

# *Resurrection Life of Jesus Church*

## THE DESTINY OF HUMANITY

RLJ-1698

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APRIL 7, 2019

### PART 31: THE QUEEN OF SHEBA

#### THE QUEEN OF SHEBA

The Queen of Sheba traveled to Jerusalem to meet King Solomon to determine if the rumors she had heard were true. **1 Kings 10:1-13; 2 Chronicles 9:1-12**

News of King Solomon's wisdom spread far and wide. When his fame reached the capitol of Sheba (Ethiopia) and its queen, she decided to find out if the stories about Solomon were true. **1 Kings 10:1; Matthew 12:42**

The president of the United States flies aboard an aircraft designated "Air Force One" when he visits a foreign nation. Cargo planes are always sent in advance containing the presidential limousine and a number of other vehicles that will be used for support in addition to the hundreds of secret service agents and White House personnel.

The queen of Sheba traveled with a huge caravan of servants and a large contingent of soldiers to dissuade any would-be robbers along the way. According to secular history, every government, whose territory she would be traveling through had been notified and received permission obtained in advance. **1 Kings 10:2**

Solomon was able to provide an answer to every question she posed. **verse 3**

The Queen was extremely impressed by what she saw, heard and experienced. **verses 4-9**

She presented gifts to Solomon. **verse 10**

#### SECULAR HISTORY

The Bible doesn't reveal what year the Queen of Sheba visited Jerusalem or how long she stayed.

There are references to a Queen of Sheba in the Quran. Details of this event were also recorded in the country of Ethiopia. Sometime after 600 A.D., the Ethiopian Orthodox Christian Church was in possession of a manuscript known as "Kebra Nagast," which means "The Glory of Kings."

The Bible does not identify the country of Sheba, but the written history of Ethiopia claims that Sheba later became known as Ethiopia.

The "Kebra Nagast" states that Makeda was the name of the queen and she was very beautiful. She traveled to Jerusalem with a large caravan, including soldiers to protect her from robbers. While in Jerusalem, Solomon had sexual intercourse with her and she became pregnant. She gave birth to a son on her way back to Ethiopia, indicating that she must have been at least nine months in Jerusalem. The son was named Menelik and he was raised in Ethiopia. He traveled to Jerusalem at the age of 22 to meet his father, who according to the historical writings wanted Menelik to stay in Jerusalem and become the crown prince. Menelik did not want to become the next king of Israel and



returned to his mother. Upon Makeda's death, he became the next king of Ethiopia. The royal family of Ethiopia claims they are blood descendants to King David through Solomon.

This is entirely plausible given Solomon's account. **Song of Solomon 1:1-6**

## **THE BOOK OF ACTS**

A large numbers of Jews lived outside of Palestine during the time Jesus walked on the earth. Jews from different nations would faithfully travel to Jerusalem and stay during the Passover Week and other religious Jewish holidays. During the feast of Pentecost, thousands of Jews had come to Jerusalem to be part of this religious celebration. **Acts 2:5-12**

Sometime after the day of Pentecost, most likely a year, Phillip was preaching in the city of Samaria when he was called by the Holy Spirit to leave the great revival and travel toward Gaza on a road that started from Jerusalem and led towards Egypt. **Acts 8:26**

He obediently left Damascus and walked toward Gaza. This part of the trip would have taken him at least a week since Damascus was located in Syria. A divine appointment took place when he arrived at the destination as the finance minister of Queen Candace of Ethiopia had visited Jerusalem to worship and was on his way home with a caravan of servants and soldiers.

This man was a Jew with black skin. He was reading from the prophet Isaiah as he rode in a chariot but did not understand the passage.

Phillip approached the chariot and was invited to sit in the chariot to explain the passage. It was a divine appointment to introduce this man from Ethiopia to Jesus. As a result, he accepted Christ and was baptized in water. **verses 27-40**

## **SUMMARY**

The Queen of Sheba converted to Judaism and returned to Ethiopia. Through her influence, the people in the nation also converted to Judaism.

They became known as Beta Israel and/or Ethiopian Jews, whose community developed and thrived for centuries in the area of the Kingdom of Aksum and the Ethiopian Empire that is currently divided between the Amhara and Tigray Regions of Ethiopia and Eritrea. These Jews are not blood descendants of Abraham.

The Ethiopian eunuch described in the Book of Acts visited Jerusalem some 900 years after the Queen of Sheba. When he returned to Ethiopia, he introduced the Christian faith and the majority of the Ethiopian Jews accepted Christ, giving birth to the Coptic Church that still exists today.

The Ethiopians who remained in Judaism started to contact Israel in the 20th century, but there was much resistance in Israel to accepting black people as Jews.

The government of Israel eventually accepted the fact that these people were Jews and they began to helping Ethiopian Jews immigrate to Israel.

By the end of 2008, there were 119,300 people of Ethiopian descent in Israel, including nearly 81,000 people born in Ethiopia.

***Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!***

***Do you have an ear to hear with?***