

# A prophetic word regarding baby Jesus:

**Luke 2:27-32**

27 And he came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, . . . he took Him into his arms, and blessed God, and said, “. . . my eyes have seen **Your salvation**, 31 Which You have prepared in the presence of all peoples, 32 **A LIGHT OF REVELATION TO THE GENTILES**, And the glory of Your people Israel.”

34 And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this Child is appointed for the **fall and rise of many in Israel**, and for **a sign to be opposed**-- 35 and a sword will pierce even your own soul

-- **to the end that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.**"

# **Jesus' Word and Witness Reveals Hearts**

Luke 2:25-35; Acts 13:44-52

November 13, 2011

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- I) Disobedient, unbelieving hearts fall into
  - a. Jealousy against the witnesses of God.

### **Acts 13:44-45**

*The next Sabbath nearly the whole city assembled to hear the word of the Lord. 45 But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and began contradicting the things spoken by Paul, and were blaspheming. 46 Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly and said, "It was necessary that the word of God be spoken to you first; since you repudiate it and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life,*

- I) Disobedient, unbelieving hearts fall into  
a. **Jealousy** against the witnesses of God.

*Acts 13:44-45 . . . But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with **jealousy** . . .*

### ***Romans 10:16-19***

*16 However, they did not all heed the good news; . . . 17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ. 18 ¶ But I say, surely they have never heard, have they? Indeed they have; . . . 19 But I say, surely Israel did not know, did they? First Moses says, "I WILL MAKE YOU **JEALOUS** BY THAT WHICH IS NOT A NATION, BY A NATION WITHOUT UNDERSTANDING WILL I ANGER YOU."*

- I) Disobedient, unbelieving hearts fall into
  - a. Jealousy against the witnesses of God.

*Acts 13:44-45 . . . But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy . . .*

***Romans 10:21***

*21 ¶ But as for Israel He says, "ALL THE DAY LONG I HAVE STRETCHED OUT MY HANDS TO A DISOBEDIENT AND OBSTINATE PEOPLE."*

- I) Disobedient, unbelieving hearts fall into  
a. Jealousy against the witnesses of God.

*Acts 13:44-45. . . they were filled with jealousy . . .*

***Romans 11:11-12***

*I say then, they did not stumble so as to fall, did they? May it never be! But by their transgression salvation has come to the Gentiles, to make them jealous. 12 Now if their transgression is riches for the world and their failure is riches for the Gentiles, how much more will their fulfillment be!*

- I) Disobedient, unbelieving hearts fall into  
a. **Jealousy** against the witnesses of God.

### **Romans 11:19-23**

*19 You will say then, "Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in." 20 Quite right, **they were broken off for their unbelief, but you stand by your faith. Do not be conceited, but fear;** 21 **for if God did not spare the natural branches, He will not spare you, either.** 22 Behold then the kindness and severity of God; to those who fell, severity, but to you, God's kindness, if you continue in His kindness; otherwise you also will be cut off. 23 And they also, **if they do not continue in their unbelief, will be grafted in,** for God is able to graft them in again.*

- l) Disobedient, unbelieving hearts fall into  
a. Jealousy against the witnesses of God.

***Romans 11:25-26, 30-31***

*For I do not want you, brethren, to be uninformed of this mystery-- so that you will not be wise in your own estimation-- that a partial hardening has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in; 26 and so all Israel will be saved; . . .*

*30 For just as you once were disobedient to God, but now have been shown mercy because of their disobedience,  
31 so these also now have been disobedient, that because of the mercy shown to you they also may now be shown mercy.*

- I) Disobedient, unbelieving hearts fall into
  - b. **Opposition** toward the word of God.

### **Acts 13:44-45**

*The next Sabbath nearly the whole city assembled to hear the word of the Lord. 45 But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and began **contradicting the things spoken** by Paul, and were blaspheming. 46 Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly and said, "It was necessary that the word of God be spoken to you first; . . .*

- l) Disobedient, unbelieving hearts fall into  
c. Blasphemy against the Son of God.

**Acts 13:45**

*. . . 45 But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and began contradicting the things spoken by Paul, and were blaspheming.*

- I) Disobedient, unbelieving hearts fall into  
c. Blasphemy against the Son of God.

*John 5:22-24* "For not even the Father judges anyone, but He has given all judgment to the Son, 23 so that all will honor the Son even as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him. 24  
"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.

*Luke 10:16* "The one who listens to you listens to Me, and the one who rejects you rejects Me; and he who rejects Me rejects the One who sent Me."

*1 John 2:23* Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father;  
the one who confesses the Son has the Father also.

- l) Disobedient, unbelieving hearts fall into  
d. Persecution of the people of God.

**Acts 13:50**

*But the Jews incited the devout women of prominence and the leading men of the city, and instigated a persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their district.*

# remember them

Hebrews 13



**RESTRICTED NATION**  
In some of persecution where Christians are kept from practicing their faith in public. Also includes any government sanctioned violence where Christians are harassed, imprisoned, killed, or deprived of their possessions or forced to leave their homes.

**PERSECUTED NATION**  
This includes large areas of nations where governments persecute Christians in public in their laws, but often none of the violence where Christians are harassed, imprisoned, killed, or deprived of their possessions or forced to leave their homes.

[www.rememberthem.ca](http://www.rememberthem.ca)

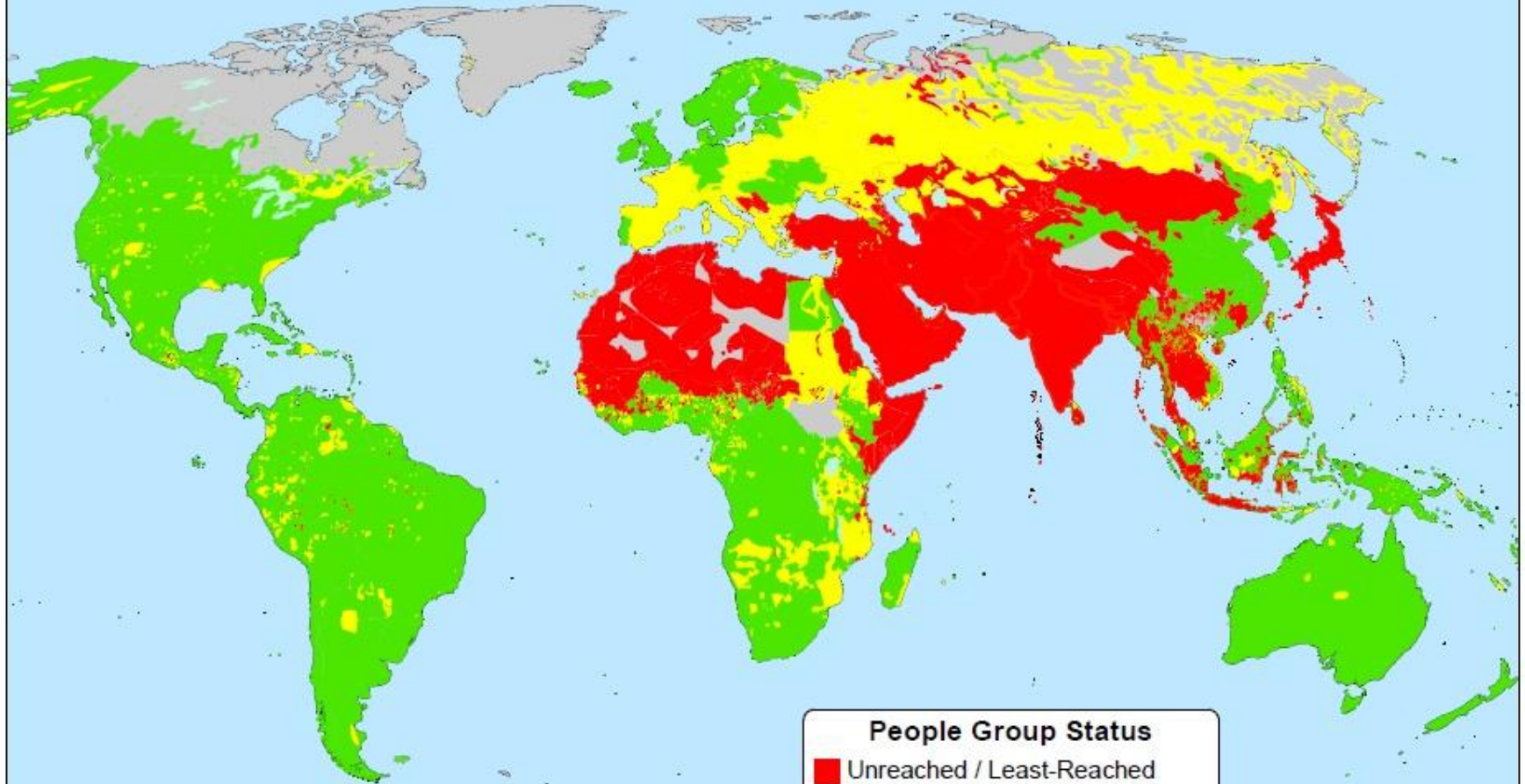


The Voice  
of the  
Martyrs

## d. Persecution of the people of God.

### Progress of the Gospel by People Group

Based on the Joshua Project Progress Scale



#### People Group Status

- Unreached / Least-Reached
- Formative / Nominal
- Established / Significant
- Data not available or uninhabited

Source: Joshua Project ([www.joshuaproject.net](http://www.joshuaproject.net)), September 2011  
Map by Joshua Project and Global Mapping International ([www.gmi.org](http://www.gmi.org))

- II) Receptive, believing hearts rise up to  
a. Witness for the Servant of God.

**Acts 13:46-47**

*... It was necessary that the word of God be spoken to you first; since you repudiate it and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles. 47 "For so the Lord has commanded us, 'I HAVE PLACED YOU AS A LIGHT FOR THE GENTILES, THAT YOU MAY BRING SALVATION TO THE END OF THE EARTH.'"*

- II) Receptive, believing hearts rise up to  
a. Witness for the Servant of God.

*Acts 13:46-47 . . . the Lord has commanded us, 'I HAVE PLACED YOU AS A LIGHT FOR THE GENTILES, . . .*

Isaiah 42:1, 6-8

"Behold, My Servant, whom I uphold; My chosen one *in whom My soul delights. I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the nations.*

6" I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness, . . . I will appoint you as a covenant to the people, As a light to the nations, 7 To open blind eyes, To bring out prisoners from the dungeon And those who dwell in darkness from the prison. 8 "I am the LORD, that is My name; I will not give My glory to another, Nor My praise to graven images.

- II) Receptive, believing hearts rise up to  
a. Witness for the Servant of God.

*Acts 13:46-47 . . . the Lord has commanded us, 'I HAVE PLACED YOU AS A LIGHT FOR THE GENTILES, THAT YOU MAY BRING SALVATION TO THE END OF THE EARTH.'"*

### Isaiah 49:5-6

And now says the LORD, who formed Me from the womb to be His Servant, To bring Jacob back to Him, so that Israel might be gathered to Him (For I am honored in the sight of the LORD, And My God is My strength), 6 He says, "It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant To raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also make You a light of the nations So that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

- II) Receptive, believing hearts rise up to  
b. Rejoice in the word of God.

*Acts 13:48*

*When the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord; . . .*

- II) Receptive, believing hearts rise up to  
c. Believe in the Son of God.

***Acts 13:48***

*When the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord; and as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed.*

- II) Receptive, believing hearts rise up to  
d. Persevere in the Servant's mission.

### **Acts 13:49-52**

And the word of the Lord was being spread through the whole region. 50 But the Jews incited the devout women of prominence and the leading men of the city, and instigated a persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their district. 51 But they shook off the dust of their feet in protest against them and went to Iconium. 52 And the disciples were continually filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

## Reflective Time in Prayer

### **1) Respond to the Son's offer of eternal life:**

- A) Forgiveness of sins proclaimed in Him.
- B) Freedom from sin by the power of His spirit.

### **2) Rejoice and glorify God for:**

- A) His Word.
- B) His witnesses.
- C) Freedom to share the hope we have in Him.

### **3) Ask the Lord for:**

- A) Boldness to act as His hands, feet, and mouth.
- B) Protection and perseverance for those who represent Him.