

Mic. 7:13, 14: *"Notwithstanding the land shall be desolate because of them that dwell therein, for the fruit of their doings. Feed thy people with thy rod, the flock of thine heritage, which dwell solitarily in the wood, in the midst of Carmel: let them feed in Bashan and Gilead, as in the days of old."*

But Inspiration declares that before these promises are fulfilled, the dispersion of the people would first take place, leaving the land desolate.

Then is projected the Rod of God which not only speaks (Mic. 6:9), but feeds, too. And what can It feed if not "meat in due season," "very present truth"—the message of the hour? The people, explains the scripture, are those who dwell solitarily in the wood, in the midst of Carmel. Thus prophecy for this day and hour certifies, and enjoins upon us, the message, the testimony, which the Rod contains, and which none other than Carmel produced (v. 14) [and Bashan binds up] (Isa. 8:16).

Verse 15: *"According to the days of thy coming out of the land of Egypt will I shew unto him marvelous things."*

Here we are given the promise that the experience of those who "hear" and "feed" upon the Rod is to be "according" to that of the Exodus movement; that is, just as they, under the mighty hand of God, were by a rod (symbolizing God's authority and power—PP 251:2; CT 498:1) led out of Egypt and brought safely into the promised land, so shall it be now.

"And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set His hand again *the second time* to recover the remnant of His people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea. And He shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth." Isa. 11:11, 12.

Mic. 7:16-18: *"The nations shall see and be confounded at all their might: they shall lay their hand upon their mouth, their ears shall be deaf.*

*"They shall lick the dust like a serpent, they shall move out of their holes like worms of the earth: they shall be afraid of the Lord our God, and shall fear because of Thee. Who is a God like unto Thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He retaineth not His anger for ever, because He delighteth in mercy."*

"The envy also of Ephraim shall depart, and the adversaries of Judah shall be cut off: Ephraim shall not envy Judah, and Judah shall not vex Ephraim. But they shall fly upon the shoulders of the Philistines toward the west; they shall spoil them of the east together: they shall lay their hand upon Edom and Moab; and the children of Ammon shall obey them. And the Lord shall utterly destroy the tongue of the Egyptian sea; and with His mighty wind shall He shake His hand over the river, and shall smite it in the seven streams, and *make men go over dryshod.*" Isa. 11:13-15.