

Book of Prophecies of Christopher Columbus, Messianic Jew – Original Manuscript with English/Hebrew Translation.

by Dr. Catherine Millard © 2015; 2019

Introduction

Author of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, Francis Bellamy, was pastor of the *First Baptist Church of Little Falls*, in upstate New York, serving as its pastor from 1879-1885. After graduating from the University of Rochester in 1876, Pastor Bellamy studied at *Rochester Theological Seminary*. He was ordained to the Gospel ministry and installed as pastor of this church in 1879. When Reverend Bellamy left Little Falls, he became pastor of the *Dearborn Street Baptist Church of Boston*. He subsequently became Advertising Editor of the weekly *Youth's Companion*. In 1892, while serving as the chairman of the *National Public School Celebration of Columbus Day*, on the occasion of the 400th Anniversary of Christopher Columbus' discovery of America (the New World), he penned the final draft of the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag. This beautiful Pledge was the result of many discussions between Reverend Bellamy and his superior, James B. Upham, and was designed to combat a growing movement aimed at destroying the national pride and patriotism of America's youth. It was first read, with fervor, at the dedication of the *Columbian World Fair* grounds in Chicago, on October 21, 1892.

It is interesting to note that in all my original research at the Library of Congress on Columbus' true identity, the discoverer of the New World was acclaimed nationwide as a great American hero during both 300th and 400th Anniversary celebrations, without a single opposing view. A widespread campaign to discredit Columbus' unparalleled accomplishments – and **Columbus Day** – originated with an *International Conference on Discrimination sponsored by the United Nations in 1977*¹ – a short 15 years preceding Columbus' 500th Anniversary! Columbus' discovery is called that of the "New World" – the continents of Europe, Asia and Africa being on the map – and known as the "Old World," whereas in 1492 the Western Hemisphere was not on the world map, and therefore unknown.

Columbus' *Book of Prophecies* reveals his true identity. His real name, early history books tell us, was Cristóbal Colón. Furthermore, he was a Messianic Jew. In the Preface to his book on the life and actions of Admiral Cristóbal Colón and his discovery of the New World, his son, Ferdinand Colon discloses his father's hidden identity. It is hereunder excerpted:

I being the son of Admiral Cristóbal Colón, a person worthy of eternal memory, who discovered the West Indies, and having myself sailed with him some time, it seemed to me but reasonable, that among the other things I have writ, one and the chiefest should be his life, and the wonderful discovery of the West Indies or New World;



Christopher Columbus – Discovery. Painting by Constantino Brumidi, 1859. The President's Room, United States Capitol. Photograph: © Christian Heritage Ministries.

because his great and continual sufferings, and the distempers he labored under, did not allow him time to form his notes and observations into a method fit for history...for this reason I resolved to undergo the labour of this task, thinking it better I should lie under the censure my skill and presumption shall be subject to, than to suffer the truth of what relates to so noble a person to lie buried in oblivion...I promise to compose the history of his life of such matter only as I find in his own papers and letters, and of those passages of which I myself was an eye-witness...The author informs the reader before he enters upon the work, that in it he will find all the reasons which induced the Admiral to such an undertaking; he will see how far he proceeded in person upon the discovery in four several voyages he made; how great and honourable the articles were upon which he entered into the discovery;...how basely they were all violated, and

he, after such unparalleled services, most inhumanly treated; how far he settled the affairs of the island Hispaniola, what care he took that the Indians should not be oppressed, but rather by good usage and example, prevailed upon to embrace the Christian faith; also the customs and manner of the Indians; their opinions and practice as to religious worship; and, in a word, all that can be expected in a work of this nature, the foundation whereof was laid by so great a man as was the Admiral, and finished by his own son, who had all the education that could contribute to make him capable of writing so notable a life...

I believe he was particularly chosen by Almighty God for so great an affair as that was he performed; and because he was to be so truly His apostle as, in effect he proved it was his will he should in this part be like the others, who were called to make known His Name from the seas and rivers, and not from courts and palaces, and to imitate himself, whose progenitors being of the blood royal of Jerusalem, yet it pleased Him that his parents should not be much known. Therefore, as God gave him all the personal qualities for such an undertaking, so He would have his country and origins more hid and obscure...His proper name being Christopher, it might be known he was a member of Christ, by whom salvation was to be conveyed to those people...so the Admiral Cristóbal Colón, imploring the assistance of Christ in that dangerous passage, went over safe himself and his company, that those Indian nations might become citizens and inhabitants of the Church

Triumphant in heaven; for it is believed that many souls which the devil had expected to make a prey of...were by him made inhabitants and dwellers in the eternal glory of heaven.²

Columbus' 1492 Journal commences, - "In the Name of Jesus Christ." An inserted note reads:

Having perfected all his preparations, Thursday, August 2, 1492, Cristóbal Colón ordered all his people to embark, and the next day, Friday, which was the 3rd of the same month of August, half an hour before sunrise, he ordered the sails raised and went out of the harbour and bar which is called Saltes, because that river of Palos is so named.

Of note, is that Columbus did not leave on August 2, 1492, that day being the Jewish Feast of *Tish Ha B' Av*, celebrated annually as a *Day of Fasting and Prayer*, to commemorate the destruction of the First and Second Temples in Jerusalem. August 2nd was also the final date on which all Jews were expelled from Spain, leaving their homes and possessions behind, under penalty of imprisonment and/or execution. As Jewish immigrants sailed from Palos to northern countries on August 2nd, so Christopher Columbus' three sailing vessels sailed westward to "unknown coastlands" on August 3rd; his discovery opening a New World, which later became an asylum for persecuted Jews during the Diaspora. In keeping with multiple Old Testament fulfilled prophecies, Israel miraculously became a sovereign nation in 1948, receiving back her "promised land" - Jerusalem and Israel being rebuilt to a large extent by American Jews!

The following prayer is said to have been uttered by Columbus as he stepped upon the first land found by him in the New World:

O Lord, Eternal and Almighty God, by thy sacred Word thou hast created the heavens, the earth, and the sea; blessed and glorified be thy Name, and praised be thy majesty, who hath deigned to use thy humble servant to make thy sacred Name known and proclaimed in this other part of the world.

Columbus' Journal records his first encounter with the Indians, with whom he established a good relationship, in order to bring them the gospel, as follows:

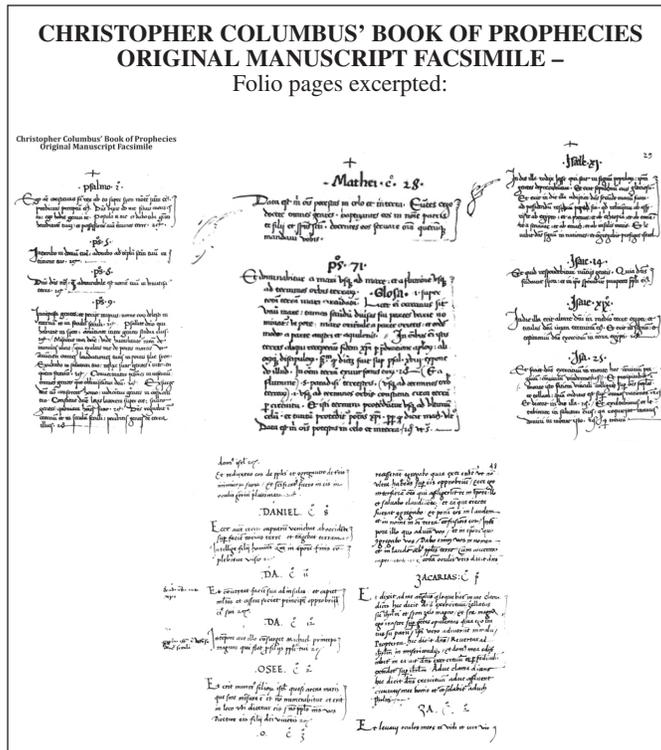
That they might feel great friendship for us and because I know they were a people who would better be freed and converted to our Holy Faith by love than by force - I gave them some red caps and some glass beads which they placed around their necks, and many other things of small value with which they were greatly pleased and were so friendly to us that it was wonderful. They afterwards came swimming to the two ships where we

were, and bringing us parrots and cotton thread wound in balls, and spears and many other things, and traded them with us for other things which we gave them, such as small glass beads and hawk's bells. Finally, they took everything and willingly gave what things they had. Further it appears to me that they were a very poor people, in everything. They all go naked as their mothers gave them birth, and the women also, although I only saw one of the latter who was very young, and all those whom I saw were very well built with very handsome bodies, and very good faces...They are all generally of good height, of pleasing appearance and well built: I saw some who had indications of wounds on their bodies and I asked them by signs if it was that, and they showed me that other people came there from other islands nearby and wished to capture them and they defended themselves: and I believed and believe that they came here from the Continental land to take

them captive. (They must be good servants and intelligent, as I see that they very quickly say all that is said to them), and I believe that they would easily become Christians, as it appeared to me that they had no sect...An old man came into the boat and the others called loudly to all the men and women: come and see the men who came from heaven: bring them something to eat and to drink. Many came and many women, each one with something, giving thanks to God, throwing themselves on the ground and lifting their hands toward heaven, and afterwards they called loudly to us to go to land: but I was afraid because of seeing a great reef of rocks which encircles all that island...³

A letter written by Columbus to Lord Raphael Sansix, dated May 3, 1493 is entitled, *Concerning the Islands lately Discovered*:

...But great and wonderful is this thing, neither attributable to our merits, but to the holy Christian faith, because what the human understanding was unable to attain, that thing the Divine understanding granted to human creatures. For God is accustomed to hearken to His servants, and those who love His precepts, even to the accomplishment of impossibilities, as it hath befallen us in the present case, who have accomplished those things, which hitherto the strength of mortals hath not attained. For if others have written or spoken anything of these Islands, all have done so by quibbles and conjectures, no one affirms that he has seen them. Whence the whole matter seemed almost a fable... Let us all give thanks to our Lord Jesus Christ the Saviour, who hath bestowed on us so great a triumph... Let Christ exult on earth, as He exults in Heaven, foreseeing as He does, that so many souls of people heretofore lost, are now about to be saved...⁴



Perhaps one of Christopher Columbus' most insightful and moving letters was the one he wrote from Jamaica on July 7, 1503 during his last voyage to America. It depicts his inner soul, his human frailty in perilous times, and God's timely help in the midst of tribulation. It is hereunder excerpted:

...In January the mouth of the river had closed. In April the ships were all worm-eaten and would not stay afloat. The river now formed a canal through which we drew three of them, empty, with greatest difficulty. The boats were sent in again for salt and water; the sea rose and became turbulent, which prevented their coming out. The Indians were many in number and began a battle which ended in slaughter. My brother and the other people were all in a ship that remained inside. I was outside, all alone, on that wild coast, with a high fever and utterly exhausted. All hope of escape had left me; I worked myself to the highest part of the ship, and with sobs and in tremulous tones called for help in every direction, but never an answer did I get. Worn out, I fell asleep groaning. A voice full of pity I heard saying: 'Oh, fool that thou art and slow to believe in and serve thy God, the Lord of all! What more did He do for Moses or for David His servant? Since the day of thy birth hath He ever watched over thee. When thou didst reach an age that seemed well to Him, marvelously He made thy name resound throughout the earth. The Indies, that are so rich a part of the world, He hath given thee for thine own. Thou didst distribute them as it pleased thee, and He gave thee power to do so. To the barriers of the seas that were closed with such mighty chains, hath He given thee the keys; and thou wast obeyed in so many lands and didst receive such just fame among Christians. What more did He do for the people of Israel when He took them out of Egypt? Or for David, who from a shepherd He made king of Judea? Turn to Him, and see thine error. His mercy is infinite; ... vast and many are the gifts that He can bestow. Abraham was more than one hundred years old when he begat Isaac; and Sarah, was she a young girl? Thou callest for uncertain help – answer: who has afflicted thee so greatly and so often, God, or the world? The privileges bestowed by the Lord are never taken away and His promises are never broken...His every promise is faithfully kept and fulfilled in overflowing measure...I have told thee what thy Creator hath done for thee, and what He doth for all of His children: now behold the reward that hath been thine for the dangers and hardships that thou hast suffered while serving others!' Thus in a dazed state did I listen; but I could make no answer to words so true except to weep for my errors. The speaker, whoever he might be, closed by saying: 'Fear not; have faith; all thy tribulations are written upon marble, and not without cause'...⁵

The above depicts a humble man who knew God, and whose purpose in life was to serve Him. What rich biblical history can be traced to the year of our Lord 1492, when Cristóbal Colón brought the gospel to America.

Columbus' signature is encased in a triangular pattern, with the names of Almighty God – **El Shaddai (Almighty God); Adonai (Lord God)** abbreviated, written above his signature, Christopher Ferens (Christ-bearer): "**Xpo Ferens**" – "Xpo" (denoting "Christ" in Greek) and "Ferens" (meaning "Bearer" in Spanish) was meant to

represent Columbus as the Christ-bearer.

.S.	El Shaddai (Almight God).
.S A S	El Shaddai; Adonai (Lord God); El Shaddai.
X M Y	Jesus, Mary, Joseph.
: Xpo FERENS /	Christ-bearer.

Even in his final instructions to his son Don Diego, he desired to further the gospel to the lost. His famed *Mayorazgo* (Testament of Founding Hereditary Family Estate), dated Thursday, 22nd February, 1498, gives these directions for maintaining and sustaining a Christian school on the Island of Espanola:

Also, I order to said Don Diego, my son, or to him who will inherit said *mayorazgo*, that he shall help to maintain and sustain on the Island Espanola four good teachers of the holy theology, and when it pleases God that the income of the *mayorazgo* will increase, that then also be increased the number of such devoted persons who will help all these people to become Christians. And may he not worry about the money that it will be necessary to spend for the purpose.⁶

Columbus' original *Book of Prophecies* manuscript, which lay practically unknown and obscure in the *Biblioteca Colombina* of the Cathedral of Seville for five centuries, is today their most valuable manuscript. It proves that his primary allegiance was to God and not to gold, as some modern-day history books have indicated. His vision and burden remained the same – "that the gospel must be preached to so many lands in such a short time," as he states in his ***Book of Prophecies' Introduction:***

Folio 4

"At a very early age I began to sail upon the ocean. For more than forty years I have sailed everywhere that people go. I prayed to the most merciful Lord about my heart's great desire, and He gave me the spirit and the intelligence for the task: seafaring, astronomy, geometry, arithmetic, skill in drafting spherical maps and placing correctly the cities, rivers, mountains and ports. I also studied cosmology, history, chronology and philosophy.

It was the Lord who put into my mind, (I could feel His hand upon me) the fact that it would be possible to sail from here to the Indies. All who heard of my project rejected it with laughter; ridiculing me. There is no question that the inspiration was from the Holy Spirit, because he comforted me with rays of marvelous illumination from the Holy Scriptures, a strong and clear testimony from the forty-four books of the Old Testament, from the four gospels, and from the twenty-three Epistles of the blessed Apostles, encouraging me continually to press forward, and without ceasing for moment they now encourage me to make haste.

Our Lord Jesus desired to perform a very obvious miracle in the voyage to the Indies, to comfort me and the whole people of God. I spent seven years in the royal court, discussing the matter with many persons

Folio 4 rvs

of great reputation and wisdom in all the arts; and in the end they concluded that it was all foolishness, so they gave it up. But since things generally came to pass that were predicted by our Saviour Jesus Christ, we should also believe that this particular prophecy will come to pass. In support of this, I offer the gospel text, Matthew 24: 35, in which Jesus said that all things would pass away, but not His marvelous Word. He also affirmed that it was necessary that all things be fulfilled that were prophesied by himself and by the

prophets.

I said that I would state my reasons: I hold alone to the sacred and Holy Scriptures, and to the interpretations of prophecy given by certain devout persons.

It is possible that those who see this book will accuse me of being unlearned in literature, of being a layman and a sailor. I reply with the words of Matthew 11:25: "Lord, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hath revealed them unto babes."

Folio 5

The Holy Scripture testifies in the Old Testament by our Redeemer Jesus Christ, that the world must come to an end. The signs of when this must happen are given by Matthew, Mark and Luke. The prophets also predicted many things about it.

Our Redeemer, Jesus Christ said that before the end of the world, all things must come to pass that had been written by the prophets.

Most of the prophecies of Holy Scripture have been fulfilled already...I am a most unworthy sinner, but I have cried out to the Lord for grace and mercy, and they have covered me completely. I have found the sweetest consolations since I made it my whole purpose to enjoy His marvelous presence.

For the execution of the journey to the Indies I did not make use of intelligence, mathematics or maps. It is simply the fulfillment of what Isaiah had prophesied. All this is what I desire to write down for you in this book.

No one should fear to undertake any task in the name of our Saviour, if it is just and if the intention is purely for His holy service. The working out of all things has been assigned to each person by our Lord, but it all happens according to His sovereign will, even though He gives advice.

Folio 6

He lacks nothing that it is in the power of men to give him. Oh what a gracious Lord, who desires that people should perform for Him those things for which He holds Himself responsible! Day and night, moment by moment, everyone should express to Him their most devoted gratitude.

I said that some of the prophecies remained yet to be fulfilled. These are great and wonderful things for the earth, and the signs are that the Lord is hastening the end. The fact that the gospel must still be preached to so many lands in such a short time – this is what convinces me."⁷

As Cristóbal Colón's *Book of Prophecies*' Scripture quotations are taken from the Latin Bible, for the purpose of accuracy I utilized the 1609 (Old Testament), and 1582 (New Testament) first translations of the Latin Bible into English, housed in the Rare Book Collection of the Library of Congress. Columbus' inclusion of a letter from Rabbi Samuel of Israel* (a Messianic Jew), witnessing to Rabbi Isaac of the Synagogue of Morocco (later to become a Messianic Jew), sheds further light on the Jewish roots of Cristóbal Colón.

I have placed hereunder some of Columbus' Book of Prophecies folio pages for the purpose of this excerpted section from my book, *Book of Prophecies of Christopher Columbus, Messianic Jew*: (see, page 6)

- ¹ Quoted from USA Today 10/14/2019 article, *Columbus Day – or Is It Indigenous Peoples Day?*
- ² Columbus, Ferdinand. *The History of the Life and Actions of Admiral Cristóbal Colón, and of his Discovery of the West Indies, called the New World*. Written by his own son, Don Ferdinand Colon. *Author's Preface*. Rare Book Collection of the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
- ³ Columbus, Christopher. *Original Manuscript Journal, 1492, of Cristóbal Colón*. Rare Book Collection of the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
- ⁴ Columbus, Christopher. *Concerning the Islands lately Discovered. The Epistle of Cristóbal Colón to Lord Raphael Sansix, Treasurer of King Ferdinand of Spain. May 3, 1493*. Rare Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
- ⁵ Columbus, Christopher. *Translation of Manuscript copy of a letter written by Cristóbal Colón to the King and Queen of Spain, dated on the Island of Jamaica, July 7, 1503*. Rare Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
- ⁶ *Who Was Christopher Columbus? Letter from Don Cristóbal Colón to his son, Don Diego, published by the Duchess of Berwick y Alba*. New York: The Research Publishing Company, 1933, p. 32.
- ⁷ Kling, August J., Ph.D., *Columbus – A layman Christ-bearer to Uncharted Isles*. English Translation from Spanish of Christopher Columbus' Book of Prophecies Introduction. Published in *The Presbyterian Layman*. October, 1971.

*Nicholas of Lyra, ca. 1270-1340, the greatest Hebraic scholar of his time.