

Isaiah 18 – Is it the USA?

I believe it is the USA because 1) The USA exists at the time of the passage, 2) It best matches the USA, and 3) It is not a new idea.¹

v1-2 Ah, the land of the rustling of wings, which is beyond the rivers of Ethiopia; that sendeth ambassadors by the sea, even in vessels of papyrus upon the waters, saying, Go, ye swift messengers, to a nation tall and smooth, to a people terrible from their beginning onward, a nation that meteth out and treadeth down, whose land the rivers divide!

There are three nations: 1) Ethiopia, 2) Another beyond it, and 3) “*a nation tall and smooth...*”, the main theme.

It is not any nation, region or people known to Isaiah, and it is separated by water from his known world. The people of the USA are much taller than most nations. Several other good translations



use “peeled” instead of “smooth”. Many fruits and vegetables peeled are white, so possibly this means white-skinned or clean-shaven². This is a new nation in the time-frame covered, and it is powerful from the beginning, defeating world-dominator England, and continuing powerful. One would normally think of conquest by an army in creating a new nation, but instead it was measured out and possessed, or overrun and settled, so “*meteth out and treadeth down*” describes exactly what actually happened. This could hardly happen again because there is no more unclaimed, desirable land. Few large areas of the world are so well watered as the eastern part of the USA, with ample precipitation all 12 months.³

v3 All ye inhabitants of the world, and ye dwellers on the earth, when an ensign is lifted up on the mountains, see ye; and when the trumpet is blown, hear ye.

The *ensign* would be regathered Israel: “...*he will set up an ensign for the nations, and will assemble the outcasts of Israel, and...Judah...*” [Isa 11:11-12](#). The *trumpet* would be of the Rapture, which all will hear, but only saved persons will respond. So, it will exist at the Rapture.

v4 For thus hath Jehovah said unto me, I will be still, and I will behold in my dwelling-place, like clear heat in sunshine, like a cloud of dew in the heat of harvest.

God will wait and watch. Heat in sunshine is normal, but dew in the heat of harvest is harmful. First it will be prosperity, then disaster after the Rapture.

v5 For before the harvest, when the blossom is over, and the flower becometh a ripening grape, he will cut off the sprigs with pruning-hooks, and the spreading branches will he take away and cut down.

Before the harvest [the Tribulation], said nation will lose its power and influence when at its peak. The loss of many of its most productive citizens to the Rapture will be a big blow. It also will likely precipitate: “*And I will send a fire...among them that dwell carelessly in the isles*” [Eze 39:6](#), probably a limited nuclear exchange⁴ which will destroy the power, but not the rich agriculture of said nation.

v6 They shall be left together unto the ravenous birds of the mountains, and to the beasts of the earth; and the rav-

enous birds shall summer upon them, and all the beasts of the earth shall winter upon them.

Said nation will then be subservient to the other nations during the Tribulation, but its undamaged rich agricultural and other resources will help feed and supply the world.

v7 In that time shall a present be brought unto Jehovah of hosts from a people tall and smooth, even from a people terrible from their beginning onward, a nation that meteth out and treadeth down, whose land the rivers divide, to the place of the name of Jehovah of hosts, the mount Zion.

Said nation will continue into the Millennial Reign of Christ, after the Tribulation.

Conclusion: Major events of End-Time prophecy are in **correct sequence:** 1) The regathering of Israel, 2) The Rapture, 3) The war of Ezekiel 38-39 (not Armageddon which is at the end), 4) The Tribulation, and 5) The Millennium.

Clearly this is the End Times, so said nation must exist now as described. Clearly no other nation qualifies, as there are no more unclaimed lands from

which a new, powerful nation could arise as described, nor would there be sufficient time.

This is good news for believers because it seems clear that disaster will come *after* the Rapture. The USA should maintain its power and things should go well (*“the flower becometh a ripening grape”*), until the Rapture.

Prophecy scholars have long puzzled why does the powerful nation of the USA not figure prominently in the End Times? Because the USA will be destroyed as a world power after the Rapture and before the Tribulation starts. Other passages seem to refer to the USA, but not as a major player in the Tribulation.

Most important of all, the **salvation of your soul** is personal between you and God and does not depend on rites, clerics, traditions, good works, or belonging to any church or religion: *“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith, and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God, not by works...”* [Eph 2:8-9](#) No matter what kind of person you are or what you have done: *“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us*

from all unrighteousness.” [1 John 1:9](#) Pray today to put your faith in Jesus Christ alone: *“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”* [John 3:16](#) Then study the Bible to live pleasing to God: *“...if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!”* [2 Cor 5:17](#)

Please pray like this with all sincerity: "Dear Lord Jesus, I confess I am a sinner, and I ask for your forgiveness. I believe you died to forgive my sins and rose from the dead. I trust and follow you as my Lord and Savior. Please guide my life and help me to do your will. In the name of my Lord Jesus Christ, Amen."

Please read this and share it.

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1 triumphpro.com/isaiah-18-mysterious-prophecy.pdf

2 A very minor point to the thesis as a whole.

3 A very difficult passage to translate.

4 An opinion of the late Zola Levitt, expressed on his TV program, circa 1990.