

THE  
**Glorious Progress**  
OF THE  
**G O S P E L,**  
AMONGST THE  
**Indians in New England.**

MANIFESTED

By three Letters, under the Hand of that  
famous Instrument of the Lord Mr. JOHN ELIOT,  
And another from Mr. Thomas Mayhew Jun: both Preachers of  
the Word, as well to the English as Indians in New England.

WHEREIN

The riches of God's Grace in the effectual calling of  
many of them is cleared up: As also a manifestation of the hungering  
desires of many People in sundry parts of that Country after the  
more full Revelation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, to the  
exceeding Consolation of every Christian Reader.

TOGETHER,

With an Appendix to the foregoing Letters, holding  
forth Conjectures, Observations, and Applications.

By J.D. Minister of the Gospel.

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Mal. 1:11. *From the rising of the Sun, even unto the going down of the same, my Name shall be great among the Gentiles, and in ever place incense shall be offered unto my Name, and a pure Offering; for my Name shall be great among the Heathen, saith the Lord of Hosts.*

LONDON, Printed for Hannah Allen in Pope's Head Alley. 1649.

TO THE  
RIGHT HONORABLE  
THE  
Parliament of England  
AND THE COUNCIL  
OF STATE.

Right Honorable,

That former narrative called, *The Clear Sunshine of the Gospel, Breaking for Upon the Indians in New England*<sup>1</sup>; dedicated to your Honors by divers reverend and eminent ministers of the Gospel in and about the City of London, found such acceptance in your House, as it begat a debate amongst yourselves, how the Parliament of England might be serviceable to the Lord Jesus, to help forward such a work begun; which conduced so abundantly to the glory of God, and good of men in the salvation of their souls. And in order thereunto your Honors were pleased to refer it to the Committee of Foreign Plantations, to prepare and bring in an ordinance for the encouragement and advancement of learning and piety in New England, as appeareth by your order March 17, 1647. This Honorable Committee with great readiness and cheerfulness took it into their serious consideration, and presented the result of their mature debates to this Honorable House: but so many and weighty have been the occasions and businesses of the House, that however the nature of the work and my duty (being appointed agent though unworthy) on the behalf of New England to this Parliament: yet durst not press too hard to interrupt the great affairs of your Honors have been in hand withal. Nevertheless, I do now crave leave, humbly to acquaint you, that what was then judged deficient in the power granted to the feoffes in that ordinance, is since corrected and amended, and attendeth your Honors' leisure for completing and finishing the same.

Undoubtedly the common enemy of man's salvation hath rejoiced that this work so happily begun, hath not as yet received that countenance and encouragement from hence, which your Honors intended and resolved many months since. Nevertheless, I trust the most wise God hath turned this appearing loss into gain, by affording your Honors and the nation a more clear account of the real and glorious progress of the Gospel among those poor Indians of America, by such intelligence I very lately received from thence, under the hands of those reverend and learned ministers, which are principally employed in preaching the Gospel to them in their own language. And as I am daily and earnestly called upon to publish the same, that the whole nation may be acquainted therewith: so I took it to be my duty to present it in the first place to this Honorable House, and the Council of State; that your Honors might perceive how these poor creatures cry out for help; Oh come unto us, teach us the knowledge of God, tarry longer with us, come and dwell amongst us, at least depart not so soon from us. And others of them whose dwellings are near the habitations of the English, (whose hearts God hath touched) calling for

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<sup>1</sup> Shepard, Thomas. *The Clear Sun-Shine of the Gospel breaking forth upon the Indians in New-England, Or, An Historical narration of Gods wonderfull workings upon sundry of the Indians, ...* (London: R. Cotes for J. Bellamy, 1648).

and demanding a free and full participation of all the ordinances of Jesus Christ. All which, and much more is evidently held forth in the following narrative, which I have with all faithfulness collected and transcribed, according as I received the same from persons that were actors therein, and are of known integrity.

There are two great questions Right Honorable, which have much troubled ancient and modern writers, and men of greatest depth and ability to resolve: the first, what became of the ten tribes of Israel, that were carried into captivity by the King of Syria, when their own country and cities were planted and filled with strangers? The second is, what family, tribe, kindred, or people it was that first planted, and afterwards filled that vast and long unknown country of America? Now however I confess questions are sooner asked than resolved; yet let me acquaint your Honors, that a godly minister of this City writing to Rabbi ben Israel, a great Dr. of the Jews, now living at Amsterdam, to know whether after all their labor, travels, and most diligent enquiry, they did yet know what was become of the ten tribes of Israel? His answer was to this effect, if not in these words, that they were certainly transported into America, and that they had infallible tokens of their being there. Unto which if I may take the boldness to add what myself, with many others in New England have observed in the practice of the Indians there, in relation to some things enjoined in the ceremonial Law of Moses, about the purification of women, which no men at this day do observe, nor beside the Jews were ever known in that strictness to observe, as these Indians there daily do: as also if the principles of the most grave and sober amongst them, not only in reference to a deity, the soul of man, the immortality of the soul, and an eternity after death in happiness or misery; but also their manifold daily expressions, bewailing the loss of that knowledge their ancestors had about God, and the way of his Worship; the general deluge, and of one man only that ever saw God, which they hold forth to be a long time since, (even with the greatest expression of length of time that may be) which certainly I believe to be Moses. As also if many other circumstances well known to many, (but not fit to be at large expressed in any epistle) be duly considered, it is not less probable that these Indians should come from the stock of Abraham, than any other nation this day known in the world: especially considering the juncture of time wherein God hath opened their hearts to entertain the Gospel, being nigh the very years, in which many eminent and learned divines, have from Scripture grounds, according to their apprehensions foretold the conversion of the Jews. However Right Honorable, the work of communicating and entertaining the light of the Gospel is glorious in reference to Jews and Gentiles. And as God hath set a signal mark of his presence upon your Assembly, in strengthening your hands to redeem and preserve the evil rights of the Commonwealth: so doubtless may it be a comfortable support to your Honors in any future difficulties, to contemplate, that as the Lord offered you (in this design) an happy opportunity to enlarge and advance the territories of his Son's Kingdom: so he hath not denied you (as I am confident he will not) an heart to improve the same; and in as much as lies in you to make all the nations of the Earth, the Kingdoms of the Lord, and of his Christ; that so your Honors may still preserve your interest in his favor, which is and shall be the prayers of

Your Honor's most humble servant,

EDWARD WINSLOW.