34).**

Now Philip can declare to the hungry heart the gospel from JESUS CHRIST: **“Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him JESUS” (Verse 35).**

10

The Holy Spirit declared unto the African JESUS, that he understood and recognized Him. So he immediately prayed for the path of obedience of baptism. **“And as they went on their way, they came unto certain water; and the eunuch said, See, here is water. What does hinder me to be baptized?” (Verse 36).**

“For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, of which you heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel,

Which is come unto you, as it is in all the world, and bringing forth fruit, as it does also in you, since the day you heard of it and knew the grace of GOD in truth” (Colossians 1:5+6).

True love is love proven and true faith is faith proved. Therefore Philip asks once more diligently the content of the faith of the rejoicing Ethiopien. **“And Philip said: If you believe with all your heart, you may” (Verse 37a).** And the saving faith, worked by the Spirit of GOD, acknowledged and testifies so plainly and clearly through the African, the son of Ham (!), who **“answered and said,**

I believe that JESUS CHRIST is the Son of GOD.”

Acts 8:37b

So the Holy Spirit tells us the first baptism by faith in the history of the mission of the just born church from the Ethiopien. **“And he commanded the chariot to stand still, and they both went down into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him” (Verses 38).**

What grace triumphant! To the bride of the LAMB the heavenly servant who sought a bride for JESUS prepared first a man of influence from Africa.

“And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the LORD caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing” (Verse 39).

The Work was not work of men, not through manipulation psychically, but genuine true and therefore unto the eternity remaining spiritual of the triune GOD. It was a stone of the crown en the diadem of CHRIST, an African person as bride of the LAMB!

“And the LORD, their GOD, shall save them in that day as the flock of His people; for they shall be like the stones of a crown, lifted up as an ensign upon His land” (Zechariah 9:16).

3. **Symeon**, who was called Niger (latin = black) in *Antioch in Syria* – **The Acts 13:1**

The Holy Spirit gave us as third example of the faith which is proved by works the prophet and bible-teacher Symeon called Niger. He was prophet in the New Testament.

The person who was permitted to teach had to live credibly, truly before (comp. 1th Timothy 3:7; Titus 2:7+10; especially Acts 1:1b). Therefore Symeon, the African brother, was a servant of the word proved in his life of faith. He was able to transmit to others what he had heard and learned (2nd Timothy 2:2) and that not only with words theoretically but proved through the Holy Spirit and in His power, **“en demonstration of the Spirit and of power” (1st Corinthians 2:2)** by a life that stood behind his teaching and doctrine and a suffering that belongs to it, a wrestle and victory y faith that is proved.

His name Symeon or Simon means answer, grant, heard. Surely his mother or other faithful person had prayed for him and asked for him. In any case benediction to the eternity comes out of the eternity.

Therefore we can see in Symeon Niger, how GOD already had in His heart Africa, when He for all gave **“the LAMB slain from the foundation of the world” (Revelation 13:8)**. And therefore GOD also had put the prayer for him in the heart of a person, so that this African bible-teacher became an essential benediction unto the first church and so for GOD and His reign.

He elected this man to fulfil the first service of the four pillars, columns of the Church, the apostles` doctrine (comp. the Acts 2:42: the apostles` doctrine and fellowship, and braking of bread, and prayers). The apostles` doctrine is the essential element through which faith can come and grow.

With this GOD gives immediately in the beginning of the mission-history to His worldwide Church, His *heavenly* alliance-people, an encouraging example of holy conduct, of way of life, of behaviour until to her fin in the moment of the Rapture. The *fulfilment* of this mission He had given to His *earthly* alliance-people Israel. Compare in Isaiah 66:19.

Inseparably united with this holy conduct is the “eating” of GOD’S word and of His doctrine. So we find it written in **2nd Juan 9: “Whosoever transgresses, and abides not in the doctrine of CHRIST, has not GOD. He that abides in the doctrine of CHRIST, he has both the Father and the Son”**.

GOD then used Symeon – and with him GOD used AFRICA – the continent which units Asia and Europe in the east and north – for the most important thing in building and accomplishing His church from Pentecost to the Rapture.