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# ***THE CAMBRIAN PESHER***

*THE VOICE OF THE DESPOSYNI TO THE AMERICAN DISPERSION*



Pentecost, 2003

Brethren:

## **On Ethnic Christianity and the Church of Wales**

*Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations . . .*

The Great Commission, Matthew 28:19

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If your last name is one of those listed below, then you are likely of Welsh descent and share in the ethnic covenant of that ancient people:

**WELSH SURNAME INDEX**

## **A**

Aaron, Abednego, Abel, Abethell, Abraham, Absalom, Ace, Adams, Adda,  
Ajax, Alban, Allen, Amblott, Amos, Andrew, Angle, Anthony, Anwell, Anwill, Anwyl,  
Arnold, Arthur, Ash, Ashton, Aspull, Asse, Astley, Aston, Atha, Athoe, Aubrey,  
Augustus, Austin, Awbrey

## **B**

Bach, Baddam, Badham, Balch, Bamford, Bamforth, Bampford, Bangough,  
Banner, Barry, Baskerville, Basketfield, Batch, Bateman, Batha, Bathoe,  
Baugh, Baughan, Baulch,  
Bawn, Bayliss, Baynham, Beach, Bealth, Beavan/s, Bebb, Beddoes, Beddow,  
Bedward/s, Beedle, Beethel, Bellis, Belt, Belth, Benbough, Benbow, Bengough,  
Bengrisse, Bengry, Benjamin, Bennett, Bennion, Bethell, Bevan/s, Bevin, Beynam,  
Beynon, Bidder, Bithell, Blackwell, Blayney, Blethin, Bodurda, Bodvell,  
Boliver, Bolver, Bonner, Bonsall, Boulter, Bound/s, Boundford, Bowdler, Bowen, Bown, B  
ownd, Bowring, Brace, Breese, Breeze, Brigstocke, Brinkir, Brooks, Brown, Bufton,  
Bulkeley, Bumpford, Bumphrey, Bunnell, Bunner, Button, Bydder, Bythell

## **C**

Caddock, Cadogan, Cadwalader,  
Cadwaladr, Caesar, Caffyn, Caleb, Cantington, Canton, Cardiff, Cardigan, Carduggan,  
Carew, Carey, Catharn, Charles, Christmas, Clark, Clayton, Cleaton, Clement,  
Cletton, Cliderowe, Clocker, Clougher,  
Codd, Coetmor, Coffin, Cogan, Cole, Connah, Connick, Conway, Coslett, Cottrell,  
Cowper, Craddock, Creese, Crichtett, Critchett, Crowder, Crowther, Crunn, Cuffin,  
Cule, Cull, Cunnah, Cunnick, Cwnic

## **D**

Dackins, Dakin, Daniel/s, David, Davies, Davis, Dawes, Dawkins, Day, Daykyn,  
Dayos, Dee, Deere, Devonald, Dew, Dodd, Dolben, Downes,  
Duckworth, Duggan, Duppa, Dyas, Dykins, Dyos

## **E**

Eathell, Eddowes, Eden, Edmonds, Edmunds, Edwards, Einon, Elias, Elisha, Elissa, Eliza, Ellice, Ellis, Elystan, Emanuel, Emmet, Emont, Enoch, Enos, Ephraim, Erasmus, Esaias, Esau, Esay, Ethell, Evance, Evans, Eynon, Ezekiel

## **F**

Faithfull, Farmer, Felix, Fenna. Fenner, Filpin, Fello/s, Flood, Floyd, Folland, Foulkes, Francis, Froyne, Fuge, Fychan

## **G**

Gabriel, Gadarn, Gainor, Games, Gammon, George, Gethin, Gibb/s, Gibbon, Gibby, Gittah, Gittins, Gittoes, Glace, Gooch, Goodge, Goodin, Goodwin, Goodwyn, Goudge, Gough, Gove, Goyder, Gravenor, Greenaway, Greenhouse, Gregory, Griffies, Griffin, Griffiths, Grinish, Gronnah, Gronow, Grosvenor, Grunnah, Gudwgan, Guilt, Gullam, Gunter, Gutyn, Guy, Gwalhmai, Gwasmeir, Gwasmihangel, Gwastewi, Gwatkin, Gwenlan, Gwilliam, Gwilt, Gwinnett, Gwnns, Gwyn, Gwynett, Gwynn/e, Gwyther

## **H**

Habakkuk, Haggar, Haines, Hall, Hamer, Harrhy, Harries, Harris, Harry, Hatfield, Havard, Hay, Hayling, Heavens, Heilyn, Henry, Herbert, Herward, Hier, Hire, Hoell, Hoiskin, Hole, Holl, Hood, Hooson, Hopkins, Hoseah, Hoskin/s, Hoskyn, How/e, Howard, Howells, Howes, Hughes, Hullin, Hulme, Hulton, Humphreys, Husband, Hussey, Huws, Huzzey, Hyer

## **I**

Ifans, Inions, Iorwerth, Isaac, Ishmael, Israel, Ithell

## **J**

Jacob/s, James, Japheth, Jarman, Jarvis, Jasper, Jeavans, Jeavinee, Jefferson, Jeffreys, Jehosophat, Jehu, Jenkins, Jeremiah, Jermin, Jermyn, Jervis, Jesse, Jevons, Job, Joel, John/s, Jonah, Jonathan, Jone, Jones, Joseph, Joshua, Josiah, Julian

## **K**

KDuggan, Kedward/s, Kendall, Kendrick, Kenfig, Kenvin, Kethin, Kidwelly, Kinsey, Kneath, Knethell, Knevet, Kyffin

**L**

Landeck, Landeg, Laugharne, Lello/s, Levi, Lewis, Ley, Leyshon, Llewelyn, Llowarch, Lloyd, Llwyd, Llywarch, Locker, Lodwick, Lot, Lougher, Loyd, Lucas, Luke, Lumley

**M**

Mabe, Maddock/s, Maddy, Manuel, Mark, Marple, Martin, Mason, Masson, Mathew, Mathews, Mathias, Matthews, Maurice, Max, Maybery, Mayn, Meands, Means, Meddick, Mejangel, Melchior, Mellens, Melling, Mende, Mends, Mendus, Mens, Meredith, Meshach, Methusalem, Meyler, Meyrick, Micah, Michael, Miles, Mills, Mordecai, Morgan, Morris, Morse, Mortimer, Moses, Mostyn, Moyle

**N**

Nagle, Nanney, Narberth, Narbett, Nash, Nathan, Nathaniel, Nevett, Newell, Nicholas, Nicholls, Nock, Noke, Nuttall

**O**

Oakley, Obray, Oiskins, Oliver, Onions, Owen/s

**P**

Palin, Pardoe, Parker, Parry, Pask, Paskin, Pate, Peate, Pendry, Pennant, Penry, Peregrine, Perkin/s, Peters, Phelps, Phenna, Philbatch, Philipps, Phillip, Phillips, Philpin, Philips, Phrancis, Picton, Pierce, Pigot, Poiskin, Popkin/s, Powell, Preddy, Predith, Preece, Prendergast, Price, Prichard, Prickett, Priddy, Pritchard, Pritchett, Probert, Probyn, Profit, Progers, Propert, Prophet, Prosser, Prothero, Prout, Prynallt, Pugh, Pulford, Pumphrey

**Q**

Quilt

**R**

Rachel, Rees, Reynolds, Rhydderch, Rhys, Rice, Richards, Roach, Roberts, Robin, Roblin, Roch, Roderick, Rogers, Rosser, Rothero, Rowland/s, Ruddock, Rushton, Russell, Ruther

**S**

Saer, Saies, Sais, Saise, Salathiel, Salesbury, Salisbury, Salmon, Salusbury, Sambrook, Samson, Samuel, Samwell, Sandbrook, Sare, Savage, Sayce, Sayer, Scone, Sears, Seys, Shadrach, Shambrook, Shcen, Sheldon, Shone, Simeon, Simon,

Smith, Smout, Solomon, Spicer, Stackpole, Stephens, Stevens, Stokes, Stork,  
Stradling, Strong, Sutton, Swancott, Sweynemore, Symmon, Symondestone

## **T**

Tanat, Tannatt, Taylor, Teague, Tegan, Tew, Tewdwr, Thelwall, Theophilus, Thomas,  
Thornhill, Tibbot, Tidder, Timothy, Tither, Titus, Tobias, Treharne, Trevor,  
Trewent, Trow, Trygan, Tucker, Tudor, Tugh, Tuppa, Turner, Turnor

## **U**

Uprichard

## **V**

Vain, Vallan, Vane, Vaughan, Vawer, Vayne, Vittle, Voel, Volk, Voyle

## **W**

Wace, Walbeoff, Walby, Walliter, Walter/s, Warlow, Warren,  
Waters, Watkeys, Watkins, Watkiss, Watts, Weal, Weaver, Webb, Wever, Wheal,  
Whettall, Whinnett, Whittal, Wigley, Wilberley, Wild, Wilding, Williams,  
Wilson, Wogan, Woosencraft, Woosencroft, Woosnam, Worthing, Wynn/e

## **Y**

Ychan, Yerward, Yong/e, Yorath, Young

## **Z**

Zacchaeus, Zacharias

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The Welsh began adopting surnames later than most of Europe, after the ascent of the Tudor dynasty. Some of the names in the above compilation are of obvious Anglo-Norman origin - Arnold, Edwards, etc. - and may or may not necessarily reflect Welsh descent. The list is not exhaustive, of course, although the most extensive one I have seen.<sup>[1]</sup> Some names (such as Hollingsworth, from "Hullins" apparently, of Chester) are not listed. The spelling of many names have varied over the centuries. It's not possible to list all variants. Others, which are mistakenly regarded as Celtic but non-Welsh - that is, of Scot or Irish origin - are not listed either but represent an ancient, Brythonic line, predating those ethnic divisions. For instance, although considered Scottish, the name "William Wallace" (from *Wallis*: "Wales man") is an example of a received surname, rather than one of ancient origin. The "Welsh" - which means "foreigner" - were so named by their Saxon enemies and originally applied loosely to all Celts on the Island. The Welsh call themselves "the Cymry".

Genealogical research is in order if there is doubt. Of course, some names are of obvious Welsh origin: Jones, Hopkins, Morgan, and Powell, and others

which might be confused for Jewish names, such as Aaron, Mordecai, and Zacharius.

**The Church of Cambria does not teach ethnicity as the basis of salvation or inclusion in God's redemptive Kingdom - the Church.** It never has. We do not teach the primacy of bloodlines. Bloodlines are of no use to the Kingdom of God. What we are identifying here are Covenant lines, a completely different matter.

To learn about Covenant lines, my book *Biblical Midwifery* is the best source. I encourage you to obtain the new edition of that book which is now available.[\[2\]](#) But for newcomers, I will explain briefly what is meant by Covenant lines.

In the Bible God makes promises to His chosen men. He makes covenants. When He makes those covenants, the unborn offspring of the Covenant Men are participants and recipients of the promises, also ("unto a thousand generations" - Exodus 20:5,6). Those promises are strengthened and compounded as each godly generation of the Covenant line unfolds. It grows like the mustard seed until "The earth is filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD as the waters cover the sea" (Habbakuk 2:14).

An example of this is found in Acts chapter two. We are currently celebrating the season of Pentecost. It was during this Israelite festival that the New Testament Church was formed after our Lord's Ascension. On the day of Pentecost, the glorious baptism of the Holy Spirit descended upon the believers in Jerusalem. In Peter's sermon which followed, he extended the "promise of the Spirit" to all who would receive Christ as their Savior and Messiah:

*For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.*

- v. 39

This matter pertains to the Doctrine of Election and the mysteries of the Church. But it is enough to say that a man's bloodline has no merit in and of itself. It is the promise of God that matters.

For a thousand years, the aristocracies of Europe have erred on this point. They have intermarried among themselves to keep their lines pure. This practice is rooted in paganism, not in Biblical Christianity (see John 1:12-13). Our genetic makeup and surnames may serve as useful identifiers, but it is not the blood or

the name which makes the man. It is the grace of God; for in our flesh, there is no good thing (Romans 7:18).

Thus, we can say, for example, that a man may be of African blood, yet if he can trace his lineage to a Covenant line - a line which begins with the Fathers of Biblical times - then he may lay claim to its heritage in matters pertaining to the Election. In terms of government, however, Christ's Kingdom would be better served if he were enrolled in the Ethiopian Apostolic Church. That is the Church for the African nations.

On this matter, classical theology suffers from confusion. It thinks that the doctrine of election has to do with salvation. Protestants, especially Calvinists, have taken this error to horrific and cultic extremes. Election is not about who are or who are not the damned. It is concerned with the *temporal dominion* of the earth according to the covenants made to the Fathers of Biblical times. The offer of salvation has been extended to all men who will repent (2 Peter 3:9). It is not limited to a chosen few. Election, on the other hand, has to do with dominion and man's stewardship of the earth. God is very selective to whom He gives rulership of the earth. It is in that sense that ethnicity becomes important; for God has divided the earth according 70 ethnic lines. It is to those groups our Lord commanded the Apostles in the Great Commission to take the Gospel of salvation and the call to discipleship.

The Church of Cambria is the Apostolic Church for the Celts, the Mother of all Celtic Churches. Pureblooded Welshness is not the criteria. It is not the blood; it is the Covenant that God made with the Cymry in Apostolic times that matters, which by the fosterage and adoption of Cambrian missions during the 3rd and 4th Centuries, became the heritage of all the Celts.

The Cambrian Church is the most unique Apostolic church on the whole earth and offers a model which ought to be carefully considered by her sister churches. It does not follow an *imperial model* as does the Roman, Orthodox, and Eastern churches. These churches posit spiritual authority in a self-perpetuating, ecclesiastical aristocracy. The Church of Cambria follows the *ethnic model* which posits authority in the body of the faithful, whose guardians are their tribal chiefs and clan leaders. The Cymry (pronounced "koomree") correctly recognize that the Church is the "People of the Covenant" and not a special class of persons separate from them. "The Church" is not a place where you go to see a priest. The Church is the *people* and "worship" is one of its many activities (certainly the most important one) which can be done anywhere, anytime, with anyone of the Covenant.

What enabled the Welsh to preserve their ecclesiastical independence during the Middle Ages was the class of Druids known as "the Bards" (or also "the Culdees"). The Bards were their poets who orally preserved their respective family traditions and genealogies. (Gibson's *Braveheart* is a cinematic portrayal of how effectively Celtic poets have moved them.) In spite of the slaughter of scholars and the burning of their libraries, in spite of absorption by Anglo-Catholicism, there has always been a class of kinsmen who have known our Apostolic and Desposynic origins. Our collective soul, through the care of the angelic host, has been passed from generation to generation, and has been sufficiently confirmed by our genealogical records to justify reviving its dormant mission: **birthing the Millennial Kingdom.**[\[3\]](#)

The doctrines of the Covenant and Election are too meaty for most Christians to comprehend. I do not expect you to understand what I have just said. Americans are so used to a free-wheeling, huckster kind of Christianity, they accept anyone as catechumens and just about anyone as governing members. The Church of Apostolic times held to different standards. *It was a society of saints.* So was the Church of Cambria.

The Cambrian Church is family-oriented. For Celts, the life of the family clan has always been the center of social activity. It was so with matters of faith and worship, also. Every home could become a chapel; for worship was as natural as dinner, or sewing, or any other thing one did at home.

Why is it important that the Cambrian heritage be restored? I can think of three right off the top of my head.

**First**, it will restore the social structure for which Celts instinctively yearn: the village and the family clan. Many of our social problems stem from disconnected Celts who must try to cope with the modern, corporate structure of society. From hospitals to classrooms, from churches to courtrooms, from agribusiness to Wall Street - these are all soulless institutions alien to the Celtic love of the sacred: the sacred place, the sacred moment, the sacred bond.

**Second**, without it, there is no uniquely American heritage, and by "American", I mean Jeffersonian. Some years ago, it was a stunning revelation to learn that Thomas Jefferson, as President, laid legal claim to the North American continent on behalf of his countrymen based upon the strength of his Welsh ancestry (just as Queen Elizabeth I, a Tudor, had done in an earlier time to moot the claims of Spain and France). How was this possible?



Apparently, a number of North American Indian tribes were of Welsh extraction from pre-Columbian explorers and spoke Welsh dialects as proof. Legally then, they were extensions of the *free, Welsh nation* - which in Jefferson's mind, defeated the territorial claims of other European aristocracies, who, by Law of Nations, had to recognize the United States' prior and organic claims to the Continent. This was so because the United States was regarded as an heir of the pre-Columbian "Welsh" nation.[\[4\]](#)

Of course in later times, the Welsh origin of these sister Indian nations had to be consigned to myth to justify the American industrial empire (ala Hamilton), controlled, of course, by stockholders living in Europe. Jefferson's Manifest Destiny was perverted into a racial jingoism which provided the moral justification for European trade cartels to buy-up vast areas of American soil - a process continuing to this very day. First, the Indians were dispossessed; now we are.

Jefferson consciously attempted to revive the Cambrian heritage. He promoted the study of the Saxon tongue and the legal code of King Alfred the Great, which by Alfred's admission, was copied from the earlier Celts.[\[5\]](#) Jefferson promoted allodial land title, the abolition of primogeniture, local ownership of banks, agrarianism, a yeoman class, and a free Church in a free State - all expressions of the Cambrian heritage. If you want a picture of this tradition, you will find it in Jefferson, Virginia, and the Antebellum South - before it was corrupted by "King Cotton". Later, you will find it in the republicanism of 19th Century Ohio, another haven of Welsh emigration.[\[6\]](#)

The Cambro-American heritage is mistakenly called "Anglo-American". Jefferson also made this mistake when he began his investigations. But later, he discovered that even the Saxon tongue was taken by the Culdees and turned into a Celtic language. In the end Jefferson's model for America was defeated by Hamilton's. America has become a world empire, the successor of the British Empire. It has been a development corrosive to the American soul.

**Third**, American Protestantism is rootless and prey to manipulation by better organized religions. The state favors state religions. Without its roots, American Protestantism often succumbs to the Gnostic heresy, which creates an individual religion that is purely existential. No solitary individual is strong enough to resist the will of the state. Like Imperial Rome, the result is a *de facto* state religion wearing the faces of many denominations and cults, but all subservient to the policy of government rulers.

The idea of a Covenant People was the gift of the Cambrian Church. It has provided America with a distinct and unifying heritage which raised it above the Babel of discordant denominationalism and the intrusions of European priestcraft. Unfortunately, it has been secularized and turned into a tool for world empire. The answer is to relearn our heritage and to become "doers of the Word". World empire need not be so harmful if a true brotherhood emerges. This requires the abolition of usury, the observance of the Jubilee, legalizing the Biblical patterns of family life, and the practice of footwashing in Christian worship, among other things.[\[7\]](#)

If you are a person who wants to share in the ethnic Covenant of ancient Wales, you are welcome to contact us at [overseer@grailchurch.org](mailto:overseer@grailchurch.org) and we will provide you with more information.

A servant of Jesus,

James Wesley Stivers

Church Overseer

**Collect for the Day:**

*O God of all the nations of the earth: Remember the multitudes who have been created in thine image but have not known the redeeming work of our Savior Jesus Christ; and grant that, by the prayers and labors of thy holy Church, they may be brought to know and worship thee as thou hast been revealed in thy Son; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

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Footnotes:

**If you want to return to your place in the text, click on the number.**

[1] I am indebted to John and Sheila Rowlands' fine study on *The Surnames of Wales* (Genealogical Publishing Co., 1996). It contains a wealth of information and is very well done, as the list above indicates. The reader is urged to make this book your first purchase on Welsh genealogy by writing to 1001 N. Calvert St., Baltimore, MD 21202 or search Amazon.com for ISBN 0-8063-1516-4

[2] *Biblical Midwifery (Teacher's Edition)* by James Wesley Stivers (hardback, 8.5X11, 170 pages). \$30 postage paid from **Friends of the Cambrian Church, PO Box 8701, Moscow, ID 83843.**

[3] See titles made available on our [book page](#). Joseph Smith gained his initial converts from among the Welsh of upstate New York and Ohio. The unfulfilled Mormon experiment of Utah is an example of the powerful utopian disposition among the Welsh. America's heritage of communal experiments are very often traceable to Welsh influence. The ill-fated Branch Davidian experiment in Waco, Texas was led by a man with a Welsh surname: Vernon Howell (i.e. David Koresh).

[4] On this amazing story, see the Welsh Heritage Video documentary: "Wales and your Welsh Ancestry" 1992 (The Heritage Corporation, 8 Lower Baggot St., Dublin 2, Ireland, Tel. 353-1-766616). *The Ancient American* magazine is an on-going publication dedicated to the study of pre-Columbian "discoveries" of America. It can be ordered through most bookstores.

[5] See *The Holy Conspiracy: Christian Druidism & Cultural Alchemy* by James W. Stivers. [Booklist](#)

[6] See *The History of Oberlin College, 2 Volumes* by Robert Samuel Fletcher, (Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio, 1943). Perhaps the most influential American during the middle 19th Century was the revivalist, Charles G. Finney. Like Smith, his initial success began among the Welsh "Yankees" of upstate New York. He became the longtime President of Oberlin College, which in terms of student enrollment, was the largest college in the United States during the last half of the 19th Century. Through its annual flock of preachers, school teachers, and reformers, the upper Midwest became "Oberlinized". Theodore Roosevelt acknowledged that no Republican could become President of the United States without Oberlin's blessing. See also *Calvinists Incorporated: Welsh Immigrants on Ohio's Industrial Frontier* by Anne Kelly Knowles (University of Chicago, 1997). This work focuses on the Calvinist Methodists of southern Ohio. Note that "Calvinist Methodist" is an oxymoron; the Welsh have always been lovers of contradiction.

[7] See [Archives](#) for past Peshers on these topics.

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