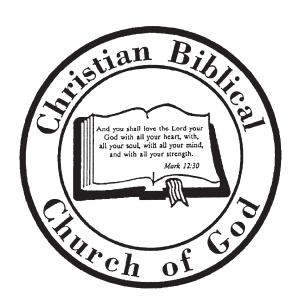
Fall Feasts 2023



Transcript Book

By Fred R. Coulter

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2023 Fall Feasts

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Compact Disc

Feast of Trumpets 2023 - The Three Phases of the Return of Jesus Christ

Day of Atonement 2023 - Children of God vs Children of the Devil

Welcome Message 2023 – Why We Keep the Feast of Tabernacles

Day 1 — The Everlasting Kingdom

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Day 4 — Judge Righteous Judgment I—God is Judge!

Day 5 — Judge Righteous Judgment II

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Day 7 — The Mystery of Gog and Magog

The Great Mystery of God Revealed (Last Great Day)

The Three Phases of the Return of Jesus Christ

(Feast of Trumpets)

Fred R. Coulter—September 16, 2023

Greetings, brethren, welcome to the Feast of Trumpets! This is the day that the world needs, and all Christians have been praying for, and it's going to save the world, but the world is going to fight against it!

Let's see how that works! As you know, all the Holy Days are listed in sequence according to the Calculated Hebrew Calendar in Lev. 23:

God has put them there so that those who know the Word of God will understand. Those who don't know the Word of God will not understand.

Leviticus 23:23: "And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying."

These are the words of God, so if anyone wants to know what God wants, all you have to do is read what He has said. Most people aren't willing to do that, and most people aren't willing to believe that! But that's how we are able to understand what God is doing.

- not because we're great
- not because we're more intelligent
- not because we have anything special beyond any other human being

except that

- we have the Holy Spirit of God
- we believe God

He spoke it and these are His words, and they are to us!

Verse 24: "Speak to the children of Israel saying, 'In the seventh month, in the first *day* of the month, you shall have a Sabbath, a memorial of blowing of ram's horns... [and silver trumpets (Num. 10)] ...a Holy convocation."

God wants us to come together, because with this we're taught what we need to look to in the way of how God is going to fulfill His Word, and why we are here!

Verse 25: "You shall do no servile work *therein* but you shall offer an offering made by fire to the LORD."

Today we don't make offerings by fire, but we take up an offering. If you made an offering made by fire, you bring in a nice young bullock or a lamb or a goat. Think of the Feast with that! Think of the cost of it, if you look at it cost-wise especially in today's markets when you go the store and see how much everything costs. You can't pay for the grinding of meat, it's too expensive.

Let's see what God says about the blowing of trumpets, then we will see that this is talking, on the Feast of Trumpets, about the return of Christ. When we bring an offering, we bring it because we love God and we want to obey God and do His will. When the Church receives it, it must be handled according to the way that God wants it done:

- to serve the brethren
- to preach the Gospel
- to publish the Gospel
- to provide for the brethren the things that they need to grow in grace and knowledge

The whole object of everything that God is doing is contained in Matt. 10. it sufficient that the disciple—that's us—become as the Teacher—that's Christ!

What is it that we're supposed to have with Christ? *The mind of Christ!* The mind of Christ with the Holy Spirit gives us understanding.

Numbers 10:1: "And the LORD spoke to Moses saying, 'Make two trumpets of silver for yourself. You shall make them of beaten work. And they shall be used for **the calling of the assembly** and for the journeying of the camps'" (vs 1-2).

What we're going to see is that on the Feast of Trumpets, they had a memorial of blowing of trumpets from sunrise to sunset. But all of the functions of Num. 10 will be fulfilled in the Feast of Trumpets when Christ returns!

"... the calling of the assembly..."—what is that assembly? We will see that we get ready to come back to the earth with Christ! Also, the bringing of all of the nations together to fight against Christ and the saints.

Verse 3: "And when they shall blow with them, all the assembly shall gather themselves to you at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation. And if they blow with one, then the leaders *who are* heads of the thousands of Israel shall gather themselves to you. When you blow an alarm, then the camps that lie on the east parts shall set out" (vs

3-5). So, God had a marching order!

Think about this: the Feast of Trumpets is the call of alarm!

- Are we not going to be organized in what we need to do by being on the Sea of Glass from Pentecost until Trumpets?
- Did God not have it all organized how they should march and where they should go, and how the battle should be?

If He did that with the children of Israel in the wilderness, think about what He's going to do in taking over the world!

It's got to be organized! We have to know what we're going to do, as we pointed out on the Day of Pentecost.

Verse 6: "When you blow an alarm the second time, then the camps that lie on the south side shall set out. They shall blow an alarm for their journeys. But when the congregation is to be gathered, you shall blow, but you shall not sound an alarm. And the sons of Aaron, the priests, shall blow with the silver trumpets. And they shall be to you for an ordinance forever throughout your generations." (vs 6-8).

Verse 9: "And if you go to war in your land against the enemy who attacks you, then you shall blow with the silver trumpets.... [also the ram's horn] ...And you shall be remembered before the LORD your God, and you shall be saved from your enemies. Also in the day of your gladness, **and in your appointed Feasts**..." (vs 9-10). Remember:

- the trumpet sounded on Pentecost
- the 7th trump is blown on Pentecost
- the resurrection takes place on Pentecost

"...and in the beginnings of your months, you shall blow with the silver trumpets over your burnt offerings, and over the sacrifices of your peace offerings, so that they may be to you for a memorial before your GOD. I am the LORD your God" (v 10).

There are all the instructions, and these—in type—will be fulfilled on the Feast of Trumpets at the return of Jesus Christ.

Since we are take up an offering on the Day of Trumpets, let's take a break and take up the offering.

(pause for the offering)

Brethren, thank you very much for your offering, and as you know, we use it the way God wants us to use it. We give a report every year from our outside accountant for everything that is done

with the money that you send in.

As I've mentioned before, we have no debts, we pay no interest and we pay everything in cash or whatever form of currency that comes in: cash, check or digital. But they're all paid.

Let's understand something concerning the Feast of Trumpets. The Feast of Trumpets is shown in the book of Revelation, which pictures the return of Jesus Christ.

The seventh trump, which is blown on Pentecost, pictures the resurrection. The return of Jesus Christ is not going to come all at once, because *God is interested in repentance*, that we all come to repentance before Him!

But for the world, it's going to be the confrontation of God with all of the kingdoms of the world. As we have pointed out, the book of Isaiah especially has so many things that are scattered concerning all the prophecies that take place in the Bible that you have to know and understand the sequence of the Holy Days in order to understand when these days come.

Here in Isa. 2, the first part has to do with the setting up of the Kingdom of God on earth and the beginning of the Millennium. Then it goes backward to the time when the Feast of Trumpets is being fulfilled and we'll read what happens with all of the nations. *Here's what God says*:

Isaiah 2:8: "And their land is full of idols; they worship the work of their own hands, that which their own fingers have made."

Think about that! Isn't that true, everything that we have? Yes, indeed!

Verse 9: "And men will be brought low, and humbled—forgive them not."

There will be a lot of people who won't repent at that time. Here's one we will see a little later on that is brought out in Rev. 6.

Verse 10: "Enter into the rock and hide in the dust for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of His majesty." *They're going to see it!*

Every eye is going to see it for a longer period of time than the world would ever imagine. They're going to have plenty of time to think about what's going to happen. What's going to happen on this day is:

Verse 11: "The lofty looks of man shall be humbled, and the pride of men shall be bowed down, and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day, <u>for</u> the Day of the LORD of hosts shall be upon every

proud and haughty one..." (vs 11-12).

We have seen that, looking at some of the things that this world elite are planning in their takeover of the world, which is exemplified by the prophecy in Rev. 13 with the two beasts!

"...and upon every exalted one; and they shall be brought low...the beast who says—before he's brought low—'I'm God'] and it shall be upon all the high and lifted up cedars of Lebanon, and upon all the oaks of Bashan... [all the leaders and their armies, symbolically speaking] ...and upon all the high mountains, and upon all the hills that are lifted up, and upon every high tower, and upon every fortified wall; and upon all the ships of Tarshish, and upon all pleasurable craft" (vs 12-16).

The Day of the Lord no one is going to escape!

Verse 17: "And the pride of man shall be bowed down... [isn't going to get the anywhere] ...and the haughtiness of men shall be made low... [Why?]: ...and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day."

What are they going to do? Once they find out their god—the beast—and all of the armies, all of their idols couldn't save them! Just like it says in Isa. 40 and other places where it says that anyone who makes an idol is stupid!

Verse 18: "And the idols He shall utterly abolish."

Now, here's what's going to happen, and here's how they're going to humble themselves and we'll see why that will take place because this earth and the heavens are going to be shaken like never before.

Verse 19: "And they shall go into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves of the earth for fear of the LORD and for the glory of His majesty, when He arises to shake *terribly* the earth."

Let's understand this: All of this was written in the $800s_{B.C.}$ This tells us that we're looking pretty close to 3,000 years!

- Is the Word of God true?
- Will it always happen?
- Yes, indeed!

But there would be a lot of people who would read this and say that 'this was written back in the $800s_{B.C.}$ and that never happened! Well, that doesn't mean *it won't!* This is a prophecy!

Verse 20: "In that day a man shall cast his

idols of silver, and his idols of gold, which they made *each one* for himself to worship, to the moles and to the bats; to go into the clefts of the rocks, and into the tops of the ragged rocks, for fear of the LORD and for the glory of His majesty, **when He arises to shake** *terribly* **the earth**" (vs 20-21). We're going to see that He's going to:

- shake the heavens
- shake the earth
- shake the dry ground
- shake all the oceans

This day is going to be such an awesome day in the fulfillment of it!

Remember that in the fulfillment of prophecy, a day is a year, and sometimes even a little bit more. But every one of these prophecies we just read in Isa. 2 you find fulfilled in the book of Revelation.

Jer. 25 is profound because this means that God is bringing this upon the whole world. No nation is going to escape! No place of safety is going to be safe, except that one little place a few of the saints are to preserve the Word of God, that the Church would never die out. But all the rest of the world is going to be effected by this.

Jeremiah was given a vision and he was given a cup of the wrath of God. He was to take it to every nation that is listed in Jer. 25, but that is symbolic of all the nations of the world at the endtime. It talks about one king in particular. Let's see what's going to happen. This day, remember, *no one is going to escape!* All the saints will be up on the Sea of Glass.

When all of these events happen—at a certain point we'll be resurrected and be on the Sea of Glass—a lot of these things refer to the seven last plagues, as we find in Rev. 16.

Jeremiah 25:26: "And all the kings of the north, far and near, one with another, and all the kingdoms of the world, which are on the face of the earth; and the king of Sheshach shall drink after them." This is drinking of the wrath of God!

Verse 27: "Therefore, you shall say to them, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, 'Drink and be drunk, and vomit, and fall, and rise no more because of the sword, which I will send among you. And it shall come to pass if they refuse to take the cup at your hand to drink, then you shall say to them, "Thus says the LORD of hosts, 'You shall certainly drink"" (vs 27-28).

How about that for being thorough and

complete!

Verse 29: "For, lo, I begin to bring evil on the city, which is called by My name..."—

Jerusalem!

This is when all of this starts to unfold. When the King of the North comes down against the King of the South and then enters into the Holy Place in the temple that's going to be built, and he calls himself 'God' this is when it starts!

That brings in the Tribulation, which the total amount of time is 3-1/2 years, and it's divided up into certain segments that we will see here in a bit. So, the LORD says to the rest of the world, 'If I start with My city, Jerusalem:

"...shall you go unpunished? You shall not go unpunished. For I will call for a sword on all the inhabitants of the earth,' says the LORD of hosts" (v 29).

- You want a fight?
- You want a war?

Watch out when you fight against God! The sword of the Lord is swift, sharp and powerful!

Verse 30: "And prophesy against them all these words, and say to them, 'The LORD shall roar from on high, and utter His voice from His Holy habitation. He shall mightily roar over His dwelling place. He shall give a shout, like those who tread out *grapes*, against all the people of the earth."

Think about this: the finality of all of this we are going to see when we're on that Sea of Glass. All that takes place leading up to it is going to be awesome indeed in itself and according to the Word of God. Here's why:

Verse 31: "A noise shall come to the ends of the earth; for the LORD has a controversy with the nations... [every nation on earth] ...He will plead with all flesh..."

That's what it is, and these things come in hopes that there will be some repentance; and yes, we will see that there is some repentance.

"...He will give those *who are* wicked to the sword," says the LORD" (v 31).

Verse 32: "Thus says the LORD of hosts, 'Behold, evil shall go forth from nation to nation... [it's going to encompass the whole world] ...and a great whirlwind shall be stirred up from the farthest corners of the earth. And the slain of the LORD shall be at that day from *one* end of the earth even to the *other* end of the earth; they shall not be mourned, nor gathered, nor buried. They shall be *as* dung on

the ground" (vs 32-33).

Why? Because they have all followed Satan the devil, and they have all rejected the Truth of God! Notice how He blames the shepherds:

Verse 34: "Howl, you shepherds, and cry; and wallow yourselves in the ashes, you lords of the flock! For the days of your slaughter and of your scatterings are fulfilled; and you shall fall like a choice vessel."

Think about that, all you wondrous ministers on Day Star and TBN, the pope, all the cardinals, bishops and everything else, pay attention, because it's coming on you like never before!

Verse 35: "And the shepherds shall have no way to flee, nor the lords of the flock to escape. A voice of the cry of the shepherds, and a howling of the lords of the flock *shall be heard*; for the LORD has spoiled their pasture" (vs 35-36).

Just because God takes a long time to come to this place doesn't mean it won't occur exactly as God has said.

Verse 37: "And the peaceful pastures are cut down because of the fierce anger of the LORD. Like the lion, He has left His den; for their land is wasted because of the fierceness of the oppressing sword, and because of His fierce anger" (vs 37-38).

Read the book of Ezekiel; it talks about the *encirclement of doom!* That's what's going to happen!

Let's see how else this is going to occur. This power and return of Christ to the earth, and the setting up of the Government of God is such a fantastic and awesome thing, and it's scattered throughout the Bible. When you put it all together and put all of these Scriptures and then tie it in with the book of Revelation, then you get a full scope of what's going to happen.

Remember that Jesus said, 'As in the days of Noah, before the Flood, so shall it be in the days of the coming of the Son of man. What did God do? *He destroyed all flesh!* Isa. 40 is quite a chapter. You read this and you will see how much of the way that book of Isaiah is written. Different parts from different timeframes in the fulfilling of Scripture are placed in different places. It has to be as we have covered, *rightly divided and put together in order to understand it!*

Isaiah 40:3: "A voice is calling out in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God."

A type of that fulfillment was John the Baptist, but then it goes right into the end, right where it is when God says that He's going shake the heavens and shake the earth!

Verse 4: "Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low; and the crooked places shall be made straight, and the rough places plain; **and the glory of the LORD shall be revealed...**" (vs 4-5).

We will see that as the sign of the Son of man! The whole world is going to see this, because the return of Jesus Christ happens in three phases, as we will see. Not all at once! Why does God do it that way? Because He's interested in repentance!

"...and all flesh... [those who are alive at that time] ...shall see *it* together; **for the mouth of the LORD has spoken**" (v 5).

Think about that for a minute! <u>Whatever</u> <u>God says will be, because He's God!</u> When He speaks it, He means it! Let's see what's going to happen to the earth. Remember that it's to *all* the nations that are upon the face of the whole earth.

Isn't it interesting that we have all the means of communication today to do that, as far as other people seeing it visually? *Yes!* But when God does it, coming from the heavens, the whole world is going to see it. These are really some powerful Scriptures here:

Isaiah 24:1: "Behold, the LORD makes the earth empty and makes it waste, and turns it upside down..."

How He's going to do that we don't know. That can be done by just changing the poles, and they know that that's been done a couple of times.

"...and scatters its inhabitants. And as *it is* with the people, so it shall be with the priest; as with the slave, so with the master; as with the handmaid, so it is with her mistress; as with the buyer, so with the seller; as with the lender, so with the borrower; as with the creditor, so with the debtor. The earth shall be completely laid waste..." (vs 1-3).

That's going to happen, because everything of man must be destroyed! Think about all the things that men have done to make caves, have secret places. Well, when God shakes the whole earth He's going to crush all of those to nothing, because they were dens of iniquity for demons and Satan!

"...and utterly stripped; for the LORD has spoken this word. The earth mourns *and* languishes; the world withers *and* languishes; the proud people of the earth wither" (vs 3-4). Yes, it's going to be a

day of great humiliation!

Verse 5: "And the earth is defiled..."

That's what's happening right now; that's why we're having all the difficulties we are, wherever you look in the world! There are problems, crisis, droughts, economic factors and perversions, like I have covered with the sexualization of the world trying to make it just like Sodom and Gomorrah! That punishment is going to come as never before!

Verse 5: "And the earth is defiled under its people; because they have <u>transgressed the Laws</u>... [Laws of God] ...<u>changed the ordinance</u>..."

We have Sunday. Aren't we wonderful people, we only defy God and forget His Sabbath. But you come with us and have a good time every Sunday morning because we're good people.

That's coming to an end!

"...<u>and have broken the everlasting covenant</u>" (v 5).

When you break a covenant death is prescribed! That's why all of this is coming!

Verse 6: "Therefore, the curse has devoured the earth, and they who dwell in it are desolate; therefore, the people of the earth are burned, and <u>few men are left</u>." Few compared to what it started out at the beginning! Everything will be eliminated!

Verse 7: "The new wine mourns, the vine withers, all the merry-hearted sigh. The gladness of tambourines ceases, the noise of those who rejoice ends; the joy of the lyre ceases. They shall not drink wine with a song; strong drink shall be bitter to those who drink it. The city of shame is broken down; every house is shut up so that no one may come in" (vs 7-10). Everything comes to an end!

Verse 19: "The earth is broken, yea broken down! The earth is crumbling, yea crumbling to pieces! The earth is tottering, yea tottering!"—in its orbit!

The power of shaking the earth is going to be so mighty!

Verse 20: "Like a drunkard the earth is staggering, yea staggering! And it rocks to and fro like a tree hut! And its transgressions are heavy upon it; and it shall fall and not rise again."

Just because the wicked prosper for a while does not mean that God is not paying attention. He is! But He's going to take care of it in His way and in His time! That's why we have the Feast of

Trumpets!

Verse 21: "And it shall come to pass in that day, the LORD shall punish the host of the high ones *that are* on high..."

- all of the elite
- all of those who worship Satan the devil
- all of the billionaires
- all of those who said that they are going to make this world a better world
- all of those who said they knew how to do
 it

'We're going enslave everyone of you and make you serf and vassals under our feet!'

"...and the kings of the earth upon the earth. And they shall be gathered, *as* prisoners are gathered in a dungeon. And they shall be shut up in the prison, and after many days they shall be punished. Then the moon shall be confounded, and the sun shall be ashamed, for the LORD of hosts shall reign in Mount Zion, in Jerusalem, and gloriously before His elders" (vs 21-23).

There's a glorious end to it! We know, because the Feast of Tabernacles is coming!

(break@38:55)

We are one year closer to the return of Christ!

Isa. 13 is quite a chapter! You tie all those sections together that we have covered and that tells you that God means what He says. Sin has a great penalty to be paid. That's why *God is interested in repentance!*

We will see even though the thick of all of this that's going on, that's what God is interested in. how much moreso for us every day:

- as we grow in grace and knowledge
- as we come to understand the Word of God
- as we get closer and closer to the return of Christ
- as we see all of these things happening around us everywhere
 - we've got to be strong in the Lord
 - we've got to know and have that confidence

God is the only One Who can solve these problems, and it must be done <u>God's</u> way! But there must be the punishment of the sinners who have caused it!

Isaiah 13:6: "Howl! For the Day of the LORD *is* at hand; it shall come as a destruction from the Almighty. Therefore, all hands shall be faint, and every man's heart shall melt" (vs 6-7).

They will realize that they are just flesh and blood!

Verse 8: "And they shall be afraid. Pangs and sorrows shall take hold of them. They shall be in pain like a woman who travails. They shall be amazed at one another, their faces are *like* blazing fire."

In other words, it's so startling that it's incredible to understand.

Verse 9: "Behold, the Day of the LORD comes, cruel both *with* wrath and fierce anger, to make the earth a desolation; and He shall destroy the sinners out of it... [look what's going to happen, we will see how this is going to be in the book of Revelation] ...for the stars of the heavens and their constellations shall not give light; the sun shall be darkened in its going forth, and the moon shall not reflect its light" (vs 9-10).

Notice v 11 and realize that whenever there is pleasure in sin for a season, punishment is on its way! It's going to come in a way before the Day of the Lord upon all of those who sin that they don't expect! When it comes with the Day of the Lord, there is going to be nothing that any man or woman can do except *repent or die!*

Verse 11: "And I will punish the world for *their* evil..."

Think about that and go back and think about what it was before the days of the Flood, that every thought of the imagination of the heart of everyone was only evil continually!

"...and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogancy of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the tyrants. I will make man more scarce than gold; even man more than the fine gold of Ophir. Therefore, I will shake the heavens, and the earth shall move out of its place, in the wrath of the LORD of hosts, and in the day of His fierce anger" (vs 11-13). That's going to come!

Let's set the stage on the timing at this point. What is going to happen. We know from Dan. 9 that there's a last 7-year period called the 70th week. In that week, each day is a year in fulfillment. The first 3-1/2 days will look like all men are going to solve all of their problems and everything is going to be fine.

Then in the middle of the week, everything is going to come unglued! The King of the South will come against the King of the North, who will come against the King of the South and take over the

area of Egypt, the Holy Land and different countries surrounding it, as well.

Then—as it says in the book of Daniel—he will cause the sacrifice and the oblations to cease! Like Jesus said, 'the abomination of desolation shall stand in the Holy Place!' that's at the beginning of the 3-1/2 year Tribulation Period. We will talk about the sections that it's divided into in just a minute

That's where the one who is the Beast Power and all the world worships—worships Satan and the beast who gave the beast his power (Rev. 13) and he has power over all nations.

Let's set the stage for how this begins. Remember that Rev. 5 tells us that nothing is going to happen on the earth except that it is orchestrated from the Throne of God! Everything is written in the Scroll sealed with seven seals! Those seals are opened up in sequence. The first seal that is opened up is the great false religion that's going to encompass the whole world.

The whole world will follow it! They will worship the beast as 'God in the flesh'! As we now know, they're going to have a new Bible written by Artificial Intelligence! When they're done with that, the whole world is going to rejoice, be happy and come together, because God has given it into the hand of Satan to do that! *That's the first seal!*

Then the *second seal* the Beast Power comes into power! Then when he—the beast himself—enters into the Holy of Holies, that's when the Tribulation begins as Jesus said in Matt. 24: *Therefore, when you see the abomination of desolation spoken of by Daniel the prophet, let the one who reads understand!* That last phrase there was put in by the Apostle John when he was canonizing the New Testament! When he wrote that phrase in there in canonizing the N.T. the temple was gone! Yet, in Rev. 11 the two witnesses are there and God told him to rise and measure the temple. That's why it has to be built!

When it comes to the point that the Great Tribulation begins, this is when Israel goes into captivity wherever they are, and they will be in captivity for two years (Hos. 5:21 & Hos. 6:1-4)! At the end of two years it says that God will raise Israel up. So, at the end of two years is where we are when we enter in to the events in Rev. 6:12.

There are two years of war, two years of Tribulation, but that's not the Day of the Lord and that's not the wrath of God! Right in the middle of that, at the end of two years, God is going to make His first visible intervention in the world! All of

these other Scriptures that we have read up to this point will begin to be fulfilled in rapid-fire order for the next year and a half. We will see that in the book of Revelation.

Rev. 6:12 brings us to the sixth seal! This is when everything changes! This is when God shakes the heavens, shakes the earth and everything in it. He shakes it more than once. Remember that Satan is preparing the world for an invasion from outer space!

Phase One of the Return of Christ

Here we see the first phase of Jesus' return. There are three phases to it that we will cover. The first one is here:

Revelation 6:12: "And when He opened the sixth seal, I looked, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as *the* hair *of* sackcloth, and the moon became as blood... [we already read about that] ...and the stars of heaven fell to the earth, as a fig tree casts its untimely figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind" (vs 12-13).

Verse 14: "Then... [this is going to startle the world] ...the heaven departed like a scroll that is being rolled up, and every mountain and island was moved out of its place." The shaking of the heavens and the earth!

Verse 15: "And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the powerful men, and every bondman, and every free *man* hid themselves in the caves and in the rocks of the mountains"—tie in Isa. 2, written 3,000 years ago; here we see the fulfillment!

At first, they're going to really be thinking that this is the return of Jesus Christ! But something happens and they change their mind. That's because of what occurs with this:

Verse 16: "And they said to the mountains and to the rocks, 'Fall on us, and hide us from *the* face of Him Who sits on the Throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb, because the great day of His wrath has come... [just starting] ...and who has the power to stand?" (vs 16-17).

- What is this "...the heaven departed like a scroll..." (v 14)?
- What's that going to reveal? The first phase of the coming Christ!

But it will take more time until He and the saints come on the earth, and that's what the Feast of Trumpets is all about.

Matthew 24:29: "But immediately after the

Tribulation of those days, the sun shall be darkened... [Rev. 6:12] ...and the moon shall not give her light... [Rev. 6:12] ...and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken."

Why have the heavens roll back as a scroll? So that everyone can see this! Everyone on the whole earth is put on notice that God—the Creator Who made the heavens and the earth—is intervening directly in the affairs of this world! When it's rolled back then what's going to be?

Verse 30: "And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven..."

What is the sign of the Son of man in heaven? Christ is not going to come suddenly right to the earth. He's going to roll back that clouds, the sky, the heavens and there's going to be the sign of the Son of man. He's giving them notice! 'I'm coming, everybody! I'm coming!'

"...and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming upon the clouds of heaven with power and great glory" (v 30).

- What is that going to be like?
- How long will that be?

The next major event will be the resurrection of the saints, but that won't take place for another year from the opening of the heavens! What do we have? We have in Mal. 4 where it talks about the **Sun** of Righteousness shall arise!

So, the sign of the <u>Son of man</u> in heaven above <u>is</u> the <u>Sun</u> of Righteousness as depicted in Mal. 4. There will appear out there in the heavens, because when the heavens roll back as a scroll there will appear another sun. People at first are going to be startled! We will also see that this will lead to a great repentance, because *God is interested in repentance!*

Malachi 4:1: "For behold, the day is coming, burning like a consuming oven; and all the proud, and every doer of wickedness, shall be stubble. And the day that comes shall burn them up,' says the LORD of hosts, 'and will leave them neither root nor branch."

This can also be carried out to the time of the Lake of Fire! But this tells us, not yet:

Verse 2: "But unto you who fear My name, the <u>Sun of Righteousness shall arise</u>..."—the sign of the Son of man (Matt. 24)!

So, the heavens roll back as a scroll and

there it is, another sun! Now, it doesn't come close to the earth. It's out there somewhere. How far away from the earth we don't know. But there it is! There will be a time when this is there, and this will be there for one whole year, from Pentecost to Pentecost!

"...and healing will be in His wings. And you shall go out and grow up like calves of the stall" (v 2).

Let's look at the first reaction that God wants in showing *the sign of the Son of man* and rolling back the heavens like a scroll so that *this Sun* can be seen! They know it's from God!

What do we have in Rev. 7? We have the greatest mass repentance ever in the history of the world starting with the 144,000 of the children of Israel!

After the heavens roll back and everything is shaken out of its place, then there will become a calm, and that calm will last from Pentecost to Trumpets. In that period of time the 144,000 and the great innumerable multitude of every nation, every language *repent!* That's what God wants!

Those who repent in Rev. 7 are likened to the parable of the laborers to go into the vineyard and work. When the lord went out there at the 11th hour there were those who hadn't been employed. He said, 'Has no man hired you?' *No, lord!* 'You go work in my vineyard and I will pay you what is right.'

So, all of these 144,000 and great innumerable multitude represent the last of the workers who are converted in that last year, given the Holy Spirit and sealed because of their repentance, and God sends an angel to seal them with the Holy Spirit. With that calm from Pentecost to Trumpets all of this is going to take place.

One thing to understand, because when you read Rev. 7 it looks like that they go to the Throne of God, but that doesn't happen until the resurrection. The resurrection doesn't happen until the 7th trump sounds, the last trumpet!

Picture this: This repentance begins on Pentecost!

- When did the Church start? On Pentecost!
- What happened there at the Temple? 3,000 were converted that very first day, because they all heard them speaking the Word of God in their own language! Right at the Temple!

Here are the children of Israel in captivity! Others are in captivity, and the heavens roll back as a scroll and the sign of the Son of man, another sun, appears out there in the heavens, *and they repent!* They understand that Christ is coming! These are the laborers of the 11th hour in the parable of the workers in the vineyard.

Rev. 8 begins the real war and destruction of angels against men and demons fighting each other. And we have the seven trumpet plagues! The seven angels were each given a trumpet and to sound their trumpets. This ties in with the account in Joel 2 and the army of God!

Revelation 8:1: "Now, when He opened the seventh seal, *there* was silence in heaven *for* about a half hour. Then I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them. And another angel, who had a golden censer, came and stood at the altar; and much incense was given to him, so that he might offer *it* with the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar that *was* before the Throne" (vs 1-3).

Look at all the new saints newly converted here. The fifth seal: all the saints are killed except those in a place of safety. Here these people are praying to God and thanking God, and being converted. God hears their prayers. Just like with us when we go to pray. God hears our prayers and He answers our prayers. He leads us in the way we need to go.

- sometimes He answers right away
- sometimes His answer is *no*
- sometimes His answer is okay, later I'll answer that prayer

But He always answers! Yes, no or later!

Verse 4: "And the smoke of the incense went up before God from *the* hand of the angel, ascending with the prayers of the saints. And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire from the altar, and cast *it* into the earth; and there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings, and an earthquake" (vs 4-5).

Another earthquake! When He shook the heavens and the earth, there was a big earthquake in Rev. 6. Now here's another earthquake.

Verse 6: "Then the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound *their* trumpets." *Now God is directly intervening!*

Satan is going to respond as we see in Rev. 8. then the battle is going to be between men and men, and angels and demons. A battle such has

never have been seen on the face of the earth.

Verse 7: "And the first angel sounded *his* trumpet; and there was hail and fire mingled with blood, and it was cast upon the earth; and a third of the trees were burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up."

Verse 8: "Then the second angel sounded his trumpet; and there was cast into the sea as it were a great mountain burning with fire, and a third of the sea became blood; and a third of the living creatures that were in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed." That's something when God intervenes!

Like Job said, 'Oh, I wish that God would speak to me.' *Boy, did his attitude change when God spoke to him!* You don't really want that! You want to be first on God's side:

- with His blessing
- with His Spirit
- with His protection

That way you meet God in peace!

Verse 10: "And the third angel sounded *his* trumpet; and *there* fell out of heaven a great star, burning like a lamp; and it fell on a third of the rivers, and on the fountains of waters. Now, the name of the star is Wormwood; and a third of the waters became wormwood; and many men died from *drinking* the waters because they were made bitter" (vs 10-11).

Verse 12: "Then the fourth angel sounded *his* trumpet; and a third of the sun was smitten, and a third of the moon, and a third of the stars; so that a third of them were darkened; and a third part of the day did not shine, and likewise *a third part of* the night."

Everything is going to change! All of these fantastic measures that are coming upon the earth, orchestrated by God and the angels are going to be absolutely startling! Even in this, we will see in just a little bit, *God is interested in repentance!*

Will any repent? Well, very few, if any! From this point on they don't. the greatest mass repentance was in Rev. 7.

Verse 13: "And I looked; and I heard an angel flying in the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, 'Woe, woe, woe to those who are dwelling on the earth, because of the voices of the remaining trumpets of the three angels who are about to sound their trumpets."

How far down into that last year and a half

that's going to be, we don't know. Notice that all of these trumpets are numbered 1-7. There's the 1st and there's the 7th, the 7th one is the last one. That's the one for the resurrection of the saints.

So, we go from Pentecost to Pentecost—the resurrection!

Let's see what happens with the 5th angel, and this becomes even more intensified with Satan and the demons and men fighting against each other, demons against demons! It's just a great massive mess of war!

Revelation 9:1: "And the fifth angel sounded his trumpet; and I saw a star that had fallen from heaven to the earth, and there was given to him the key to the bottomless abyss." This star is an angel who descended from heaven!

Verse 2: "And he opened the bottomless abyss..."—the prison of the demons!

How many are there we don't know, but when these come out with a great plague, and it's going to be awesome, indeed! When they came out:

Verse 3: "Then locusts came onto the earth from the smoke; and power was given to them, as the scorpions of the earth have power. And it was said to them that they should not damage the grass of the earth..."

There's a space of time of four months. Whenever grass burns, if you have any water it grows! The grass has no understanding about all of these things going on. It's just grass! God made it so that it's in the soil and if it's dry it won't grow, if you give it water, it will grow!

A third of the grass was burned up previously, so now with the space of time between and probably rain, as well, now there's grass. So, you don't hurt the grass of the earth:

"...or any green thing, or any tree, <u>but only</u> the men who did not have the seal of God in their foreheads" (v 4).

This means God is giving protection to the 144,000 and the great innumerable multitude!

Verse 5: "And it was given to them that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months...:

- from Pentecost to Pentecost is 12 months
- from Trumpets to Trumpets in a leap year is 13 months

That's probably what it's going to be like in that last year!

"...and their torment was like the torment of a scorpion when it stings a man. And in those days men will seek death but will not find it; and they will desire to die, but death will flee from them. And the appearance of the locusts was like horses prepared for war; and on their heads were crowns like those of gold; and their faces were like the faces of men; and they had hair like women's hair; and their teeth were like those of lions" (vs 5-8). Great weapons, demonic weapons!

Verse 9: "And they had breastplates like iron breastplates; and the sound of their wings *was* like *the* sound of chariots *drawn* by many horses running to war; and they had tails like scorpions, and stingers; and they were *given* power to injure men with their tails *for* five months" (vs 9-10).

Verse 11: "And they have over them a king, the angel of the abyss; his name in Hebrew is Abaddon, but the name he has in Greek is Apollyon." Satan the devil himself!

Verse 12: "The first woe is past. Behold, after these things two more woes are still to come."

Verse 13: "And the sixth angel sounded his trumpet..."—and the greatest army in the history of the world: 200-million stretching from the Far East all the way to the Holy Land!

They're gathered to this battle! All of the armies don't come all at once. Some come and then the River Euphrates is dried up so they can come and fight! There was great destruction and a third of men died because of it.

Verse 17_[transcriber's correction]: "And so, I saw the horses in the vision, and those sitting on them, who had fiery breastplates, even like jacinth and brimstone. And the heads of the horses *were* like heads of lions, and fire and smoke and brimstone shoot out of their mouths. By these three a third of men were killed... [great slaughter such has never been] ...by the fire and the smoke and the brimstone that shoot out of their mouths. For their power is in their mouths; for their tails *are* like serpents, *and* have heads, and with them they inflict wounds" (vs 17-19).

Notice a very key thing here in v 20 with all of this going on, what is God interested in with those down on the earth at that particular time?

Verse 20: "But the rest of the men who were not killed by these plagues still did not repent of the works of their hands that they might not worship demons, and idols of gold and silver and brass and stone and wood, which do not have the

power to see, nor to hear, nor to walk. And they did not repent of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornications, nor of their thievery" (vs 20-21).

Rev. 10—seven thunders! We don't know what they are, because never told us! You can't go back and look at the seals and the other plagues that took place and say that you understand what they're going to be. No, God never revealed it! But then there's another warning given to John in Rev. 10 that there is yet to be a preaching of the Gospel of Repentance, because God is interested in repentance!

Phase Two of Christ's Return

Then we come to the 7th trump, which is the resurrection! So, we have

- Pentecost—144,000 and the great innumerable multitude converted.
- the next Pentecost—the 7th trumpet sounds (Rev. 11); all of the dead are raised

As Jesus said, 'the angels take them into the air.' Where do they go? *Rev. 15 shows to a Sea of Glass!* We are all there on the Sea of Glass!

How does that Sea of Glass get there. Well, we have that second Sun that is out there, and the world is seeing for a whole year. Then all of a sudden, just before the 7th trumpet sounds, that Sun comes streaking toward the earth. Then varooom! and it becomes a great Sea of Glass!

Then all the saints are going to stand on it! All those who are resurrected (Rev. 15).

Revelation 15:2: "And I saw a Sea of Glass mingled with fire, and those who had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, *and* over the number of his name, **standing on the Sea of Glass**, having *the* lyres of God."

Yes, we must be taught because from Pentecost of the resurrection to Trumpets_[transcriber's correction] is a period of about 4-1/2 months! So, as we covered on Pentecost, all the things we need to learn and understand and then:

- the marriage of the Lamb and the Bride
- the wedding feast
- the preparation for war

This is when we all see the seven last plagues when we're standing on the Sea of Glass! This is going to draw all nations to come and fight against 'aliens' on the Sea of Glass, because we will be aliens. They

won't know us!

Today, is the world being programmed by *Ancient Aliens*? Yes the programs on television digging up these old civilizations and finding their gods and what they wrote about them! They're going to say that *aliens are coming to invade the earth!* The world is going to believe them!

For all of us up on the Sea of Glass we're going to see the seven last plague poured out! They are going to be mighty, indeed! Those seven angels who have the seven last plagues are going to pour them out right out of the cups or vials that they have of pure gold. They are going to pour them out on the earth!

Rev. 16 is the finality of the Day of the Lord! That day runs from Trumpets to Trumpets!

Revelation 16:1: "Then I heard a loud voice from the Temple say to the seven angels, 'Go and pour out the vials of the wrath of God onto the earth."

Here we are on the Sea of Glass, and we can see the Throne of God, the seven angels giving these seven last plagues. We can see them go!

Verse 2: "And the first angel went and poured out his vial onto the earth; and an evil and grievous sore fell upon the men who had the mark of the beast, and upon those who were worshiping his image."

Understand that all of these weapons of God He always uses! Go back and read about the plagues that God brought upon the Egyptians, same thing!

Verse 3: "And the second angel went and poured out his vial into the sea; and it became blood, like that of a dead man; and every living soul in the sea died."

How about that! All those who believe in the immortality of the soul, the word there is 'psuche' which is translated *soul* in the *KJV!* They didn't even understand where it said, 'All the souls in the sea die and that means all the living things in the sea. So, the soul can die, man and beast!

Verse 4: "And <u>the third angel</u> poured out his vial upon the rivers, and into the fountains of waters; and they became blood."

How do the angels look at these things having known the whole history of mankind, and what all men have done, what Satan has done, what the demons have done in bringing this great evil upon the earth.

These are horrible and terrible, and

unbelievable plagues! But how do the angels look at them?

Verse 5: "Then I heard <u>the angel of the waters</u> say, 'You are righteous, O Lord, Who are, and Who was, even the Holy One, in that You have executed this judgment. For they have poured out *the* blood of saints and of prophets, and You have given them blood to drink; for they are worthy" (vs 5-6).

Verse 7: "And I heard another *voice* from the altar say, 'Yes, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous *are* Your judgments."

To bring these things upon Satan and the demons and the men who follow them.

Verse 8: "And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun; and *power* was given to it to scorch men with fire. Then men were scorched with great heat; and they blasphemed the name of God, Who has authority over these plagues, and did not repent to give Him glory" (vs 8-9).

Again, even in all of this, God is interested in repentance!

Verse 10: And <u>the fifth angel</u> poured out his vial upon the throne of the beast; and his kingdom became full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues because of the pain, and blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores; <u>yet, they did not repent of their works</u>" (vs 10-11). *Again, repentance!*

Verse 12: "And <u>the sixth angel</u> poured out his vial into the great River Euphrates; and its waters were dried up, so that the way of the kings from the rising of *the* sun might be prepared. <u>Then I saw three unclean spirits...</u>" (vs 12-13).

In order to bring all the nations together, the final deception on them occurs right here in v 13:

Verse 13: "Then I saw three unclean spirits like frogs *come* out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet; for they are spirits of demons working miracles, going forth to the kings of the earth, even of the whole world, to gather them together to the battle of that great day of the Almighty God" (vs 13-14). That's going to be something!

Then there's this little inset verse for all of us; a warning for everyone who has a Bible and can read it:

Verse 15_[transcriber's correction]: "Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed *is* the one who is watching and

is keeping his garments..."

So, not only is God interested in repentance, but He's also interested in faithfulness!

"...so that he may not walk naked and they may not see his shame. And he gathered them together to the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon" (vs 15-16).

Verse 17: "Then the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the Throne, saying, 'IT IS FINISHED."

- It is accomplished!
- It is fulfilled!

Verse 18: "And there were voices and thunders and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were on the earth, so mighty an earthquake, *and* so great. And the great city was divided into three parts; and the cities of the nations fell; and Babylon the Great was remembered before God to give her the cup of the wine of the fury of His wrath. And **every island disappeared, and no mountains were found**" (vs 18-20).

Remember where we started in Isa. 40—every valley shall be exalted and every hill shall be brought low!

Verse 21: "And great hail, each stone the weight of a talent... [180 pounds] ...fell down from heaven upon men; and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, for the plague was exceedingly great."

Now comes the final fulfillment of the Feast of Trumpets, and whenever there's an ending there's always a new beginning. So, with this ending, there will be a new beginning.

That's why we have Atonement and the Feast of Tabernacles coming quickly! So, we have Rev. 19 and everything that took place there with the marriage of the Lamb, and we all know what we're going to do and then we come to v 11, the final thing that's going to happen on the Feast of Trumpets. *All the saints from Abel through all the*:

- patriarchs
- kings
- prophets
- apostles
- all the saints
- the ministers
- the people

all those who

- love God
- serve Him
- believe Him and have received their rewards

We all have our assignments and know what we're going to do. We're all assembled to go and Christ comes:

Phase Three of the Return of Christ

Revelation 19:11: "And I saw heaven open; and behold, a white horse; and He Who sat on it *is* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He does judge and make war." *Yes, the Lion of the tribe of Judah!*

Verse 12: "And His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns; and He had a name written that no one knows except Him. And He was clothed with a garment dipped in blood; and His name is The Word of God" (vs 12-13).

John 1:1: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with the God, and the Word was God."

Revelation 19:14: "And the armies in heaven were following Him..."

That's us, all the saints, everyone in the first resurrection. We're all organized! You don't go on an attack if you're not organized in what you're going to do, what your goal is and what you have to accomplish!

"...following Him on white horses; *and* they were clothed in fine linen, white and pure. And out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He might smite the nations; and He shall shepherd them with an iron rod; and He treads the winepress of the fury and the wrath of the Almighty God. And on *His* garment and on His thigh He has a name written: **King of kings and Lord of lords**" (vs 14-16).

He is coming to take His Kingdom, to take the world! To bring it:

- peace
- love
- joy
- prosperity

to complete the Plan of God!

Verse 17: "Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried out with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in *the* midst of heaven, 'Come and gather yourselves together to the supper of the great God."

All of the flesh, all of the blood God is

going to clean up immediately. All of these birds are going to come from wherever in the world to this great feast! It's going to be quite a thing to see all of them devouring the flesh of these men. The flesh is going fall right off their bones!

Verse 18: "So that you may eat *the* flesh of kings, and *the* flesh of chief captains, and *the* flesh of mighty *men*, and *the* flesh of horses, and of those who sit on them, and *the* flesh of all, free and bond, and small and great."

Verse19: "And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies, gathered together to make war with Him Who sits on the horse, and with His army." *They don't stand a chance!*

Like it says in Zech. 14, their flesh falls right off their bones! Think about what a bloody mess that's going to be!

Verse 20: "And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet who worked miracles in his presence, by which he had deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. Those two were cast alive into the Lake of Fire, which burns with brimstone."

That's their first death! Their second death will be the same thing!

Verse 21: "And the rest were killed by the sword of Him Who sits on the horse, *even the sword* that goes out of His mouth; and all the birds were filled with their flesh."

To summarize all the events leading to the return of Jesus Christ and the saints on the earth, let's just do a quick review on the three phases of Jesus' return:

1. <u>First Phase</u>—the sign of the Son of man in heaven that shines from the east to the west, which is the Sun of Righteousness (Mal. 4:1).

That happens on Pentecost, the great innumerable multitude and the 144,000 repent and are saved.

2. Second Phase—one year later—of the return of Christ comes which is that the sign of the Son of man comes down toward the earth and when it gets into the atmosphere it will burst out into a huge Sea of Glass and the resurrection will occur. We'll al be there from Pentecost until Trumpets and all the events that will take place on the Sea of Glass we cover on Pentecost.

3. <u>Third Phase</u>—is with all the resurrected saints together coming as the army of God (Rev. 19)

The meaning of the Feast of Trumpets is great and awesome! Various parts of the Bible bring it all out!

Have a good Feast of Trumpets and prepare for Atonement and the Feast of Tabernacles that are coming and are likewise great and wonderful Feasts of God! So we can say, "Amen"!

Scriptural References:

- 1) Leviticus 23:23-25
- 2) Numbers 10:1-10
- 3) Isaiah 2:8-21
- 4) Jeremiah 25:26-38
- 5) Isaiah 40:35
- 6) Isaiah 24:1-10, 19-23
- 7) Isaiah 13:6-13
- 8) Revelation 6:12-17, 14
- 9) Matthew 24:29-30
- 10) Malachi 4:1-2
- 11) Revelation 8:1-13
- 12) Revelation 9:1-13, 17-21
- 13) Revelation 15:2
- 14) Revelation 16:1-21
- 15) Revelation 19:11-13
- 16) John 1:1
- 17) Revelation 19:14-21

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Matthew 10
- Daniel 9
- Revelation 13; 5; 11
- Hosea 5:21; 6:1-4
- Joel 2
- Revelation 10
- Zechariah 14

FRC:bo

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Children of God vs Children of the Devil

(Day of Atonement)

Fred R. Coulter—September 25, 2023

Greetings, brethren, welcome to the Day of Atonement, which is one of the most important Holy Days that we have. It is a day in which God commands us to fast. Also, He's very specific in the timing of the day.

This is why it's so important. This is not one of these things that we can take for granted, but one of the most solemn Holy Days of the year. It not only involves us in the Church, it also involves the world!

Remember, though Moses wrote these words, *God spoke them!* So, whenever we read the words of God, especially when He is quoted, that is the voice of the Lord and we are to obey the voice of the Lord!

Leviticus 23:26: "And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 'Also, on the tenth day of this seventh month is the Day of Atonement. It shall be a Holy convocation to you. And you shall afflict your souls..." (vs 26-27)—that means to fast, no food, no water!

The reason that is so is that everything physical that we have comes from God. Just like Paul said in Acts 17, 'that in God we live, move and have our being.' Everyone in the world, whether they know God or not! That's why it's important that we fast on this day, because it also involves sin:

- our personal sins
- the sins of Satan the devil against us

That's why it's such a very important day!

Verse 28: "And you shall do no work in that same day, for it is the Day of Atonement, in order to make an atonement for you before the LORD your God, for whoever is not afflicted in that same day, he shall be cut off from among his people" (vs 18-19). That means God's blessing is removed!

Verse 30: "And whoever does any work in that same day, the same one will I destroy from among his people." A further penalty for working on this day! Any work!

Verse 31: "You shall do no manner of work. *It shall be* a statute forever throughout your generations in all your dwellings. It *shall be* to you **a Sabbath of rest, and you shall afflict yourselves.** In the ninth *day* of the month **at sunset**..." (vs 31-32)—'ba erev'!

That ends the day; so this is when

Atonement begins. Whenever the sun goes down below the horizon, that ends the day. Immediately, at that time, right after the sun has set, becomes 'ben ha arbayim' [transcriber's correction], which begins between the two evenings, between sunset and dark.

The Jews had different ways of calculating the Sabbath, but God has it very specific. This ninth day_[transcriber's correction] at even.

"...In the ninth *day* of the month <u>at sunset</u> from sunset to sunset, you shall keep your Sabbath" (v 32). *That applies to all Sabbaths*, because that's how God calculates the time.

We find in Lev. 16 that we're to bring an offering—there are quite a few offerings in Lev. 16, and this becomes very important. It is a special instruction beginning with the high priest for all the priests, all the Levites, all the people. This is why we bring an offering!

We don't come before God on these special Holy Days without an offering.

(pause for the offering)

The whole chapter of Lev. 16 is a detailed account on what was done at the temple for the Day of Atonement, which is 'yom kippur' that means a day of covering! Again, you will see the explicit instructions!

Remember how important that the whole temple area was, and then you get into the Holy Place and then the Holy of Holies. When the tabernacle was setup in the first month of the second year after they came out of Egypt, then God devoured the offering that was there on the altar.

The command was that that fire was to always be kept burning, because that came from God! *Then the two sons of Aaron*—when they were supposed to be watching and putting the wood on the fire—*let the fire go out!* Then they started another fire, which is taken from ordinary fire and not what God sent down to start the fire.

God intended that fire to be from Him continuously all through time, so that they could always say *this is the fire of God!*

So, God executed the two sons of Aaron, because they didn't follow the instructions! So, all of these instructions in Lev. 16 are very important!

We will go through Lev. 16 and see everything, and we will see what all it means.

Leviticus 16:1:1: "And the LORD spoke to Moses after the death of the two sons of Aaron, when they offered before the LORD and they died."

Verse 2: "And the LORD said to Moses, 'Speak to Aaron your brother, that he does not come at all times into the sanctuary within the veil before the mercy seat, which is on the Ark, so that he does not die, for I will appear in the cloud over the mercy seat."

I want you to think on this for just a minute. In the covenant with Israel, only the high priest could go into the Holy of Holies. God put His presence there in that day, a special presence! His presence was always there, and that was called the 'shekinah.'

When Aaron went in it was only once a year, but today *under the Covenant of Eternal Life* we have access to God the Father every single day through prayer. Then couple that with Bible study and how important all of this is.

Verse 3: "Aaron shall come into the sanctuary this way: with a young bull, for a sin offering, and a ram for a burnt offering."

That was for him because he represented to all the people *God*, and he was the only one who had access to God one day a year. He could not approach it without having first a sin offering.

Verse 4: "He shall put on the Holy linen coat, and he shall have the linen breeches on his flesh, and shall be girded with a linen girdle, and with the linen miter he shall be dressed. <u>These are Holy garments</u>. And he shall wash his flesh in water and put them on."

Think about the New Testament. We are to have the righteous Holy garments! When we come into the presence of God on that Sea of Glass when the resurrection has been completed, we're all going to be appropriately dressed because we're going to meet God! Think about that!

Then here's special instruction; v 5: "And he shall take from the congregation of the children of Israel two kids of the goats for a sin offering, and one ram for a burnt offering. And Aaron shall offer his young bull of the sin offering, which is for himself, and make an atonement for himself and for his house" (vs 5-6).

We're going to see for a complete Atonement there are two parts, and that's why we have this ceremony. Here are further instructions as to what he was to do:

Verse 7: "And he shall take the two goats

and present them before the LORD *at* the door of the tabernacle of the congregation. And Aaron shall cast lots on the two goats; one lot for the LORD and the other lot for Azazel" (vs 7-8).

That's where a lot of difficulty comes for a lot of people in understanding it. Please understand this: the reason that they don't comprehend it properly is because they don't keep the Sabbath and Holy Days of God. They don't understand that there are two parts to the Atonement. We'll cover that and that's what we need to understand.

"...Aaron shall cast lots..."—why do that? The reason is men do not know right from wrong, good from evil! They can't tell the difference between the true God and Satan!

In order for God to show that there are two parts to Atonement:

- 1. to atone for the people
- 2. to put all the sins of Satan upon him representing the Azazel goat

We will see that in a little bit!

Verse 9: "And Aaron shall bring the goat on which the LORD'S lot fell, and offer it for a sin offering. But the goat on which the lot fell for Azazel shall be presented alive before the LORD, to make an atonement upon it... [not *for* it, but *on* it] ...and sent away into the wilderness for Azazel" (vs 9-10).

This does not mean another name for Christ as scapegoat. *This directly means for Satan the devil, as we will see!*

Verse 11: "And Aaron shall bring the young bull of the sin offering, which is for himself, and shall make an atonement for himself and for his house, and shall kill the young bull of the sin offering, which is for himself. And he shall take a censer full of coals of fire from off the altar before the LORD, and his hands full of fragrant incense beaten small, and bring it within the veil. And he shall put the incense on the fire before the LORD. And the cloud of the incense shall cover the mercy seat that is on the testimony.... [the Ark of the Covenant] ... And he shall not die" (vs 11-13).

So special was this that if the high priest did not do it right, he's history! He's gone! So, what the Jews did was tie a rope around the high priest so that if God struck him dead, they could pull him out!

After he does that; v 14: "And he shall take of the blood of the young bull and shall sprinkle with his finger on the front of the mercy seat eastward. And he shall sprinkle at the front of the mercy seat seven times from the blood with his

finger."

That's the only time that blood was applied in the Holy of Holies. That's how special this day is. After that he would come out.

Verse 15: "Then he shall kill the goat of the sin offering that is for the people, and bring its blood inside the yeil...."

So, he made the trip out, offered the goat, took the blood and went back into the Holy of Holies.

"...And he shall do with that blood as he did with the blood of the young bull, and sprinkle it on the mercy seat and before the mercy seat. And he shall make an atonement for the sanctuary because of the uncleanness of the children of Israel and because of their transgressions in all their sins...." (vs 15-16). All the sins that the people made of themselves!

That covers for their sins! And 'Kippur' means to cover. It also means, as we will see, to ransom!

"...And so he shall do for the tabernacle of the congregation, which remains with them in the midst of their uncleanness. And there shall be no man in the tabernacle of the congregation when he goes in to make an atonement in the sanctuary until he comes out and has made an atonement for himself, and for his household, and for all the congregation of Israel" (vs 16-17).

That forgave and covered all their sins, beginning with the high priest, then the Levites, then the people. Here's where the difficulty comes, and it's hard for people to understand. But there are sins this way, sins that we do of our own volition and sins that we do that Satan the devil has caused us to do.

We see how God has taken care of the sin for human beings. But then the greater sin is what Satan does. So, God lays all the sins that Satan caused all the people to do—which were in addition to the sins that they chose to do—back on this goat for Azazel!

Verse 20: "And when he has made an end of reconciling the sanctuary and the tabernacle of the congregation and the altar, he shall bring the live goat. And Aaron shall lay both his hands on the head of the live goat, and confess over him all the sins of the children of Israel, and all their transgressions in all their sins, putting them on the head of the goat, and shall send it away by the hand of a chosen man into the wilderness" (vs 20-21).

Verse 22: "And the goat shall bear upon him

all their iniquities <u>to a land in which no one lives</u>. And he shall let the goat go <u>in the wilderness</u>."

That's quite a ceremony! Why do that? Because these are all the sins that Satan has caused! Let's look at something else concerning the word 'kippur,' which can also mean ransom! Ransom is quite a very important thing!

Let's investigate this a little further and then we'll come back to Lev. 16 a little later.

Prov. 6:32 talks about a sin of adultery. Whenever there is a sin going after other gods, that is called *spiritual adultery!*

Proverbs 6:32: "But whoever commits adultery *with* a woman lacks understanding; he *who* does it destroys his own soul." *Sooner or later!*

It affects the conscious! Whenever there are sex acts like that, those are recorded in the mind!

Verse 33: "He shall get a wound and dishonor; and his shame shall not be wiped away."

That is if he doesn't repent of it; however for the husband of the woman that he committed adultery with it says:

Verse 34: "For jealousy *is* the rage of a man; therefore he will not spare in the day of vengeance. He will not accept any recompense..." (vs 34-35).

Any atonement, because the word here is 'kippur,' same word for atonement. In other words, that breach of the marriage is not reconcilable!

"...nor will he be willing *even* if you multiply the gifts *for him*" (v 35).

I want you to think about how bad the world is today with all these satanic sexual sins going on!

Proverbs 21:18: "The <u>wicked shall be a</u> <u>ransom for the righteous</u>, and the transgressor for the upright."

Ransom can also mean because all the sins of the wicked will be laid on them. No ransom or atonement.

Let's look at what God says. And this will help give us a greater understanding of why the sins were pronounced on Azazel.

Isaiah 43:3 "For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior; <u>I gave Egypt</u> for your ransom..."—or atonement!

Now, this is something we haven't covered before, but I got a phone call from a man who was studying out the word 'kippur.' He saw that this was a tremendous verse. He called me and asked me to

check it out. Could this also mean that 'I gave Egypt for your atonement.'

What was Egypt? *All the sins of Satan the devil!* For God to deal with the children of Israel, He also had to lay upon the Egyptians all their sins!

- Did He do that?
- How was that done? It was done through all the plagues!
- What was the last plague? The killing of the firstborn of man and beast throughout all of Egypt!

But we know that on that Passover night, because the children of Israel offered the Passover lamb at each house, and the blood was put on the side posts and the upper lintels. When the destroyer came to destroy the firstborn of Egypt He would see the blood and he would pass over!

So, in a sense that very first Passover also has some of the elements of Atonement in it! When you look at the forgiveness of sin for the congregation of Israel, all their sins are all forgiven. Once they're all forgiven they don't need any more forgiveness.

Then laid upon Azazel, who represents Satan, all the sins of Egypt as a ransom or atonement!

Verse 3: "For I *am* the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior; I gave Egypt *for* your ransom [atonement]..."

That follows along with what was Azazel! We're talking about spiritual sin that Satan locks people into! That sin must be removed! That can only be removed with God putting all the sins of all the world, of all time, on the Azazel goat! Just like the sacrifice of Jesus Christ is for the atonement and forgiveness of our sins before God!

That's why there also has to be baptism! The old person, before calling, conversion and receiving the Holy Spirit, must die the baptismal death in the watery grave!

So, with *Atonement and Passover* it's like one coin with two sides! We will see that we are rescued from Satan the devil!

Proverbs 21:18: "The wicked shall be a ransom [atonement] for the righteous, and the transgressor for the upright."

What do we have?

• Egypt: all the firstborn are killed! *That's the transgressor!*

 All the sins are of Satan, they remain on him!

In a sense, the children of Israel—with the offering of the Passover while they were in Egypt—God lifted their sin, or covered their sin from them so that He could begin to deal directly with the people of Israel through Aaron, Moses and later the priesthood.

God dealt directly with them! Was He not there in the pillar of the cloud by day and the fire by night? Yes, He was! That ties in with Isa. 43!

Now let's look at some other things concerning Atonement. There's a price that God has paid for, *for us!* This represents the goat that was sacrificed on Atonement, and also on Passover.

1-Cor. 6—Paul was talking about all the sexual sins that were going on and other sins in Corinth, and he finishes by saying:

1-Corinthians 6:19: "WHAT! <u>Don't you</u> know that your body is a Temple of the Holy <u>Spirit</u>, which you have within you from God, and you are not your own?"

We need to understand *Having the Holy* Spirit of God is the greatest thing that can happen in our lives until the resurrection!

Verse 20: "For you were bought with a price...."

That price was the death of Jesus Christ and His shed blood and sacrifice for the forgiveness of sin! That opened the way for us to have direct contact with God the Father and Jesus Christ in heaven above!

"...Therefore, glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."

If we're bought with price, *God owns us!* We are His! We are His children! He also does something else for us, which is very important. He delivers us or rescues us from Satan the devil! That's quite a thing! I want you think about this on this Day of Atonement when we're fasting, praying and coming to God:

- when we know that He is forgiving our sins
- when we know that that great sacrifice of Christ was tremendous and awesome thing, indeed

That God would give up being God to become a human being and only retain just enough of His God existence so that He was God manifested in the flesh! Born of Mary, and had every experience in growing up that every human being has. So that He could become that sacrifice for the Lord and for the sins of the whole world, but not for the sins of Satan!

Colossian 1:12: "Giving thanks to the Father, Who has made us qualified for the share of the inheritance of the saints in the Light; Who has personally rescued us... [or delivered us] ... from the power of darkness and has transferred *us* unto the Kingdom of the Son of His love; in Whom we have redemption... [or atonement] ... through His own blood, *even* the remission of sins; Who is *the* image of the invisible God, *the* Firstborn of all creation" (vs 12-15). *That means the Firstborn from the dead!*

Let's see what Paul said about this. Not only are we delivered from our personal sins, we are delivered from Satan the devil and the sins that he perpetrates upon us! Think of all the sins that he's perpetrating on the world right now with all of this satanic sexualization of the world!

Here's what Paul said, and he repeats the words of Christ. What was Paul called? We know that he was steeped in Judaism more than any of the other apostles! There was a reason for that!

(break@39:35)

Paul was reiterating the words that Jesus told him when He knocked Paul to the ground on his way to Damascus. He was standing trial, so he was explaining how it came about. So, Paul said, after he was knocked to the ground:

Acts 26:14: "Then all of us fell to the ground... [all the other men there, as well] ...and I heard a voice speak to me, saying in the Hebrew language, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me? It is hard for you to kick against the pricks." That means these big spikes of thorns!

If you go against God, you're the same as kicking against those big spikes of thorns and destroying your own life and don't know it! So, as Paul lay there on the ground, he said:

Verse 15: "And I [Paul] said, 'Who are You, Lord?' And He said, 'I am Jesus, Whom you are persecuting."

That's interesting! Whenever anyone persecutes us who have the Holy Spirit of God, *they are persecuting Jesus!* Think about that!

Verse 16: "Now arise, and stand on your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose..."—for this cause!

As we have covered, God has a purpose for every one of us! God has His purpose that He's fulfilling:

- with the Church
- with the world
- for His eternal plan forever and ever

"...to appoint you as a minister and a witness both of what you have seen and what I shall reveal to you" (v 16).

He had to reveal to Saul—the one who became Paul—that all the traditional teachings of the Jews were not of God, and were not to be a part of the New Testament Church. That includes *sacred names!* As you see, he spoke to Saul in Hebrew. So, if God wanted Hebrew names in the New Testament He would have inspired them to be put in the N.T.—*but He didn't, because this was to go to the whole world!* Not just to those who knew Hebrew!

Verse 17: "I am personally selecting you from among the people and the Gentiles, **to whom I now send you to open their eyes...**" (vs 17-18).

Who blinds people? We'll see in just a minute!

"...that *they* may turn from darkness to Light..." (v 18).

Who is the 'power of darkness'? Satan the devil!

"...and *from* the authority of Satan to God..." (v 18).

Think about that! Think about Satan's situation today; we'll cover that in just a minute!

"...so that they may receive remission of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified through faith in Me" (v 18).

That was a summary of what Paul was to do!

Let's look at how Satan works, and Satan does different things! He wants to come after us! Let's look at the example of Peter. Peter was to become one of the leading apostles. There were actually three of them: Peter, James and John!

Let's see that Satan likes to come along and use human effort to introduce sin. So, when the choice to sin is made by the individual, that's their sin, but the power behind it is Satan, and that must be accounted for and atoned for and taken care of by God!

Mark 8:30_[transcriber's correction]—right after the vision of the Transfiguration: "Then He strictly charged them that they should tell no one about Him. And He began to teach them that it was necessary for the Son of man to suffer many things, and to be rejected by the elders and chief priests and

scribes, and to be killed, but after three days to rise from the dead" (vs 30-31).

Notice Peter's reaction, and notice Jesus' response:

Verse 32: "And He spoke these words openly. Then Peter took *Him* aside *and* **began to rebuke Him**." *Rebuke Jesus Christ!*

We don't know all the words that were said, but he probably said: 'Lord, why would You say these things?' *Then we will see a little later He volunteered to die for Jesus!*

Verse 33: "But He turned and looked at His disciples, *and then* rebuked Peter, saying, 'Get behind Me, Satan..."

Think about all the battles that were going on spiritually between Christ and Satan, and between the disciples and Satan!

"...because your thoughts are not of the things of God, but of the things of men" (v 33).

That is the entrance of Satan the devil! When you get your thoughts on the things of men that are not in accord with God, then that comes up.

Let's see another account—Luke 22—Peter was acting as if He's going to keep Jesus from having to go through all the difficulties. This is right after Jesus gave the bread and the wine, and said to the disciples concerning what they would receive in the Kingdom of God:

Luke 22:29: "And I appoint to you, as My Father has appointed to Me, a kingdom; so that you may eat and drink at My table in My Kingdom, and may sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.' Then the Lord said, 'Simon, Simon...'" (vs 29-31).

This tells us the spiritual battle that was going on, that we don't know anything about! But this gives us a hint of it.

Verse 31: "Then the Lord said, 'Simon, Simon listen well. Satan has demanded to have all of you, to sift as wheat.""

That's why we have to be rescued from Satan the devil; that's part of the Day of Atonement! How is God going to handle all the sins of Satan the devil? Those are not our sins! Those are <u>his</u> sins! What happens to people who do not repent of their sins, as well as the sins that Satan made them do? *They're cast into the Lake of Fire!* That's the second death! No atonement for them!

Verse 31: "Then the Lord said, 'Simon, Simon, listen well. Satan has demanded to have all

of you, to sift as wheat."

Don't know what all of that means, but that must have been something that he was rescued from!

Verse 32: "But I have prayed for you, that your faith may not fail; and when you are converted, strengthen your brethren.' And he said to Him, 'Lord, I am ready to go with You both to prison and to death" (vs 32-33).

That was an impetuous statement by Peter, but this tells us that *many of our thoughts*, though we think they are good, *are not good*, *because they're not of God!* Peter was thinking that they needed to save Jesus, 'We can't let this happen to Him.'

Verse 34: "But He said, 'I tell you, Peter, *the* cock shall in no wise crow today... [in this night] ...before you have denied knowing Me three times."

That happened, and Peter had to go out and repent tremendously!

Rom. 5 tells us something very important regarding the sacrifice of Christ. Notice that's just before Rom. 6 where Paul explains the whole process and meaning of baptism and being conformed to the sacrifice of Christ.

Romans 5:8: "But God commends His own love to us because, when we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more, therefore, having been justified now by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of His own Son, much more *then*, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. And not only *this*, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by Whom we have now received the reconciliation" (vs 8-11)—atonement!

Let's see the rest of the Azazel, because this is important for us to really grasp. God gave His forgiveness and atonement through the sacrifice of the goat that was offered, and the blood sprinkled on the Holy altar of God by the high priest!

This covered or forgave all of our sins. But the goat on whole the whole the live goat fell was a different story!

Leviticus 16:20: "And when he has made an end of reconciling the sanctuary and the tabernacle of the congregation and the altar, he shall bring the live goat."

That's the only time that there is a live animal. That's because spirit beings do not die. Satan the devil and the demons are spirit beings.

That's why the live goat. Wherever the live goat went—wherever Satan went—that's where all the demons would go, as well.

Verse 21: "And Aaron shall lay both his hands on the head of the live goat, and confess over him all the sins of the children of Israel..."

- What were those sins?
- Were those sins not forgiven by the sacrifice of the goat that was to be offered for a sin offering and the blood sprinkled in the Holy of Holies? Yes!

That covered all their sins!

But all the sins that Satan made people do; "...and all their transgressions in all their sins, putting them on the head of the goat, and shall send it away by the hand of a chosen man into the wilderness" (v 21).

We know that in the New Testament it shows that the ultimate judgment of Satan the devil and the demons is going to be *the blackest darkness forever!*

Verse 22: "And the goat shall bear upon him all their iniquities to a land in which no one lives. And he shall let the goat go in the wilderness. And Aaron shall come into the tabernacle of the congregation, and shall strip off the linen garments, which he put on when he went into the sanctuary, and shall leave them there. And he shall wash his flesh with water in the Holy place... [kind of like a baptism] ...and put on his garments, and come forth and offer his burnt offering and the burnt offering of the people, and make an atonement for himself and for the people" (vs 22-24).

Atonement is to be made at-one with God! Not just to have your sins forgiven, not to just have Satan's sins put upon him and remove him, *but so that we become*:

- one with God
- to be in His Family
- to be His children

Verse 25: "And the fat of the sin offering shall he burn upon the altar. And he that let go the goat for Azazel shall wash his clothes and bathe his flesh in water, and afterward come into the camp. And the young bull *for* the sin offering and the goat *for* the sin offering, whose blood was brought in to make atonement in the Holy *place*, shall they carry forth outside the camp. And they shall burn their skins in the fire, and their flesh and their dung" (vs 25-27). A complete burning up!

Verse 28: "And he who burns them shall

wash his clothes and bathe his flesh in water, and afterward he shall come into the camp. And it shall be a statute forever to you: in the seventh month, on the tenth of the month, you shall afflict your souls and do no work at all, whether it be one of your own country or a stranger who is living among you, for on that day an atonement shall be made for you, to cleanse you, so that you may be clean from all your sins before the LORD" (vs 28-30).

Verse 31: "It *shall be* a Sabbath of rest to you, and you shall afflict your souls by a statute forever."

Now, let's look at some other things that the Apostle John wrote concerning sin and Satan. We're going to see some very interesting things concerning sin.

Let's start out with how Satan begins to make an inroad; eventually all sins are laid on Satan and the demons, and they are banished to *blackest darkness forever!*

We know that when Christ and the saints come back to the earth (Rev. 20) the very first thing that happens is a strong angel comes and takes Satan and binds him with a chain and puts him into the abyss. It is shut and locked up and Satan has no influence on the people all during the Millennium.

All during the Millennium there will not be the sins of Satan the devil, and furthermore, we will find that God—in the second resurrection, which also means beginning with the start of the Millennium—God is going to bring people to repentance.

But let's first of all examine the children of God \underline{vs} the children of Satan, and how Satan comes in first with the sins of the flesh! It's called *the way* of the world!

1-John 2:15: "Do not love the world, nor the things *that are* in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him."

- Why?
- What is the love of the Father that we have to have? The love that is with all our heart, all our mind, all our soul and all of our being!

That's the love of the Father! That comes:

- with His Spirit
- with our growing and overcoming
- with our living God's way

Verse 16: "Because everything that *is* in the world—the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pretentious pride of physical life—is not from the Father, but is from the world."

- Who is the 'god of this world'? Satan the devil!
- What does he do? Blinds the eyes of those who do not believe!

All of that is removed when Satan is locked up! But now we're living in the world.

Verse 17: "And the world and its lust is passing away, but the one who does the will of God abides forever."

Let's see how interesting that this is. We're going to see the contrast and we're going to see the physical sin that we do, and we're also going to see that if we continue in sin that we become the children of the devil.

1-John 3:4: "Everyone who practices sin is also practicing lawlessness, for sin is lawlessness."

It's more than just transgression; it's going against Law. The strongest part of it is to *hate* the Law of God! What did Jesus say we would be facing in these times just before His return? *Lawlessness shall be multiplied!*

Verse 5: "And you know that He appeared in order that He might take away our sins; and in Him is no sin. Everyone who dwells in Him does not *practice* sin..." (vs 5-6).

We do have our sins and we need to repent, that's true; but we don't practice it as a way of life! How many of those out in the world today are practicing sins, not only theirs but reinforced with the power of Satan and the demons?

"...anyone who *practices* sin has not seen Him, nor has known Him. Little children, do not allow anyone to deceive you; the one who practices righteousness is righteous, even as He is righteous" (vs 6-7).

That's what we do, and we stand in the righteousness of God. That comes through Jesus Christ! That's why we have *Christ in us, the hope of glory!*

Verse 8: "The one who practices sin is of the devil because the devil has been sinning from *the* beginning. For this purpose the Son of God appeared that He might destroy the works of the devil. Everyone who has been begotten by God does not practice sin, because His seed *of begettal...* [of the Holy Spirit] ...is dwelling within him, and he is not able to practice sin because he has been begotten by God" (vs 8-9).

What does the Spirit of God in us do when we sin?

1-John 5:16: "If anyone sees his brother sinning a sin *that is* not unto death..."

What is a sin unto death? *The unpardonable sin!*

"...he shall ask... [you pray for him] ...and He [God] will give him life for those who do not sin unto death. There is a sin unto death..." (v 16)—the second death!

- there is no atonement
- there is no forgiveness
- there is no escape from the Lake of Fire

After the Lake of Fire has consumed all of the wicked, that's when Satan and the demons will be cast into outer darkness, wherever that is in the universe. They will be there forever as a perpetual witness that sin never pays!

"...concerning that sin, I do not say that he should make any supplication to God. All unrighteousness is sin, and there is a sin <u>not unto</u> <u>death</u>" (vs 16-17). But there is a sin unto death!

1-John 3:8: "The one who practices sin is of the devil because the devil has been sinning from *the* beginning. For this purpose the Son of God appeared that He might destroy the works of the devil. Everyone who has been begotten by God does not practice sin, because His seed *of begettal* is dwelling within him, and he is not able to *practice* sin because he has been begotten by God" (vs 8-9).

That works this way: When you sin God brings it to your attention so you can repent! That's why in the daily prayer we are to ask God to forgive us our sins. Think about today with all of the things that we have coming into our mind via all the hi-tech things that we have.

Verse 10: "By this *standard* are manifest the children of God and the children of the devil...."

So, there are children of the devil who will be in the Lake of Fire! There is no atonement for them!

"...Everyone who does not practice righteousness is not of God, and neither is the one who does not love his brother" (v 10).

That's something we need to know and understand; that's the message for the Day of Atonement! That we see that God is righteous and just; He forgives us of our sins upon deep and sincere repentance. But the sins of Satan the devil and the children of the devil who will not repent Satan has his punishment forever. The children of the devil will be burned up!

Then there is the complete atonement for all the children of God and for the beginning of the Millennium so that now the Family of God can grow great!

Scriptural References:

- 1) Leviticus 23:26-32
- 2) Leviticus 16:1-17, 20-22
- 3) Proverbs 6:33-35
- 4) Proverbs 21:18
- 5) Isaiah 43:3
- 6) Proverbs 21:18
- 7) 1 Corinthians 6:19-20
- 8) Colossians 1:12-18
- 9) Acts 26:14-18
- 10) Mark 8:30-33
- 11) Luke 22:29-34
- 12) Romans 5:8-11
- 13) Leviticus 16:20-31
- 14) 1 John 2:15-17
- 15) 1 John 3:4-9
- 16) 1 John 5:16-17
- 17) 1 John 3:8-10

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Acts 17
- Romans 6
- Revelation 20

FRC:bo

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Why We Keep the Feast of Tabernacles

(Welcome to the FOT)

Fred R. Coulter—September 29, 2023

Greetings, everyone, welcome to the Feast of Tabernacles 2023. What a great Feast this will be. The Feast of Tabernacles has many, many meanings for all the world, for all the nations of Israel and for the Church.

Quite a thing, isn't it? We know in Exo. 25, the reason that God had them build the tabernacle was so that He could dwell among His people. We find that that's the whole story of the Bible, beginning with Adam and Eve. He was dwelling with them, but they didn't want that. They wanted their own way!

God then dwelt with Abraham and then Isaac and Jacob and the 12 tribes. Then had the tabernacle built so there would be that special place that they would know that God put His presence there and that they were the people of God.

Today we're going to see that's the same basic principle.

Let's look at a lot of the Psalms, because have the do with David understanding that *he was going to live with God!* Of course, that comes down to us as well. We're going to be looking at quite a number of Psalms, and these will tell us:

- what God wants
- what He's doing
- what He's preparing
- what He's making for us

This is what God wants! When we come to the Feast of Tabernacles, we're able to be together in groups and we're able to have fellowship with one another.

When that occurs and everything is according to the Spirit of God, the way that God wants it, then we can read Psa. 133 and see how we make every Feast the best ever.

Psalm 133:1: "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

You can add on to that *love*, because we'll see that's what Jesus said a little later.

Verse 2: "It is like the precious ointment upon the head that ran down upon the beard, Aaron's beard, that went down to the hem of his garments; like the dew of Hermon that descended upon the mountains of Zion, for there the LORD commanded the blessing, even life forevermore" (vs 2-3).

Where is Christ going to return to? *Right to that very place!* That's quite a thing!

Let's see some interesting Psalms about how the presence of God and the dwelling place of God goes together. Psa. 27 is quite a Psalm when you read the whole thing and go through it verse-byverse, Let's see how we're going to get to the dwelling place of God.

Notice how he starts out. Notice that it's all having to do with:

- conversion
- faith in God
- trusting God
- relying upon Him

Psalm 27:1: "The LORD is my Light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

Keep that in mind with the difficult days we have coming ahead of us!

"...The LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?" (v1).

- Isn't that true?
- Isn't God with us?
- Doesn't He protect us with His angels?
 Doesn't He intervene to heal us when we're sick?
- Doesn't He open doors when we need help?
- Doesn't He answer our prayers?

All of that is true!

Verse 2: "When the wicked, my enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell."

- Isn't that true?
- Doesn't that happen all the time?

Yes, indeed!

Verse 3: "Though an army should encamp against me, my heart shall not be afraid..."

If God is for you, who can be against you? Not even losing your physical life!

"...though war should rise against me, even then I will be confident. One thing I have desired from the LORD, that <u>I will seek after</u>..." (vs 3-4)— You have to seek it! That's the whole purpose of having the Spirit of God and being in the Church of God.

"... that I may dwell in the House of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in His Temple" (v 4)

That's the goal that we're looking for. We'll see that David had many things along those lines that helped him.

Verse 7: "Hear, O LORD, when I cry with my voice; and be gracious unto me and answer me. When You said, 'Seek My face,' my heart said to You, 'Your face, O LORD, will I seek'" (vs 7-8).

We will have that in our lives, too, especially at the resurrection!

We will look at several different Psalms here. Very important for us to know and see David constantly looked for that very thing:

- being in the House of God
- being in the presence of God

Isn't that what Jesus said? 'Father, I prayed that those that You gave Me may be with Me where I am.' Think about that!

Will not Jesus' prayers be answered? Of course! That's the whole Plan of God!

Psalm 65:1: "Praise waits for You, O God, in Zion; and to You shall the vow be performed. O You Who hears prayer, <u>unto You shall all flesh come</u>" (vs 1-2)—showing the whole Plan of God!

David had glimpses into all of this in his lifetime!

Verse 4: "Blessed is the one whom You choose and cause to come near You, that he may dwell in Your courts; we shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, even Your Holy Temple."

Now, that's something I want you to keep in mind! At the end of the Feast we're going to come to the point where we will be in New Jerusalem and God the Father and Jesus Christ will be there, and there won't be any need for a temple.

Verse 5: "By awesome works in righteousness You will answer us, O God of our salvation; You are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of those of the distant sea."

The whole world needs the Feast of Tabernacles and that's what it pictures. There will be the reign of a thousand years.

Notice how David keeps seeking after God and His way. Psa. 84—you'll find this in many other

Psalms, as well. But here's what he says about the Tabernacle of God, and you can look forward to this being the Tabernacle of God, which is New Jerusalem.

Psalm 84:1: "How lovely are Your tabernacles, O LORD of hosts!" *That's why we keep the Feast of Tabernacles!*

Verse 2: "My soul longs, yea, even faints for the courts of the LORD..."

That's how much that he desired to see God. These are tremendous Psalms, especially to encourage us in these days and difficulties we're going through right now.

"...<u>my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God</u>" (v 2).

In other words, another way of explaining that is this way: What is the first commandment of all commandments? 'You shall love the Lord your God. With all your heart, with all your mind, with all your soul, with all your being.'

Here, David says, "...my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God."

Verse 3: "Yea, even the sparrow has found a house, and the swallow a nest for herself where she may lay her young, even Your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God... [that is right there at the temple] ... Blessed are those who dwell in Your house..." (vs 3-4).

Think about that blessing, and think about all the blessings that will come when we are raised from the dead and all of us meet Christ in the air on that Sea of Glass.

Then all of the good things that happen on the Sea of Glass. Then we come back to the earth on Trumpets. On Atonement Satan is locked up. Then Rev, 20 we reign with Christ for a thousand years!

Verse 4: "Blessed are those who dwell in Your house; they will still be praising You. Selah. Blessed is the man whose strength is in You; Your ways are in their hearts" (vs 4-5).

Even in times of trouble, even in times when it looks like all hope is lost, *it's not!*

Verse 6: "Who passing through the valley of weeping... [talk about great and heavy sorrow] ...make it a place of springs; yea, the early rain also clothes it with blessings. They go from strength to strength, every one of them appearing in Zion before God" (vs 6-7). *That is tremendous!*

So, here we all are appearing before God. Feast of Tabernacles, a wonderful time, indeed!

- we get to know each other
- we get to love each other
- we get to fellowship with each other
- we get to eat with each other

All of that is combined with Christ in every one of us and the Holy Spirit of God making it occur! It's a wonderful thing!

Verse 8: "O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob. Selah." Yes, God hears! God answers!

Verse 9: "Behold, O God, our shield, and look upon the face of Your anointed, for a day in Your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather stand at the threshold of the House of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness" (vs 9-10).

This whole Psalm is dedicated to the meaning of the Feast of Tabernacles. Quite a tremendous and wonderful thing!

What you can say is this. You look at this, a great deal of the time of David's thoughts were always only on coming to God in His presence and in his house, and to be with Him forever.

- think about what it's going to be like when we're there
- think about what it's going to be like with all the singing that will be going on
 - ✓ we will be singing
 - ✓ the angels will be singing
 - ✓ God the Father and Jesus Christ will be singing

Going to be a joyous time indeed!

So, all of this that we go through in whatever difficulties we're facing in this life will just disappear as if they never happened!

Psa. 100:1—the introduction to Psa. 101: "Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth."

I don't know how that goes, but even God says the trees will sing. So, imagine what kind of peace that is going to be:

- peace and harmony
- love and togetherness
- families
- husbands and wives
- all of us together
- all nations in peace
- all people serving God

Verse 2: "Serve the LORD with gladness; come before His presence with singing. Know that

the LORD, He is God. He has made us, and we are His; we are His people and the sheep of His pasture" (vs 2-3).

What is God doing for us and in us? Remember what Paul said" *Oh foolish Galatians, I'm praying over you until Christ be formed in you!*

This shows that the work of God with His Spirit in our mind and heart, and everything that we do is preparing us to be spiritual beings. That's why God made us in His image in the first place.

Verse 4: "Enter into His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise; give thanks unto Him and bless His name."

We will be in a relationship with God dwelling with Him in New Jerusalem with all of the saints, all of the patriarchs!

Verse 5: "For the LORD is good; His steadfast love is everlasting; and His faithfulness endures to all generations."

- every word of God is true
- every word of God is going to come to pass
- everything that God has said is going to take place

That's quite a thing!

Psalm 101: 1: I will sing of mercy and justice; to You, O LORD, I will sing praise. I will behave myself wisely in a blameless way. O when will You come unto me? I will walk within my house with a perfect heart" (vs 1-2)—that's conversion!

What is it that God is doing with us, with His Spirit? He is what perfecting us; the whole purpose of everything (Eph. 4)! The ministry and all people and everything is for *the perfecting of the saints!* That's us, brethren, *so that we can live with God forever!*

Verse 3: "I will set no wicked thing before my eyes. I have hated the work of those who turn aside; it shall not cleave to me." We have to be:

- single-minded
- single-hearted
- single-purposed

following in God's way!

Verse 4: "A perverse heart shall be far from me; I will know no evil thing."

In today's world, that's a difficult thing to do. So much evil all around us, so we have to be:

• close to God in prayer

- close to God in study
- close to God walking in His way

because

- His Way is perfect
- His Law is perfect
- His love is perfect
- everything that God does is perfect

to the perfection of the saints!

Verse 6: "My eyes shall be upon the faithful of the land, so that they may dwell with me; he who walks in a blameless way, he shall serve me. He who works deceit shall not dwell within my house; he who tells lies shall not remain in my sight" (vs 6-7).

That shows you there will be that time of *no more evil!*

To show how serious God is in all of this. Let's see what He did, because when He came to the earth, He came as God manifested in the flesh and there's no such thing as '100% God 100% man'; that's an impossibility! But He was God manifested in the flesh. Let's see what God did because:

- God loves us
- God has called us
- God deals with us
- God forgives our sins
- God is working with us
- God is developing us

We're growing in grace and knowledge! To make that happen, He had to come and be a human being.

John 1:14: "And the Word...[the One Who became Christ] ...became flesh and tabernacled among us... [temporarily lived] ...(and we ourselves... [all the apostles] ...beheld His glory..."

Didn't Peter, James and John go up to the Mount of Transfiguration with Jesus and He appeared to them in His glory, not all of His glory, because they couldn't be in that presence and live. It was a vision of what it will be like to be a spirit being.

"...the glory as of the only begotten with the Father), full of grace and truth" (v 14).

Now let's jump ahead with all of this. There are many other verses, so I want you, during the Feast of Tabernacles, to go ahead and study through the book of Psalms and see how many times it refers to:

- the House of God
- the Courts of God
- the presence of God
- the wings of God

• the shield of God

Now let's see what Jesus said because He is doing this right now, and He has been doing it all along. For all of those who are going to be in the Kingdom.

John 14:1: "Let not your heart be troubled...." *Don't let anything*:

- shake your faith
- diminish your love
- keep you from serving God

"...You believe in God; believe also in Me. In My Father's house..." (vs 1-2).

That's where we're going to dwell, in the Father's house, and that will be New Jerusalem. We'll get to that at the end of the Feast of Tabernacles.

Verse 2: "In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were otherwise, I would have told you.... [he told the apostles] ... I am going to prepare a place for you."

What is that going to be like? Special for each and every one of us!

Verse 3: "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; so that where I am, you may be also." *That's quite a thing!*

Let's take some other words of Jesus that go clear back to where we started in Psa. 133, 'how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity,' and let's add the word *love* to it.

Now, let's see. Through this face of the Tabernacles, let's really apply what we are covering right now in the introduction.

John 15:7—*Jesus said*: "If you dwell in Me, and My words dwell in you, you shall ask whatever you desire, and it shall come to pass for you."

Providing it's the will of God because He said, we are to ask, 'Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.'

Verse 8: "In this is My Father glorified, that you bear much fruit; so shall you be My disciples."

Notice what God wants with us and between us and for all of us so that we can

- attain to the Kingdom of God
- attain to New Jerusalem and the very House of God forever

Verse 8: "In this is My Father glorified, that

you bear much fruit; so shall you be My disciples. As the Father has loved Me, I also have loved you..." (vs 8-9).

Think about that regardless of what you may think about anyone else. This is true.

So, He says, "...<u>live in My love</u>" (v 9). Let's see if we can do that this Feast of Tabernacles!

Verse 10: "If you keep My commandments, you shall live in My love; just as I have kept My Father's commandments and live in His love. These things I have spoken to you, in order that My joy may dwell in you, and that your joy may be full" (vs 10-11). How is that joy going to be full?

Verse 12: "This is My commandment: that you love one another, as I have loved you."

That's what God wants. The ultimate of what God wants is *love backed up by*:

- obedience
- faith
- belief
- works
- whatever we do

Then we can come to live in the House of God. That's the great spiritual meaning of the Feast of Tabernacles, *that we will dwell in the house of the Lord forever!*

So, brethren, have a wonderful Feast. Make this a joyous Feast. Make it a time that is going to be a memorable Feast so that it will carry you through to the Passover time next spring!

Enjoy the Feast, love one another, and fulfill the Word of God and have a great Feast of Tabernacles!

Scriptural References:

- 1) Psalm 133:1-3
- 2) Psalm 27:1-4, 7-8
- 3) Psalm 65:1-5
- 4) Psalm 84:1-10
- 5) Psalm 100:1-5
- 6) Psalm 101:1-4, 6-7
- 7) John 1:14
- 8) John 14:1-4
- 9) John 15:7-12

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Revelation 20
- Ephesians 4

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The Everlasting Kingdom

(**Day 1—FÖT**)

Fred R. Coulter—September 30, 2023

Greetings, brethren, welcome to the Feast of Tabernacles, *the Everlasting Kingdom!*

We know that the Feast of Tabernacles pictures many, many different things, and we can't cover all of these in one Feast of Tabernacles, or two or three or four, or maybe five or maybe even more *because it encompasses the whole Bible!* As we know, God has put all the Holy Days in Lev. 23.

When we start out a Holy Day or a Feast, of course, that's where we begin because that's where God gives us the time-setting of when to keep the Feast as well as the Sabbath. You know that the first part of it has to do with the weekly Sabbath and the weekly Sabbath, sanctifies all the other Feast and Sabbaths, as well. So here we are at the Feast of Tabernacle.

Now, just in case there may be someone out there who thinks that these Holy Days and Feasts are for the Jews; *that is not true!* Also, the children of Israel are not encompassed in the one tribe of Judah; *there are 12!* You know that through our book: *America and Britain In Prophecy—Two Nations that Changed the World—Their Biblical Origin and Their Prophetic Destiny* that *we* are of the 12 tribes of Israel, and probably in America there are remnants of all the 12 tribes as well as most of the nations of the world.

That's because in America is the last place in the world that the Truth of the Bible can be preached and heard. Now it goes out around the world through various digital means that we have available to us; but it originates in America. We know that the Protestants have the name of Jesus, but that's about all they have.

There are other Churches of God who are preaching the Truth and we wish them well and hope that they stay true to the Word of God. So, here we go:

Leviticus 23:33: "And the LORD spoke to Moses saying, 'Speak to the children of Israel, saying, "The fifteenth day of this seventh month *shall be* the Feast of Tabernacles for seven days to the LORD"" (vs 33-34).

It's not maybe; it's not optional, *it is shall be* because God established it on the first day:

Verse 35: "On the first day *shall be* a Holy convocation. You shall do no servile work *therein*. Seven days you shall offer an offering made by fire

to the LORD...." (vs 35-36). You can read that in Num. 28 & 29!

"... On the eighth day..." (v 36)—so here's another day after the seven! So, we'll get to that a little bit later.

Now then, we're to bring an offering to God whenever we come before Him on His Holy Days:

Verse 38: "Besides the Sabbaths of the LORD, and besides your gifts, and besides all your vows, and besides all your freewill offerings, which you give to the LORD."

God shows that this reflects what He wants from us. In taking up an offering, we also have another place in Deut. 16. So, let's go there and read it into the record so that we have it for the Holy Day.

Let's understand that the whole basis of everything that God wants is based on the first and primary commandment, which is this. <u>You shall love the Lord your God, with all your heart, mind, soul, and strength!</u>

When one of the doctors of the Law heard Jesus quote that properly, he said, 'You have well spoken Master.' Jesus said, 'You are not far from the Truth.' That's the Truth! That's what it has to be!

Deuteronomy 16:16: "Three times in a year shall all your males appear before the LORD your God in the place which He shall choose..."

When they had the temple, all that area around there was the greater festival area. But now that we are scattered around the world, the place that He chooses is where God opens up the way for us to have the Feast of Tabernacles at various locations.

Many of us today, because of the way that circumstances are in the world, we're scattered and can't get out and get to the various Feast sites. So, we're very thankful for all the digital means that we have of getting this out to everyone who is scattered. It required all the males because some of the women had to stay back:

- to take care of new infants
- to take care of childbirth
- to take care of those who are aged and infirm

"...all your males appear before the LORD your God in the place which He shall choose: in the Feast of Unleavened Bread, and in the Feast of

Weeks... [we've kept those already; there's great meaning to it] ...and in the Feast of Tabernacles. And they shall not appear before the LORD empty, every man *shall give* as he is able..." (vs 16-17).

Notice the next sentence here, because this helps us understand that God is going to bless us:

- when we love Him
- when we serve Him
- when we keep His commandments
- when we keep His Sabbath and Holy Days

He always will; He will see that we have sufficiency for the things that we need

"...according to the blessing of the LORD your God, which He has given you" (v 17).

(pause for the offering)

Thank you very much, brethren, for the offerings that you give and the tithes and offerings that you send in on a regular basis. We always use it:

- to preach the Gospel
- to serve the brethren
- to produce the things that we need

so we can learn of the way of God and grow in grace and knowledge!

We're not out here to have great, wonderful, expensive things. We don't need them because all of the great expensive things are going to be given to us when we're in the Kingdom of God. That will be far greater than anything that we can generate in this world today. And furthermore, we will have eternal life, because we will be in God's Everlasting Kingdom.

Now that's quite a statement, isn't it? If you could give another name to the Bible, you could say the Book of the Everlasting Kingdom, because all the way through it:

- it talks about God
- it talks about His rule
- it talks about His Plan
- it talks about when He is going to do it

So the *Everlasting Kingdom*; let's see what a tremendous thing that that is.

The whole thing that we have is the *Everlasting Kingdom*, and the only way we can live there is that we live forever, too. That's why we have the Feast of Pentecost.

Psa. 145 is quite a Psalm when you really get into it, the whole thing.

Psalm 145:8: "The LORD is gracious and full of compassion.... [that certainly is true] ...slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love."

God loves us! He has called us! We have known the purpose and continue to exercise that!

Verse 9: "The LORD is good to all, and His tender mercies are over all His works. All Your works shall praise..." (vs 9-10).

I don't know how some of these things that are not living beings can praise God, so we'll just have to be in the Kingdom to figure out how that's going to be. We know that the energy that comes even from just like a wooden desk like we have here, that's something we don't quite understand, but it's there.

Verse 10: "All Your works shall praise You, O LORD; and Your saints shall bless You"—because:

- we love God
- we serve Him
- we bless Him
- we thank Him for everything that He does

Verse 11: "They shall speak of the glory of Your Kingdom and talk of Your power, to make known to the sons of men His mighty acts, and the glorious majesty of His Kingdom" (vs 11-12).

That's preaching the Gospel, and everything about it! Verse 13 establishes it for all time. Now just think of that! God has called us, so we're part of something that is eternal forever!

Verse 13: "Your Kingdom is **an Everlasting Kingdom**, and Your dominion endures throughout all generations."

Now that's something, an *Everlasting* Kingdom, that's quite a thing! God has revealed this in step-by-step ways in the Bible and He is made it known. Let's look at it in the book of Daniel and let's see what we have there. The book of Daniel is very interesting because it contains the major outline of all prophecies in the Bible, and how that God deals with all nations.

So this is quite a thing! We won't get into the details of it, but let's see that after the dream and vision of Nebuchadnezzar and Daniel was able to tell him what the dream was and what he saw and the meaning of it and everything concerning it.

Actually that image of Babylon, starting with the head of gold, coming clear down to the feet and legs and toes of iron and clay is the whole history of the world That's quite an amazing

prophecy. Let's see that this brings us up to date as to what's just as in the near future ahead of us?

Daniel 2:44: "And in the days of these kings, the God of heaven... [not the god of this earth Satan the devil] ...shall set up a Kingdom... [an *Everlasting Kingdom*] ...which shall never be destroyed.... [we're all part of that] ...And the Kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever"—an *Everlasting Kingdom!*

We know that the One Who is going to be King will be the One we know as Jesus Christ, and we're going to be part of that Kingdom. We are going to rule and reign with Him (Rev. 20), so that everything we are doing now is preparation for that time.

Now let's see something very interesting because the Bible tells us in Jer. 18 that God is always judging the nations.

<u>IF</u> a nation is doing well—that is following along with as many commandments of God as possible—He will bless them. But <u>IF</u> that nation sins and rejects what God has given, then there will be punishment. We're seeing that today, right now, right here in America and in Western Europe, because we're the descendants of the children of Israel in the end-time, and we are abandoning God!

Nebuchadnezzar was ahead of gold. That's what started the whole image all the way down to the feet and toes. Actually when you understand it properly. *Dan. 4 is an epistle from King Nebuchadnezza*r to all the rest of the world:

Daniel 4:1: "Nebuchadnezzar the king, to all people, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth... [and we can add to that down through time because there's always been God's Word] ...It seemed good to me to declare the signs and wonders that The Most High God has done for me" (vs 1-2).—because of the experience that he went through having lost his kingdom for seven years! He was turned out into the pasture, just a wild beast.

Verse 3: "How great *are* His signs! And how mighty *are* His wonders! His Kingdom is an Everlasting Kingdom, and His dominion is from generation to generation."

Then he tells the whole account of what got him into trouble and what got him into trouble was this: his sins and his arrogance of thinking, 'Oh, look at what <u>I</u> have made. Aren't <u>I</u> great? <u>He lost his mind for seven years!</u> So, that's quite a thing!

Now let's see what happened at the end of that seven years:

Verse 34: "And at the end of the days, I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted up my eyes to heaven, and my understanding returned to me."

Notice what he did, and this is what we need to do whenever God delivers us from any trial or difficulty that we are in, and lo, we have plenty of those!

"...and I blessed the Most High, and I praised and honored Him Who lives forever, <u>for Hisdominion is an everlasting dominion</u>, <u>and HisKingdom is from generation to generation</u>" (v 34).

Notice how often that is repeated. That should really tell us that God always rules. He's given rulership over to men because men and women—beginning with Adam and Eve—have chosen to go *their own way*, *thinking* that they can work out everything themselves!

What does the history of the world show us? Since there's Satan the devil around also, that is never possible! Through the whole history of man, they have never succeeded, except in just a few short periods of time that God has blessed the people of Israel.

Otherwise, it's war, death, famine, uprising, disease, sickness, and everything going wrong! *Notice how humble he was here*:

Verse 35: "And all the inhabitants of the earth are counted as nothing..."

What does it say in Isa. 40? All the nations of the world are like a drop in a bucket! That tells us how great God is. Then after that, God says, 'Look to the heavens above and look what I've made. I call them all by name and number them. Then He challenges mankind:

- Who has ever been a counselor to Me?
- Who has ever instructed me?
- No one!

Nebuchadnezzar really learned that lesson here!

"...and He does according to His will in the host of heaven... [the whole universe] ...and among the inhabitants of the earth.... [all made in the image of God] ...And none can stay His hand, or say to Him, 'What are You doing?'" (v 35).

After all of his advisors and all of his subordinates came and made obeisance to him:

Verse 37: "Now, I Nebuchadnezzar, praise and exalt and honor the King of heaven, for all His works are Truth and His ways justice. And those who walk in pride He is able to abase"—

regardless of who you are!

Now, that's quite a thing. But the whole thing we want to understand is *the Everlasting Kingdom*.

Dan. 7—let's see a little bit more about the Kingdom because here Daniel gives us a rundown of, in another form of everything that was in the big idol of a man starting with the head of gold.

It gives it in a little different way to show a little time setting when these things will occur. Let's see the summary of this from God to Daniel. If you want to know about this, you send for our series, the transcript book: Daniel/Revelation, and that's an extended series going through all the Scriptures, putting all of these things together so you have an outline of what's going to happen.

Daniel 7:17: "These great beasts, which are four, *are* four kings that shall arise out of the earth. But the saints of The Most High..." (vs 17-18).

In the New Testament, The Most High is the Father, and *saints* means *those who have been made Holy because they've received the Holy Spirit!* They have been perfected with the Word of God through:

- living
- worshiping
- serving
- growing in grace and knowledge

Verse 18: "But the saints of The Most High shall receive the Kingdom and possess the Kingdom forever, even forever and ever."

Here at the Feast of Tabernacles, we're going to learn that it's talking about how we're going to live with God. What it's going to be like, what His Kingdom is going to be. The Bible tells us that, and it tells us how are we going to get into the Kingdom and what's going to happen to those who don't yield to God. Where will they be?

Verse 19: "Then I desired to know the truth concerning the fourth beast, which was different from all the others, exceedingly dreadful, whose teeth were of iron and his nails of brass; who devoured, broke in pieces, and stamped the rest with his feet."

Then he wanted to know about the 10 horns and so forth. All of these things occurred:

Verse 22: "<u>Until the Ancient of Days</u> came..."

That refers to God the Father, and also indirectly to the return of Jesus Christ,

"...<u>and judgment was given to the saints</u> of The Most High..." (v 22).

That's quite a thing! We're going to talk about *judgment* during this Feast at Tabernacles.

"...And the time came that the saints possessed the Kingdom" (v 22).

Right at the end we're going to have to fight for it. Then he talks about the fourth beast and so forth.

Verse 25: "And he [the beast] shall speak words against the Most High..."

We're living in that time right now! Everything is against God! Everything is against anything to do with God.

Even those who profess to know God, follow part of His words, but are not necessarily the saints. Even against them, there's a lot of trouble and difficulty today, such as we have not seen since the Inquisition days.

Verse 25: "And he shall speak words against the Most High..." [the Beast Power as we know it (Rev. 13)] ...and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and think to change the set times and the laws...."

So, *this beast* continuing down through time did change the set times and the laws! Look at what Satan has done through the Catholic Church to the Laws of God and what he has done to the Laws of God in every one of the other religions of this world.

We're seeing now at this time that they're all coming together. That's quite a thing! If they have come out with an Artificial Intelligence Bible, it's going to be the greatest fake Bible ever devised! You wait!

"...think to change the set times and the laws. And they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and one-half time" (v 25).

There are two ways of figuring this time, times, and half a time:

- 1. is the long term
- 2. is the last three and a half years

Verse 26: "But <u>the judgment shall sit</u>, and his dominion shall be taken away to be consumed and to be destroyed unto the end."

Every last thing of the kingdoms of men are going to come to an end *because the Everlasting Kingdom of God is coming on the earth*, and we're going to administer it to all people, all nations, everywhere in the world.

God has given us the greatest calling possible to help Him, to assist Him and Christ to bring:

- peace
- love
- order
- God's Laws
- God's ways
- God's blessings

to the whole world!

Verse 27: "And the Kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the Kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of The Most High..." Think about that!

We'll look at a Scripture in Romans for just a minute here and see what that entails.

"... Whose Kingdom is an Everlasting Kingdom. And all kingdoms shall serve and obey Him" (v 27).

There's that nasty word that people don't like: *obey Him!* So, the bottom line will be everyone's either going to:

- love God
- obey Him
- want Him
- desire Him

or they won't be! It's that simple! Let's see how this applies to us and how that God is working with us:

- to prepare us
- to educate us
- to train us

so that we can be ready for the return of Jesus Christ!

When we're resurrected and on the Sea of Glass, we have to be there for four months because we have so much to learn, know and do before we can come down with Christ to the earth and start ruling the earth.

So you go back over the things that we did on Pentecost, because in order to take over the world in its most destroyed state, up to that point in history that has ever been, is going to take a lot of understanding and knowledge so that we know what we're going to do and know how we're going to do it.

This is important because having the Holy Spirit of God is the most important thing that we can have at this time, *and God gives it to us!* We are to ask God to use the Holy Spirit:

- to lead us
- to guide us
- to help us understand His Word
- to worship Him
- to serve Him
- to love the brethren
- to serve the brethren

and everything about our life.

All of that is summed up in that first commandment of loving God with all your heart, mind, soul, being and strength!

Romans 8:14: "For as many as are led by *the* Spirit of God, <u>these are *the* sons of God</u>." *Think about that!*

How many in the world fall into that category? Today, very few, because it's like Jesus said:

When the Son of man comes, will He find the faith—that is the true faith—on the earth?

It's going to be hard to find!

Verse 15: "Now, you have not received a spirit of bondage again unto **fear**...."

That's the spirit of the world! That spirit emanates from Satan, the devil, because he's 'the prince of the power of the air,' and he can emanate those spiritual powers toward people who come after him

"...but <u>you have received the Spirit of sonship</u>..." (v 15). which comes from God, God the Father!.

Read John 14 about what it says beginning in verse 15 to the end of the chapter.

"...but you have received *the* Spirit of sonship, whereby we call out, 'Abba, Father.'" (v 15).

That's the highest sacred name possible that you acknowledge that God is our Father, the God Most High!

Verse 16: "The Spirit itself bears witness conjointly with our own spirit, *testifying* that we are *the* children of God."

God has a great plan for us, which is pictured by all of his Holy Days, but in particularly the Feast of Tabernacles and The Last Great Day.

Verse 17: "Now, <u>if</u> we are children, we are also heirs—truly, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—<u>if</u> indeed we suffer together with Him, so that we may also be glorified together with Him."

Notice the next two verses, because this tells us what's going on in the world and why we keep the Feast of Tabernacles as well as all of the other days of God.

Verse 18: "For I reckon that the sufferings of the present time *are* not worthy *to be compared* with the glory that shall be revealed in us."

- What is it going to be like to be a son or daughter of God, and have the ability to shine like the sun?
- What is that going to be like?
- Do you see how great the calling of God is?

Verse 19: "For the earnest expectation of the creation..."

- How important are you and all of the saints going clear back through history?
- How important are we to the whole Plan of God?
- How important are we to the whole purpose of God?

Verse 19: "For the earnest expectation of the creation itself **is awaiting the manifestation of the sons of God.**"

Why? Because we're going to straighten out the world and bring them the Truth and the Way of God!

Verse 20: "Because the creation was subjected to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of Him who subjected *it* in hope."

Then Paul sums up what it's going to be all during the Millennium and the 100-year period and The Last Great Day

Verse 21: "In order that the creation itself might be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God." *That's us!*

Verse 22: "For we know that all the creation is groaning together and travailing together until now. And not only *that*, but even we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, also groan within ourselves, awaiting the sonship—the redemption of our bodies" (vs 22-23).

So that's quite a thing to an *Everlasting Kingdom!*

We'll look at some other things, especially the teachings of Jesus Christ, which tell us how do we get into the Kingdom.

(break@39:53)

Let's come to Isa. 9. We have covered this in the past, but this is central to everything else that goes on in the Plan of God and:

- for the redemption of mankind
- for the first coming of Christ
- for His second coming
- for setting up the Kingdom
- for sitting on the throne of David
- for being an everlasting Father

Now, when I asked Michael Heiss, 'How do the Jews understand Isa. 9:6-7? He said:

They don't, because when you reject the first coming of Jesus Christ, how are you going to understand the prophecies concerning His first coming, His birth, and His Gospel?

So let's read it because Isa. 9:6-7 encompasses—in a summary and not in chronological order—the whole work of God through Christ!

Isaiah 9:6: "For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulders; and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."

Whoa! That's an awful lot in just one verse. Let's look at that again:.

- This talks about His first coming: "...unto us a Child is born..." and we find that in Luke 1.
- > "...unto us a Son is given; and the government..."

That's what's wrong with the world today. *Every* single government of man is rotten to the core!.

- that's why the Kingdom of God is coming
- that's why it has to be an Everlasting Kingdom
- that's why it has to be for those who enter into it, that they:
 - ✓ love God
 - ✓ serve Him
 - ✓ are part of God's overall purpose
- "...the government shall be upon His shoulders; and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God..."

Think about that. How can a child be born to become the Mighty God? If you don't have the New Testament, there's no way you can understand that. To this day, the Jews are looking for a physical messiah.

"...The Everlasting Father..."

There is God to Father. How can Christ be called the Everlasting Father? *Because he's going to marry the Church* (Rev. 19). And the Church will be all the resurrected saints!

We're going to help bring people to conversion and to receiving eternal life all during the Millennium. Whose children will these be? *The children of Christ and a Bride!* That's when He becomes an *Everlasting Father!* He's everlasting because He's eternal!

"...The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of *His* government and peace *there shall be* no end... [it's eternal] ...upon the throne of David, and over His Kingdom, to order it and to establish it with judgment and with righteousness from henceforth, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this" (vs 6-7).

When God says He's going to do it, guess what? *It's going to be done!* You can take that statement and you can go through the Bible and apply it to everything in the Bible, because it is the Word of God.

Luke 1—let's see the part of this fulfillment concerning Jesus, that is the Word of God, becoming Jesus the Christ, born of the virgin Mary.

Now we've got a special short series on Church at Home {churchathome.org} which you can download, which is entitled, *How Much Did Mary and Elizabeth Know?* When you read Luke the first and second chapters, and all that they say about what was going to happen, they were actually inspired by the Holy Spirit to prophesy of these things.

The only reason that we have these words is that they probably wrote them down. To commemorate what was going on because it was a great thing that was happening. Elizabeth, who was beyond childbearing age was pregnant with John the Baptist for six months until Mary received the begettal from God the Father, to bring forth a Son, a Child, and His name will be called Emmanuel, which means *God with us!*

So here's what happened to Mary. One thing we're not told anything about is this. In what position in the Kingdom of God will Mary obtained? We don't know! So, the best way we're going to find out is be there at the resurrection, because she will be, and be there on the Sea of Glass and be there when Jesus presents all of us to God the Father. We receive our rewards and we are told what we're going to do.

Here's what happened. This is the King who is going to be the heir of the throne of David and of the government of the World.

Luke 1:26: "And in the sixth month of her pregnancy... [that's Elizabeth] ...the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the lineage of David; and the name of the virgin was Mary. And after coming to her, the angel said, 'Hail, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you; blessed are you among women" (vs 26-29).

That means *all women*, quite a thing! Amazing!

Verse 29: "But when she saw *him*, she was *greatly* perplexed at his message, and was considering what kind of salutation this might be."

You know that doesn't happen every day. Here she is in her house, and all of a sudden, boom, here's the Angel Gabriel saying, "...'Hail Mary, you who are highly favored!...."—of God.

What does this mean? She was considering what this might be.

Verse 30: "Then the angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, because you have found grace with God; and behold, <u>you shall conceive in your womb and give birth to a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus</u>" (vs 30-31).

Now listen carefully because this ties in everything in the Old Testament for the beginning of the New Testament, to show that it is a continuation of God's Plan.

Verse 32: "He shall be great, and shall be called *the* Son of *the* Highest..."

So <u>the Lord God, the Highest</u> in the Old Testament was the one who became the Father in the New Testament.

"...and *the* Lord God shall give Him the throne of David, His forefather; and He shall reign over the house of Jacob into the ages... [that is into the ages of eternity and of His Kingdom] ...and of His Kingdom there shall be no end" (vs 32-33)—an Everlasting Kingdom!

Verse 34: "But Mary said to the angel, 'How shall this be, since I have not had sexual relations with a man?' And the angel answered *and* said to her, '*The* Holy Spirit shall come upon you, and *the* power of *the* Highest shall overshadow you; and for this reason, the Holy One being begotten..." (vs 34-35)—present tense participle, *right at that moment when he was speaking!*

"...being begotten in you shall be called the Son of God" (v 35). The Everlasting Kingdom is going to be quite a thing!

Now then, let's jump ahead. Let's see, let's see what Jesus did when He began preaching. What did He preach?

Mark 1—after Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist and He was coming back from that:

Mark 1:13: "And He was there in the wilderness *for* forty days, tempted by Satan, and was with the wild animals; and *afterwards* angels ministered to Him."

He had to defeat Satan, the devil, while he was in the flesh, and after fasting for 40 days and 40 nights He was completely weak and He had to depend wholly on the Spirit of God. That's the humility He had to go through to become King as prophesied in Isa. 9.

Verse 14: "Now, after the imprisonment of John, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the Gospel of the Kingdom of God"

Gospel means *the Good News* of the Kingdom of God. See how the Kingdom of God threads through everything that there is in the Bible?

Verse 15: "And saying, 'The time has been fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is near at hand..." He was the One at hand!

He was standing right there, God manifested in the flesh, preaching and teaching! What's the first thing He said? <u>Repent</u> and <u>believe</u> the Gospel! To believe the Gospel means not only do you believe it:

- you embrace it
- you keep it
- you live by it

The Gospel is about the Kingdom of God!

Matt. 6:33—let's see how we are to respond to God. Let's see what God wants us to do so that we can be the saints as prophesied of *to rule and reign with Christ!* Notice how this ties in with what Jesus preached.

The Kingdom of God is in hand now in every generation. That means it's in hand to that generation and every succeeding generation down to Christ's second coming.

Matthew 6:33—He's saying to the disciples: "But as for you, seek..."

- search for
- go after

- find out
- seek first

That's the first thing in our life!

- to love God
- to serve Him
- to keep His commandments

which brings us into qualifying for the Kingdom of God. That's how we qualify!

"...seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness..." (v 33).

What is the righteousness of God?

- His commandments
- we have our sins forgiven
- we have direct contact with God the Father and Jesus Christ
- the Holy Spirit within us

This is to lead us and motivate us to seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness!

"...and all these things... [all the good things that you desire] ...shall be added to you" (v 33).

Matt. 5:48. expands on what it means to seek the Kingdom of God and to seek His righteousness.

- What is it to do for us?
- How are we to live?
- How are all these things going to be put together?

Matthew 5:48: "Therefore, you shall be perfect..."

- that perfection can only come through the Holy Spirit of God
- that perfection is a process over time that is called *perfecting*

In Eph. 4, Paul writes that the whole purpose of the whole ministry is for the **perfecting** of the saints!

So, we overcome our human nature with repentance every day. We'll see that in just a little bit. That's important if we're seeking the Kingdom of God. It's going to be as we started an *Everlasting Kingdom* and we will live forever.

Verse 48: "Therefore, you shall be perfect, even as your Father Who *is* in heaven is perfect." *That's the ultimate goal for every one of us*:

- to be in the Kingdom of God
- to serve God
- to rule and reign with Christ

Only God can do that!

Now, top all of this off on what God said He's going to do.

God, Christ and the angels are all visually working, carrying out the prophecies of God and bringing about all the end-time things to happen and develop so that the Family of God can be born at the resurrection. That's the key thing they are looking for right now.

Luke 12:31: "But seek the Kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added to you."

- don't feel deprived because you have a difficulty
- don't feel God is against you because you're going through a severe trial

He'll see you through it! That's why we're here! Think about this: In some ways, because of all of the ability of our digital world to interfere:

- into our lives
- into our mind
- into our heart

In some ways we have a more difficult time than other people in the past who never had the flick of the switch and the world is invited into your home!

Verse 32: "<u>Do not be afraid</u>..." No! Trust God in everything, regardless of the circumstances!

- God will work it out
- He'll take care of it

He looks at the long haul, and sometimes we get impatient and are demanding of God. Well, we need to repent of that and put ourselves in God's hands!

Verse 32: "Do not be afraid, little flock, **for your Father delights**..."

- God is pleased
- God is happy
- God is joyful
- God is exuberant

in giving you the Kingdom" (v 32).

Everything we do is figured in on the Kingdom of God.

Let's see how we're to pray. All of these are the teachings of Jesus Christ on how we attain to the Kingdom of God and what God is doing with us.

Matt. 6—Let's look at this prayer, this model prayer, which gives us a general outline on how we are to pray. The general things that we need to have in every prayer.

Matthew 6:6: "But you, when you pray, enter into a private room; and after shutting the door,

pray to your Father Who *is* in secret; and your Father Who sees in secret shall reward you openly."

Not vast long prayers for the public to be heard by someone and someone coming up and say, 'Oh, that was such a wonderful prayer.' We pray not to be seen of men or women. We pray to be heard of God!

Verse 7: "And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions, as the heathen *do*; for they think that by multiplying their words they shall be heard."

That's exactly what the Catholics do. The one they have: 'hail Mary...' and 'our father...' And you just repeat that over and over again. Repetition does not bring anything into your heart, in the way of loving God and serving Him.

When we pray, we're pouring our hearts out to God. We're looking to God to help us and guide us because of the great reward that He has for us.

- that we're going to be in the Kingdom of God in an Everlasting Kingdom
- that we're going to rule and reign with Christ
- that we'll see tomorrow: how we're going to help straighten out this world

Verse 8: "Now then, do not be like them; for **your Father knows** what things you have need of **before you ask Him**."

That's quite a statement! God knows! God will be there with us!

God doesn't wanna do anything so we get lifted up in our vanity, because that's all human nature and that gives an opportunity for Satan to work. *Then He makes it very clear how we to pray*:

Verse 9: "Therefore, you are to pray after this manner: 'Our Father...'"

Remember what we covered concerning sacred names? *The most sacred name of all is our Father!* That's higher than anything given in the Old Testament, because this is a direct relationship between each one of us and God.

We've received the begettal of the Holy Spirit from the Father, and there are two parts of it:

- 1. the begettal from the Father to be a son or daughter of God
- 2. of Jesus Christ, to develop the mind of Christ

Those are the two parts of the Holy Spirit within us!

"... 'Our Father, Who is in heaven, hallowed be Your name" (v 9). *That's the Holy, Sacred Name of God: our Father!*

Notice the first thing we ask for; v 10: "Your Kingdom come..." We're always looking for the coming of the Kingdom of God!

For everyone from the time of Christ up to right now with us all who have been faithful and died. That prayer is yet to be answered for all of us at the same time when Christ returns.

But when we yield to God and we keep His laws and commandments, we are under the jurisdiction of the Kingdom of God! We're not in it because the Kingdom of God has not come to the earth, yet; but we are under the Kingdom of God. As Jesus said, the Kingdom has come upon you, not that it is here, but you're yielding to the authority of the Kingdom of God!

Verse 10: "Your Kingdom come; Your will be done on earth, as *it is* in heaven...[that's quite a comparison] ...give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we also forgive our debtors" (vs 10-12).

That means our sins, because when we sin, we've created a debt that needs to be paid, and that debt is called 'the note of the debt' of our sins (Col. 2).

As we forgive others, that's a real key! We need to forgive others. Lots of times people—even within the Church—do not forgive, and therefore, they get themselves all worked up into frenzy and anger and difficulty and things like this that come along. You're not seeking the will of God with a perfect heart! You're seeking God to do your will.

Verse 13: "And lead us not into temptation... [and temptations can come in trial] ...but rescue us from the evil one.... [we need that today] ...For Yours is the Kingdom... [notice that it starts out, *Your Kingdom come*; it ends up *for Your Kingdom*] ...and the power and the glory forever. Amen." *That's quite a thing, yes, indeed!*

Matthew 12:24—this is when Jesus was casting out demons: "But when the Pharisees heard this, they said, 'This Man does not cast out demons except by Beelzebub, prince of the demons.' But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said to them, 'Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, , and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand. And if Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then shall his kingdom stand?" (vs 24-26).

- Isn't it interesting that Jesus says that Satan on this earth has a kingdom?
- Does he have his followers? *Oh yes!*
- Does he have the leaders? *Oh*, *yes!*
- Does it look like they're going to succeed? *Come very close to it!*

That's what the book of Revelation tells us. *But it shall not stand*, because what's one of the first things that's going to happen when we return to the earth from the Sea of Glass? *Satan is locked up!* When it talks about Satan being locked up, that means all the demons, as well.

Verse 27: "And if I by Beelzebub cast out demons, by whom do your sons cast *them* out? On account of this, they shall be your judges."

Whenever anything comes with as the power of God from God, notice what that represents:

Verse 28: "But if I by *the* Spirit of God cast out demons, then the Kingdom of God has come upon you."

In other words, now you are going to be judged by what the Kingdom of God stands for.

We will see you cannot buy your way into the Kingdom of God. Everyone wants to be in the presence of God with blessings, and everyone wants to have eternal life.

So, Jesus was preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom of God and how to receive eternal life. We have this account of the rich man coming to Jesus.

Matthew 19:16: "Now at that time, one came to Him *and* said, 'Good Master, what good *thing* shall I do, that I may have eternal life?""

Now that's very interesting. 'I can do this'; sounds a little bit like Job. So, Jesus answered him. Now this is quite an answer, really!

Verse 17: "And He said to him, 'Why do you call Me good? No one *is* good except one—God...."

Why was that? Because even though He was God in the flesh, He had to have human nature. So, before God He was not perfect and He was not God, because He was in the flesh and had just enough God in Him so that He is God manifested in the flesh. But because of carrying human nature in Him, He could not be called 'good.'

Then Jesus continued; "...But if you desire to enter into life, keep the commandments" (v 17).

Now, the Protestants like to say that He didn't say anything about the Sabbath, but they forgot to mention, know or even understand that

Sabbath-keeping was the Law of the land at that time.

Verse 18: "Then he said to Him, 'Which?'...."

'Just tell me just which one,' because he was doing a lot of them.

"...And Jesus said, 'You shall not commit murder; you shall not commit adultery; you shall not steal; you shall not bear false witness; honor your father and your mother; and, you shall love your neighbor as yourself" (vs 18-19).

The young man is sitting there thinking: 'Oh boy, I've done these all my life.'

Verse 20: "The young man said to Him, 'I have kept all these things from my youth. What do I yet lack?"—Oh, I'm almost there!

Verse 21: "Jesus said to him, 'If you desire to be perfect..."

We covered that. We're to be perfect as our Father in heaven is perfect, and we are being perfected at this time!

"...go and sell your property, and give to the poor, and you shall have treasure in heaven; and come and follow Me" (v 21). Isn't that required of everyone?

- <u>IF</u> we're going to enter into the Kingdom of God
- *IF* we're going to receive eternal life

We can't have anything at all between us and God! That's what he's saying here, it was the riches that he had.

Verse 22: "But after hearing this word, the young man went away grieving, because he had many possessions. Then Jesus said to His disciples, 'Truly I say to you, it *is extremely* difficult for a rich man to enter into the Kingdom of Heaven'" (vs 22-23).

Why? Because they have so many things that they look to, because that gives them a sense of power and belonging!

God wants us to have the Holy Spirit, which is the power of God, not the physical things in the world!

Verse 23: "Then Jesus said to His disciples, 'Truly I say to you, it *is extremely* difficult for a rich man to enter into the Kingdom of Heaven. And again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to pass through *the* eye of a needle than *for* a rich man to enter into the Kingdom of God'" (vs 23-24).

Equating Kingdom of Heaven and Kingdom of God together. The disciples not yet being really converted.

Verse 25: "But after hearing this, the disciples were greatly astonished *and* said, 'Who then is able to be saved?' But Jesus looked at them and said, 'With men this is impossible; **but with God all things are possible**" (vs 25-26).

That has to do with getting into the Kingdom of God. God has called us to His Everlasting Kingdom, and He has called us to really yield to God so that we are being perfected. Tomorrow we're going to see and answer the questions:

- What are we going to be doing in the Millennium?
- How are we going to straighten out this world?

Thank you for being here for the first day of the Feast of Tabernacles, and we will see you tomorrow!

Scriptural References:

- 1) Leviticus 23:33-36, 38
- 2) Deuteronomy 16:16-17
- 3) Psalm 145:8-13
- 4) Daniel 2:44
- 5) Daniel 4:1-3, 34-35, 37
- 6) Daniel 7:17-19, 22, 25-27
- 7) Romans 8:14-23
- 8) Isaiah 9:6-7
- 9) Luke 1:26-35
- 10) Mark 1:13-15
- 11) Matthew 6:33
- 12) Matthew 5:48
- 13) Luke 12:31-32
- 14) Matthew 6:5-13 15) Matthew 12:24-28
- 16) Matthew 19:16-26

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Numbers 28; 29
- Revelation 20
- Jeremiah 18
- Isaiah 40
- Revelation 13
- John 14:15-31
- Revelation 19
- Ephesians 4
- Colossians 2

Also referenced:

- Book: America and Britain: Two Nations that Changed the World by Philip Neal
- Transcript Book: *Daniel/Revelation* with CDs and Chart
- Short Series on Church at Home {churchathome.org} How Much Did Mary and Elizabeth Know?

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The Beginning of the Millennium: What We Will Do

(Day 2—FOT)
Fred R. Coulter—October 1, 2023

Greetings, brethren! Welcome to Day 2 of the Feast of Tabernacles

Yesterday we saw that God's Plan is contained in the Kingdom. The meaning of the Kingdom, the meaning of everything about it, and it's called in the New Testament, the mystery of the Kingdom of God, which Jesus came to bring to His disciples the understanding of the mysteries of the Kingdom of God!

We put together in a book all the things that are in the Bible explaining about God's Plan for mankind! {God's Plan For Mankind Revealed by His Sabbath and Holy Days}

- we have God the Father and Jesus Christ
- we have the angelic realm
- we have the realm of Satan the devil and the demons
- we have everything concerning the earth
- everything concerning mankind
- what he has done
- how he has done it under the influence of Satan the devil

And how that has led to the first coming of Christ, Who was the Lord God of the Old Testament, and He tabernacled among us.

That was a type of God living with his people. As we will see as we go through this Feast of Tabernacles, that's also the whole meaning of the Feast of Tabernacles: living with God as His sons and daughters, and saving the world!

So, let's begin, and let's see what God says. We will look at what the beginning of the Millennium will be like.

Isaiah 46:9: "Remember the former things of old..."—the Old Testament, and everything that is there!

We're to remember that and understand the lessons and learn the Truth, and then add to it:

- the Gospel
- the Epistles of Paul

then the crowning capstone of the whole Plan of God:

• the book of Revelation, and how it's all going to come about.

Verse 9: "Remember the former things of old; for I *am* God, and there is none else, I am God, and there is none like Me."

Remember that the Hebrew word for God is 'Elohim,' and yet, it also speaks in the singular. Whatever the Lord God of the Old Testament brings, it also comes from The Most High, who is noted in the Old Testament, as well as the Lord God.

"...I am God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things, which were not *yet* done, saying..." (vs 9-10)

Now listen to this: Anybody out there who thinks they can go against God, the answer is 'No, you can't! You will think you can for a while, but you really can't!

"...'My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure" (v 10).

- Is there anyone going to stop God from doing that?
- Has Satan the devil and the angels stopped God from doing that? *NO!*

The will of God is going to be done, just like we saw yesterday in the prayer, Your will be done on earth as in heaven!

Now, if God says it, it's as good as done, though it may be centuries before it's finished.

Verse 11: "Calling a bird of prey from the east... [tie in Rev. 19] ...the man of my counsel from a far country... [also talking about Cyrus in these chapters in Isaiah] ...Yea, I have spoken..." (v 11).

Think about this for a minute! *God is not like a man!* Sometimes men just bloviate and don't mean it, but notice what God says about what He says:

"...Yea, I have spoken, I will also bring it to pass... [He will cause everything to work out exactly as He prophesied and proposed] ...I have purposed it... [that's the whole Plan of God] ...I will also do it" (v 11).

That's why we can have faith in God, because whatever He says is Truth, and whatever he

says, He will do: whether for blessing or whether for cursing!

Verse 12: "Hearken to Me, you stubborn-hearted who *are* far from righteousness; I bring near My righteousness..." (vs 12-13).

That's what He's going to do when Christ comes to the earth. He's going to bring:

- His Righteousness
- His Truth
- His Way

"...It shall not be far off, and My salvation shall not be delayed; and I will place salvation in Zion, for Israel My glory" (v 13). The whole thing about God's Plan hinges around:

- Abraham
- Isaac and Jacob and Israel
- Abraham and the Church

Rev. 19—let's see how Christ and the saints return to the earth and what is going to happen. It's going to be quite a thing! *This earth is going to have to be completely rebuilt!* We'll see all of that in just a minute.

Now, we've gone through Pentecost and everything that takes place on the Day of Pentecost, and how we're there over four months, because we need to:

- learn new language
- learn what we're going to do
- learn where we're going to go
- know who is going to be the one that we follow

There are a lot of people ahead of us in the Kingdom of God. *God has a place for everyone!*

Revelation 19:11: "And I saw heaven open; and behold, a white horse; and He Who sat on it *is* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness..."

Like we just read in Isaiah, 'My righteousness is near.'

"...<u>He does judge and make war</u>" (v 11) We will see what happens to war in a little bit!

Verse 12: "And His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns; and He had a name written that no one knows except Him. And He was clothed with a garment dipped in blood; and His name is The Word of God" (vs 12-13). Where do we find out in one of the Gospels?

John 1:1: "In *the* beginning was the Word, and the Word was with the God, and the Word was God."

Revelation 19:14: "And the armies in heaven were following Him..." Who's that? That's all the saints!

- we're going to learn what we're going to do.
- we're all going to be on white horses.
- we're going to come back to this earth
- we're going to start straightening out the earth according to the commands and the Plan of God

"...following Him on white horses; *and* they were clothed in fine linen, white and pure. And out of His mouth goes a sharp sword..." (vs 14-15).

All God has to do is <u>speak it</u>, and we'll see what happens in Zech. 14 what He does.

"...that with it He might smite the nations; and He shall shepherd them with an iron rod; and He treads the winepress of the fury and the wrath of the Almighty God. And on *His* garment and on His thigh He has a name written: King of kings..." (vs 15-16).

We're going to see that we're going to be priests and kings and rule under Christ!

Verse 17: "Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried out with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in *the* midst of heaven, 'Come and gather yourselves together to the supper of the great God."

And what a supper that is. Whenever there's a great disaster, God always also cleans it up. This is what he's doing here:

Verse 18: "So that you may eat *the* flesh of kings, and *the* flesh of chief captains, and *the* flesh of mighty *men*, and *the* flesh of horses, and of those who sit on them, and *the* flesh of all, free and bond, and small and great."

God takes care of the whole problem, beginning with eliminating *the beast* and *the false prophet*. So He has His special thing for them.

Verse 19: "And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies, gathered together to make war with Him Who sits on the horse, and with His army. And the beast was taken... [probably by an angel] ...and with him the false prophet who worked miracles in his presence, by which he had deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. **Those two**

were cast alive into the Lake of Fire, which burns with brimstone" (vs 19-20).

That's how God is going to start taking care of the problems of this world.

Verse 21: "And the rest were killed by the sword of Him Who sits on the horse, *even the sword* that goes out of His mouth; and all the birds were filled with their flesh."

Then God asked to deal with the source of sin. You can't bring in everlasting righteousness unless you get rid of the author of sin and lies and hatred against God.

Revelation 20:1: "Then I saw an angel descending from heaven, having the key of the abyss, and a great chain in his hand."

Now we covered part of this in detail on the Day of Atonement!

Verse 2: "And he took hold of the dragon, the ancient serpent, who is *the* Devil and Satan, and bound him *for* a thousand years. Then he cast him into the abyss, and locked him *up*, and sealed *the abyss* over him, so that he would not deceive the nations any longer until the thousand years were fulfilled..." (vs 2-3). We'll cover this on days 7 & 8!

"...and after that it is ordained that he be loosed *for* a short time" (v 3).

Now, here is an overall description of what we are going to do during the Millennium, and it's going to be tremendous. Brethren, that's going to be a time that we are going to be the sons and daughters of God, and we are going to help bring the world:

- peace
- happiness
- joy
- righteousness
- knowledge of God

Think about that!

That's why we're here. That's why we have Sabbath services every week, because we are preparing for the greatest thing to come upon this earth! And we will be an integral part of doing that!

If you have problems and difficulties, if you have trials and afflictions, put them all in God's hands, because *look at the calling that he has called us to!*

Verse 4: "And I saw thrones...."

Remember that Christ told the twelve apostles that they would sit on thrones *judging* the

twelve tribes of Israel. We have seen how David is going to be a king over Israel.

"...and they that sat upon them, and judgment was given to them..." (v 4). What's going to happen?

- judgment
- making decisions
- making things right

"...and *I saw* the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus, and for the Word of God, and those who did not worship the beast or his image, and did not receive the mark in their foreheads or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years" (v 4). *Think about how tremendous that that is!*

Zech. 14—let's see something very interesting, because this tells us how Christ is coming down to the earth. That means us with Him.

Here's a prophecy. Like we started out, God knows everything from the beginning and the ending, and He's working it all out according to His will. This tells us a lot. The first lesson that everybody's going to learn is that <u>you can't fight</u> *God*, because you're never going to win.

Zechariah 14:1: "Behold, the Day of the LORD comes... [tie in Rev. 19] ...and your spoil shall be divided in your midst, 'For I will gather all nations to battle against Jerusalem..." (vs 1-2).

God says He knows the beginning and the ending, the first and the last!

"...and the city shall be taken, and the houses plundered, and the women raped. And half of the city shall go into exile, and the rest of the people shall not be cut off from the city.' And the LORD shall go out... [tie in Rev. 19] ...and fight against those nations, as when He fought in the day of battle" (vs 2-3).

What did Jesus say to Pilate when he said, 'Are you the king of the Jews?'? Jesus said, 'My Kingdom is not of this world. If it were, My servants would fight.'

But now it's not of this world! So, that tells us we're going to fight with Christ. Here we're all on the Sea of Glass. Then Christ says we're ready to come to the earth.

So, here we come down from the Sea of Glass, down to the earth after the seven last plagues have been poured out. The armies are still fighting. We're coming on our white horses. Christ is leading us, and we're coming down to Jerusalem, down to

the Mount of Olives, which is just a little east of Jerusalem.

Verse 4: "And His feet shall stand in that day upon the Mount of Olives, which *is* before Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives shall split in two..."

So powerful—BOOM!—the mountain is going to split in two. Think what that's going to do to all the people there trying to fight God and the saints.

"...from the east and to the west, and make a very great valley. And half of the mountain shall move toward the north, and half of it toward the south. 'And you shall flee to the valley of My mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach to Azal. And you shall flee as you fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah.' And the LORD my God shall come, and all the saints with You" (vs 4-5). An amazing thing!

Verse 6: "And it shall come to pass in that day, that the light shall not be clear, nor dark. And it will be one day, which shall be known to the LORD, neither day nor night; but it shall come to pass that at evening time it shall be light. And it shall be in that day, that living waters shall go out from Jerusalem..." (vs 6-8).

That's to heal the whole earth starting in Jerusalem! "...living waters...". Also, a type of salvation coming to all people!

"...half of them shall go toward the eastern sea, and half of them toward the western sea. In summer and in winter it shall be. And **the LORD shall be King over all the earth**..." (vs 8-9).

We read in Rev. 19, He is Lord of lords and King of kings.

"...in that day there shall be one LORD, and His name shall be one. All the land shall be turned as a plain from Geba to Rimmon south of Jerusalem. And it shall be raised up and remain in its place, from Benjamin's Gate to the place of the First Gate; to the Corner Gate, and from the Tower of Hananeel to the king's winepresses. And they shall dwell in it, and there shall never again be any more utter destruction, but Jerusalem shall dwell safely" (vs 9-11).

Of course, that goes on and we'll see how that's going to be in just a little bit.

This sets the stage for the beginning of the Millennium:

Verse 12: "And this shall be the plague with which the LORD will smite all the people who have fought against Jerusalem...."

So the sword that goes out of the mouth of Jesus what is it going to do for all of those who come to fight? *The greatest secret weapon of all!*

"...Their flesh shall consume away while they stand on their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their sockets. And their tongue shall consume away in their mouth" (v 12).

What a fate! That just all falls to the ground. That's why God calls all the birds of prey to eat up all the flesh and clean up the mess.

Verse 13: "And it shall be in that day *that* a great panic from the LORD shall be among them. And they shall each one lay hold of his neighbor, and his hand shall rise up against the hand of his neighbor. And Judah also shall fight at Jerusalem; and the wealth of all the nations all around shall be gathered... [all the wealth is going to come back to Jerusalem] ...gold and silver and clothing in great abundance" (vs 12-14).

So, when God sets in to do it He means business! It's going to be quite a thing, indeed! No one is going to turn their hand against it. It isn't going to work.

Verse 15: "And likewise shall be the plague of the horse, the mule, the camel, and the donkey, and of all the beasts which shall be in these camps—
it shall be as this plague. And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left of all the nations which came up against Jerusalem shall even go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the Feast of Tabernacles" (vs 15-16).

So everyone who says—about the Holy Days and Sabbath of God—that that's for the Jews. What is Christ going to do when He returns? *This is why He never did away with the Law!* nor the Sabbath! nor the Holy Days, *because all of those are foundational to God's Plan!*

Verse 17: "And it shall be, whoever will not come up from all the families of the earth to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain."

That's how God will react and people will know and they will be told: 'You don't have rain because you didn't send anyone to represent you in Jerusalem.'

All people in the world can't come to Jerusalem but every nation has got to have the

representatives from those nations come to Jerusalem to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

Verse 18: "And <u>if</u> the family of Egypt that has no rain, does not come up to present themselves, *this* shall be the plague with which the LORD shall strike the nations that do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles." There it is! All nations!

- Are these not all Gentile nations?
- Does it say all Jews who don't come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles? *NO!*.

It says "...strike the nations that do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles."

Verse 19: "This shall be Egypt's punishment, and the punishment of all the nations who do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles."

Now how about the Sabbath every week? You know that's going to be something!

Now let's see how the earth is going to be. Let's come here to Isa. 24 and let's see the mess that we're going to have to clean up.

Though we're going to rule with Christ and serve all the people and teach them, *the whole world needs to be restored!* This will begin the greatest building and rebuilding project in the world. *He says right here*:

Isaiah 24:1: "Behold, the LORD makes the earth empty and makes it waste, and turns it upside down, and scatters its inhabitants. And as *it is* with the people, so it shall be with the priest; as with the slave, so with the master; as with the handmaid, so it is with her mistress; as with the buyer, so with the seller; as with the lender, so with the borrower; as with the creditor, so with the debtor. The earth shall be completely laid waste, and utterly stripped; for the LORD has spoken this word" (vs 1-3). *So it's going to be completely devastated!*

Verse 4: "The earth mourns *and* languishes; the world withers *and* languishes; the proud people of the earth wither. And the earth is defiled under its people; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, and have broken the everlasting covenant. Therefore, the curse has devoured the earth..." (vs 4-6).

Why do the Protestants insist that the laws and commandments of God have been done away? Those prophets are the leading ones to set the stage for all of this to be done, because that's what they said! I saw a Protestant minister online, and he did a good job in telling people that they need to repent

and so forth, but he never said anything about keeping the laws and commandments of God.

So when you bring a message, if you're a minister or elder, and you only bring half of it, or you only bring 60% of it, or you only bring 70% of it, you're missing the whole point! Look what it's doing to the earth, and what causes all these things to take place.

We're going to read some things in the Psalms that have become important for us to understand.

Here's how the world is going to be, and God has to stop it all. All of the saints will be there to help stop it, and we will fight and we will win! The people will come to repentance and know that this is of God.

Psalm 46:6: "The nations raged, the kingdoms were shaken; He uttered His voice, the earth melted. The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah" (vs 6-7).

All that happened just like we read in Isa. 24. Let's read on and see what happens, and remember in all of these things that we're going to cover from now on, every single one of us will be part of that!

- we will have responsibilities to do
- we will have things
- we need to teach
- we will have people that need to be healed
- we will have those who need to come to repentance from their sins
- we will help them do that

Verse 8: "Come, behold the works of the LORD who makes desolations upon the earth, Who makes wars to cease to the ends of the earth..." (vs 8-9).

- you must get rid of war
- you must get rid of all of the weapons
- you must get rid of all the ammunition
- human nature must be changed

Like it says there in Ezek. 36, that God will give them a heart of flesh to replace their rebellious heart, and that will help lead them to repentance!

Verse 9: "Who makes wars to cease to the ends of the earth; He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two; He burns the chariots in the fire. 'Be still, and know that I am God!....'" (vs 9-10).

No talking back to God about this! 'Oh well. that was my favorite sword, I use that in battle.

Sorry about that, fellow, you've got to get rid of it. Think about what's going to happen to all the guns. I mean, there has got to be a giant gargantuan cleanup of the way that men have armed themselves to the teeth. So, here's the message that will be:

Verse 10: "Be still, and know that I am God! I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.' The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah" (vs 10-11)—ready to start the Millennium! That's quite a thing!

Psalm 45, and let's see how God makes us a part of this. Everything you have thought about when you watch the news and you see all the things happening, and you wonder: Why can't they get it right? Well, the answer is they're blinded by Satan the devil! Their desires are not to do good, even if it's right in front of their face, because that is complete rebellion.

Psalm 45:1: "My heart overflows with a goodly matter; I speak of my works to the King, my tongue is the pen of a ready writer. You are more excellent than the children of men; grace is poured upon Your lips; therefore, God has blessed You forever. Gird Your sword upon Your thigh, O Mighty One, with Your glory and Your majesty. And ride victoriously in Your majesty in behalf of Truth... [this is the victory, the victory of Truth] ...and meekness and righteousness... [that's going to be for all people] ...and let Your right hand teach You awesome things" (vs 1-4).

So, we're all going to learn and the world is going to learn everything that mankind has deep in his heart about wanting everything right and everything 'holy' and everything good, but never, *never*, *never* finding the way to accomplish it. It will be done during the Millennium.

Verse 5: "Your arrows are sharp in the heart of the King's enemies, whereby the people fall under You. Your Throne, O God, is forever and ever; a scepter of justice is the scepter of Your Kingdom" (vs 5-6).

There it is again, *the Kingdom of God*, and we will bring that to the earth!

Verse 7: "You love righteousness and hate wickedness; therefore, God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness above Your fellows."

Quite a thing, indeed! When Christ returns and the saints are there with Him:

- we'll put away all the wars
- we'll help people come to find out what they need to do

- what they need to have done to them in a way of helping them
- healing them
- teaching them
- bringing them the knowledge of God
- telling them God rules from Jerusalem

And we are here as His sons and daughters

- to teach you
- to help you
- to show you what you need to do

So, that's how the Millennium begins!

(break@40:00)

Now let's continue on with the rebuilding of the world at the beginning of the Millennium, with Christ as King and all the patriarchs and all the saints! We all have a great work to do! The most important thing that is in our lives right now is that we develop the character of

- righteousness
- truth
- love
- service
- meekness
 - Why? Because look at all of the leaders of the world!
 - Why is the world in the mess that it is in? *Because all of the rulers are seeking to*:
 - do their own will
 - exercise their own power
 - dominate over other people
 - not teach them the truth the way that it should be

Let's see what it's going to be like:

- there's going to be happiness
- there's going to be joy
- there's going to be righteousness
- there's going to be right teaching
- there's going to be great production
- there's going to be every good thing that can be imaginable for all people

and salvation and entering into the Kingdom of God!

That's all going to take place. How is that going to be with so many people? Listen, all you have to do is get a good view of space through the James Webb telescope website—

{https://www.nasa.gov/content/james-webb-space-telescope-latest-news}

—and see something that the people in the Bible were not able to see: *the vastness of the universe that God has made!*

Remember God inhabits eternity and He wants all the sons and daughters and all the nations of the world to have a part in His overall plan, which He hasn't even revealed to us, yet. There's going to be about the whole rest of the universe.

Think about that! We need to think BIG with God's help of how marvelous that His Plan and everything is, but it can only work with *love*, *righteousness and Truth!* That's why all wars need to cease.

Psalm 47: "Clap your hands, all..."

Now whenever you have *all*, *let*, *may* or *if*, circle them, because all of that's important for you to understand what God is doing.

Verse 1: "Clap your hands, <u>all</u> you people; shout to God with the voice of triumph, for the LORD Most High is awesome; He is a great King over <u>all</u> the earth" (vs 1-2)—everywhere on earth!

Think about that. He shall subdue the people under us. That's the saints! We will teach them and help them come to conversion, so that they can have

- husband and wife
- great marriages
- wonderful children
- knowledge and education that puts to shame the knowledge and education that's being taught children today

Right now it's all satanic!

Verse 3: "He shall subdue the people under us and nations under our feet. He shall choose our inheritance for us, the excellency of Jacob whom He loved. Selah" (vs 3-4)—stop and meditate on it!

Sometimes we get so busy or we get so down in a trial that we're going through that we don't take time to think about things in the long term and what God is doing.

- God is going to help us
- God is going to lead us
- God is going to bring us to what He wants us to be

However that may be, and in some cases:

- there may be suffering
- there may be deprivation
- there may be physical ailments

but all of those things sort of bring us to God so that we can be in the Kingdom of God to help the

rest of the people during the Millennium come to understand God and be converted!

Verse 5: "God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a horn. Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises" (vs 5-6).

Whoa! Four times! We're going to have a lot of singing? Yes, indeed! A lot, a lot of singing!

Verse 7: "For God is King of all the earth.... [there it is repeated] ...sing praises with understanding."

Now that's something, that's quite a thing! Think about it today. Most music today is idiot music or rebellion tribal music.

- not with understanding
- not to glorify God

but to preach this world and Satan's values!

Verse 8: "God reigns over the nations...." So, he's king over all the earth and He's going to be responsible and make everything work, and we have a part in that.

"...God sits upon the Throne of His Holiness. The rulers of the peoples are gathered together..." (vs 8-9). *That's us!* We'll be ruling the people:

- in love
- in truth
- in righteousness
- in the knowledge of God

with the power of His Holy Spirit, and how much evermore God is going to reveal in what He wants us to learn and know.

We will probably find out that that is going to be so much that the Bible will be like the introductory handbook.

Verse 9: "The rulers of the peoples are gathered together, the people of the God of Abraham for the shields of the earth are God's; He is greatly exalted."

Now that is quite a thing! Think about all of that that God's going to do!

Isaiah is a very interesting book. The prophecies are scattered and mixed in such a way that it's hard for people to understand it. It will talk about one thing that is reflective of one time period and right after it He will talk about something else reflecting another time period.

So this shows that many parts of the Bible are not written in chronological sequences as other parts of the Bible and other writings of men,

Isaiah 2:1: "The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz <u>saw</u> concerning Judah and Jerusalem."

Now that's interesting! He heard it and He saw it!

Verse 1: "The words that Isaiah the son of Amos <u>saw</u> concerning Judah and Jerusalem."

Remember in Dan. 10:21 it says that in heaven there is the book or *the Scroll of Truth* already written out. How much more does that contain than we understand today? *We don't know!* But, brethren, the greatest and most important things are going to happen after the resurrection.

Verse 2: "And it shall come to pass, in the last days the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains... [all mountains picture nations] ... and shall be exalted above the hills; and <u>all</u> nations..."—they're all going to be connected:

- to Jerusalem
- to God
- to His Throne
- to His Plan

"...all nations shall flow into it" (v 2).

Notice what people are going to say right at first:

Verse 3: "And many people shall go and say, 'Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. And He will teach us..."

All human beings through their whole lives are meant to be taught. That's why developing the character of God and the mind of Christ is a process of time. It's a Holy exercise with God's Spirit through His Word and through our daily living.

Likewise it will be in a glorious way among all the people during the Millennium, because Satan won't be there. We will be there. Think of that! We are going to replace all of the demonic things that have gone on; get rid of them and teach the Truth. That will be amazing indeed!

"...He will teach us of His ways, and we will walk in His paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth the Law, and the Word of the LORD from Jerusalem" (v 3).

Everything from God. Now we see what's missing in the world today. Now we know why it's

in the message it is in. God has the solution right here in His Word. That involves every one of us,

Verse 4: "And He shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore."

That's how He's going to cease wars existing. Teach people the love and the Truth of God That's quite a thing!

It says the same thing here in the book of Micah because Micah was also a prophet at the same time that Isaiah was. Let's see how this is also brought out and expanded. It's going to be an important event happening all the time.

All representatives of all nations, which will be us. Then we bring that back to the people so they:

- know the Way of God
- understand how to live
- can qualify to enter into the Spirit Family of God

They will all be part of the *physical* Family of God. All of the sons and daughters of Christ through God the Father at the first resurrection, we will be the *spiritual sons and daughters of God!*

Micah 4:1 "But it shall be in the last days *that* the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. And many nations shall come and say..." (vs 1-2).

This shows that the Word goes out and the nations have an opportunity to choose:

- What are they going to do?
- Are they going to come to God and find out what they need to do?
- Are they willing to come under the authority of the sons and daughters of God to rule and reign in that nation?

Subsequently, then everybody in that nation will learn the way of God!

"...'Come and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob. And He will teach us of His ways, and we will walk in His paths'—for the Law shall go forth out of Zion, and the Word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And **He shall judge**..." (vs 2-3).

Now we're going to talk about judgment during this Feast of Tabernacles, because that's one of the most important things that we will be doing. We will be judging people; we will be teaching them.

Verse 3: And He shall judge among many people, and will rebuke strong nations afar off..."

There's not going to be any more rebellion. If there is, as we saw in Zech. 14, *no rain*, *meaning no crop*, *meaning no food!* Now it doesn't take very long for people to understand what they need to do when that occurs.

"...judge among many people, and will rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore" (v 3). That's something!

Verse 4: "But they shall sit each one under his *own* vine and under his *own* fig tree; and no one shall make them afraid; for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken."

When God has spoken, it's as good as done. Think about that for a minute!

Now let's see some other things that they are going to do. Isa. 12—here's what's going to happen. Everyone's going to be thanking God every day. Everyone is going to be under our direction and control.

They'll still have free moral agency, but they must choose and they must decide what to do, and to choose God's way. Even though they'll have human nature—not quite as evil as we have it today—but there will be enough pull back that they're going to have to make the choices every day what they're going to do.

They will have to overcome human nature in the same way that we overcome human nature, and we will be there to teach them. So it's going to be a glorious thing, indeed!

Isaiah 12:1: "And in that day you shall say, 'I will give thanks to You O LORD; though You were angry with me, Your anger is turned away, and You do comfort me."

All the nations will go through that. Every person will experience that.

Verse 2: "Behold, God *is* my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid; for the LORD God is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation."

Notice the individual, it's not just to the masses, but in the masses of people, we all deal individually. God does and we will.

Verse 3: "And with joy <u>you shall draw</u> water out of the wells of salvation."

Now that's quite a thing! Living waters of life! We've heard of that! There's the well of salvation!

John 4—when Jesus went to the well near Samaria and the woman came out to draw water and He said to her, 'If you would have asked me, I would have given you living water.' She didn't understand it, of course. But here's the answer here:

"...you shall draw water out of **the wells of salvation.**" *That's a fantastic statement!*

Verse 4: "And in that day you shall say, 'Praise the LORD! Call upon His name; declare His doings among the people, make mention that His name is exalted. Sing *to* the LORD..." (vs 4-5).

Isn't that something? Think of this: Instead of all the anger and wretchedness in the music today, we're going to sing praises to God. We're going to sing great and marvelous songs. And we are going to be filled with joy. The people will be filled with joy. Like it says, 'And of His peace, there is no end.'

Verse 5: "Sing to the LORD; for He has done gloriously; this is known in all the earth."

Think about the communication we're going to have in all the earth during the Millennium. It'll probably make this digital communication that we have today seem like tinker toys.

Verse 6: "Cry out and shout, O inhabitant of Zion; for great *is* the Holy One of Israel in your midst."

Whoa! Aren't those great things to think about? Now let's see what that's going to produce. How's it going to be? Isa. 11 is one of the Millennial chapters, how it's going to be:

Isaiah 11:1. "And there shall come forth a shoot out from the stump of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots. And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD" (vs 1-2).

That's how Christ is going to operate, and that's how we're going to operate. So, this will be the most marvelous thing ever!

Verse 3: "And His delight shall be in the

fear of the LORD. And He shall not judge according to the sight of His eyes, nor after the hearing of His ears. **But with righteousness**... [He's going to give that righteousness and judgment to us] ...He shall judge the poor, and shall reprove with equity for the meek of the earth..." (vs 3-4).

That's what we're going to do, because judgment will be given to the saints of The Most High!

"...And He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked... [if they don't repent] ...And righteousness shall be the girdle of His loins, and faithfulness the girdle of His reins" (vs 4-5).

That's an amazing thing! Everything God is going to do is going to be perfect. Also, there's going to be a change in the environment. There's going to be a change in animals, and we don't know how that's going to be. But I know one thing:

- no more toys of war
- no more guns
- no more swords
- no more killings

and the children will be taught correctly! So, let's read this. Let's see how it's going to be with the children:

Verse 6: "Also the wolf shall dwell with the lamb... [that's a complete change] ...and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the cub lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them."

What a thing that's going to be! Children will not need plastic toys. They will have animals. They will lead them and they will be gentle. The animals will be tame and loving!

Verse 7: "And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox."

That's going to be something to behold. I can't imagine how that's going to be. Look at lions today, and their roar, their fierceness and their teeth; how they come after their prey and take them down and kill them, and stick their faces right into the guts of the prey that they bring down. They're going to eat straw!

Verse 8: "And the suckling child shall play on the hole of the asp..."

Now, I can't figure that out myself. I'm one of those who doesn't like any snakes at all. But here, the whole nature of it's going to be changed.

"...and the weaned child shall put his hand on the viper's den. 'They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My Holy mountain...'" (vs 8-9). *Wonderful thing!*

- no crime
- no wild animals
- no catastrophes

Here's why, and I want you to think on this! This brings out what our responsibility will be in teaching people:

"...<u>for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea</u>" (v 9).

When we understand that, that tells us that the greatest knowledge of God is going to be freely available to everyone. We learn it so we can teach the people! This is why we keep the Feast of Tabernacles. So we can keep our mind on:

- what it's going to be like to rule and reign with Christ
- what it's going to be like to teach the people
- what it's going to be like to teach them all the ways of God

"...<u>for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.</u> And in that day there shall be the Root of Jesse standing as a banner for the people; to Him the nations shall seek; and <u>His rest shall be glorious</u>" (vs 9-10).

An amazing thing! I mean, some of these verses that we find here are just absolutely out of sight! Let's see how all of this is going to be put into practice.

Isaiah 14:1: "For the LORD will have mercy on Jacob, and will yet choose Israel and set them in their own land; and the stranger shall be joined with them, and they shall cling to the house of Jacob. And the people shall take them and bring them to their place; and the house of Israel shall possess them in the land of the LORD for servants and handmaids. And they will take them captive whose captives they were, and rule over their oppressors" (vs 1-2). Going to turn everything around!

Verse 3: "And it shall come to pass in the day that the LORD shall give you rest from your sorrow, and from your fear, and from the hard bondage, which was imposed on you. You shall take up this song against **the king of Babylon**... [Satan the devil] ...and say, 'How the oppressor has ceased! How his fury has ceased! The LORD has

broken the staff of the wicked, the scepter of the rulers who struck people in wrath, with unceasing blows, ruling the nations in anger, with an unrelenting persecution" (vs 3-6). Going to be changed!

Verse 7: "All the earth is at rest and is quiet; they break out into singing."

There it is! There are some other things that we're going to find, other things we're going to do concerning the Millennium, and concerning what God is going to do.

Let's come to Isa. 61 because it talks about us, and it talks about what we will be doing. This is what we will do. It says we will, we will be kings and priests, and judgment will be given to us (Rev. 20).

Isaiah 61:6: "But <u>you shall be called the priests of the LORD</u>; it will be said of you, 'The ministers of our God'; you will eat the riches of the Gentiles, and you will boast in their glory.... [because of their conversion and how they're going to develop] ...For your shame *you will have* double; instead of dishonor they will rejoice in their portion; therefore, in their own land they will possess double; everlasting joy will be theirs" (vs 6-7).

Verse 8: "For <u>I the LORD love justice</u>.... [that's what we're going to bring] ...I hate robbery for burnt offering; and I will direct their work in Truth... [God is going to be directing us all the time with His Truth] ...and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. And their seed shall be known among the Gentiles, and their offspring among the people; <u>all who see them will acknowledge them</u>, <u>that they are the seed the LORD has blessed</u>" (vs 8-9).

Verse 10: "I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul will be joyful in my God; for <u>He has clothed me with the robes of salvation...</u> [that's us; I wonder what that's like] ... <u>He covered me with the robe of righteousness</u> like a bridegroom adorns *himself* with ornaments, and like a bride adorns *herself* with her jewels; for as the earth brings forth its bud, and as the garden causes that which is sown to grow..." (vs 8-11). *There's going to be*:

- the growth of people,
- the growth of understanding
- the growth of knowledge

"...<u>so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to grow before all the nations</u>" (v 11).

Think about that for <u>a thousand years!</u> This tells us that God's Plan is magnificent and awesome indeed, and everything that we are learning now is important for us as we come toward the first resurrection and the return of Christ. Then all of these prophecies, every word of God will be fulfilled the way that He desires!

Brethren, enjoy this Feast of Tabernacles:

- think about what it means for each one of us individually
- think about what it means for the nations of the world and all people

to bring peace and joy and happiness through God to them so that they can fulfill their purpose for their life and enter into the Kingdom of God!

Scriptural References:

- 1) Isaiah 46:9-13
- 2) Revelation 19:11-13
- 3) John 1:1
- 4) Revelation 19:14-21
- 5) Revelation 20:1-4
- 6) Zechariah 14:1-19
- 7) Isaiah 24:1-6
- 8) Psalm 46:6-11
- 9) Psalm 45:1-7
- 10) Psalm 47:1-9
- 11) Isaiah 2:1-4
- 12) Micah 4:1-4
- 13) Isaiah 12:1-6
- 14) Isaiah 11:1-10
- 15) Isaiah 14:1-7
- 16) Isaiah 61:6-11

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Ezekiel 36
- Daniel 10:21
- John 4
- Revelation 20

Also referenced:

Book: God's Plan For Mankind Revealed by His Sabbath and Holy Days by Fred R. Coulter

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What Will the Millennium Be Like?

(**Day 3—FOT**)

Fred R. Coulter—October 2, 2023

Greetings everyone, welcome to Day 3 of the Feast of Tabernacles

What will the Millennium be like? That's an interesting question, because as we will see, there are several categories that fit into the Millennium.

We know from Rev. 20 that it says that those of the first resurrection are Blessed and Holy! That means they will be the spirit sons and daughters of God! They will rule and reign with Christ a thousand years! Just think what that's going to produce. That's likely going to be more productive than the 6,000 years-plus leading up to the Millennium!

We know that Christ will be King; He is going to rule from Jerusalem. Now let's see a very interesting prophecy of what will be at Jerusalem. It's not going to be any little teeny temple made of stone like you see in Ezek. 40 onward.

That is actually a description for the temple to be built when they came out of captivity from Babylon, because any Temple of God must be built according to *God's* instructions.

That's why the temple that's coming in Jerusalem here in a very short while, though it's called the Temple of God, *is not the* Temple of God.

Let's see what it's going to be like when the Millennium begins. Christ and the saints all coming back to the Mount of Olives, and everything begins at that point. As we saw yesterday, many nations will say, come let us go up to the House of the Lord and He will teach us of His Law and of His Way; for the Law shall go out from the Lord to all the earth!

When we come to Isa. 4, God just gives us two little Scriptures to define what kind of tabernacle—not temple—God is going to set up in Jerusalem! It's going to be awesome. As we saw, when the saints and Christ come back to the earth, the whole Mount of Olives is going to be split in two and it's going to create a magnificent area there for the new Tabernacle of God!

Isaiah 4:5: "And the LORD will create over every dwelling place of Mount Zion..."

That's right there where the tabernacle is going to be, and it's going to be a mammoth tabernacle!

"...and over her assemblies, a cloud and

smoke by day..." (v 5).

That's exactly what God did in bringing the children of Israel out of Egypt. There was the pillar of cloud by day. That noted that:

- God is here
- God is ruler
- God is leader

God knows everything that goes on!

"...and the shining of a flaming fire by night..." (v 5).

Just exactly as it was in the exodus, only greater, more awesome indeed. Think what people are going to understand and feel when they see. Now, the physical people will not be able to go into Jerusalem on the earth.

When New Jerusalem comes down from heaven it's another whole story which we will cover on the eighth day.

"...for over all the glory shall be a canopy" (v 5).

A great canopy, because Christ is going to be living there. The Father will remain in heaven and He does not come to the earth until the earth is reconfigured again into the New Heavens and the New Earth.

What's going to happen there, just to project ahead, when the Lake of Fire destroys the wicked, then the fire is going to consume the whole earth and melt all the elements and form the New Heaven and the New Earth.

So, this one here is what's going to be during the Millennium. It will always be there by day, by night, and God's rule over the world will be absolute.

Verse $6_{[transcriber's\ correction]}$: "And there shall be a tabernacle for shade by day from the heat, and for refuge, and for shelter from storm and rain."

We don't know who all is going to be there. We don't know how all of that's going to be, but we do know that Rev. 2 applies to all of the Churches. The message to all of the Churches where there are the seven churches pertains to all of them, as well, because of what Jesus says.

Now let's understand that today we are building the character of God for the first

resurrection! Then when we're changed 'in a moment, in a twinkling of an eye at the last trump,' we become the spirit sons of daughters and we are taken to the Sea of Glass. We are instructed for the four months on what we're going to do, and then we come back to the earth.

We're not all going to remain in that area. We're all going to have our assignments given to us while we're on the Sea of Glass, and we will know what we are to do.

We know from the Parable of the Pounds and the Parable of the Talents that there's going to be given rulership over every city and every town. We also know that there's going to be rulership over every one of the nations.

Rev. 2—to the church of Thyatira. They had their problems and difficulties and a lot of suffering and a lot of martyrdom in that phase of the Church, and we're looking forward for that same kind of thing at the end-time. We can see the resistance mounting now and by the degradation of anything that is Christian.

Christ says concerning this wicked system of the world, that it has been taught by Jezebel, and that Jezebel represents the Catholic Church and all the religions of the world!

Revelation 2:23: "And I will kill her children with death... [*IF* they don't repent, there's death] ...and all the churches shall know that I am He Who searches *the* reins and hearts; and I will give to each of you according to your works."

This is the message to all seven churches! Then there are seven parts of that overall message to each of the Churches!

Verse 24: "But to you I say, and to *the* rest who *are* in Thyatira, <u>as many as do not have this</u> <u>doctrine..."</u>

- of the false Christ
- of false salvation
- of the hierarchy
- of idolatry
- of the absolute wrong thing concerning the Passover and keeping the commandments of God

"...and who have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak..." (v 24).

That's quite a statement, that there were some who were taken out of the Church and led into the depths of Satan!

Do we have that as a possibility today with everything that's going on? *Absolutely!* What

they're trying to do is bring as much of the depths of Satan to the surface to be accepted as normal as possible.

"...and who have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak; I will not cast upon you any other burden, but hold fast what you have until I come. And to the one who overcomes..." (vs 24-26).

Now listen carefully, this has a great deal of meaning: "...the one who overcomes..." means:

- self
- sin
- Satan
- society

Verse 26: "And to the one who overcomes and keeps My works unto the end..."

Remember how we've covered in different messages about *having our hearts fixed*? Well this verifies that, as well.

"... I will give authority over the nations" (v 26).

There are various layers of authority in each one of the nations. All of those positions will be filled by the resurrected saints of God.

Verse 27: "And he shall shepherd them with an iron rod..."

- it's going to be firm
- it's going to be strong
- it's going to be demanding

Yet, with love and mercy and Truth! And always repentance!

"...as vessels of pottery are broken in pieces; as I have also received from My Father; and I will give him the morning star.... [eternal life] ... The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the Churches" (vs 27-29)—so that we can be partakers of it!

Isa. 60—let's see how this is going to come about. Then we'll look over at Isa. 61 where we are called 'the ministers of God.'

- doing God's will
- bringing about God's way
- coming to understand the Truth even more than what we have now
 - ✓ we're going to lead
 - ✓ we're going to teach
 - ✓ we're going to judge
 - ✓ we're going to rule

All of those things are there!

Now let's what the society is going to be like. Let's see how it's going to be for the people. Also commingled in this is what it means for us as we serve as rulers, priests and servants for the people during the Millennium.

It shows what it's going to be like because the earth is going to reach spiritually its darkest moments before the return of Christ.

Isaiah 60:1: "Arise, shine; for your Light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you... [the return of Christ and the saints] ...for behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness *the* people; but the LORD shall arise upon you, and His glory shall be seen upon you" (vs 1-2). Now there are two things that applies to:

1. to the people

They will see it when Christ and the saints come!

2. to us receiving the glory of God in our personal immortal bodies

Verse 3: "And the Gentiles shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising."

That can be applied to all the people on earth coming to know the way of God, and also for us coming to Christ.

Verse 4: "Lift up your eyes all around, and see. All of them gather themselves together; they come to you. Your sons shall come from far, and your daughters shall be nursed at *your* side. Then you shall see and become radiant, and your heart shall throb and swell for joy; because the abundance of the sea shall turn to you, the wealth of the Gentiles will come to you" (vs 4-5).

- this applies to the individuals on the earth
- this applies to Israel and the physical people on the earth

So, there are layers and classes of this!

• it applies to us as we serve and teach the people.

This is going to be a great thing indeed it's going to happen here.

Verse 10: "And the sons of strangers shall build up your walls, and their kings shall serve you; for in My wrath I struck you, but in My grace I had mercy upon you."

That's going to show the loving part of God. Those who enter into the Millennium as physical beings go through a lot of terrible things.

The greatest thing that is going to happen they're going to receive the grace of God and have salvation open to them and we're going to teach them.

Verse 11: "Therefore, your gates will always be open; they will not be shut day nor night, that men may bring unto you the wealth of the Gentiles, and their kings in procession."

How all of that works we don't know, but we know:

- that we're co-inheritors with Christ
- that we will probably receive tithes and offerings
- that we will bring those our tithes and offerings up to Jerusalem, as well

So. this is going to be quite a tremendous thing that's going to happen!

Here is the rod of iron (v 12), because there will be no toleration of living in sin. We'll see that a little later.

Verse 12: "For the nation and kingdom that will not serve you will perish.... [that's going to happen if they don't obey] ... Yes, those nations will be completely wasted." Think of that! Keep that in mind!

Verse 13: "The glory of Lebanon will come to you, the fir tree, the pine tree, and the box tree together, to beautify the place of My sanctuary; and I will make the place of My feet glorious. Also, the sons of your afflicters shall come bowing down to you; and all your despisers will bow down at the soles of your feet. And they will call you, 'The city of the LORD, the Zion of the Holy One of Israel'" (vs 13-14).

That's referring to us as they come. and also referring to what happens when people come toward the Tabernacle of God.

Verse 15: "Instead of being forsaken and hated, so that no one passes through, I will make you an eternal excellency, a joy of many generations."

That's how it's going to be! How many generations are there going to be during the Millennium? We don't know! But "...of many generations."

This refers to us and how we will be receiving what God wants us to from the people, because everyone's going to give. Everyone's going to tithe. We will manage that and send it on up to Jerusalem, as well.

Verse 16: "You will also suck the milk of nations, and suck the breast of kings; and you shall know that I the LORD *am* your Savior and your Redeemer, the mighty One of Jacob."

That applies to us in relationship that we have with Jesus Christ. This applies to the nations when they're converted. When God brings a blessing upon them. When they have all of the produce they have all of the things that they have. They will increase in wealth. It will make the things that have been done or prior to that seem like just trash.

Here's how it's going to be: The greatest economic stability for a thousand years without a depression. That will be because we will follow the seven year release, the seven year land rest. and the 50^{th} year Jubilee.

That keeps the economy at a steady level of growth and increase. Remember that it says, 'and of the increase of His Government there shall be no end.' So, this is going to build all during the Millennium

This tells us a little bit about the financial system. We don't know exactly how it's going to be, but there will be a financial system.

Verse 17: "For bronze I will bring gold, and for iron I will bring silver; and for wood I will bring bronze, and for stones, iron. I will also make your overseers to be peace, and your rulers to be righteousness."

That's us serving the people during the Millennium; what a thing that's going to be! Look at that right here: Brethren, let's understand something: Clearly the Bible is so awesome and so fantastic and inspired in such a way that it tells us in advance everything that God is going to do.

But we won't understand that unless we love Him and obey Him and have Jesus Christ as our Head of the Church and that we develop the mind of Christ and that we attain to the first resurrection.

But this is awesome! Think about this! Think about people who know nothing about what we know and they pick up a Bible and start reading and think about this:

- I wonder what that means.
- I wonder how is this going to be?

They look back in the history of the world and it's been nothing but:

- war
- problems
- troubles
- collapses of nations, empires and cities
- famine and starvation

everything that has been the result of Satan's rule over the earth!

Verse 18: "Violence..." no more crime!

Not like we see today; violence and crime are the result of sin and rejecting God! The reason that these things are going to be like this is because Satan will not be around.

Oh, we're going to have to deal with sin, yes indeed! We're going to have to deal with how do we help people overcome the sin. *There will be some as we will see who will choose not to go the way of God*, in spite of everything we're reading here of how great it's going to be.

So it also tells you that physical things, as good as they may be, are only worthwhile when you are right with God. Otherwise it leads to destruction.

Verse 18: "Violence will no more be heard in your land, *neither* wasting nor ruin within your borders; but you will call your walls Salvation, and your gates Praise"—*because*:

- Christ is ruling
- the saints are ruling
- the patriarchs are running the whole world from the tabernacle in Jerusalem

Quite a thing indeed! All of the patriarchs of old will be right there with Christ.

Verse 19: "The sun will no more be your light by day; nor the brightness of the moon give light to you; but the LORD will be to you for an everlasting Light, and your God your glory."

That applies to us as saints, as we're ruling. It applies to those physical people during the Millennium who become converted. Of course, the vast majority will.

Verse 20: "Your sun will no more go down, nor your moon withdraw; for the LORD will be your everlasting light, and the days of your mourning shall be ended. <u>Your people also will all be righteous...</u>" (vs 20-21).

We'll talk about that a little bit later, about how the righteous rule and judge!

Verse 21: "Your people also will all be righteous..."

A lot different from today. We can't imagine a society, a community, a nation, the world:

- all loving God and keeping His commandments
- all being ruled over and taught by the spiritual sons and daughters of God
 - ✓ who were resurrected from the dead
 - ✓ who are the firstfruits of God
 - ✓ who are the firstborn into the

Kingdom of God

All of that is tied together as we read Isa. 60!

Verse 21: "Your people also *will* all *be* righteous; they will inherit the land forever, the branch of My planting, the work of My hands, so that I may be glorified." *In other words, all of this is talking about*:

- conversion
- growth
- overcoming,
- people attaining to receiving eternal life

We'll talk about that in a bit, how that's going to happen, because it's going to be quite a thing indeed. Then we'll talk about there will be free moral agency and what's going to happen if there are rebels.

Verse 22: "A smallest will become a thousand, and the least one a strong nation: <u>I the</u> **LORD will hasten it in its time.**"

That is according to the timeframe of God! Quite an *amazing*, *amazing* thing! What is all of this? *All of this is called the restoration of all things* (Acts 3).

That's when Christ is going to return and what He's going to bring.

Let's see what God says about this in Jer. 30/31; this shows God's promise to bring Israel back to their lands.

A lot of people think it's only going to be in the Middle East. That is not true because what God told Abraham was to 'look to the North, look to the South, look to the East and look to the West.' Look where modern Israel is today. So, here's what God says is going to happen to them.

Speaking of Israel, God says, after the correction of the Tribulation and the return of Christ:

Jeremiah 30:22: "And you shall be My people, and I will be your God.' Behold, the whirlwind of the LORD'S wrath goes forth, a sweeping whirlwind; it shall whirl on the head of the wicked."

That's what's going to happen, getting rid of all of the wicked as the Millennium is set up.

Verse 24: "The fierce anger of the LORD shall not return until He has done it... [because there will not be any rebellion and uprising against God during the Millennium] ...and until He has fulfilled the purposes of His heart. In the latter days you shall understand it."

Now then, He says He's going to bring back Israel from the North, from the South, from the East, from the West (Jer. 31).

Let's understand why God is doing all of this, even in His anger. When you stop and consider it, <u>having the second resurrection shows a great deal of the love of God!</u> That comes after the Millennium is finished, so we're a little ahead of ourselves.

Jeremiah 31: "'At that time,' says the LORD, 'I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be My people.""

Then likewise with every nation, all the nations that come to Jerusalem to learn of God's way, they will be His people, all the strong nations that are slow to repent, He's going to bring plagues upon them, and especially Gog and Magog, until they repent.

Verse 2: "Thus says the LORD, 'The people who were left of the sword found grace in the wilderness; even Israel, when I will go to give him rest.'.... [bring him into the Millennium] ...The LORD has appeared to me from afar, saying, 'Yea, I have loved you..." (vs 2-3).

He's talking about Israel, and then this applies to all of those who are converted now and are called the saints of God.

"...'Yea, I have loved you with an everlasting love..." (v 3).

Everlasting <u>is not</u> unconditional, and that's what's wrong with the world's religion today.

"...therefore, with loving kindness I have drawn you. Again, I will build you..." (vs 3-4)—and I will make you great again!

Let's see some other things concerning the worship of God and concerning the power of God, which will involve us and also the people.

Let's come to Psalm 105. This is going to be quite a thing. We will see some things. Actually, I've done messages in the past:

- the Millennium in the Psalms
- the Millennium in Isaiah

because both of them have so much concerning the Millennium in the Kingdom of God.

Now, in many of these things we're going to read now, that can apply to the people, the physical people who are in the Millennium. Also to the resurrected saints who are the rulers and priests of the world in our relationship to God.

Psalm 105:1: O give thanks unto the LORD! Call upon His name; make known His deeds among the people. Sing to Him, sing praises unto Him; talk of all His wonderful works" (vs 1-2).

We are going to learn the things of creation that we have never understood. Just like I have mentioned before, concerning the James Webb Telescope. If you have a computer, go online and subscribe to their website so you can see the awesome pictures of the universe, things that only God has seen.

Yet, there are a whole lot more out there that we can't even see with even whatever equipment we have to try to see it, which tells us how fantastic God is.

Verse 3: "Glory in His Holy name; let the heart of those who seek the LORD rejoice. Seek the LORD and His strength; seek His face evermore" (vs 3-4).

That'll apply to those in the Millennium, and that will apply to us as spirit beings to serving and loving God, and then ruling over the people. That's an amazing thing. Look at what that's going to be like.

Think about this. Now, when I read Psa. 113 I was thinking: What is it going to be like when we are able to come to Jerusalem and come to the big tabernacle that is there, and be able to come in and talk with Jesus face-to-face. And Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and all the prophets. Think about what they can teach us and tell us.

Psalm 113:1: "O praise the LORD! Give praise to the LORD, O you servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD."

We must maintain our relationship with God as spirit beings in order to help the people maintain their relationship with us and with God. There it is.

Verse 2: "Blessed is the name of the LORD from this time forth and forevermore. From the rising of the sun to its going down, the LORD'S name is to be praised. The LORD is high above all nations...." (vs 2-4).

What does it say about the mountain of God? It's going to be higher. Mount of Olives is going to be higher than the rest of the mountains of the world.

On that's going to be that big tabernacle. So we don't know exactly how all of that is going to be, but that's going to be marvelous, indeed, when we see it.

"...and His glory above the heavens. Who is

like the LORD our God, Who dwells on high, Who looks down low upon the heavens and upon the earth?" (vs 4-6).

Well, all during the Millennium, the Father is still going to be in heaven because the Father is not going to come to the earth until there's no more sin

Let's look at another one and remember this: we're the called, we're the chosen, we're the faithful!

Think about this: all of us now who are the spirit sons and daughters of God and we pray to God every day, we probably can talk to God in a more direct way. We don't know how that's going to be, but Jesus is going to be King over all the earth and He is going to delegate to us all of the responsibilities of bringing people into the Kingdom of God during the Millennium. Now think about that! He's going to give His Spirit and the Spirit of the Father to all of those who were converted.

Psalm 147:1: "O praise the LORD, for it is good to sing praises to our God, for praise is pleasant and becoming. The LORD builds up Jerusalem; He gathers together the outcasts of Israel. He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. He counts the number of the stars; He calls them all by their names. Great is our LORD and mighty in power; His understanding is infinite" (vs 1-5).

That's how the Millennium's going to be and in this case we see there's God the Father, He's yet to come, there's Jesus Christ, the Tabernacle, all of the patriarchs and Christ there in Jerusalem and whoever else is going to be there. Then all of the saints of God ruling in the cities and ruling in the nations to bring the Truth of God and help many people come to conversion.

How long do they live and will there be sin and what will happen to the sinners?

(break@42:58)

Will there be sin during the Millennium by the physical people living on the earth? *Since there is free moral agency, yes, there will be sin!*

That's all going to be based on choice, just like in the beginning with Adam and Eve.

What did God say? It gets down to the simple little phrase: obey my voice!

He gave them all the instructions that they needed. He told them about the Tree of Life and He told them about the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil.

He said that 'in the day that you eat thereof of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, in dying you shall surely die.'

That is true all the way through. Unrepentant sinners we know will die the second death. So, this shows this. There will be choices and we will have to make them.

When you go against God's Law, you sin! When there is sin, there must be repentance and restoration. We will see that is something that will probably take place without a doubt. Here's something in Deut. 30 that is always true through all time, through all covenants, spiritually and physically. This is a different way of describing what went on in the Garden of Eden.

Deuteronomy 30:15: "Behold, I have set before you this day life and good, and death and evil."

That will be all during the Millennium and all during the 100-year period, because that applies in all circumstances and every time in God's Plan.

Verse 16: "In that I command you this day to love the LORD your God..."

That's going to be the first thing we're going to be teaching. Teaching people to love God with all their heart, mind and soul. When they sin:

- to repent and receive forgiveness and restoration
- to love the Lord your God
- to walk in His way

That's what we will be saying to people as we find in Isa. 30 that the teachers will no longer be hidden.

They will be there. So, if you go to the right hand or to the left hand, you will be told, 'don't go there. walk in the way of God!

With free choice for those who are rebels, that's going to be hard to take. So we need to know how is that going to be handled? We'll get to that in a little bit!

"...to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments and His statutes and His judgments so that you may live and multiply...." (v 16).

In the Millennium that you may live and receive eternal life! That's what we're going to be teaching.

That's the whole purpose of it; to bring in many sons and many daughters. The Plan of God is so great that we can't even think in the terms that God thinks of. I mean, it's hard for us to think of a

trillion, but how about trillions and quadrillions and however the number is beyond that, which God says that He knows all the stars by name and numbers.

So what is the purpose of all of that? That has to do with us. That has to do with the people coming in to the Kingdom of God spiritually during the Millennium.

"...so that you may live and multiply..." (v 16). *That's quite a statement!*,

Not only physically, but think of that spiritually. What God is doing is multiplying His spirit sons and daughters. That's going to be an innumerable number when it's all said and done.

"...And the LORD your God shall bless you in the land where you go to possess it" (v 16). *They'll be living in the land!*

- it will be the greatest
- it will be the most prosperous
- it will be the most productive
- it will be the most loving
- it will be the most obedient

that has ever been in the history of the world!

Verse 17: "**But if**..."

It shows the condition, there are choices to be made. We are to choose. We are to choose them as we teach them during the Millennium, that they are to choose:

- the way of God
- the way of His commandments
- the way of His statutes
- the way of His judgments

and bring every thought into captivity to the obedience of Jesus Christ! That's going to be a spectacular thing to take place!

Verse 17: "<u>But if your heart turn away</u>..." showing that there is choice!

God is not going to take that away because God does not want robots.

- He wants people to love Him
- He wants people to serve Him
- He wants people to be converted
- He wants them as spirit sons and daughters

His Plan is so great that the whole universe is waiting!

Verse 17: "But if your heart turn away so that you will not hear, but shall be drawn away and worship other gods and serve them."

There won't be any other gods around at that

time, so it will be a worshipping of your own self and your own way, or your own ideas and your own thoughts separate from God.

Verse 18: "I denounce to you this day that you shall surely perish..." *The same thing He told Adam and Eve!* 'In the day that you eat thereof in dying, you shall die.' Here it is.

"...you shall surely perish: you shall not prolong *your* days on the land... [nor receive eternal life] ...where you pass over Jordan to go to possess it. I call heaven and earth to record this day against you..." (vs 18-19).

This runs through everything of God's Plan everywhere, at all time. From the time of Adam and Eve until the time of the last ones into the Kingdom of God.

Verse 19: "I call heaven and earth to record this day against you *that* I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing. Therefore, choose life, so that both you and your seed may live."

Now then, that goes to all the people, physical people during the Millennium. It goes to all of us who are entering into the Kingdom of God as spirit beings that we *always*, *always*, *always* love God and keep His commandments and understand His Word and live by it.

Verse 20 starts right out where we began at verse 16, to love God!

Verse 20: "That you may love the LORD your God, and <u>may obey His voice</u>..." Notice it says *may* and everything when it comes up with *may* means there's a choice!

We have to choose and we have to understand. That's why we have to bring down every thought that is hostile to God and bring it into captivity and cast it away, whatever it may be.

"...and <u>may cleave to Him</u>; for He is your life and the length of your days..." (v 20).

Think about that in relationship to eternal life!

"...so that you may dwell in the land, which the LORD swore to your fathers—to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob—to give it to them" (v 20). And that applies to the Kingdom of God, as well!

- What's going to happen to the sinner? *Something has to happen to them!*
- What about those who don't repent?
- How's it going to work? Well, we can get part of it coming back to Gen. 3 & 4!

Adam and Eve sinned!

What happened to them when they sinned? It isn't recorded that they repented, but God still did not abandon them because He was just beginning His Plan.

How did it start out? It started out that he created man and woman! He had prepared a garden for them to live in. And they lived with God, and they lived with God in the garden. He told them about the Tree of Life, and He told them about the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil.

When they took it upon themselves to decide for themselves, instead of:

- looking to God's leadership
- God's Truth
- God's commandments

they decided that they could do it themselves!

Now, Satan the devil was there to tempt them. During the Millennium, Satan the devil is not going to be around, so the circumstances will be substantially different. But the fact of choosing:

- right and wrong
- love and truth
- sin and disobedience will be the same

What happened when Adam and Eve sinned? They were removed from going into the Garden of Eden!

That means *they were exiled*, that is excluded from going in to the Garden of Eden. Now it appears that they could come to the east gate of the garden, where the cherubim were there with a sword to keep them from going in, a flaming sword. God would meet them there!

Now we don't know what kind of relationship that they had with God, but God was there to teach them certain fundamental basic things of living. Now then we find that Eve bore Cain and Abel. It turned out on the 135th year of their existence that Cain rose up and killed Abel. He was angry at Abel because God accepted Abel because his sacrifice was correct. In other words, *Abel was obeying the voice of the Lord!*

Cain's offering was not accepted because it wasn't according to the commands of God. So, Cain did not obey the voice of the Lord. he got angry and he killed his brother.

What did God say to Cain after he killed Abel? You're going to be removed to the land of wandering, a further exile, a further taking away! That's probably what's going to happen during the Millennium.

Now let's see that again. Look what

happened with the time of the Flood, evil multiplied so much that the only way—because God had given free moral agency—everyone chose to go the way of Satan, the devil.

God had to destroy everything, but He saved through Noah and his family and the things on the ark. Everything was destroyed by the Flood and it was a worldwide flood.

We know from today that there are big holes that go deep into the earth where there is more water under the earth than there is covering the oceans today. So the Flood was real and it did happen. That brought out *the wages of sin is death!* And the wages of sin is the destruction of all your society, your cities, everyone living in them, because instead of coming to God, what did you do? *Your thoughts were only evil continually* because you abused your free moral agency.

We find the same thing in 2-Kings 16 concerning Israel. Now to say nothing between that time and Sodom and Gomorrah burned up because they wouldn't repent.

Let's see what happened because Israel sinned, went after Baal, went after the work of their own hands, set up their idols and rejected the way of God.

- What did God do to them?
- What happened to them?

Let's understand that we see it happening today in the world all around us; the same thing. In 2-Kings 17 we will see, again, *an exiling*, not just a few people, *but all the 10 tribes of Israel!*

2-Kings 17:22: "For the children of Israel walked in all the sins of Jeroboam which he did. They did not depart from them until the LORD removed Israel out of His sight as He had said by all His servants the prophets...." (vs 22-23).

God always gives warning! During the Millennium with the people, we will say if you're sinning, 'this is the way to walk in it.' God never does anything without a warning! So here it is:

"...So, Israel was carried away out of their own land to Assyria, *as it is* to this day" (v 23).

They did that because they had sinned against God! Removed out because of their secret sins.

Now let's understand something that will probably be happening during the Millennium, as well.

Isaiah 65—this will be interesting indeed! The reason is because this will apply to the

Millennium, as well as to the 100-year period pictured by the Last Great Day. This is the same thing that God will do when there is righteousness entering into the Kingdom of God. When there is sin, exile from the community.

We also understand, which we'll cover again in the Last Great Day, that it appears from the book of Revelation that the place of exile will be somewhere in Gog and Magog. That the sinner will go there if they don't repent and they will die there.

Isaiah 65:17: "For behold, <u>I create new</u> heavens and a new earth....

Remember all the destruction that took place on the earth at the return of Christ? So it will be a new earth and a new heaven around the earth. I wonder what it's going to be like to get rid of all of the satellites out there. Think about that!

"...And the former things will not be remembered, nor come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever *in that* which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy. I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and I will joy in My people; and the voice of weeping will no more be heard in her, nor the voice of crying" (vs 17-19).

Now that's just a summary of what's going to happen during the Millennium. You can't have sinners living in the same geographical area as the righteous. *That's why God has exile!*

Verse 20 *tells us quite a bit*: "There will not be an infant who lives but a few days... [they're going to have a full life] ...nor an old man that has not filled his days."

Here's what becomes a little tricky. So let's stop right here and think about it for a minute. When Christ returns, the dead will be raised. The angels will take them in the clouds to meet Christ in the air on the Sea of Glass. Those who are alive and are converted Christians, will be changed in an instant, in a moment, in a twinkling of an eye at the last trump.

So this gives us the precedent of what's going to happen to people during the Millennium who live to be a hundred years-old, as it says here. and are righteous. They will be instantly transformed into spirit beings. That will be a swift process of instantaneous death and restoration. Because it's given to all men <u>once</u> to die, and the sinner twice to die.

So, this has to happen. Let's read on here and see if we can understand it.

Verse 20: "There will not be an infant who lives but a few days, nor an old man that has not

filled his days, for the child will die a hundred years old..."

Instant death and change into a spirit being <u>IF</u> they're righteous.

"...but the sinner who is a hundred years old shall be accursed" (v 20). That means he will die!

Now, if the sinners are removed from the society, then there has to be a place, which you might call *the kingdom of sinners!* What we have is this:

All during the Millennium, people have a chance to love God, keep His commandments, and to live the way that they should. When they sin, they'll have an opportunity to repent. What happens if they don't repent? They are removed from the immediate society! They probably go somewhere so they can have some time to fast, pray, study, recover and repent! What happens if they go there and they don't repent?

Then they have to be exiled—we will see that on the Last Great Day—to Gog and Magog. They live their life there. Now, is it possible for them when they get over there to repent and come back? *Probably, because God always honors repentance!*

But if they don't, they die accursed! Why? Because they will face the second death! The second death is the ultimate curse. So, that's what it means here!

That will be all during the Millennium, as we see that we have here. And later then, on the Last Great Day, we'll apply it again to the 100-year period. But this is where we get the 100-year period, right here. Those who are righteous, it says:

Verse 21: "And they will build houses and live *in them*; and they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit. They will not build, and another live *in them*; they will not plant, and another eat; for like the days of a tree *are so will be* the days of My people, and My elect will long enjoy the work of their hands" (vs 1-2).

That's what's going to happen during the Millennium, and that's going to be quite a thing when we understand that and put that all together.

Luke 15, something similar to it: the prodigal son. What's going to have to happen when they are removed from the society? *They're going to have to repent and come to themselves!*

Here again is the operation of free choice; the prodigal son.

Luke 15:11: "Then He said, 'A certain man

had two sons." Always interesting, isn't it?

- What did we have with Adam and Eve? Two sons!
- What did we have with the birth of Jacob and Esau? *Two sons!*

Verse 12: "And the younger of them said to *his* father, 'Father, give me that portion of the property which falls to me.' And he divided to them *his* living. And not many days after, the younger son gathered everything together *and* departed into a distant country" (vs 12-13).

He left being obedient to his father! He left the blessing that would be if he stayed there. He decided he's going to do what he's going to do. He is going to decide good and evil for himself and what he wants to do.

As we will find out, the same thing always happens because the Laws of God always work in all circumstances for blessing or for cursing. The cursing is punishment in hopes that we come to repentance!

So he "...departed into a distant country. And there he wasted *all* his substance, living *in* debauchery" (v13).

A quick summary of stupid choices. Though, whenever people make stupid choices, they think they can get away with it. If you don't believe that is true, look at the drug plague that's in the world today, and especially in America. Look at it with all of the things going on with all of the debauchery of sex that is taking place. They think that this is better than what they had, but they're going to find out it's going to lead to total disaster!

Those of us who are left here, we better stay close to God or the disaster will encompass us, too!

Now then, after a period of time, that's why you have exile. So you can be away from things and you can have time to think it over, and you can have time to examine what you did, and you can have time to repent. Let's see what happened here with the prodigal son:

Verse 14: "But after he had spent everything, there arose a severe famine throughout that country, and he began to be in need." *Trial come upon him, and what a trial it was!*

Verse 15: "Then he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.

The worst possible occupation that a Jew can have is feeding swine!

Verse 16: "And he was longing to fill his stomach with the husks that the swine were eating, but no one gave *anything* to him." *Rough time!*

- Don't we all face rough times?
- Don't we all face difficulties that come upon us? Yes!
- What are those for? *Those are to help draw us to God, to realize that*:
 - ✓ only God can solve the problem
 - ✓ only God can change the circumstances
 - ✓ only God can open the door
 - ✓ only God can bring us repentance

This happens to everyone who sins, who's going to repent. This is the beginning of repentance!

Those who were sent off into exile, <u>IF</u> they learn their lesson, and they do what happens here with repentance, they can be restored.

Verse 17: "And when he came to himself..." That happens over a period of time! When you start out, you think:

Oh, this is great, wonderful, this is fine. Everything's going to work. Oh, I have done this and I've done that. I've done the other thing.

Then disaster strikes!

Then you see everything you've done is wrong! You see that all of that is sin. You begin to realize that you've got to turn to God. *That's coming to yourself!*

Verse 17: "And when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have *an* abundance of bread, and I am dying of hunger?""

So, he's saying, 'Hey, I was stupid!'.

Verse 18: "I will arise and go to my father... [come out of exile] ...and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you.""

Repentance! That's why it will be set up that way. That's what God wants! **Repentance!**

Verse 19: "And I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me as one of your hired servants.' And he arose *and* went to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with compassion..." (vs 19-20).

That's how God deals with us! He's moved with compassion and love and goodness when anyone comes to repentance.

It even says that the angels in heaven rejoice! So, this is what it is. That's how it's going to be during the Millennium.

"...his father saw him and was moved with compassion, and ran *and* embraced him, and ardently kissed him. And his son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servant, 'Bring out a robe...'" (vs 20-22).

When there is complete repentance and there is complete yieldedness to God, *the blessing of God will come!* And it will come in a way that will be wonderful, indeed, just like this.

Verse 22: "But the father said to his servant, 'Bring out a robe, the best robe, and clothe him, and give *him* a ring for his hand and sandals for *his* feet; and bring the fattened calf and kill *it*, and let us eat and be merry" (vs 22-23).

This shows God is pleased when anyone repents! So, all during the Millennium, we're going to have this kind of operation. People will have an opportunity to repent. If they don't, they will be placed in a place of repentance so they can overcome! And if not, at that place, then they're sent and exiled away! If they don't repent, they die and are accursed! IF they do repent, they can have a way back!

Verse 24: "For this my son was dead, but is alive again; and he was lost, but is found.' And they began to be merry."

Now then, the other son didn't like this because he was always obedient. Then he started to get self-righteous and say, 'Well, look, Dad, you've never given me anything, not even a kid goat, that I could rejoice with my friends.

Verse 31: "Then he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that *is* mine is yours."

'But this your brother has come back. So let's rejoice and make merry.' There's a lesson for all of us. This is how it's going to be in the Millennium.

There's God , there's Christ in Jerusalem; everything to set up rulership on the earth. There are all of us, the sons of God.

- we're going to be rulers in cities
- we're going to be rulers in countries
- we're going to be teachers
- we're going to be showing the people how to live

God is going to bless the whole world, bring back Israel out of captivity, restore the whole world to Him. For a thousand years, there's going to be the greatest production possible in bringing many sons under glory into the Kingdom of God.

That's our calling, brethren! That's the meaning of the Feast of Tabernacles. It has meaning:

- for God
- for Christ
- for the Church
- for the world
- for every individual

That's going to be a wonderful thing! As it says, His rest will be glorious!

Scriptural References:

- 1) Isaiah 4:5-6
- 2) Revelation 2:23-29
- 3) Isaiah 60:1-5, 10-22
- 4) Jeremiah 30:22-24
- 5) Jeremiah 31:1-4
- 6) Psalm 105:1-4
- 7) Psalm 113:1-6
- 8) Psalm 147:1-5
- 9) Deuteronomy 30:15-20
- 10) 2 Kings 17:22-23
- 11) Isaiah 65:17-22
- 12) Luke 15:11-24, 31

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Revelation 20
- Ezekiel 40
- Isaiah 61
- Acts 3
- Isaiah 30
- Genesis 3
- 2 Kings 16

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Judge Righteous Judgment I God is Judge!

(Day 4—FOT)

Fred R. Coulter—October 3, 2023

Greetings, brethren, and welcome to Day 4 of the Feast of Tabernacles, and as we say, time is always marching on! One thing about time, it doesn't wait for anyone!

<u>God is Judge!</u> We know Rev. 20 tells us what we're going to be doing during the Millennium after we're resurrected, and we are changed from flesh to spirit. Everything will be different at that point with us. However, at the present time, we are here to grow in:

- grace
- knowledge
- understanding
- maturity of spirit

so that we can be good

- judges
- priests
- administrators

all during the Millennium and then on out into all eternity! What is that going to be like?

Revelation 20:4: "And I saw thrones..."

Jesus promised to the 12 apostles that they would sit on thrones judging the 12 tribes of Israel. So, there will be *many thrones!*

"...and they that sat upon them, and **judgment was given to them**..." (v 3).

So there are major thrones, lesser thrones, and small thrones so that:

- we can reach all people
- we can have connection to God,
- we can yield ourselves to Him
- we can do everything according to the will of God

"...and **judgment** was given to them; and *I saw* the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus, and for the Word of God..." (v 4).

This tells us we're going to have to stand! Right now, as we have seen in some of the messages this summer, *the mark of the beast is coming, is coming, is coming!*

"...and for the Word of God..."—because there are a lot of people today that hate the Word of

God, can't stand the Word of God.

"...and those who did not worship the beast or his image, and did not receive the mark in their foreheads or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years" (v 4).

- God is Judge!
- God is Lawgiver
- God is merciful
- God is kind

God is also the One Who will render vengeance and the judgment of fire!

Everything that there is comes from Him! That's what we need to grasp and understand with the whole Plan of God.

James 4—let's see something very interesting here that tells us that God is Lawgiver and God is Judge, and He makes the judgment, but He will commit judgment to us. But the final judgment to eternal life will be Christ's and God the Father's.

James 4:6: "But He gives greater grace. This is the reason it says, 'God sets Himself against *the* proud, but He gives grace to *the* humble.""

The best way to be humble is to understand that everything comes from God. We live and move and have our being in Him, and without Him, we can't do anything.

If we have difficulties, trials, circumstances and afflictions, those are all so that we can grow in grace and knowledge and draw close to God.

Verse 7: "Therefore, submit yourselves to \underline{God} ..."

We'll see a little later how to do that. That's through repentance and drawing close to God, living under His Laws!

"... Resist the devil..." (v 7)—because the devil is the one who wants to keep us from being in the Kingdom of God!

When we resist Him "...and <u>he will flee</u> <u>from you</u>" (v 7).

It says in 1-Peter 5 that we resist in the faith, trusting in Christ!

Verse 8: "<u>Draw near to God</u>..." How do you draw near to God?

- through prayer
- through study
- through your thoughts
- through everything that you do

And with God's Spirit in us, we draw near to God! Notice what James says with that:

"...and <u>He will draw near to you</u>...." (v 8). *That's through the power of His Holy Spirit!*

"...Cleanse *your* hands, you sinners, and purify *your* hearts, you double-minded!" (v 8).

Now, double-minded is like the man or woman who has one foot in the Church, one foot in the world.

- one foot in the Church so he/she can run to God if something goes wrong
- one foot in the world, so he/she can get along with people in the world and be accepted by them

Sooner or later it will come to the time that you can't get along with them! That's why James says this!

Verse 9: "Be grieved and mourn.... [repent, come to God] ...and weep; let your laughter be turned into grieving, and *your* joy into mourning"— *or sorrow!*

That is if you're out here thinking, 'Oh well, everything is just fine and everything, God is there and He's for me.' You know, much like the Protestants and the Catholics do today. If you're a good Protestant, you're just fine. You don't need to do anything. You don't need to keep the Laws. Same with the Catholics: all you have to do is come to Mass. All you have to do is keep Christmas and Easter and you'll be saved.

NO! God says, v 10: "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will exalt you"—in due time!

The time of exaltation does not come in this life. The time of exaltation comes at the resurrection!

Verse 11: "Brethren, do not talk against one another. The one who talks against a brother, and **judges his brother**..."—judging his heart!

We're told in Matt. 7 the same thing: 'Judge not lest you be judged.' That means judge the heart unto criticism, because the only One Who knows the heart is God!

And he who judges his brother "...is speaking against the Law, and is judging the Law. But if you judge the Law..." (v 11)—you're judging God!

That's what the world always does; *they judge God!* They don't know what's going on.

"...But if you judge the Law, you are not a doer of the Law: rather, you are a judge" (v 11). If you do that, you set yourself above God!

Verse 12: "But there is only one Lawgiver, Who has power to save and to destroy. Who are you that you presume to judge another?" That is, judge their heart! That's left up to God!

This is quite a thing because here's what most people do. Most people are always judging God one way or the other. When they judge God and judge the Law, *they put themselves as adversaries of God!* Here's what Paul writes:

Romans 3:1: "What then *is* the advantage of the Jew, or what *is* the profit of circumcision?"

Go back and read Rom. 2 right at the end and he says *circumcision is of the heart; from within!* But the Jews are judging everybody, condemning everybody!

Verse 2: "Much in every way. Primarily in that they were entrusted with the oracles of God."

So, the question comes up, why are they sinners?

Verse 3: "For what if some did not believe? Shall their unbelief nullify the faithfulness of God?.... [of course not] ...MAY IT NEVER BE! Rather, let God be true..." (vs 3-4)—which He is:

- always true
- always right
- always makes right judgments

"...but every man a liar, exactly as it is written: 'That You might be justified in Your words...'"

In other words, His words are *always just* and *He is never wrong!* People look in the world and look at the things that go on because of the penalty of sin that comes along *and they judge God and say*, 'Why would God do that?'

Well .because they reject God! Big lesson: You can't reject God and receive his blessings!

Speaking of God; "... 'That You might be justified in Your words, and might overcome when You are being judged by men." (v 4).

That's what happens. Everyone has an idea

about God, from:

- clear to the right
- clear to the left
- clear to the Bible
- rejecting the Bible
- accepting parts of it
- rejecting all other parts of it

They are all judging God when they do that!

Verse 5: "But if our unrighteousness brings to reality God's righteousness, what shall we say? *Is* God unrighteous to inflict His wrath?.... [of course not] ...(I am speaking according to man's view.) MAY IT NEVER BE! Otherwise, **how shall God judge the world?**" (vs 5-6).

Remember this: Even where there is sin, that proves that the Word of God is true. And the consequences of sin as it comes, proves that the Word of God and the power of God is true and does exist!

Verse 7: "For if, by my falsehood, the Truth of God has shown itself *to be* supremely great, to His glory, why am I still being judged as a sinner?" *Quite a thing! Yes indeed.*

1-Chron. 16 is really very interesting because this is when God told David that he would have his son build a temple for Him. It was right after the time that David brought the Ark of the Covenant from where it was stored after the Philistines had it, Obed-Edom, and brought it to Jerusalem to his house.

In his house David had a special room that was set up with a small tent in there for the Ark of the Covenant. There's where he would go and pray. When that was finally set up, then we have this prayer that he gave. Asaph was the priest who was in charge of it with other Levites.

1-Chronicles 16:7: "Then on that day... [when the Ark was put in that tent right in David's house] ...David first delivered *this psalm* into the hand of Asaph and his brethren in order to thank the LORD."

This was a glorious day giving credit to God for everything!

Verse 8: "O give thanks to the LORD, call upon His name, make known His deeds among the people. Sing to Him, sing psalms to Him, tell of all His wondrous works" (vs 8-9).

There are lots of them, especially today when we can look out and we can see the more vastness of the universe that at any time in the

history of men.

Verse 10: "Glory in His Holy name, let the heart of those who seek the LORD rejoice. Seek the LORD and His strength; seek His face continually" (vs 10-11).

That's what we are to do. That's what James was writing about there in James 4: *seek God!*

Verse 12: "Remember His marvelous works, which He has done..."

That's why we have the Old Testament, and the New Testament and the book of Acts; all of the marvelous works that God has done!

"...His wonders, <u>and the judgments of His</u> mouth..." (v 12).

We'll see some of those and we will see that *God is Judge* of the whole world! *No one is going to escape the judgment of God*: either for righteousness or for wickedness.

Verse 12: "Remember His marvelous works, which He has done, His wonders, and the judgments of His mouth, O seed of Israel His servant, children of Jacob, **His chosen ones**" (vs 12-13).

They never really did appreciate it. Even in spite of all of their sins—because of the promise to Abraham and a promise to Moses—God dealt with the children of Israel.

Verse 14: "He *is* the LORD our God. His judgments *are* in all the earth."

Everywhere that you look and see and go, there are all *the judgments and the works of God!*

Verse 15: "Be always mindful of His covenant, the word He commanded to a thousand generations"—and for us: for the New Covenant, always be mindful of that covenant; the Covenant of Eternal Life!

Verse 16: "Even the covenant, which He made with Abraham..."

Isn't now what he did there in Gen. 15? Yes, indeed!

"...and of His oath unto Isaac. And He has established it unto Jacob for a Law, to Israel *for* an everlasting covenant" (vs 16-17).

That included the coming of the Messiah; that included everything that we find in the New Testament, as well.

Verse 18: "Saying, 'To you will I give the land of Canaan, the lot of your inheritance."

Verse 23: "Sing unto the LORD, all the earth...."

Here is the Ark of the Covenant in the tabernacle tent in the house of David! He was there with this first song. Look what he says:

Verse 23: "Sing unto the LORD, all the earth.... [a prophecy of what's going to happen] ... Show forth from day to day His salvation. Declare His glory among the nations..." (vs 23-24).

That's a prophecy of the Gospel going out from Jerusalem with the apostles of the Church and down to us today.

"...His marvelous works among all people" (v 24). That goes into the time of the Millennium and all the Plan of God!

Verse 25: "For great *is* the LORD, and greatly to be praised. He also *is* to be feared above all gods, for all the gods of the peoples *are* idols, but the LORD made the heavens. Glory and honor *are* in His presence, strength and gladness in His place. Give to the LORD, O you kindred of the people, give to the LORD glory and strength.... [and honor] ...Give to the LORD the glory due His name; bring an offering and come before Him. Worship the LORD in the beauty of Holiness (vs 25-29).

- you are there praying to Him
- you are there with all the saints gathered together
- when we get together and we worship God
- when we study His Word.
- when we learn what God wants

This is quite a tremendous and fantastic thing for us. Let's see some other things about God.

Quite a thing really when you look at all the things concerning judge and judgment and the righteousness of God!

Psalm 82:8: "Arise, O God..."—which is the coming of Christ, or at any time that God judges any nation, because He's judging them all the time!

Verse 8: "Arise, O God, judge the earth, for You shall inherit all nations." *That's referring to Christ and the setting up of the Millennium.*

The Psalms are filled with many of these things for us to know and understand.

Psalm 96:9: "O worship the LORD in the beauty of Holiness; tremble before Him, all the earth."

So, this is a time when the whole world is

under the rule of God!

Verse 10: "Say among the nations, 'The LORD reigns..."

That's going to be our first message to everyone in the world wherever we are sent to help the people come out of the things that happened during the Great Tribulation as we begin the Millennium.

"...'The LORD reigns, and the world shall be established; it shall not be moved; <u>He shall judge</u> the people with righteousness" (v 10).

- How is that?
- Are not all of His commandments righteousness?
- Isn't everything about God righteousness, truth, love, mercy and grace? *Yes it is!*

Verse 11: "Let the heavens rejoice. Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea roar, and the fullness of it. Let the field be joyful, and all that is in it; then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy" (vs 11-12).

Don't know how that's going to be, but we do know this:

- when there is love
- when there is peace
- when there is joy
- when there is right treatment of plants and trees

They flourish and they give off a radiance that can be measured, but we can't see it or hear it!

They do this; v 13: "Before the LORD; for He comes, for He comes to judge the earth; He shall judge the world with righteousness and the people with His Truth."

That's how it's going to be. It's not going to be any other way. This is why we need to understand and we'll cover it very thoroughly during this sermon in the next one or two about *judge righteous judgment*.

Now let's understand that this also comes clear back to the New Testament, as well.

Let's see what a tremendous thing that this is, and what it talks about with what God is going to do. Paul wants us to know that when we come before God in our prayer, when we come before God in the study of His Word, that we have all of these things in mind:

• this will help us understand the Word of

God more

- this will help us love God more
- this will help us overcome more

We will see the key as to how that is done!

Hebrews 12:22: "But you have come to Mount Sion, and to *the* city of *the* living God, heavenly Jerusalem..."

Every time you get on your knees and you pray to God and you say, 'Our Father Who is in heaven...' you're coming to the living God and Mount Sion in heaven above and heavenly Jerusalem, which is, in the final analysis, to be brought to the earth by God.

"...and to an innumerable company of angels" (v 22).

Read Rev. 4 & 5; that's quite a thing!

Verse 23: "To the joyous festival gathering; and to the Church of the Firstborn..."—that's all of us!

There's a special place right there in God's presence that the Church of the Firstborn are:

"...registered *in the Book of Life* in heaven; and to God, *the* Judge of all, and to *the* spirits of the just who have been perfected

When you die in a faith, your spirit has been perfected and it goes to God, and he holds that. Understand that the spirit of man, likewise the Spirit of God cannot function without it being in the mind of the individual!

So, the *spirit of man* is kind of like a computer chip that when you die everything about us has been perfected, God is storing for the resurrection. Then *when the resurrection comes*, *He puts it into a spirit body and a spirit mind!* That's what we have to look forward to!

"...and to *the* spirits of the just who have been perfected; and to Jesus, *the* Mediator of *the* New Covenant... [remember His covenant] ...and to sprinkling of *the* blood of *ratification*, proclaiming superior things than *that of* Abel" (v 24).

Then Paul gives a warning; v 25: "Beware that you do not refuse to hear Him Who is speaking!..."

This is why the Bible is put together 'here a little and there a little, and precept upon precept, and line upon line.' If we put it together properly this is going to be another one of these things in Isa. 57 putting it together about <u>God is Judge!</u> He's going to judge the world! He is going to do judge

everything that there is!

Isaiah 57:15: "For thus says the High and Lofty One..."

That's God! God the Father and Jesus Christ; They are one! Didn't Jesus say that in John 17? Yes, indeed!

"... Who inhabits eternity..." (v 15).

This is something we won't understand until we are resurrected from the dead, but *God is eternal; He inhabits eternity*, and everything about what He is doing is centered around that and His great plan. *And we have been called to be a part of that!*

"...Whose name is Holy; 'I dwell in the high and Holy place, even with the one who is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones" (v 15).

That's quite a thing! God is not calling the rich and famous. He's calling us! That's why, and it goes clear back to where we started with James: 'Humble yourself under the mighty hand of God and he will exalt you in due time.'

Let's see some other things concerning this. Let's come to Jer. 4, because this tells us more about God in judging; how it is and what we need to look to, and the reason that Jeremiah:

- did what he did
- spoke what he did
- wrote what he did
- carried out everything that God wanted

Jer. 4—here's the plea to Israel. Here was the plea to the Jews, because God gave us space of 40 years from the beginning of the ministry of Jeremiah until the end of it.

- they had that time to repent
- they had that time to amend their ways
- they had that time to stop sinning

Jeremiah 4:1—*God says*: "'<u>If</u> you will return, O Israel'…"—conditional!

Just like with us, we have got to come to God and coming to God every day in prayer and study; all of these things. These are important!

Verse 1: "<u>If</u> you will return, O Israel,' says the LORD, 'Return to Me...."

That is the true God in the true way with a humble heart:

according to His Word

- according to His love
- according to His mercy
- according to His Law

And another obligation:

"...And if you will put away your abominations out of My sight, then you shall not be removed" (v 1). Quite a challenge! Same way with the world today.

- they want to have God their way
- they want to have Jesus their way
- they want to have prophecies their way

not God's way!

They're not willing to submit to the judgment of God and they're not willing to come to God as He says right here.

Verse 2 "And will swear, 'As the LORD lives,' in truth, in judgment and in righteousness... [now notice those three always all go together] ...then the nations shall bless themselves in Him, and in Him they shall glory." But they wouldn't do it!

Now let's see God's judgment. Here's what God does. Remember God has given the laws and with the laws are blessings for obedience and penalties for disobedience, which are called *curses*.

So, God pleaded with them and pleaded with them, pleaded with the priest through Jeremiah.

Jeremiah 6:16: "Thus says the LORD, 'Stand in the ways and see, and ask for the old paths where the good way *is* and walk in it..."

Again, giving them another chance, showing that it has to have direct action and you're walking, that is your way of life.

"...and you shall find rest for your souls. But they said, "We will not walk *in it*" (v 16).

Same way today. Look at what is happening today in the world and how quickly Satan is taking over. An amazing thing is indeed.

Verse 17: "Also, I set watchmen over you, *saying*, 'Hearken to the sound of the ram's horn.' But they said, '<u>We will not hearken</u>'"—*listen!* No, no, no, there's no God!

Verse 18: "Therefore, hear you nations... [of Israel and the nations on the earth, because it applies at this time to everyone] ...and know, O congregation..."

That's all the people of God, wherever they are scattered in the world.

"...what will happen to them? Hear, O earth, behold, I will bring evil on this people, even the fruit of their thoughts..." (vs 18-19). God does it by:

- what we think
- what we say
- what we do

But the thoughts!

"...because they have not hearkened to My words, nor to My Law, but have rejected it" (v 19). So God says, judgment is coming!

Psa. 19 is quite a Psalm! It tells us concerning:

- God's Way
- God's Truth
- God's Law
- God's Judgment

One of those foundational Psalms that we need to always keep in mind and understand!

This is what the world doesn't like, because human nature always likes to come along and say:

We know better or we'll accept this, but we won't accept that. Let's add this to it because it seems so good.

God says of His Word:

- you're not going to add to it
- you're not going to take away from it
- you're going to do it

Psalm 19:7: "The Law of the LORD is perfect..."

That's what God is seeking with His Spirit perfection in us, with his Truth and things written in our hearts and our minds that we have the perfect way of God in us.

"...restoring the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple" (v 7).

See how all of this works together with God's way.

Verse 8: "The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandments of the LORD are pure, enlightening the eyes."

- this is what God wants to do
- this is the judgment he's already made
- this is the covenant that we enter into with him when we come to God and are converted

Verse 9: "The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever..."

That's the fear of God based on the love of God. And the love of God casts out human fear, but it brings Godly fear. Godly fear is that you're not going to go against God because you understand the penalty that will come.

"...the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether" (v 9). There is nothing wrong with anything that God is doing!

Verse 10: "More to be desired than gold, yea, much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb."

This is what we need to understand, because Jesus said, 'Lo, He's coming and His reward is with Him?'

We're all going to receive a reward and a new name and assignments and all of this to serve the people during the Millennium and then on into eternity.

Verse 11: "Moreover, by them..." that is keeping:

- His laws
- His commandments
- His statutes

"...Your servant is warned... [you give internal warning in your mind ... in keeping them there is great reward. Who can understand his errors?" (vs 11-12).

You cannot understand your errors without the Word of God, which says, 'you shall not' and whatever.

You can't understand your errors. Do people in the world have any idea what's right and what is wrong? *No! Because they don't follow the Word of God!* By chance, some of them may follow some of it.

Verse 12: "Who can understand his errors? Oh, cleanse me from my secret faults."

That which is deep buried in our minds by living in this world. *This is deep conversion!*

- all of that comes from God
- all of that comes from His Spirit
- all of that comes because we judge ourselves with the Word and Spirit of God

That's a tremendous thing, isn't it? When we do that, then v 13 takes place!

Verse 13: "And keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins; do not let them rule over me..."

- you cast them down
- you get rid of those thoughts
- you reject them

"...then I shall be blameless, and I shall be innocent of great transgression" (v 13).

Here is the great judgment for us what we want in our lives today.

Verse 14: "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer."

This is why God is Judge!

(break@42:17)

Let's see what is said of God by Abraham, because he understood what God was going to do to Sodom and Gomorrah.

Gen. 18, is quite a thing, because Abraham was able to approach God directly. This was right after the time that Abraham and Sarah were there, and then here comes the Lord God and two angels, obviously, in human-like form.

Abraham says, 'Come on in and eat and slay the calf. Sarah fixed everything up and so forth, and then they had the meal.

Sidebar: They had butter, they had milk, they had meat all at the same time.

God said to Sarah, You're going to bear a son when the time comes. She laughed, and God asked her, 'Why did you laugh? *Well, I didn't laugh*. He said, 'Yes, you laughed.'

Genesis 18:13: "And the LORD said to Abraham, 'Why did Sarah laugh, saying, "Shall I, who am old, truly bear a child?"" She was 90 years old at that time!

Verse 14: "Is anything too hard for the LORD?...."

Even what sounds impossible to us, *God can do!* Never forget that.

"...At the time appointed I will return again, according to the time of life, and Sarah *shall have* a son" (v 14).

Verse 17: "And the Lord said, shall I hide from Abraham the thing I shall do, since Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?"

(vs 17-18)—going clear back to the promise given in Gen. 12.

Verse 10 "For <u>I know him</u>...." *Now stop and think on this.*

- Does God know us? Of course He does!
- Does He know our thoughts? Yes, He does!
- Do we have the Holy Spirit of God in us? Yes!
- Are we living by His Word? *Yes!*
- Are we keeping His commandments? Yes!
- Is He preparing us for eternal life? Yes!

Same way with Abraham here!

Verse 19: "For I know him, that he will command his children and his house after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment... [doing the right thing] ...that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which He has spoken of him.' And the LORD said..." (vs 19-20).

Now let's look at this. This is something!

Verse 20: "And the LORD said, 'Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous."

How close are we to that today? Very close!

Verse 21: "I will go down now and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which has come to Me."

Now that's interesting! When they cry, all the anguish of the sin comes up to God.

How close is God in contact with the things on the earth? Here's one to think on that we don't know how it's done!

Jesus said to the apostles, you're worth many sparrows, but even if one falls, that is falls dead, God knows. How does he know that? Well, we don't know, but it tells us this: God is more in touch with everything than we've ever given God credit for!

This is why God said what He's going to do. So then they came and they went from there towards Sodom, and Abraham stood before the Lord. Abraham drew near and said, now notice how he was right there with God, looking at the One Who was to become the Lord Jesus Christ of the New Testament, but here He was appearing to Abraham in human form, and Abraham was looking at Him right in the eyes. Abraham came right up to Him. Can we have close contact with God? *Yes, indeed!* Look at this:

Verse 23: "And Abraham drew near and said, 'Will You also destroy the righteous with the

wicked?" Quite a question!

There's God, just promised him a son through Sarah, and that nothing is impossible.

Verse 24: "Perhaps there are fifty righteous within the city. Will You also destroy and not spare the place for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from You to act in this manner, to kill the righteous with the wicked. And far be it from You, that the righteous should be as the wicked. **Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?**" (vs 24-25).

Notice how he brought this out. He didn't come up with a thought, 'O God, you're going to destroy it? That's not right.' NO! He says, "...Shall not the Judge of all the earth..."—past, present, future!' We find this through the whole Bible! That's why judging righteous judgment is important in everything that we do.

So then, Abraham bargained all the way down to ten. And He said that if there are ten, I will spare them. Then you know what happened. The only ones to get out of there were Lot, his two daughters, and his wife. But his wife didn't believe it, so as they were leaving she turned into a pillar of salt.

How important is it to believe what God says even through an angel? *The angel's message was, do not look back!* Let that be a lesson for us in this world of Sodom and Gomorrah today. Don't look back at the pleasures of the world and think somehow that God is not righteous in his judgment that He brings.

Now let's look at something else here. Let's see what God does since He's Judge of all the earth. This is always ongoing all the time. So, the judgment of God is always ongoing everywhere at all times because, He has the ability and capacity to do it. He has angels to help Him, and He also uses Satan and the demons as punishment for when things get evil and they turn away from God. But God gives the choice.

We will see that God makes His judgments always by what we choose!

Jeremiah 18:1: "The Word, which came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying, 'Arise and go down to the potter's house, and there I will cause you to hear My words" (vs 1-2).

Not only hear My words, but see what I'm going to do. And understand what I'm going to do.

Verse 3: "Then I went down to the potter's house, and, behold, he was working at his wheel. And the vessel that he made of clay was ruined in

the hand of the potter; so he made it again into another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make *it*. Then the Word of the LORD came to me, saying, 'O house of Israel, **can I not do with you even as this potter?**' says the LORD" (vs 3-6).

Of course! There are other places which say, shall the potter say to the maker, what are you making?

"...Behold, as the clay is in the potter's hands, *so are* you in My hand, O house of Israel" (v 6).

Now think about the whole house of Israel, all twelve tribes, just like clay in a potter's hand. Do you think that any of us, large or small, whatever, great or unknown, can get away from God's judgment? *Of course not!*

That's the thing we need to understand, and then we need to realize that during the Millennium we're going to be judging just exactly like this under the supervision of Christ. We are to make *righteous judgments!* We'll see that. So here's what God says.

Verse 7: "If at any time I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to pluck it up and to pull it down, and to destroy *it*."

Isn't that what we're seeing happen in America today? Yes, indeed! The hand of God is doing it.

You go to Church at Home and you watch the five segments that I have done on *Satan Out of* the Closet, because that's what we're seeing going on in the United States of America today. The hand of God because *He has released Satan to do his evil* because of the evil of our doing like we have covered so many times.

Verse 8: "<u>If</u> that nation, against whom I have spoken, <u>will turn from their evil</u>, <u>I will repent of the evil that I thought to do to them.</u>"

But remember whatever He does is righteous and just and good, whether for blessing or whether for punishment.

Verse 7: "If at any time I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to pluck it up and to pull it down, and to destroy *it*; if that nation, against whom I have spoken, will turn from their evil, I will repent of the evil that I thought to do to them" (vs 7-8).

- here is the warning today
- here is the warning for us
- here's what we need to understand

Verse 11: "Now, therefore, speak to the men of Judah, and to the people of Jerusalem, saying, 'Thus says the LORD, "Behold... [pay attention, listen] ...I am forming evil against you, and devising a plan against you. Return now, each one from his evil way, and make your ways and your doings good.""

But will they? That's always up to the individual. That's up to the nation.

- Will there be anyone who can bring anything about?
- Will there be anyone to say, 'here's the way, walk in it'?
- Will there be any of those so-called Christian ministers that God said that if they would preach His Word that He would honor that, but will they preach His Word?
- What about us with the Churches of God?
- What about us in our own individual life?
- What are we doing?
- What are we looking at?
- What are we judging ourselves on?
- How do we do that?

We know from the example of Jonah that when Jonah preached, they repented from the greatest to the least of them. And the king even put on sackcloth and fasted. That was a tremendous thing and God withheld His judgment for 120 years.

True to God's Word!

Let's understand. We've been here in Deut. 30 many, many times, but let's go here and see how true this is. God is not going to turn his hand back from it.

This applies to all the children of Israel, as well as all the nations of the world, at any time down through history. That when we're in trouble and we seek God, it's for the purpose that we come to Him.

After giving everything in Deut. 28 & 29, all the blessings and cursings and so forth:

Deuteronomy 30:1 "And it shall be when all these things have come on you, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before you, and when you shall call *them* to mind among all the nations where the LORD your God has driven you."

Took them out of the land, scattered them wherever they were to go!

Verse 2: "And shall return to the LORD your God and shall obey His voice according to all that I command you today, you and your children, with all your heart and with all your soul." *Same*

thing we just read back there in Jer. 18!

- Will we return?
- How far will we return?
- What will we put away?
- The evil from ourselves?
- What is it?

So if we do that:

Verse 3: "Then the LORD your God will turn *away* your captivity. And He will have compassion on you, and will return and gather you from all the nations where the LORD your God has scattered you.

So, this shows another principle: God always honors repentance. That's what God wants. God's judgment are based upon our choices, whether for good or for evil.

Verse 6: "And the LORD your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your seed, to love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, so that you may live."

That's coming into the time of the Millennium where people will be converted. That's what it means, circumcise your heart. Rom. 2 talks about that; we'll see that in just a bit.

Verse 7: "And the LORD your God will put all these curses upon your enemies, and upon those that hate you, who persecuted you. And you shall return and obey the voice of the LORD, and do all His commandments, which I command you today" (vs 7-8).

So you see, sooner or later they're going to have to come and keep the commandments of God. But they look at those things and wonder. They don't understand them. They can't believe them. They have no knowledge of them.

Verse 10: "If you shall obey the voice of the LORD your God to keep His commandments and His statutes, which are written in this Book of the Law, *and* if you turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul."

God doesn't like halfway things. God doesn't like it that we put Him on trial, because he's not to be tried. The whole book of Job proves that! We're the ones who are on trial, not God!

Verse 14: "But the Word *is* very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, so that you may do it."

That's why there's so many Bibles in the world. They're available!

- people can repent
- people can come to the Truth
- people can understand what God is doing

Now, here are these choices. We've gone over this many, many times, but I tell you what:

- the more we go over it
- the more we understand it
- the more we realize what it's actually saying
- the more that God becomes real
- the more that we understand how important our choices are
- the more that we understand it is:
 - ✓ what we think
 - ✓ what we intend
 - ✓ what is in our mind

That is the most important thing as we come to God!

This is it for the world, for the Church, for every individual:

Verse 15: "Behold, I have set before you this day life and good, and death and evil, in that I command you..." (v 15-16). This is what God wants!

Verse 16: "In that I command you this day to love the LORD your God..."

How are we to do that? The first commandment is to love the Lord your God:

- with all your heart
- with all your soul
- with all your mind
- with all your strength
- no reservations for your evil
- no reservations for your sins
 - ✓ repent of them
 - ✓ get rid of them

That's what He wants!

"...to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments and His statutes and His judgments so that you may live and multiply. And the LORD your God shall bless you in the land where you go to possess it" (v 16).

That applies directly to the Millennium and this will be what we're going to preach to the people coming out of all the disasters and all the tribulation:

- you turn to God
- you receive his Spirit
- you become converted

So, God says this and He gives this warning and this is what we're seeing happen today because people won't return to God and the small little messages of repent and receive Jesus have nothing to do with the Truth. That's anything but all your heart and mind and soul and being.

Verse 17: "But if your heart turn away so that you will not hear, but shall be drawn away and worship other gods and serve them, I denounce to you this day that you shall surely perish..." (vs 17-18).

You can't make sin work. There may be prosperity for a while but the curse is wrapped up in that prosperity and is deceitful and will entrap anyone who thinks they can get away with it because it's not possible.

"...you shall not prolong *your* days... [19]: I call heaven and earth to record this day against you *that* I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing. Therefore, choose life, so that both you and your seed may live, that you may love the LORD your God, *and* may obey His voice, and may cleave to Him..." (vs18-20).

Notice all of these *mays*. These are giving us permission, but we must follow through with the action *by our own choice!* Wherever you see the word *may*, that means that *it requires action upon our part to do what God says!* Then the blessings will come!

That's the message we're going to bring at the Millennium.

Let's understand something here! We know that judgment's on the house of God today as Peter said and that is:

- What are we going to do?
- How are we going to live?
- How are we going to obey God?

Let's come and see was is very important what is necessary concerning that.

1-Peter 4—here we are going to see that God's judgment now is upon each one of us, because we're being called to the greatest calling possible:

- to be of the Church of the Firstborn
- to be in the resurrection
- to be given judgment
- to be given rulership
- to be given teachings

for the Millennium!

That will grow in God's great plan into something fantastic for all eternity!

1-Peter 4:17: "For the time *has come for* judgment to begin with the household of God..."

When God looks down here, wherever it is, He is first of all judging the Church. He is judging all the ministers and all the elders"

- What are they doing?
- What are they teaching?
- What are they preaching?
- How are they living?
- How are they handling the Word of God?
- Are they yielded to God?
- Are they humble to God?
- What kind of judgment will they come under if they don't do the things that God wants?
- If they don't teach the Word of God the way that God wants?

Verse 17: "For the time *has come for* judgment to begin with the household of God; and if it first *begins* with us... [which it is, it's always first] ...what *will be* the end of those who do not obey the Gospel of God? And if the righteous are saved with much difficulty, what will become of the ungodly and *the* sinner?" (vs 17-18).

We don't know. It's going to be something. So don't look at any affliction that you're going through now as something that you cannot bear.

- ask God to help you bear it
- ask God to help lift it from you
- ask God to intervene to heal you
- ask God to guide you in everything that you are doing

Verse 19: "For this reason also, let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls *to Him* in well doing, as to a faithful Creator."

The first thing we're going to do in the Millennium is we're going to *preach repentance*. And here's how it has to be, and it's going to be difficult.

Think of all the shell-shocked people that are going to be because of the wars and the plagues and all the things coming upon the earth.

Isa. 55—this also tells us about how we need to repent, how we need to come to God, how we need to have our minds changed, and to realize that God is there to help us with everything.

So that we get the whole setting, this is what we're going to preach because there will be people in all nations wanting to know about God. There will be some who will be resisting. we read about that in Zech. 14 at the beginning of the millennium, what's going to happen to them.

Isaiah 55:1: "Ho, everyone who thirsts... [that has to be us] ...come to the waters..."

That is, come to God and receive of His Holy Spirit living waters.

As Jesus said to the woman at the well, "...and he who has no money, come, buy and eat. Yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price" (v 1). Come freely from God!

Verse 2: "Why do you spend money for *what is* not bread? And your labor for *what* never satisfies? Hearken diligently to Me, and eat..."

Remember the Psalm that says, "O taste and see that the Lord is good'? Remember the Word of God that the angel told John to 'take and eat'? That's what it means!

"...eat what is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness.... [in other words, all of the great blessings of God] ...Bow down your ear, and come to Me; hear... [this is the lesson that's going to go out] ...and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David" (vs 2-3).

So it's going to be done! They'll have to come to the point of repentance and come to the point of baptism and receiving the Holy Spirit of God.

Verse 4: "Behold, I have given Him [Christ] ... for a witness to the people, a Prince and Commander of people. Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not know; a nation that did not know you shall run to you because of the LORD your God, and for the Holy One of Israel; for He has glorified you" (s 4-5).

That shows what we're going to do. We're going to come to them quickly. Now, here's the message right here. This is what we are to do. This is the message of repentance so they can come to God and do those things that are right and have judgment in their lives, mercy and forgiveness of their sins.

Verse 6: "Seek the LORD while He may be found..."

Of course He will be found because all the saints will be on the earth and Christ will be on the earth.

"...call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way..." (vs 6-7).

- get away from it
- get rid of it
- stop it
- don't live in it
- renounce it

"...and the unrighteous man his thoughts... [because the conversion comes in the mind] ...and let him return to the LORD, and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon" (v 7). Notice how great this is going to be:

- the Plan of God
- the plan of conversion
- the plan of salvation

for all the Millennium! Then on into all the universe after that!

Verse 8: "For My thoughts *are* not your thoughts, nor your ways My ways,' says the LORD. For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth..." (vs 8-9). *Think of that!*

God is bringing us this knowledge that's higher than the heavens above the earth.

"...so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts" (v 9).

That's what it's going to be! It's going to bring out everything; let's see how it goes!

Verse 10: "For as the rain comes down, and the snow from the heavens, and does not return there, but waters the earth, and makes it bring forth and bud, and gives seed to the sower and bread to the eater."

That's what it's going to be. It's going to make everything right.

Verse 11: "So shall My Word be which goes out of My mouth..." We're the ones to speak it!

- God speaks it
- it's written down
- we are to read it
- that's the same as God speaking it

"...it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall certainly do what I sent it to do" (v 11).

That's what it's going to be. *God is Judge!* He judges:

- the heavens
- the earth

• everything on it, every individual in it

We then are given judgment to bring this to the people so that:

- they can know God
- they can have an opportunity for salvation

God will usher in the thousand years of peace. Come back tomorrow for more righteous judgment and how important that that is.

Scriptural References:

- 1) Revelation 20:4
- 2) James 4:6-12
- 3) Romans 3:1-7
- 4) 1 Chronicles 16:7-18. 23-29
- 5) Psalm 82:8
- 6) Psalm 96:9-13
- 7) Hebrews 12:22-25
- 8) Isaiah 57:15
- 9) Jeremiah 4:1-2
- 10) Jeremiah 6:16
- 11) Psalm 19:7-14
- 12) Genesis 18:13-14, 17-21, 23-25
- 13) Jeremiah 18:1-11
- 14) Deuteronomy 30:1-3, 6-10, 14-20
- 15) 1 Peter 4:17-19
- 16) Isaiah 55:1-11

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- 1 Peter 5
- Matthew 7
- Romans 2
- Revelation 4; 5
- Genesis 12
- Deuteronomy 28

Also referenced:

Church at Home {churchathome.org}: Satan Out of the Closet

FRC:bo

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Judge Righteous Judgment II

(Day 5—FOT)

Fred R. Coulter—October 4, 2023

Greetings, brethren! Welcome to the Feast of Tabernacles, Day 5!

We're making progress through the Feast. We're past the halfway point. Today were going to continue on *Judge Righteous Judgment!*

As we saw in the first segment, everything is based on choices. Everything is based on right or wrong, good or evil. We also know that the mistake of Adam and Eve was that they decided to understand good and evil *on their own*, without following God the way that they should. It's been the same ever since.

It tells us in the Psalms that *the thoughts of man*, that is without God, *are vanity*. But:

- God made us so that we can be righteous
- God made us so that we can think
- God made us so that we can choose

As a matter of fact, that is a command from God, as we saw yesterday. When you look at it, all of life is a choice, even on a daily basis:

- what time you get up in the morning
- what you are going to have for breakfast
- how you are going to get to work
- how about the kids going to school
- how about the things you need to buy
- how about your car
- how about your house
- how about everything you have

There are all choices involved! God wants us:

- with His Laws
- with His Commandments
- with His Truth

to have righteous thoughts, and righteous thoughts can bring righteous judgment!

Remember, God is always dealing with our thoughts. Remember what He said concerning just before he brought the Flood upon the world, 'that the thoughts of man were only evil continuously!' In other words, there comes a point with human beings when they reject God, that there is no way they can think any good. Were seeing that today.

How many unrighteous decisions. Now were thankful that the Supreme Court gave us a few good decisions here lately, but the enemy is always there, and the enemy, Satan the devil, will figure out a way around that.

Now let's see what the Proverbs tell us. Were going to go through a lot of Proverbs today as well as other Scriptures.

Proverbs 12:1: "Whoever loves instruction loves knowledge..."—and instruction will teach us the right way! You can go back to the first part of Proverbs and it says that:

- you have knowledge
- you have understanding
- you have wisdom

The thoughts of man are built that way. You don't come up with wise thoughts until first you have knowledge, and then you have understanding. Then you can make wise decisions and you can always make *righteous* decisions.

Proverbs 12:1: "Whoever loves instruction loves knowledge, but he who hates correction *is* stupid."

- Isn't that true?
- Don't we all need correction? Yes!
- Don't we all need to stay right with God? Yes!.

Verse 5: "The thoughts of the righteous *are* right...[in other words, *just, righteous judgment*] ...the counsels of the wicked *are* deceit."

That's what we see today. So many are operating on lies and deceit that there is no truth in them. It's almost unbelievable how bad its getting.

Verse 6: "The words of the wicked *are* to lie in wait for blood, but the mouth of the upright shall deliver them. The wicked are overthrown and *are* gone, but the house of the righteous shall stand" (vs 6-7).

- that's what we want
- that's why were here
- that's why were doing what were doing

We want to be in that first resurrection, and we've got to make all the right decisions!

When we miss the mark and when we sin, we need to repent. God gives us the way so we can overcome it!

Again, God gave us a mind so we can think, but we have to be taught how to think correctly. That's why we have the Word of God

Proverb 15:26: "The thoughts of the wicked are an abomination to the LORD..."—gross sin!

Think about it today with all the sexualization of the world. "The thoughts of the wicked are an abomination..."

What are they trying to do? Bring all mankind into abominable sex practices!

"...but the *words of* the pure *are* pleasant words" (v 26)—*right judgment!*

Let's see some other things about this that we need to realize. Let's understand this in Heb. 4:12.

This is why the Bible is so good, and this is why we need to constantly be studying it, because there's so much in here that we need to learn. Let's see what the Word of God does. The Word of God is there so we can correct ourselves. That way, we don't have to be corrected by God personally. We can let the Word of God correct us! We can let the Spirit of God in us remind us of what sin is or help us catch the thoughts that are not right.

Here's why we need to study and study and re-study and re-study, because the Bible is all of God's Word!

Hebrews 4:12: "For the Word of God *is* **living and powerful**..."

Just like the law of gravity, it is living! Jesus said of the words that he spoke that they are Spirit and they are Life. The spiritual power behind the words is what enters into our mind:

- how we think
- how we judge and what we do

Verse 12: "For the Word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword..."

That's something! There is no way you can get away from it. Notice what it does:

"...piercing even to the dividing asunder of both soul and spirit, *and* of both *the* joints and *the* marrow..." (v 12).

Right to the very innermost part of our being. That's what it's telling us. That's why *judge righteous judgment* is so important.

"...and is able to <u>discern the thoughts and intents of the heart</u>" (v 12).

Then it goes on further to explain *that no* one can get away with anything! The Laws of God are always working. The Spirit of God in us is

always:

- leading us
- guiding us
- helping us to overcome
- helping us to make right choices
- helping us to make righteous judgments

in everything that we do!

Verse 13: "And there is not a created thing that is not manifest in His sight..."

God knows it all; but since He's given choice, he wants to know what we are going to do. Same with people in the world. Even though they're blinded, they have enough knowledge that they can do things in a relatively good way.

- <u>IF</u> they have morals
- <u>IF</u> they believe in some of the commandments of God

But now were entering into a lawlessness and lawlessness means multiple sins!

Verse 13: "And there is not a created thing that is not manifest in His sight; but all things..."—everything that there is down to the smallest particle that God can make!

"... are naked and laid bare before the eyes of Him to Whom we must give account" (v 13).

Now, that's quite a statement! We have to give an account. What have you been doing? You look at the Parable of the Pounds and the Parable of the Talents and how we are to work and do and multiply and everything like that. **God knows!**

Mat. 12—let's see something very interesting here, because everything there is not anything anywhere that is not open to the scrutiny of God. He may choose for a while not to interfere because the laws that He created will bring about either blessing, correction or punishment. Notice what it says, because everyone has a reservoir of good or evil.

Those who have a reservoir in their mind of predominantly evil will do many evil things; that is called *the criminal mind!*

The ones who have been taught to use their mind the way that they should can bring out good things, can have good thoughts.

That's what v 36 tells you. But notice what God is going to do. I want you to think about this verse because it includes every word we have ever spoken.

Matthew 12:36: "But I say to you, for every

idle word that men may speak, they shall be held accountable in the Day of Judgment."

- that's why we have repentance
- that's why we have forgiveness
- that's why the daily prayer includes 'forgive us our sins'

Why? Because were living in a wicked world! We need to stay close to God!

These are some pretty powerful words. Were going to look at something a little bit more concerning that.

Let's see what Rom. 14 tells us. There's also the things concerning *judgment*, which we won't get into detail there.

Romans 14:7: "For no one among us lives to himself, and no one dies to himself. For if we live, we should live unto the Lord; and if we die, we should die unto the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. *It is* for this very purpose *that* Christ both died and rose and is living again, so that He might be Lord over both *the* dead and *the* living. Now then, why do you judge your brother?..." (vs 7-10). *That is criticize them!*

Let's see something else that is really important. 2-Cor. 5:10 tells us a lot. This helps us to understand what we need to do and what we need to realize.

2-Corinthians 5:10: "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ... [No one is going to avoid that] ...whether good... [and blessing] ...or evil"—cursing!

"...so that each one may receive, according to the things done in his body, what he has practiced, whether good or evil" (v 10).

Now, that's quite a verse! Were all going to give an account of our self to Jesus Christ. This is why:

- we study
- we pray
- we overcome
- we change
- we grow

because that's what God wants!

Now let's look at some different things concerning what we must do. We're going to see some pretty important things here in the Gospel of John.

Remember, Jesus is going to do the judging! We just read were going to appear before His seat.

John 5:23: "So that all may honor the Son, even as they honor the Father. The one who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father Who sent Him. Truly, truly I say to you, the one who hears My Word, and believes Him Who sent Me..." (vs 23-24). That's the Father! You have to believe Him!

"...has everlasting life and does not come into judgment..." (v 24). So, to avoid a contrary judgment:

- you believe in Jesus Christ
- you repent
- you are baptized
- you receive the Holy Spirit
- you grow in grace and knowledge
- you overcome

"... for he has passed from death into life. Truly, truly I say to you, *the* hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear shall live" (vs 24-25).

What's going to happen when were resurrected?

Verse 26: "For even as the Father has life in Himself, so also has He given to the Son to have life in Himself; and has also given Him <u>authority to execute judgment</u> because He is *the* Son of man" (vs 26-27).

So, that's quite a thing! We need to realize that and understand that's what God wants.

John 7:24—this was at the Feast of Tabernacles and everyone was wondering: 'Where is Jesus?'

- Oh, He's a good man
- Oh, He's an evil man
- Oh, the authorities, do they think He's Christ?

So, everyone was wondering! He makes it clear; He tells them this:

John 7:24: "Judge not according to appearance, but **judge righteous judgment**."

- make righteous thoughts
- make righteous judgment
- make righteous choices

with the knowledge of God !"...judge righteous judgment"

Now let's see something else about judging. *People judge one another!* The first thing you do, you know that you have a judgment concerning someone:

- when you see them
- when you talk to them
- when you listen to them
- when you look at them

Matt. 7—let's see something that we are not to do. There's a time <u>not</u> to make a judgment. If you make a wrong judgment and you stick to it, that's going to come back on your own head. So, this becomes very important.

Matthew 7:1: "Do not condemn *others*, so that you yourself will not be condemned."

That doesn't mean that you accept them. But if you bring out according to the Word of God, what is being done wrong, then it's the Word of God that is correcting them or pointing out their fault!

But if you criticize people just for the sake of criticizing and you don't know anything about them, then you're going to get yourself in trouble.

Verse 1: "Do not condemn *others*, so that you yourself will not be condemned; <u>for with what judgment you judge</u>, <u>you shall be judged</u>; and with what measure you mete out, it shall be measured again to you" (vs 1-2).

Now He says the first thing you do, you're under obligation to get your own problems solved *first!*

Verse 3: "Now, why do you look at the sliver that *is* in your brother's eye, <u>but you do not perceive the beam in your own eye?"</u>

- Isn't that true?
- Isn't that the way?
- Isn't that the way that it is in the world?

They don't want to admit the Truth, so they condemn and they criticize. Sooner or later, it's going to come back on them!

Verse 4: "Or how will you say to your brother, 'Allow *me* to remove the sliver from your eye'; and behold, the beam *is* in your *own* eye? *In other words, hypocritical!*

God is telling us through Christ, the very teachings we have with Christ. Take care of your own life and own thoughts before God! Don't make snap decisions and judgments about people until you know them.

In the meantime, you get rid of your faults and your mistakes. If an opportunity comes up, you can help that person, then you can do so. If you don't do that, what does Jesus say that you are?

Verse 5: "You hypocrite, first cast out the

beam from your *own* eye, and then you shall see clearly to remove the sliver from your brother's eye."

That's some good instruction for us. See how much difficulty that will save you; it will save you from problems.

Have you ever made a wrong decision about someone? *The first time you meet them and you make a decision!* What if you're totally wrong?

Let's come clear back here to Lev. 19. None of the things that we are going over here concerning *judge righteous judgment* are just confined to the New Testament. *They're confined to the whole Bible!*

- God wants us to make good judgments
- He wants us to make good choices
- He wants us to do what is right

Let's see what God says. There are quite a few things here that we can learn from:

Leviticus 19:15: "You shall do no unrighteousness in judgment...."

You don't do something out of spite, because that's unrighteous. You've got to get all the facts. If you don't, it's unrighteous. If you don't understand what's going on, it can be completely in error.

"...You shall not respect the person of the poor, nor honor the person of the mighty, *but* you shall judge your neighbor in righteousness" (v 15).

Amazing! Now think about what all the Protestants are missing because they say, well, the Old Testament has been fulfilled.

Verse 16: "You shall not go as a slanderer among your people..."

- gossip
- backbiting
- telling things that aren't true
- a gossiper among the people
 - ✓ How about among the brethren?
 - ✓ How about within the Church?
 - ✓ How many times have there been problems because of that?

"...you shall not stand idly by the blood of your neighbor. I *am* the LORD.... [this is quite important here]: You shall not hate your brother in your heart..." (vs 16-17).

- What did Jesus tell us if were to be His disciples? Were to love one another.
- Isn't love the opposite of hate? Yes, indeed!

- What did God say we should do to our enemies? We should even love them!
- Why? Because maybe our good behavior will help them turn around their lives!

"...You shall always admonish your neighbor, that you may not bear sin because of him. You shall not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD" (vs 17-18).

How about that? Whenever God means anything, He says, "...I am the LORD." He's backing it up with His full power as God!

- Isn't that the second commandment? *Love* your neighbor as yourself!
- How are we to love God? With all our heart, mind, soul, and being!

When we do that, and when were praying every day, and were repenting of the sins that enter into our lives—a lot of those are sins that come about that aren't from us—because today with the television, smart phone, laptop or computer, whatever you have—turn the switch on and the world can come in!

You end up getting a lot of thoughts in your head that you really didn't want. So, you also have to repent of those and get those out of your mind. Now, that's why its a good thing to *not give smart phones to children*, because Satan is there:

- to program them
- to deceive them
- to pervert them

<u>IF</u> you have children, first thing is home schooling. Next thing is they should not have a smart phone until they're old enough to know what to do about it and to avoid evil, regardless of what their friends may think, because too many friends can cause other people to sin. So a word to the wise on that.

Now let's come to the book of Proverbs again. Were going to see some more things concerning judgment. As you will see today and probably tomorrow as well. We'll spend a lot of time in the book of Proverbs. The book of Proverbs is there for us to make day-to-day wise decisions and choices and how to keep ourselves from trouble, and how to yield to God the way that we need to.

You might say that the whole book of Proverbs is *how you distinguish*

- God's Word
- what is good
- what is right

from

- the world
- evil people
- the things that they do that are not right

The way that the Proverbs are built reflects that!

Prov. 18:8 is like we saw in Lev. 19 backing this up: You're not to go as a tail-bearer up and down among your people! There are some people that just live on gossip. So, here's a Proverb that says:

Proverbs 18:8: "<u>The words of a talebearer</u> <u>are as wounds</u>, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly."

It affects everything in their life! When it gets to your innards, that can upset everything about your whole bodily digestive system and so forth. Its called *an emotional reaction*, especially if someone says something about you that is not true,

You get upset about it, which in some cases you need to, but then you need to resolve it in your own mind, whether you can go to that person and work it out or not. Sometimes you can't, but you just need to resolve it in your own mind and don't let it take you down.

Proverbs 11:13: "A tail-bearer...."

What if someone tells you in confidence about a certain matter and they ask you, please do not discuss this with anyone else?

You say, 'Okay, I won't. But then you turn around and you start discussing it with other people.' Notice what category you fall into then.

Verse 13: "A tale-bearer is a revealer of secrets, but one who is of a faithful spirit keeps the matter hidden.... [and this happens, and a tail-bearer does not bring any wisdom]: ... Where there is no wisdom, the people fall; but in the multitude of wise counselors there is safety" (vs 13-14). That's quite amazing!

See how much there is in a book of Proverbs *concerning righteous judgment:*

- what to do
- what to say
- how to conduct your life
- how to reason
- how to think

Proverbs 26:20: "Where there is no wood, the fire goes out; and where *there is* no talebearer, the quarreling ceases."

That's quite a very interesting Proverb; it shows you how to avoid trouble.

- don't deal in gossip
- don't deal in hearsay
- don't deal with:
 - ✓ 'I think'
 - ✓ 'I heard'
 - ✓ 'someone told me'
 - ✓ 'just wait till you hear what they told me'

How do you know what is right? That's why God says, 'Don't have a tail-bearer walk up and down in the midst of your country.'

Verse 22: "The words of a talebearer *are* as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly. Burning lips and a wicked heart *are like* a broken piece of pottery with silver dross.... [notice, it talks about how to use language]: ...He who hates *and* disguises it with his lips stores up deceit within himself' (vs 22-24).

Is it not true? That's why Jesus said, 'Do not hate your brother in your heart!'

Now, notice what happens when there are deceitful people around and they don't want you to know that:

- they are deceitful.
- that they're talebearers
- that they're gossip
- that they want to give their opinion about everybody else

Verse 25: "When he makes his voice gracious, do not believe him, for seven hateful things *are* in his heart." *This all goes to*:

- righteous judgment
- righteous speech
- righteous thoughts
- those things which are encouraging and upbuilding

vs

• those things that are carnal, deceitful and tearing people down

Verse 26: "He whose hatred is covered by deceit, his wickedness shall be revealed before the congregation." Sooner or later it will be known!

Now, let's come to the book of Deuteronomy; we will see some very interesting things here concerning *judgment*, concerning *how God originally set up Israel*. We will see that God set up Israel with *a system of judges*, and that's what it was all about.

Deuteronomy 1:16: "And I commanded your judges at that time saying, 'Hear *the causes* between your brethren, and **judge righteously**

between a man and his brother, and the stranger with him."

So, Gods no respecter of persons! Were not to be respecter of persons. What do you think that we have with politics? Everything were covering here! Today, unrighteous judgment prevails predominantly over any good common sense.

Verse 17: "You shall not respect persons in judgment. You shall hear the small as well as the great...."

- don't be impressed by those people who seem to be something
- don't look down upon the one who seems to be nothing
 - God loves them
 - God has called them

You need to understand that!

"...You shall not be afraid of the face of man, for the judgment *is* God's...." (v 17).

In other words, you're going to make the judgment of whatever you make as a judge based upon God's Laws. Remember this:

- where there is no Law, there is no sin
- where there is no law, there is no right or wrong

So God is making it clear!

You must approach these things in a Godly way, because *there's no way you can make righteous judgment unless you know the Word of God*, unless you know these instructions that we're covering now.

"...And the cause that is too hard for you, bring to me... [Moses is saying to himself] ...and I will hear it.' And I commanded you at that time all the things, which you should do" (v 17-18).

Judge righteous judgment is one of the most important things that we can do. Remember what Jesus prophesied there in:

Revelation 20:4: "...judgment was given to the saints! We will be judges and priests. In other words, bringing the Word of God to the world under the direction of Jesus Christ!

(break@44:25)

Were going to see that that is really, in summary, a good description of what the Bible is all about, and what we are to do and how we are to live. That it all comes from God; that we need God in everything that we do:

- we were made to need God
- we were made to need His love
- we were made to give love
 - ✓ husband to wife
 - ✓ wife to husband
 - ✓ to neighbors
 - ✓ to friends

The Bible tells us how we should live!.

But also importantly, when were dealing in these things here concerning the Millennium and what were going to be doing as judges and priests, these instructions that we find in the book of Deuteronomy are very important: Think about it in relationship to us being those who have the Holy Spirit today, and who are looking forward to the first resurrection when Christ returns.

Deuteronomy 7:6: "For you *are* a Holy people to the LORD your God...."

- Are we not Holy to God?
- Are we not called Holy brethren?

Yes. indeed!

"...The LORD your God has chosen you to be a special people to Himself above all people that are upon the face of the earth" (v 6).

Think about that in relationship to the Church. Here He's talking about Israel. But now even more so, in addition to that, we have been chosen. We are the called, the chosen, and the faithful! Special people unto God! We're learning to have the mind of Christ, which then is the essence of right judgment.

Verse 7: "The LORD did not set His love upon you nor choose you because you were more in number than any people, for you *were* the fewest of all people.

- Are we the fewest today?
- Are we scattered?

It's wonderful we can get together for the Feast of Tabernacles and have fellowship. So, let's make every opportunity and take advantage of it and have love, joy, peace and righteousness among ourselves.

Verse 8_[transcriber's correction]: "But because the LORD loved you and because He would keep the oath, which He had sworn to your fathers..."—
that's to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob!

Remember the covenant that God made with Abraham; that covers the covenant with Israel later and then later with the Church.

"...the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you out of the house of bondage from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt" (v 8).

Spiritually that's talking about God bringing us out from sin, forgiving our sins, dealing with us, opening the way for us:

- with His Spirit
- with His Truth
- with His Word

Verse 9: "Therefore, know... [were to understand and know this]: ...that the LORD your God, He *is* God, the faithful God Who keeps covenant and mercy with them that love Him and keep His commandments, to a thousand generations."

That's more than all the generations of men on the earth, as far as were able to determine. Think about that; That's quite a tremendous thing!

Notice that we are under the New Covenant and we are to keep that New Covenant. That New Covenant is to eternal life. To living in the Kingdom of God as the spirit sons and daughters of God:

- to be judges
- to be priests
- to be teachers
- to be administrators of everything that comes from God to all the people in the world

That's why we're here for the Feast of Tabernacles!

I want you to do, I want you to write for this booklet, *Judge Righteous Judgment*. You will find many of the things that we have covered here in these messages, but its considerably different. Why is that? *Because there's so much to judging righteous judgment!*

This is why God says, 'leave vengeance to Me.' God will handle it <u>IF</u> you put it in His hands.

Verse 10: "And He repays those who hate Him to their face, to destroy them...."

Now, doesn't that describe what's going to happen in the things in the book of Revelation for those that hate God? *Yes!*

"...He will not be slow to repay him who hates Him. He will repay him to his face" (v 10).

That being the case, He goes on in v 11 and reminds us again. Here's another study that you might want to do:

All of Psalm 119 talks about:

- the commandments of God
- the statutes of God
- the ordinances of God
- the precepts of God
- the laws of God
 - ✓ how good they are
 - ✓ how they work
 - ✓ how to love God
 - ✓ loving them
 - ✓ having them in our heart and mind

That's the whole thing of conversion! That's what God wants with all of us. That's why we're here.

Verse 11: "You shall, therefore, keep the commandments and the statutes and the judgments which I command you today to do them."

He doesn't give it for just information that this may be a good thing. He gives it so that we may do them, because:

- in doing them, then were in right standing with God
- in doing them, then were learning and growing in grace and knowledge

Then were able to make *right decisions*, and then were able to make *righteous judgment!* All goes hand-in-hand!

Verse 12—this becomes very important: "And it shall come to pass, if you hearken to these judgments to keep and practice them..."

Isn't that interesting? Not only keep them, but practice them. In the New Testament, Jesus says the same thing. 'Why do you call me Lord, Lord, and do not what I say?' He also said to the disciples that 'You are the disciples IF you keep My words.'

In one case, the word 'keep' doesn't mean *just to do*. It means *to guard, to protect* what God has given, what He has shown. So that's quite a tremendous thing, isn't it?

"...to keep and practice them, *then* the LORD your God shall keep with you the covenant and the mercy, which He swore to your fathers. And He will love you..." (vs 12-13).

Remember, God's love is conditional. That's what Jesus said:

<u>IF</u> you love Me, keep My commandments. <u>IF</u> you love Me, you will keep My words, and the Father and I will come and make Our abode with you' (John 14).

Tremendous! That's why were here to learn.

Verse 13: "And He will love you and bless

you and multiply you...."

Isn't that what we want in the Millennium? For all the people?

- we teach them Gods way
- we teach them Gods Law
- we have a society that is based entirely on everything that God does and that God wants

Think what its going to be like with no more war. Wonder what the worlds going to be like without any war; *for a thousand years!*

- How much can we grow in grace and knowledge and understanding?
- How much can God give us knowledge and understanding of His creation just here on the earth and His creation out there in the vastness of the universe?

That's something! That's quite a thing!

Verse 13: "And He will love you and bless you and multiply you. He will also bless the fruit of your womb, and the fruit of your land, your grain, and your wine, and your oil, the increase of your cattle and the flocks of your sheep, in the land, which He swore to your fathers to give you. You shall be blessed above all people...." (vs 13-14).

Now isn't that the blessing that's going to come upon the Church? Yes indeed! A lot of these things, they did apply to Israel. But they also apply to the Church, and each one of us. The Father loves each one of us!

That's the greatest thing that can be! You need to remember that when the going gets tough. God has not abandoned you. Whatever the affliction or whatever the trial, there is something that He wants us to learn and character that He wants us to build and that we love Him in all circumstances regardless of what transpires. *He loves us!*

Deut. 16—this is very instructive! He says this. Once you get into the land, He says:

Deuteronomy 16:18: "You shall appoint judges and officers.... [Christ is going to be the One Who does that at the beginning of the Millennium] ...for yourself in all your gates which the LORD your God gives you, tribe by tribe. And they shall judge the people with righteous judgment."

What about that? The exact same words that Jesus used in John 7: *judge righteous judgment*.

Amazing how the Bible comes together like this Old and New Testament. All the words of God are pure and they all agree with each other.

Verse 19: "You shall not pervert judgment..."

That's what we have today! Look at what it's doing:

- to America
- to people
- to families
- to whole communities
- to the whole nation

Verse 19: "You shall not pervert judgment; you shall not respect persons, nor take a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and perverts the words of the righteous."

Look what we have today; the most corrupt President in the history of America.

- look what's happening to the nation
- look what's happening to the judgment

Once in a while, the Supreme Court comes out with a decent judgment. But overall, all of the enemies that are within—that are there to tear us down—are there by God's putting them there:

- to correct us for leaving God
- to correct us for having done the things that we do with establishment Christianity

That's what it's all about!

Verse 20: "You shall follow that which is altogether just so that you may live..."

What does that tell you? The nation dies when there is not righteous judgment! Aren't we seeing that happen before our very eyes today? Yes!

"...and inherit the land, which the LORD your God gives you" (v 20).

That applies to us! We're going to inherit the Kingdom. Didn't Jesus say, 'Fear not little flock, for its the Fathers pleasure to give you the Kingdom'?

- He wants us to prepare.
- He wants us to grow and overcome.
- He wants us to learn how to make right decisions
- what to do
- how to handle it
- how to handle complicated and difficult things and resolve them
- how to get rid of those who violently sinned against themselves and the brethren

Whenever there's a judgment, whenever there's something very wrong, here He brings out in

the Deut. 17:1-5 about someone who is unfaithful, going after other gods, setting up an image, and they're brought to judgment.

Deuteronomy 17:6: "At the mouth of two witnesses or three witnesses shall he that is worthy of death be put to death. At the mouth of one witness he shall not be put to death. The hands of the witnesses shall be *the* first on him to put him to death, and afterwards the hands of all the people. **So. you shall put the evil away from among you**" (vs 6-7).

God doesn't want there to be evil. Look at how it corrupts the whole community. Look at what happened with the Church of God when evil came into it. Evil ministers came in. Those who didn't believe. Those who were not righteous. What did God do? *He destroyed it!*

Verse 8: "If a matter *is* too hard for you in judgment, between blood and blood, between plea and plea, and between stroke and stroke, *being* matters of strife within your gates, then you shall arise and go up to the place which the LORD your God shall choose. And you shall come to the priests, the Levites, and to the judge that shall be in those days, and ask.... [ask them to take it] ...And they shall declare to you the sentence of judgment.

Now then, when that judgment is made, everyone must abide by it!

Verse 10: "And you shall do according to the sentence, which they declare to you from that place which the LORD shall choose. And you shall be careful to do according to all that they tell you. According to the sentence of the Law, which they shall teach you and according to the judgment, which they shall tell you, you shall do. You shall not turn aside from the sentence, which they shall show you, to the right hand or the left" (vs 10-11).

Then if anybody is presumptuous and will not do it, then God says you take care of them and execute them.

Now think about how much better off this country would be if they would do that. John 8 we're going to see a demonstration of what we just read. This was where the scribes, the Pharisees, the Sadducees wanted to trip Jesus up. Test Him. So, let's look at this. Let's see what it actually is. Some people look at this as an act of mercy and forgiveness, *but its not!*

John 8:3: "Then the scribes and the Pharisees brought to Him a woman who had been taken in adultery; and after setting her in *the* center."

There were a lot of people around Jesus and

He was speaking. They brought Him in and put her here.

Verse 4: "They said to Him, 'Teacher, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery." Wow! Imagine how that was done!

Verse 5: "And in the Law, Moses commanded us that those who commit such *a sin* should be stoned. Therefore, what do You say?"

Let's notice what Jesus did, because this is very instructive, because he is following the commands of Deuteronomy.

Verse 6: "Now, they said this to tempt Him, so that they might have *cause* to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down *and* wrote on the ground with *His* finger."

A lot of people wondered: What was Jesus writing? Well, they could see what he was writing! Why would He stoop down and write something that they couldn't see?

Verse 7: "And as they continued to ask Him, He lifted Himself up *and* said to them, 'Let the sinless one among you cast the first stone at her.' And again He stooped down *and* wrote on the ground. But after hearing *this*, they were convicted *each* by *his own* conscience, and went out one by one, beginning with the older ones until the last. And Jesus was left alone, with the woman standing in *the* center" (vs 7-9).

Verse 10: "And when Jesus lifted Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, 'Woman, where are your accusers? Did anyone condemn you?' And she said, 'No one, Lord.' And Jesus said to her, 'Neither do I condemn you. Go, and sin no more" (vs 10-11). Now, think about this:

- How many witnesses are necessary? Two!
- Were there any against her then? No, they all left!
- What does it say in the book of Deuteronomy about adultery? You take the man and the woman, both!

So, Jesus was probably writing in the sand, 'Where is the man?' If you caught her in the very act of adultery, how can you catch her in that act if there is not a man? You can't!

This is *not* forgiveness; this is a mis-trial, because they didn't follow the Law. They didn't bring the man.

So, Jesus said, "...Go, and sin no more." He didn't say, 'I forgive you,' because there was no one to condemn her. But he knew that she had sinned.

So, here is correcting a wrong judgment. They wanted to trap Him in it, and try and get him to go against the Law of God. But you can't do it unless you do it right. They didn't bring the man.

Now we'll look at a number of Proverbs again, and we will see a lot about *judgment*.

Prov. 28—this applies to us as kings, priests and judges. *What happens when*:

- those who are in charge
- those who are supposed to uphold the Law
- those who are supposed to be righteous

they sin openly and everybody knows it?

Proverbs 28:2: Because of the transgression of a land, many *are* its rulers..."

Isn't that what we have today? Many rulers? *Yes indeed!*

"...but with a man of understanding *and* knowledge the state shall be prolonged" (v 2).

Now look at what is happening today! America is disintegrating because they have no one with knowledge and understanding, especially no knowledge of God! No true understanding of the Laws of God.

Even the good laws that we have, they're not implementing them. How many of the prosecutors are letting out criminals? Look at what is happening where they're doing that!

Verse 3: "A poor man who oppresses the poor *is like* a sweeping rain, which leaves no food. Those who forsake the law praise the wicked..." (vs 3-4). **Isn't that what is happening today**? *Yes!*

"...but those who keep the law contend against them" (v 4).

That's the battle going on today! Right now in the courts that we have, right now in the things that are going on in this nation. The fight, the battle is there!

Who's going to win? Well, it depends who the judge is! Biden's getting away with everything with multi-millions of dollars coming in. Donald Trump is being accused of everything that he has never done. They're trying to prosecute him put him in jail! Unrighteous judgment against Trump! And unrighteous judgment against the Biden Mafia.

Verse 4: "Those who forsake the law praise the wicked, but those who keep the law contend against them. Evil men do not understand justice, but those who seek the LORD understand all *things*" (vs 4-5).

Proverbs 29:2: "When the righteous are in authority, **the people rejoice**..."

Isn't there going to be happiness and joy all during the Millennium? **Because**:

- the righteous are in authority
- Satan has been removed
- and the hearts of people have been softened that they are less wicked

But they still have to choose right or wrong!

"...but when the wicked rule, **the people** mourn" (v 3). *How about that?*

Verse 4: "The king... [that's Christ, or in the land the ruler. In the case of America, the President] ...establishes the land **by justice**... [and righteousness] ..."

Notice the second half:

- Is this not taking place today?
- Are people not helpless to try and correct it?
- Aren't they condemned if they try to do it?

There are so many wicked people in places of power!

"...but he who takes bribes tears it down" (v 4). I wonder what the millions of the Biden Mafia are doing? Tearing down the whole system!

When you have Merrick Garland as the Attorney General_[transcriber's correction] in the land, and he does not apply the laws to everyone equally, *he destroys the country!*

- that's probably their aim
- that's probably their goal

because they've been sent by God, because of how many people are forsaking God in His ways!

Proverbs 27:12_[transcriber's correction]: "A prudent *man* foresees the evil *and* hides himself..."

Telling us that there comes a time you don't go out and get involved in trying to correct the evil people, especially when you have no authority to do so. They won't listen to you. So, you've got to keep away from them.

"...but the simple pass on and are punished" (v 12).

That's what's happening with all the ignorant people! This is what you have, and look at it with the news:

Proverbs 18:17: "The one who is first in his own cause *seems* just..."

Isn't that what they're doing? They leak out

information to pervert judgment, and they come first!

"...but his neighbor comes and searches him out" (v 17).

We see that open right now with what the Republicans are doing in Congress to expose all the evil that's going on. It's amazing! **Satan is in charge!** This we see every day on the television:

Verse 2: "A fool has no delight in understanding, but only that his heart may discover itself."

- completely self-centered
- no cause for anyone else
- no cause to straighten it out

Verse 3: "When the wicked comes, contempt also comes, and with dishonor comes disgrace."

That's what were seeing unfold right before us right now! Think about the 'plea deal' that Hunter Biden got. Hasn't been finalized, yet. So far they're trying to hold back of it being approved. But here describes that completely:

Proverbs 17:15: "He who justifies the wicked and he who condemns the just..."

- Is that not what they're doing?
- Is that not what the media is doing?
- Is that not what the evil politicians are doing?

Yes!

"...even both of them are an abomination to the LORD" (v 15). That's what we see going on; an abomination taking place!

- no judgment
- no righteousness
- no fairness
- no understanding

because the truth is this: No system, even God's system, will work unless the people are righteous! That is a true statement!

Verse 23: "A wicked *man* takes a bribe out of the bosom to pervert the ways of justice."

That's exactly what has happened with all of this and the millions that the Biden's are getting! *Right there in front of us!* Now, in spite of all of this, here's the way that it is:

Proverbs 16:2: "All the ways of a man are clean **in his own eyes**..."

everything seems right

• everything seems good to them

Hey, long as I get the money, that's good! 'What if you get it illegally?' Oh, that doesn't matter. I got the money. 'But I'm right.'

Don't you dare come and condemn me. Don't you dare say that Im taking those bribes. We'll have the media say that this is all a hoax.

Then you have liars stand up for you to verify that you're right!

"...but the LORD weighs the spirits" (v 2). God knows!

Verse 5: "Everyone who is proud in heart *is* an abomination to the LORD..."

That's what's happening today, abominations everywhere!

- Who knows the truth?
- Who knows what is right?
- Who is doing good?

Its like it says, 'No, there's not one good!'

Verse 5: "Everyone who is proud in heart *is* an abomination to the LORD; *though joined* hand in hand, he shall not be unpunished.

So, all of those things show about *judging righteous judgment!*

Psa. 85 shows what's going to be taking place during the Millennium, and we will be the ones to bring it about. This is a perfect Millennium Psalm. Let's just read the whole thing, showing God's way.

Psalm 85:1: "O LORD, You have shown favor to Your land... [to the whole world, now with the Millennium] ... You have brought back Jacob from exile." All the children of Israel will be brought back to their homelands!

Verse 2: "You have forgiven the iniquity of Your people; You have covered all their sins. Selah." That's what God is going to do. What a time that's going to be!

Verse 3: "You have taken away all Your wrath; You have turned from the fierceness of Your anger."

Yes, going to suffer punishment because of leaving God. But when He's through with that, He's going to restore everything.

Verse 4: "Restore us, O God of our salvation, and cause Your anger toward us to cease. Will You be angry with us forever? Will You draw out Your anger to all generations? Will You not give

us life again, so that Your people may rejoice in You?" (vs 4-6).

Yes, God will! God is going to act! That's why Christ is returning!

Verse 7: "Show us Your mercy, O LORD, and grant us Your salvation."

That's what He is going to do, isn't it? Were going to bring salvation to the whole world, every nation, everywhere. The whole world is going to be worshiping God, loving God. God will take care of the wicked if there are any. There may be quite a few.

Verse 8: "I will hear what God the LORD will speak; for He will speak peace to His people, and to His saints, but let them not turn again to folly."

That's what it's going to be with us. We'll commune with God. He will commune with us. We will get our instructions. We'll know what we're going to do, and there it is.

Verse 9: "Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him, so that glory may dwell in our land."

Notice the next verses, really a wonderful description of the Millennium.

Verse 10: "Mercy and Truth have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other. Truth shall spring out of the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven" (vs 10-11).

That's what it's going to be. <u>That's how</u> were going to have righteous judgment during the <u>Millennium!</u>

Scriptural References:

- 1) Proverbs 12:1, 5-7
- 2) Proverbs 15:26
- 3) Hebrews 4:12-13
- 4) Matthew 12:36
- 5) Romans 14:7-10
- 6) 2 Corinthians 5:10
- 7) John 5:23-27
- 8) John 7:24
- 9) Matthew 7:1-5
- 10) Leviticus 19:15-18
- 11) Proverbs 18:8
- 12) Proverbs 11:13-14
- 13) Proverbs 26:20-26
- 14) Deuteronomy 1:16-18
- 15) Revelation 20:4
- 16) Deuteronomy 7:6-14

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- 17) Deuteronomy 16:18-20
- 18) Deuteronomy 17:6-11
- 19) John 8:3-11
- 20) Proverbs 28:2-5
- 21) Proverbs 29:2, 4
- 22) Proverbs 27:12
- 23) Proverbs 18:17, 2-3
- 24) Proverbs 17:15, 23
- 25) Proverbs 16:2, 5
- 26) Psalm 85:1-11

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- John 14
- Deuteronomy 17:1-5

Also referenced: Booklet:

Judge Righteous Judgment

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Judge Righteous Judgment III

(Day 6—FOT)

Fred R. Coulter—October 5, 2023

Greetings, brethren. Welcome to Day 6 of the Feast of Tabernacles.

Judgment is so important. The whole reason that God has called us, so we can:

- learn His ways
- learn His laws
- learn His statutes
- learn His judgments
- learn the teachings of Jesus Christ
- understand what we need to do
- understand how we need to do it

We're going to be given the greatest responsibility ever given to any group of people—that is all of those in the first resurrection—to be given:

- judgment for the world
- judgment over the people
- teaching the Truth of God all during the thousand year period
- bringing multiple millions, probably, into the Kingdom of God

God's Plan is greater than anything that any man has ever thought of. Remember the night that God promised Abraham, which was the night of the 14th at the Passover time, before the Passover was instituted with the children of Israel.

God took Abraham outside the tent after He had told him that he would have a son. When they got outside the tent, God said, 'Look now to the heavens, and if you can number the stars, count them.'

Well, from Abraham's point of view, he could see so many. From God's point of view, that's the whole expanse of the universe! So, the whole promise that God gave when He says, 'Heaven and earth shall pass away, but My Word shall never pass away' He's talking about all of the universe. So this is really quite a tremendous thing!

Now, there are a lot of people who say you shouldn't judge because 'Jesus came to save the world, not judge the world.'

We need to understand that that's only partially true. So, let's come to the verses that are well-worn by the Protestants, but they don't understand them. They repeat them from rote. Some people are really sincere in it, but they really don't understand, because they always say that the Law is done away when Jesus said, 'Heaven and earth shall

pass away.' But 'the Law will never pass away. My words will never pass away.' So, they misinterpret the Bible and only cherry pick what they want, which makes them feel good.

So, they read John 3:16: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Begotten Son, so that everyone who **believes** in Him [His name]..."

This 'believe' is a participle, and a participle means *believe and keep on believing!*

- What does believe mean?
- Does it merely mean to believe that He came?

<u>or</u>

• Does it mean to believe not only that, but everything He said?

Remember what He said in Luke 6? 'Why do you call Me Lord, Lord and do not the things that I say?'

So, believing is far more than anything that they want to admit, because they want to have *a simple gospel with a simple understanding*, which means that they will be among those when they say, 'Lord, Lord, didn't we do many powerful works in Your name? And didn't we cast out demons in Your name?'

Jesus will say to them, 'I never knew you. Depart from Me, get away from Me You who work lawlessness.'—anti-law! Anti-law is sin!

Sins are not forgiven unless you believe, and keep on believing in everything about Jesus:

- everything He said
- everything He preached
- what He did
- what He told us to do

"...so that everyone who believes in Him <u>may</u> <u>not</u>... [a subjunctive meaning! An <u>if</u> clause!] ... <u>may</u> <u>not perish</u>... [meaning there are <u>conditions</u> to what He has said] ... <u>but may have</u>..." (v 16) again conditions! What are those?

- be faithful unto death
- keep his commandments
- love God with all your heart, mind, soul and being

Is that true? Yes!

Let's read on a couple more verses here and come to the verse that they like to read.

Verse 17: For God sent not His Son into the world that He might judge the world... [What does that mean?] ...but that the world might be saved through Him."

Let's come to John 9 and see what Jesus said.

- Is he contradicting himself?
- Is God two-faced in it?

This is directly on the surface contradicting what is in John 3.

So, we have to understand that both are true! You cannot have eternal life unless you meet the conditions of loving God and keeping His commandments.

That is the judgment for eternal life! So, listen to what he says:

John 9:39: "And Jesus said, 'For judgment I have come into this world..." The very fact that He came is:

- judgment against the world
- judgment against their sins
- judgment against their religions
- judgment against the way that they do things

Because

- they're rejecting God
- they're rejecting Jesus Christ
- they're rejecting His laws and commandments

while at the same time professing His name, but not believing Him!

"...'For judgment I have come into this world so that those who do not see might see...'" (v 39)—lift the veil of Satan's blindness <u>IF</u> they repent!

Those who see, like the Pharisees of old, the Protestants and Catholics say they see, *but they don't!*

"...and those who see might become blind" (v 39). *There's no contradiction at all!*

Let's continue on because we have quite a bit to cover here. Let's understand one of the very basics for judging. Judgment should never be given to a novice.

Prov. 2 will give us the foundation of what is necessary for judgment, what is necessary to make right decisions.

God gave us a mind to think. God gave us free moral agency as we covered yesterday, *and we must choose!* Everything about life is choosing, is it

not?

Whenever you make a decision, that's a choice. Whenever you make a decision, that is what you believe.

- that's why you need to be well grounded in the Bible
- that's why judgment is never given to a novice

Let's read what we have to do here. These are the conditions that we have to have automatically in our mind, so that <u>WHEN</u> we have the Scriptures and look at those and understand what God says, <u>THEN</u> we can make a judgment. We can make a right choice.

Furthermore, during the Millennium, we're going to be able to read the minds of people just like Jesus did. *We have to know*:

- everything of God's Word
- everything of God's judgment
- everything of God's purpose

so that we can judge righteous judgment for the people. That's why we're being called!

Proverbs 2:1: "My son..."—we're all to be the sons and daughters of God!

Notice the conditions. Here are the conditions that lead up to how we become educated enough with God's ways to make righteous judgment!

Verse 1: "My son, [#1]<u>if</u> you will receive My words and treasure up My commandments within you"—have to be within us!

Hebrews 10:16: "...I will give My Laws into their hearts, and I will inscribe them in their minds..."

This helps us understand what we need to do because the laws and words of God are spiritual and they always apply all the time. *IF* we treasure it up within us:

Proverbs 2:2: "So that you incline your ear to wisdom and apply your heart to understanding."

This means there never comes a time that we understand everything. We have to keep learning every day. I'm still learning! You're still learning! All the brethren are learning!

As we go over the Scriptures, and go over them time and time again in personal study, and for all of the elders in studying, preaching and teaching that we understand the knowledge. So here's how it works again. Another *IF!*

Verse 3: "Yea, [#2]if you cry after knowledge and lift up your voice for understanding." So we have knowledge and understanding.

- knowledge is what you can perceive
- knowledge is what you can look at: read

But knowledge must lead to understanding!

So not only do you have the knowledge of it. There are a lot of people who have the knowledge of the Sabbath.

Bill Wax—one of our elders—asked one of his friends, 'What day does the Bible teach us is the Sabbath? *Oh Saturday, of course!*

Bill looked at him and said, 'Then why do you keep Sunday?' His friend was astonished and said, 'Well, I just haven't found a way to keep the Sabbath.'

So, knowledge must be accompanied with what the next one is:

"...lift up your voice for understanding" (v 3).

You understand why God gave the Sabbath; Why God gave all of his commandments. Notice how conditional all of this is.

Verse 4: "[#3]<u>If</u> you seek her as silver and search *for* her as for hidden treasures."

Now, you would waste no time looking for that! Whatever you might do, look at what men do; chasing after treasure, silver and gold, pearls and precious jewels; all of those expensive things. Look at what happens when there's a gold rush. People come rushing in so that they can find their gold and hit it and be rich.

Notice that there are three *Ifs*:

- [#1]<u>if</u> you will receive My words
- [#2]<u>if</u> you cry after knowledge
- [#3]<u>If</u> you seek her as silver....for hidden treasures.

Verse 5: "Then..."

So, you see it's a progression of learning. It's a progression of coming to understanding.

Verse 5: "Then you shall understand the fear of the LORD...

There's a reason to fear God because He holds life and death at His Word. Even though we love God with all our heart, mind, soul and being, that should give us *a true fear of God* that we won't go out and transgress and think, 'Oh well, God will

forgive me.' Well, He may or may not depending on your attitude!

"...and find the knowledge of God" (v 5)—which tells you this: <u>IF</u> you don't have the love and fear of God, *you're not going to find the knowledge of God!* Isn't that true?

Look at all the Christianity of this world. They have the knowledge of God right in the palm of their hand, but:

- Do they know it? *No!*
- Do they understand it? No!

This is why we have to apply ourselves so we know in preparation for judging the world. The next thing that happens is this:

Verse 6: "For the LORD gives wisdom..."

Wisdom comes from God! Wisdom does not come from philosophy of men. Philosophy means the lover of wisdom. But the wisdom of this world is going to perish, for you need the wisdom of God!

"...out of His mouth *comes* knowledge and understanding. He lays up sound wisdom for the righteous..." (vs 6-7)—not to anybody else!

- wisdom to see
- wisdom to perceive
- wisdom to understand righteous judgment, and all the requirements for righteous judgment.

Because God has made it very clear. It's not like today. In the world, there is political protection for those who are in high places. But that can never be! You can never have an idea, or a proposition, or a plan *that goes against God*, and ever make a righteous decision. Notice, when you do that:

Verse 7: "<u>He lays up sound wisdom for the righteous; He is a shield to those who walk uprightly</u>." What does that mean?

- keeping His commandment
- loving God
- loving your neighbor
- loving the brethren

Verse 8: "He keeps the paths of *right* judgment and preserves the way of His saints."

Notice what all of that does. This is the educational package that comes with the Bible. We have to put it together so that it works rightly. Notice everything leading up to v 9:

Verse 9: "<u>Then</u> you shall understand righteousness and judgment and equity, every good

path. Wisdom shall enter into your heart, and knowledge will be pleasing to your soul" (vs 9-10). *Isn't that something?*

Verse 11: "Discretion shall preserve you and, understanding shall keep you." *You will be able to discern*:

- right/wrong
- good attitude/bad attitude
- duplicity of statements
- righteousness of thought

You'll be able to discern all of that! "Discretion shall preserve you... [that discretion is discerning] ...and understanding shall keep you"

What is that going to do? Deliver us from Satan! Deliver us from evil people!

That's quite a thing that God has laid out for us here.

Psa. 1—this is talking about us. This short Psalm is the introduction, and actually a summary of the whole book of Psalms

Psalm 1:1: "Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, nor stand in the way of sinners, nor sit in the seat of the scornful.

That's exactly what the whole world is doing today with all of its 'wokeness' and all of its political treachery that's going on.

Verse 2: "But his delight is in the Law of the LORD..."—we delight in it!

When people don't delight in the laws and commandments of God they'll never understand. It'll always be:

- What if this?
- What if that?
- What if the other thing?

Verse 2: "But his delight is in the Law of the LORD; and in His Law does he meditate day and night."

How is that done? With God's Spirit! This is how you make, even today, righteous judgments day-by-day, week-by-week, month-by-month, year-by-year; all in preparation for the resurrection!

Verse 3: "And he shall be like a tree planted by the streams of water that brings forth its fruit in its season, and its leaf shall not wither, and all that he does shall prosper."

If you plant a tree, what does it do? *It grows, and it bears fruit!*

- Didn't Jesus tell the disciples that 'they were to bear fruit'?
- Didn't he say that 'He is the vine, and we are the branches'?

We are to bear the fruit, and if we bear fruit, God trims us so that we can bear more fruit!

Those that don't bear fruit, that are cut off and cast into the fire (John 15).

Verse 3: "And he shall be like a tree planted by the <u>streams of water</u>..."—the Holy Spirit!

The growing and everything is how we progress in our <u>spiritual</u> understanding, wisdom and knowledge!

Verse 4—here's the world: "The wicked are not so, but they are like chaff, which the wind drives away"—just like so much dust!

That's what it's going to be with the way of the world and their judgments and what they are doing.

Verse 5: "Therefore, the wicked shall not stand in the judgment..."—because the judgment is going to come, the judgment is going to sit, the judgment is going to be made!

Then when you get to the end of the Millennium and the second resurrection, there is the judgment for them. Then when you get to the end of that there is the judgment for all of the wicked.

So, the whole Bible is built on the thoughts and love of God. But to teach us wisdom and what we need to do and how we need to make righteous judgments!

Verse 5: "Therefore, the wicked shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; for the LORD knows the way of the righteous..." (ca 5-6),

- we're to walk in the paths of God
- we're to walk in the ways of God
- we're to walk in the footsteps of Jesus Christ

All of those apply to the way of the Lord!

"...but the way of the wicked shall perish" (6). *Quite an amazing thing! Think about it.*

Now let's see some of the wicked during Jesus' day in Matt. 23. We find that those who sat in the seat of Moses were the ones who were to give judgment from the Scriptures.

Now then, <u>IF</u> they gave the right judgment from the Scriptures, the people were to do them. But <u>WHEN</u> they started interjecting their own judgments, and when they overlooked mercy, faith

and judgment, as Jesus said, <u>then</u> they were hypocrites to the highest standard.

Matthew 23:1: "Then Jesus spoke to the multitudes and to His disciples, saying, 'The scribes and the Pharisees have sat down on Moses' seat *as judges*; : therefore, every judgment that they tell you to observe, observe and do...." (vs 1-3).

That means the judgment from the Word of God, because the Word of God is always true, even though they may be in error in many more things..."—but here's their error:

"...But do not do according to their works; for they say and do not" (v 3).

That's exactly what we have today. There is the law today in the land, but the judges throw it out. And look at the mess that it has caused with the people. Look at the mess it caused with those back there in Jesus' day.

Now, let's look at a couple more Proverbs, and we will see that in the book of Proverbs there's a lot to say about judgment, right and wrong, and good and evil.

That's why a good thorough study of the book of Proverbs is one of the best things you can do to help you think, to help you get all your priorities right. Then you add to it other studies from the Bible.

(break@28:57)

We're going to spend quite a bit of time in the book of Proverbs for this last half of the message, because there are so many things in Proverbs that apply to judgment and righteousness, and knowledge and everything.

Just like we covered at the beginning; Proverbs 21:2: "Every way of a man is right in his own eyes, but the LORD ponders the hearts."

Then the next verse tells us what this is all about.

Verse 3: "To do righteousness and justice... [meaning *judgment*] ...is more pleasing to the LORD than sacrifice."

That's quite a thing! *More pleasing than sacrifice!* It gets down to the whole thing that God wants us to do!

Verse 15: "It is joy to the righteous to do justice... [do judgment] ...but ruin to the workers of iniquity."

Notice how Prov. 20:8 can be applied to Rev. 20 where it says we will be kings and priests, and judgment will be committed to us.

Proverbs 20:8: "A king who sits in the throne of judgment scatters away all evil with his eyes."

Notice the next verse, because this shows a lack of judgment.

Verse 9: Who can say, 'I have made my heart clean; I am pure from my sin'?"

God is the only One Who can take that away. That's not something that we can do. So, all of this judgment, and all of these things to *judge righteous judgment* have to do with everything that we're doing as Christians today.

Now, since we're here in the book of Proverbs, let's look at some other things.

Isn't it interesting? You can turn a page here, and turn a page there, in a book of Proverbs, and you have things pertaining to judgment.

Now, here's one of the things that's important. Never be hasty in rendering a judgment.

Now we will see what we are to do. We are to get all of the facts; we are to get everything that we need to.

Proverbs 18:13: He who answers a matter before he hears it, it *is* folly and shame to him."

Isn't that what happens? Yes! How many times have you made a judgment concerning someone? First impression! Then you found out later you were wrong!

Imagine that; making the wrong judgment. What happens when you do that? You impute in your own mind evil thoughts toward that person! You don't know what they're thinking, because no one can read the minds of others even in spite of what wives may think about their husbands! They may come close a lot of times, but other times they may be totally wrong.

Let's see what Prov. 14 tells us. Notice why this is important.

Proverbs 14:29: "He who is slow to wrath is of great understanding..."

So, you never make a hasty judgment in anger. If you're angry back off, take some time, get some space to think it over.

- think about everything,
- think about your own feelings ask yourself
- Am I reading myself into the situation here?
- What are the true facts?

That's very important to understand!

Proverbs 14:29 again: "He who is slow to wrath is of great understanding, but he who is hasty of spirit exalts folly"—meaning:

- if you rush into it
- if you rush into judgment
- if you rush to conclusions
- if you don't have all the facts

You're going to be wrong! So, the questions become:

- Are you willing to admit it and repent? *Because that's always true, too.*
- Will you make the right judgment to correct your wrong?
- Will you admit that you are wrong?

That's also important, because:

• How can you judge others unless you first judge yourself?

Now let's look at some other things in the book of Exodus that goes along with what we've been reading here in Proverbs.

Exo. 23—God has instructions here, because what He was doing in preparing the people going into the Holy Land, He was preparing them to follow the judges that He would set up. He gives specific instructions concerning that.

Think about this today. Think how far away that the politicians, that the media, that education, that people are today. Especially, they get hasty. What's a riot all about? *Hasty decision to try and do something!* Here's one for all the mass media:

Exodus 23:1: "You shall not raise a false report...." *Isn't that what they're doing on almost everyone?*

- a false report
- insinuations
- twisting the words
- making it appear that things are not right

"...Do not put your hand with the wicked to be an unrighteous witness" (v 1).

Remember one of the commandments says: 'You shall not bear false witness.' That means in a case of judgment; it also means you're not to lie!

Verse 2: "You shall not follow a multitude to do evil...."

Isn't that what happened back there in Exo. 31 and 32 when Aaron made the golden calf? Everyone said:

We don't know what happened to Moses. He may be dead. Let's make us gods. We need gods.

So Aaron formed the golden calf! He was following the mob in a riot to do wrong. He was a coward and placated them and made the golden calf; and they worshiped it and had a big sexual rock party all around the golden calf.

"...Neither shall you testify in a cause in order to side with many so as to pervert *judgment*" (v 2).

Talking right to the judge. You're not to be swayed by the mob or those who want action that is not right.

Verse 3: "Neither shall you be partial to a poor man in his cause."

Look at what happened. See what happens today, saying, 'We have to help the poor.' Really? How do you help them? *Best way to help the poor is:*

- not just give them cash and money.
- to get them educated.
- to show them how to live
- to teach them how to rule their own lives

But nevertheless, you're not to be partial!

Verse 6: "You shall not pervert the judgment due to your poor in his cause."

Now notice what else he says here. All of this has to do with judgment. All of this has to do with the attitude, with the judge, with those bringing information.

Verse 7: "Keep far from a false matter, and do not kill the innocent and righteous; for I will not justify the wicked."

Now think about that! we have so many bad judges. This summer we had some fairly good judgments come along. But how long will they last with the mob in control, and with unrighteous judgment sitting in the seats of judging?

Verse 8: "And you shall take no bribe..." Wonder how many people that catches them in?

"...For the bribe blinds the wise and perverts the words of the righteous" (v 8).

All of this has to do with *judge righteous judgment* vs *sinful judgment*. That's quite a thing.

Verse 9: "Also, you shall not oppress a stranger, for you know the heart of a stranger since you were strangers in the land of Egypt."

It's quite interesting how much there is! Since this is talking about what judges will do, in Deut. 17 we have explicit instructions. Here we have for when they wanted the king; but this also applies to every judge.

Deut. 17—notice how God does not play favorites. Look at the case of David. David was chosen over all of the other seven brethren. He was the one who was out tending the sheep.

God blessed him, chose him as king. But what did God do when David sinned? *He punished him; exposed his sin!* Set his whole household against him, and there was rebellion and overthrow of the kingship attempted by Absalom. All as punishment for what he did with Bathsheba.

The first part of it shows that if there is anyone who has done something worthy of death he shall not be stoned to death on the word of one person. One person. You need two or three witnesses.

Deuteronomy 17:6: "At the mouth of two witnesses or three witnesses shall he that is worthy of death be put to death. At the mouth of one witness he shall not be put to death."

Here's the explicit instructions of what to do when something is difficult:

Verse 8: "If a matter *is* too hard for you in judgment, between blood and blood, between plea and plea, and between stroke and stroke, *being* matters of strife within your gates, then you shall arise and go up to the place which the LORD your God shall choose. And you shall come to the priests, the Levites, and to the judge that shall be in those days, and ask. And they shall declare to you the sentence of judgment" (vs 8-9).

Now, they were to do like we saw back there in Matt. 23, according to the Word of God. That's the judgment. Whatever God says, because remember this:

When you study through the book of Chronicles you find that when Hezekiah set up judges he said to them the judgment is the Lord's. That's what it is. It can't be what we think or what the majority votes. It has to be what is God's judgment!

There are plenty of ways you can find out by looking into the Scriptures to get the right answer:

- you must take the time
- you must not be hasty
- you must not be partial

After they give the decision:

Verse 10: "...And you shall be careful to do according to all that they tell you... [v 11] According to the sentence of the Law... [God's Law] ...which they shall teach you and according to the judgment, which they shall tell you, you shall do...."

You shall not turn aside from the sentence, which they shall show you to the right hand or to the left. How strict was this?

- you can't have lawlessness
- you can't have mob rule
- you can't have majority rule even though the majority claims they're right if they have an evil cause
- nor can you oppress the minority because you're the majority

If they have a good cause and it's right, you have to admit it is good.

Now the ultimate of all of this comes down to what we have already covered, which is this. That is one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit, self-control.

What does self-control mean? That means self-correction with the Spirit of God, and with the laws and commandments of God written in your heart and mind and loving God! You will correct yourself.

If that being the case, and this is what we're going to teach during the Millennium, this is going to bring peace, love and growth, and so many great and good things will happen. All the blessings of God will be poured out upon all of the people because of that. That's why God wants us to judge righteous judgment.

Verse 12: "And the man that acts presumptuously and will not hearken to the priest who stands to minister there before the LORD your God, or to the judge, even that man shall die. And you shall put away the evil from Israel."

Now you go through and read all of the statutes and all of the judgments and all of the precepts that God has there in Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy. You will see that if those things were followed the society would be far different from what it is today.

Verse 13: "And all the people shall hear and fear, and do no more presumptuously."

- Isn't that true?
- Haven't we seen that?
- How many times?

It even gets more explicit. We are to be kings and

priests and judges! What is the king to do? So, God made a provision here about when they wanted a king.

Verse 14: "When you come to the land, which the LORD your God gives you, and shall possess it and shall live in it and shall say, 'I will set a king over me, like all the nations that *are* around me."

That happened to Samuel. They came to Samuel and said, 'We want a king.' Samuel got all upset and he came to God and said, 'What am I going to do?' And God said, 'Listen to the people. I'm going to give them a king, but you tell them what kind of king that they are going to get.'

Notice what the condition for the king is. He has the greatest responsibility, because he is the leader of all the people. Christ is going to be King all during the Millennium, yes indeed!

Now notice what the human king was to do, which we today need to do in preparation to become kings and priests during the Millennium.

Verse 15: "You shall surely set a king over you whom the LORD your God shall choose...."

Aren't we being chosen to do that? *Yes!* Christ is doing the choosing in that case.

You shall set a king over you from among your brethren. You may not set a stranger over you who is not your brother."

What happens? They bring in all kind of foreign and strange things that are not true and they reject God! So, he didn't want that.

Verse 16: "Only he shall not multiply horses to himself, nor cause the people to return to Egypt, so as to multiply horses because the LORD has said to you, 'You shall not return that way again." Don't go back to Egypt!

- What did they do?
- What are we doing today?
- Same thing!

Now he also says this. Notice Solomon after all the blessings that God gave him and chose him to succeed David. What was the first thing he did? *He married an Egyptian wife!*

- What was the next thing that he did? *He multiplied horses to himself!*
- What was the next thing that he did?

Verse 17: "Nor shall he multiply wives to himself, so that his heart does not turn away...."

• Isn't that what happened?

It says that his wives turned away the heart of Solomon from God to themselves.

"...Nor shall he greatly multiply silver and gold to himself. And it shall be, when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, he shall write for himself a copy of this Law in a book from that which is in the custody of the priests the Levites" (vs 17-18).

Write it all down. Write down all the five books of Moses. Everything there. Now notice what he was to do.

Verse 19: "And it shall be with him, and he shall read it all the days of his life..."—over and over and over again.

Isn't that what we're doing today? We're studying the words of God! We go over them and over them:

- so that it becomes part of us
- so that it becomes the part of the way that we think
- so that we have a righteous mind
- so that we can make right decisions
- so that we can be righteous judges
- so that we can prepare ourselves for the first resurrection and whatever assignment that God gives us

"...read it all the days of his life, so that he may learn..." (v 19). That is the lifelong thing! He may learn because:

- he had soul power
- he has soul discretion
- God's Word is the Law

If the king does evil what happens? The whole population does evil!

"...so that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, to keep all the words of this Law and these statutes, to do them" (v 19).

Now, notice a warning, because God knows what human nature will do. When people are given authority, to some people, it goes to their heads and they just become dictators, tyrants, mean and oppressive.

That has happened too many times within the Churches of God.

- he's to study the Laws
- he's to study the Gospels
- he's to study the writings of the Apostle Paul today

Verse 20: "So that his heart may not be lifted up above his brethren..."

Even though you're king you're not greater than other people. You may have greater authority but how do you use that authority?

- Do you use it righteously?
- Do you judge righteously?
- Do you think righteously?
- Do you act righteously?

That's why he's to study it all the days of his life!

"...and that he does not turn aside from the commandment, to the right or the left, to the end that he may prolong *his* days in his kingdom, he and his children, in the midst of Israel" (v 20).

Those are some pretty powerful words. Of course, those all apply to us today.

Now let's look at a few more Proverbs here because there's quite a bit that we can understand. You can see how the whole Bible is a plan of education by God to us on how we become the sons and daughters of God.

- what we are to do
- how we are to live
- how we are to think
- how we are to love
- how all of these things come about in our lives

Proverbs 11:14: "Where *there is* no wisdom, the people fall..."

Is that not true? Yes! Remember what we covered beginning in Prov. 2. When you come to wisdom:

- you have to have knowledge
- you have to have understanding
- you have to have wisdom

Verse 14: Where *there is* no wisdom, the people fall; but in the multitude of wise counselors *there is* safety." *Quite a thing!*

Look at what's happening in Washington, D.C., and almost every other government on earth today. Those who are in charge are not wise. They have an agenda that is according to Satan the devil, not according to God!

- look at what is happening
- look how bad that is
- look how terrible that it is in America today and other nations of the world because of that

Like I said, in the book of Proverbs, we find more

instruction on how to be kings and priests.

Proverbs 15:22: "Without counsel purposes are frustrated, but in the multitude of counselors they are established."

Proverbs 12:23_[transcriber's correction]: "A prudent man conceals knowledge, but the heart of fools pours out foolishness." *As to always be in Truth!*

Verse 17: "He who speaks truth shows forth righteousness... [we're to judge righteous judgment] ...but a false witness deceit."

Verse 19: "The lips of truth shall be established forever, but a lying tongue *is* but for a moment."

Proverbs 8:14—this also tells us how we are to prepare: "Counsel and sound wisdom are mine..." All comes from God. Why?

- because He's Lawmaker
- because He's perfect
- because He is merciful
- because He is loving

"...I am understanding; I have strength. By me kings reign and princes decree justice" (v 14)—or judgment!

Now, isn't that kind of a description what we're going to be doing during the Millennium? *Yes, indeed!*

Verse 16: "Princes rule by me..."

That's how it's going to be. We're not going to rule over people our way. No! *God's way!*

"...by me, and nobles, and all the judges of the earth" (v 16).

That applies to all of us right now and in the Millennium!

Verse 17: "I love those who love me; and those who seek me early shall find me. Riches and honor *are* with me; *yea*, enduring riches and righteousness. My fruit *is* better than gold, yea, than fine gold; and what I give *is better* than choice silver. I lead in the way of righteousness, in the midst of the paths of justice" (vs 17-20).

Verse 20: "I lead in the way of righteousness, in the midst of the paths of justice... [judgment] ...that I may cause those who love me to inherit substance; and I will fill their treasuries" (vs 20-21).

That's something! Isn't that the way it's going to be?

Let's summarize again what Jesus wants.

What I'm going to do is quickly read:

17 Things We Need to Maintain Righteous Judgment

- 1. Remember the Judgment is God's, Not Yours
- 2. Know Yourself and Get Sin Out of Your Life
- 3. Hear all the Facts
- 4. Always be Open-Minded
- 5. Never Render a Judgment Without Hearing the Entire Matter
- 6. Never Look Only on Circumstances and Outward Appearances
- 7. Discern the Attitudes and Motives of Those Involved
- 8. Never Be a Respecter of Persons
- 9. Never Accept a Gift
- 10. Always be Totally Fair and Impartial
- 11. Educate Yourself in God's Laws, Statutes and Judgments
- 12. In Difficult Cases Seek Counsel
- 13. Think of the Long-Term Consequences
- 14. Always Make Your Decisions and Judgments Specific and Clear
- 15. The Element of Timing in Judgment
- 16. Mercy in Judgment
- 17. You Must be Filled with God's Spirit and have the Mind of Christ

Don't forget to get the booklet, *Judge Righteous Judgment*. It's not the same as what has been presented here in these messages. There are other things in it as well. This is what you need. This is really one of the most excellent booklets that we have to help you understand: *Judge Righteous Judgment*.

This is the righteous judgment that we need. Remember what Jesus said during that Feast of Tabernacles in John 7: 'Judge Righteous Judgment.' Thank you, brethren. We'll see you tomorrow.

Scriptural References:

- 1) John 3:16-17
- 2) John 9:39
- 3) Proverbs 2:7
- 4) Hebrews 10:16
- 5) Proverbs 2:2-11
- 6) Psalm 1:1-6
- 7) Matthew 23:2
- 8) Proverbs 21:2-3, 15
- 9) Proverbs 20:8-9
- 10) Proverbs 18:13

- 11) Proverbs 14:29
- 12) Exodus 23:1-3, 6-9
- 13) Deuteronomy 17:6, 8-20
- 14) Proverbs 11:14
- 15) Proverbs 15:22
- 16) Proverbs 12:23, 17, 19
- 17) Proverbs 8:14, 16-21

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- John 15
- Revelation 20
- Exodus 31; 32
- John 7

Also referenced: {truthofGod.org}

- Booklet: Judge Righteous Judgment by Fred R. Coulter
- Download: 17 Things We Need to Maintain Righteous Judgment

FRC:bo

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The Mystery of Gog and Magog

(**Day 7—FOT**)

Fred R. Coulter—October 6, 2023

Greetings, brethren. Welcome to Day 7 of the Feast of Tabernacles!

It's been a wonderful Feast, and we know that the Feast of Tabernacles is seven days long, but we also know that there's one more day, and that's *The Last Great Day!*

So, tomorrow you come back and we'll find out what The Last Great Day is all about, and how this will be one of the greatest days, one of the greatest times in the whole history of mankind.

In the Bible, we find that Jesus exemplified it in Rev. 1. He says, 'I'm the Beginning and the Ending, the First and the Last, the Alpha and the Omega.'

Now, within the things that God does and within the Feasts that God gives us, there's a beginning and an ending. Whenever there's an ending, as we will see tomorrow, there's a new beginning.

What is it going to be like, the new beginning in the rest of the universe? So, brethren, please see and understand that *God has called us to the greatest calling that could possibly ever be*, and all of the saints and all of the patriarchs and all of those prophets of God. Everything is going to happen as God said, because:

- God is true
- God is righteous
- He has the power to make it happen

Heaven and earth are not going to pass away, because His Word is going to be fulfilled, every bit of it.

This will be kind of a review of the Millennium overall.

Jeremiah 31:31: "Behold, the days come,' says the LORD, 'that I will make a New Covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah, not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which covenant of Mine they broke..." (vs 31-32).

Know this, God has never broken a covenant. If He did, that would be sin and His Word would not be true.

In order to establish the New Covenant with the Church, and hence, again, the New Covenant with the children of Israel, the Creator God Himself—Jesus Christ, the only Begotten of the Father—died for the sins of the whole world, *past*, *present and future!*

So, this covenant that He's going to make with them is going to be a Covenant of Eternal Life.

Verse 33: "But this *shall be* the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel: After those days,' says the LORD..."

Now listen carefully, because this is the whole essence of conversion. This is why the Protestants know nothing about true conversion. Here it is:

"...'I will put My Law... [every bit of His Law] ...in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts...'" (v 33). *Tie in Heb. 10:16, that God with His Spirit is going to do that!*

"...and I will be their God, and they shall be My people" (v 33).

That's going to happen? All of the saints will be there as resurrected sons and daughters of God to teach the people!

Verse 34: "And they shall no more teach each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, "Know the LORD"; for they shall <u>all</u> know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them,' says the LORD. 'For I will forgive... [through the sacrifice of Christ] ...their iniquity, and <u>I will</u> remember their sins no more" (v 34).

Psa. 103 says that God 'removes our sins as far away from us as the east is from the west.'

Verse 35: "Thus says the LORD, Who gives the sun for a light by day and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, who stirs up the sea when its waves roar; (the LORD of hosts is His name), 'If those ordinances depart from Me,' says the LORD..." (vs 35-36). How much of a guarantee can you get?

"...'the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before Me forever.' Thus says the LORD, 'If the heavens above can be measured..." (vs 36-37).

They're finding out with all these telescopes, they can't measure it. With the best telescope ever—the James Webb telescope—they reach out way far beyond what they did with the

Hubble telescope.

In a lot of the areas that the Hubble telescope showed up as black areas, nothing there. All of a sudden, with this new James Webb telescope, there are millions more stars and galaxies.

- How great is God?
- How great is eternity?

Think about this: God says *He inhabits* eternity and *He wants to give to us today—<u>IF</u>* we're faithful and **THEN** at the resurrection—eternal life. Now then, He wants to bring back all of Israel and give them an opportunity for salvation and an opportunity for eternal life.

So this is really a great thing that God is doing. This is all pictured through the all the Feast days of God, all the process for it.

Verse 36: "If those ordinances depart from Me,' says the LORD, 'the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before Me forever.' Thus says the LORD, 'If the heavens above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth below can be searched out, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done,' says the LORD" (vs 36-37). What He's saying is:

In spite of all of their sins, because of my promise to Abraham, I'm going to keep it. I'm going to provide a way so they can repent. I'm going to provide a way so they can have eternal life.

Now that's a fantastic thing to comprehend!

We see that's what God's going to do. Let's look at it in the book of Zechariah. The book of Zechariah is quite interesting because it contains in it:

- the return of the children of Israel from Babylon, mainly the Jews
- things concerning the Millennium
- things concerning the end-time prophecies

Let's see what God says:

Zechariah 8:7: Thus says the LORD of hosts, 'Behold, I will save My people from the east country, and from the west country."

What does that mean? From the area of the Holy Land going east! We don't know how far that will go, but it may go clear into China and to the west. I don't know where that is going to end either.

Verse 8: "And I will bring them, and they shall dwell in the midst of Jerusalem..."

Only those who are converted are actually

going to be at Jerusalem. This is a prophecy that applies to their return from Babylon as well as into the Millennium.

"...And they shall be My people, and I will be their God... [Notice how He is going to be their God ...in Truth and in Righteousness" (v 8).

Remember what we covered for the past three days? *Judge Righteous Judgment!* And by the way, be sure and write for the booklet, *Judge Righteous Judgment*. You will find this will help you in many, many ways.

What God wants us to learn right now is to have our mind with His laws, commandments and His Word written in our mind and in our heart so that we become converted!

This is the most important thing: <u>that that conversion is faithful unto the end, and we attain to the resurrection</u> so we can be the teachers and the judges. Those who serve all of those during the Millennium, all of Israel, all the countries in the world. That's quite a thing that God is doing with us in Truth and in Righteousness.

Verse 9: "Thus says the LORD of hosts, 'Let your hands be strong, you who hear in these days these words by the mouth of the prophets, that in the day the foundation of the house of the LORD of hosts is laid, the temple is to be built."

That's talking about the second temple, but also as we pointed out at the beginning of the Millennium, God is going to have a big tabernacle right over Jerusalem and the Mount of Olives. So, we can apply that here.

That's why Zechariah is a little difficult to understand, because many of these prophecies are dual.

Verse 12: "For they shall sow in peace..."

No more war! We'll review that in just a little bit. But what is that going to be like?

- the blessing of God
- the removal of the thorns and thistles
- and the rejuvenation of the earth and the soil and everything in it to produce

We will do it according to the seven-year land Sabbath and the 50-year Jubilee. This not only will give good crops, it will give food all the time. Plus, it will bring economic stability such as never has been in the history of the world, where we read there in Isa. 60 that gold and silver are going to be voluminous at that time.

What God is going to do—and His Word is

in Truth and Righteousness, as we just read—is going to be astounding even for us who understand the Truth.

Verse 12: "For they shall sow in peace; the vine shall give its fruit, and the ground shall give its increase, and the heavens shall give their dew; and $\underline{\mathbf{I}}$ will cause the remnant of this people to possess all these things."

That's quite a thing, indeed, all of these promises that God has given.

Verse 13: "And it shall come to pass, that as you were a curse among the nations, O house of Judah and house of Israel, so I will save you, and you shall be a blessing. Do not fear, but let your hands be strong."

That also applies to *spiritual* Israel—which is the Church—in helping bring all of these things to pass during the Millennium.

Verse 17: "And let no one imagine evil in your heart *against* his neighbor..."

We know that He's going to give all the people at that time a heart of flesh and a mind receptive to the will of God. That's going to cut down on the sin and the carnality all during the Millennium.

"... 'and do not love a false oath, for all these are things that I hate,' says the LORD" (v 17).

What is that going to be like? I cannot imagine a time—I yearn for it, and I know you do—when everyone is:

- truthful
- honest
- serving the Lord
- doing the will of God

Think about what that's going to be like!

Verse 18: "And the Word of the LORD of hosts came to me, saying, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts..." (vs 18-19).

Then He talks about the fast that they used to have. He's not going to recognize those at all anymore, except the Day of Atonement.

Verse 20: "Thus says the LORD of hosts, 'It shall yet come to pass, that there shall come people and inhabitants of many cities. And the residents of one shall go to another, saying, "Let us go at once to pray before the face of the LORD, and to seek the LORD of hosts; I will go also"" (vs 20-21).

Notice how this is going to be. Think about the world today with all the troubles, strife, wars, famine, and everything just like Jesus prophesied in Matt. 24, Mark 13 and Luke 21. It's happening right before our eyes right now. But notice what it's going to be after the Lord of hosts is going to come to pass.

But notice what it's going to be after that; not only for the children of Israel, but read this:

Verse 22: "And many people and strong nations shall come to seek the LORD of hosts in Jerusalem and to pray before the face of the LORD."

That means that people will be able to come to where that tabernacle is, and that will be like a pilgrimage where they can pray and pray directly to God:

- Christ will be there
- the apostles will be there
- the patriarchs will be there
- the prophets will be there

Verse 23: "Thus says the LORD of hosts, 'In those days it shall come to pass, that ten men, out of all languages of the nations, shall take hold, and will seize the skirt of a man, a Jew, saying, "We will go with you, for we have heard that God is with you.""

Quite an amazing thing! Think how that is going to be!

Let's review this in Micah 4, because this tells us that everything is going to be so much better.

Micah 4:1: "But it shall be... [that doesn't mean it *may*; It means *it shall*] ...in the last days *that* the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it."

All people can't come at all times, but there will always be, from every nation, the representative there—that God chooses to represent that nation—to be there in Jerusalem. That's probably some out of the first resurrection, to represent every single nation before God every single day.

Then that goes back to the nations where they're located so that they can grow in grace and knowledge and overcome and live according to God's Laws; and the blessings of God will come flowing to all of them!

Verse 2: "And many nations shall come and say, 'Come and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob. And **He will teach us of His ways**..."

That's what's going to happen all during the Millennium, and we'll be the ones teaching them!

"...and we will walk in His paths'—for the Law shall go forth out of Zion..." (v 2)—automatically all the time, the Law of God to the whole earth, to all the nations, to all the people!

"...and the Word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And He shall judge among many people..." (vs 2-3).

He will judge how? With righteous judgment! That's going to be something!

"...and will rebuke strong nations afar off..." (v 3).

We're going to see that in a little bit, when we understand *the mystery of Gog and Magog*. God is going to have to deal with them in a very powerful and very special way, because they will be the last nations to come under the jurisdiction of the Kingdom of God when the Millennium begins.

"...and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore" (v 3). That starts with the toys that children play with! Here's what it will be:

Verse 4: "But they shall sit each one under his *own* vine and under his *own* fig tree; and no one shall make them afraid; for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken."

Just think of the blessing, brethren, that we have! That we understand it through the Sabbath, the Passover and the Holy Days.

Note our big, thick book, *God's Plan For Mankind Revealed by His Sabbath and Holy Days*. {Order at truthofGod.org} It's a big, thick, expanded book, so that you can really be grounded in the full knowledge of all of the things of God that he reveals through his Sabbath and Holy Days.

Rev. 20 is a very interesting chapter. There are only two chapters left in Revelation: 21 & 22. Yet, Rev. 20 covers a time span of over a thousand years plus a hundred. So, right at 1100 years altogether.

In just a couple of little verses, and in the case of one of the most fantastic things to happen, in one short little phrase, and we will come back again to that tomorrow.

Rev. 20—Satan is put away, locked up in the abyss, and that means all the demons with him. We find something very significant here, because Day-7 pictures the end of the Millennium or the thousand years! Satan is going to be used again, and we'll find out all of the facts of that the best we

can put together.

Revelation 20:3: "Then he... [the angel] ...cast him [Satan] into the abyss, and locked him *up*, and sealed *the abyss* over him, so that he would not deceive the nations any longer until the thousand years were fulfilled; and after that it is ordained that he be loosed *for* a short time."

Why would God do that? *That's quite interesting indeed!* Let's see this, and then we'll see two occurrences of this:

Verse 7: "Now, when the thousand years have been completed, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison; and he shall go out to deceive the nations that *are* in the four corners of the earth, **Gog and Magog**, of whom the number *is* as the sand of the sea, to gather them together for war" (vs 7-8).

Then notice what happens here; why Gog and Magog? Because Gog and Magog were the last nations to come under the jurisdiction of the Kingdom of God during the Millennium!

Actually, after the Millennium begins—approximately seven years after—Gog and Magog comes to make war against the children of Israel in the 'promised land'.

Remember that the 'promised land' runs from the Euphrates River—how far north we don't know—clear down to the Nile River. Then the promise given to Abraham that he would inherit the whole earth to the various nations where we see them today.

So, let's see about Gog and Magog, because if Gog and Magog (v 8) refers to the people of Gog and Magog. They are not given an opportunity for salvation, which we will see when we come to Ezek. 39, that they will be. This has got to mean *the geographical area* of Gog and Magog; *a certain geographical area* in Gog and Magog.

Why would that be there? That there will be those during the Millennium that even though they live 100 years, <u>IF</u> they don't repent <u>WHEN</u> they're given another opportunity to repent—in what we could call the repentance centers—<u>THEN</u> they are exiled further away completely!

So, we can conclude that Gog and Magog—an area of Gog and Magog all during the Millennium—will be reserved for the unrepentant! So they can live out the rest of their life and die their first death there. Then they will be resurrected to be thrown into the Lake of Fire, because permanent death is the second death! That's called eternal death! No resurrection from that!

That has to be administered. But Gog and

Magog, as we will see, is a second death. They're the ones who set the precedent of not repenting when God offers it to them!

As we just read in Micah_[transcriber's correction], God is going to judge them. He is going to make them put away all their weapons and all their thoughts of war for the rest of the Millennium.

But there will be that geographical area, which will be the area of final exile as we have seen the way that God operates when people sin.

We will come to Ezek. 38 & 39 and look at the mystery of Gog and Magog!

(break@32:06)

We're going to look at what's in Ezekiel 38 & 39 so that we get the flow of events. This is after the Millennium begins, which ties in where God is going to have to *judge strong nations afar off*.

Isn't the Orient far off from Jerusalem? *Yes, it is!* So, let's read what they're going to do. This will help us understand why in Revelation we have the mention of Gog and Magog.

Ezekiel 38:1: "And the Word of the LORD came to me, saying, 'Son of man, set your face against Gog, the land of Magog, the chief ruler of Meshech, and Tubal, and prophesy against him. And say, "Thus says the Lord GOD, 'Behold, I *am* against you, O Gog, the chief ruler of Rosh, Meshech and Tubal. And I will turn you back, and put hooks into your jaws, and I will bring you out, and all your army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed most gorgeously, a great assembly *with* buckler and shield, all of them swordsmen'" (vs 1-4).

Verse 5: "Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya with them, all of them *with* shield and helmet; Gomer and all his bands; the house of Togarmah *from* the uttermost parts of the north, and all his bands; *and* many people with you" (vs 5-6).

So, this includes part of Russia, all of the Orient, and the nations where it says in Persia, that's Iran today. Ethiopia and Libya.

Verse 7: "Be prepared; yea, prepare for yourself, you and all your assembly that are assembled about you, and be a guard for them. After **many days** you will be summoned. In the **latter years** you shall come into the land restored from war..." (vs 7-8).

This is after the Millennium begins, and the "many days"—years—is about seven years.

"...gathered out of many people, on the mountains of Israel, which have always been waste.

(But she has been brought out of the nations, and they shall dwell securely, all of them.)... [this tells us this is after the Millennium begins] ...And you shall go up, coming like a storm. You shall be like a cloud to cover the land, you and all your bands, and many people with you" (vs 8-9).

Verse 10: "Thus says the Lord GOD, 'And it shall be in that day that things shall come into your heart, and you shall devise an evil plan.... [notice what that plan is]: ...And you shall say, "I will go up to the land of unwalled villages. I will go to those that are at rest..."" (vs 10-11). The Millennium has started: Israel is back there!

"...who dwell securely, all of them dwelling without walls..." (v11)

- nor fortifications
- no standing army
- no weapons

Just a perfect thing to attack because they're all helpless! But they forget that **God** is the greatest warrior of all, and He will take care of them!

"...without walls and there are no bars nor gates to them, in order to take a spoil, and to steal a prize; to turn your hand upon the desolate places that are now inhabited, and upon the people that are gathered out of the nations, who have gotten cattle and goods, who dwell in the midst of the land" (vs 11-12).

Then it lists some more that will be with him. This is going to be quite a thing that's going to take place.

Verse 14: "Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say to Gog... [all the people with him and everything] ... 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "In that day when My people of Israel dwell securely...""— another reference to the Millennium!

So, this has to be right at the beginning of the Millennium.

"...shall you not know *it*? And you shall come from your place out of the uttermost parts of the north, you and many people with you, all of them riding on horses, a great company and a mighty army. And you shall come up on My people Israel like a cloud to cover the land. It shall be in the latter days... [right at the beginning of the Millennium] ...and I will bring you against My land, so that the nations may know Me when I shall be sanctified in you, O Gog, before their eyes" (vs 14-16).

This is going to be the final war, which is going to bring all nations to the understanding that they are going to have to submit:

- to God's way
- the Kingdom of God
- the rule of the Kingdom of God
- the saints

Verse 17: "Thus says the Lord GOD, 'Are you he of whom I have spoken in former days, by the hand of My servants the prophets of Israel, who prophesied in those days for many years that I would bring you against them?"

So, all during that time, everybody that is there going to know that Gog and Magog and the nations are coming.

Verse 18: "And it shall come to pass at the same time, when Gog comes against the land of Israel,' says the Lord GOD, 'My hot anger will be aroused."

They're going to learn a lesson! You can never win fighting against God! Another lesson for all the physical children of Israel: When God is there for you, you don't have to worry! God is going to take care of it! This is going to be the final war! God is going to take care of it. This is going to be a great and lasting demonstration of the power of God, which will go right through the whole Millennium.

Verse 19: "For in My jealousy *and* in the fire of My wrath I have spoken, 'Surely in that day there shall be a great quaking in the land of Israel."

That's going to be something! Notice, it's going to affect everything:

Verse 20: "So that the fish of the sea, and the birds of the heavens, and the beasts of the field, and all creeping things..."—and so forth!

""...shall quake at My presence. And the mountains shall be thrown down, and the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground.' And I will call for a sword against him upon all My mountains,' says the Lord GOD. 'Each man's sword shall be against his brother" (vs 20-21).

How is God going to win this victory? **By His power!** But also, remember: there are other instances in the Bible where God has the enemy turn on itself and kill each other so that Israel wouldn't have to fight. That's what he's doing here.

"...'Each man's sword shall be against his brother. And I will judge him with pestilence and with blood. And I will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people with him, an overflowing shower, and great hailstones, fire and brimstone" (vs 21-22).

How is any army going to survive that? The

last war to begin the reign of Christ—when the saints came with Christ to the earth—the whole army is wiped out!

Like Zech, 14 says, 'Their flesh just falls right off their skeleton'! How's that for a weapon? *I mean, you think about it!*

You can have the greatest army possible. They can be trained to do so many things. They can be skilled with the sword, with the spear or with whatever other weapon that they have. Yet, how are you going to resist:

- the fire of God?
- the power of God?
- the pestilence of God?

They won't! Then the same thing with Armageddon: *great hail*; no way to get away from that!

Verse 23: "Thus I will magnify Myself and sanctify Myself. And I will have Myself known in the eyes of many nations..."

So, all the nations of the world are going to hear of this. What will that do? That will forever put down for the rest of the Millennium, internal war and conflict.

"...and they shall know that I am the LORD" (v 23).

Now you pay attention to that phrase, because we're going to hear that again repeated in Ezek. 39. "...they shall know that I am the LORD" That means they will come to repentance and they will come to the point of loathing themselves and repenting.

That's why God is going to do this. This is going to be an example that is going to be known all through the Millennium. That is why that there's going to be a section of Gog and Magog reserved for the final exile for those who do not repent!

They will live out their lives and be buried there so that they are resurrected to face the Lake of Fire.

Ezekiel 39:1: "Therefore, son of man, prophesy against Gog and say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "Behold, **I** am against you...""

Now think about that! When God says He's against you, you better repent, but they won't!

"...O Gog, the chief ruler of Meshech and Tubal. And I will turn you about, and lead you on. And I will bring you up from the uttermost parts of the north, and I will bring you against the mountains of Israel. And I will strike your bow out of your left hand, and will cause your arrows to fall out of your

right hand. You shall fall on the mountains of Israel, you and all your bands, and the people with you. I will give you for food to the birds of prey of every kind, and *to* the beasts of the field" (vs 1-4).

Just like he did in Rev.20; we all come off the Sea of Glass and descend to the earth.

Verse 5: "You shall fall upon the face of the open field, for I have spoken it," says the Lord GOD. 'And I will send a fire on Magog, and on those who dwell in the isles. And they shall know that I *am* the LORD" (vs 5-6).

That means they're going to understand they can't fight against God and they better repent, whoever makes it through there without being killed.

Verse 7: "And I will make My Holy name known in the midst of My people Israel. And I will not *let them* profane My Holy name anymore."

So this is also going to have an effect on Israel. They're going to see!

Oh, look at what God did! Why He really fought against the enemy, didn't He? He sent the fire and the brimstone; the hail and the rain and all of that together! Here we were ready to be attacked, and we looked out there and saw how God handled it.

What is that going to do to Israel? *That's going to help them love God even more!* That's going to help them understand that they need to always keep His commandments and do what is right! Don't go back to the idols that they had before the Millennium.

"...And they shall know that I am the LORD. And I will make My Holy name known in the midst of My people Israel. And I will not *let them* profane My Holy name anymore. Then the nations shall know that I am the LORD, the Holy One in Israel" (vs 6-7).

Then it talks about how they had to go out and clean up all the remaining mess after all the flesh has been devoured.

Verse 17: "And you, son of man, thus says the Lord GOD, 'Speak to the birds of every kind, and to every beast of the field, "Gather yourselves and come; gather yourselves from all around to My sacrifice that I sacrifice for you, a great sacrifice on the mountains of Israel, so that you may eat flesh and drink blood""

A repeat of what happens when the saints come to the earth!

Verse 18: "You shall eat the flesh of the mighty and drink the blood of the princes of the earth, of rams, lambs, goats, *and* bulls, all of them

fatlings of Bashan. And you... [all the birds and animals] ...shall eat fat until you are full, and drink blood until you are drunk, of My sacrifice which I have sacrificed for you.... [notice how God describes it] ...And you shall be filled at My table with horses and chariots, with mighty men, all the men of war,' says the Lord GOD. 'And I will set My glory among the nations, and all the nations..." (vs 18-21).

That's to fully establish the complete authority of God and the rule of the saints in the whole world from east to west, from north to south.

Verse 21: "And I will set My glory among the nations, and all the nations shall see My judgments which I have executed, and My hand that I have laid on them. **So, the house of Israel shall know**..."" (vs 21-22)

What this does, it takes those children of Israel who were there in peace and everything and God protected them. God fought for them. God saved them from this. *They will know*. They will know of God more than they ever have. So, this is going to be quite a thing!

Verse 22: "So, the house of Israel shall know that I am the LORD their God from that day and forward. And the nations shall know that the house of Israel was exiled for their iniquity. Because they were unfaithful to Me, therefore, I hid My face from them and gave them into the hand of their enemies, and they all fell by the sword" (vs 22-23).

Verse 25: "Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, 'Now, will I again bring back..."

He will have mercy. This is a great and tremendous thing that's going to happen. Then he's going to set them; let's read this in Isa. 65. Then they're going to come and all during the Millennium it will be this way:

I guess you can say it this way. Israel being stiff neck and rebellious and hard-hearted are going to be converted and totally convinced that God is God and they're not going to go their own ways. All of the resurrected saints will be there to teach them, to help them. If they start going the way that they shouldn't go, we'll tell them, 'Here is the way, walk in it.' So, they will have a chance to repent!

Isaiah 65:17—God says: "For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth...."

That's what He does because the whole earth will be so upside down and backward at the beginning of the Millennium.

"...And the former things will not be remembered, nor come to mind. But be glad and

rejoice forever *in that* which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy. I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and I will joy in My people; and the voice of weeping will no more be heard in her, nor the voice of crying" (vs 17-19).

Here's how it's going to be for the thousand years:

Verse 20: "There will not be an infant who lives but a few days..."

Think about taking away the curse of Eve from all women in bearing children. It will be totally different! Think how great that is going to be. Everyone knowing that:

- all of the children are going to be safe
- all of the children are going to be loved
- all of the children are going to be taught the way of God

They are going to be given the most fantastic education possible. All the laws and commandments of God, they'll be taught all about why they're here and what they're going to do.

- no more child sacrifice
- no more child pedophilia
- no more child trafficking like we have today

"... nor an old man that has not filled his days..." (v 20).

How long will that be? It's going to be long enough so that God is sure of what you believe and what you're going to do and how it's going to be for those people who are going to be coming into the Kingdom of God during the Millennium.

"...for the child will die <u>a hundred years</u> <u>old</u>; but the sinner *who is* a hundred years old shall be accursed" (v 20).

What does accursed mean? It means waiting the second resurrection to be thrown into the Lake of Fire. That means anyone who is unrepentant and exiled out to Gog and Magog, they're going to die there. They're going to be buried there.

When they're resurrected, they're going to face the Lake of Fire. That will happen all during the Millennium. We know from the New Testament; let's see what Paul wrote in 1-Cor. 15. Let's see what's going to happen to the saints who are still alive when Christ returns.

They don't have time to die or be put into the grave. Let's understand that he also wrote in 1 Thess. 4 that when Christ returns with the sound of the trumpet, with the voice of the archangel, the dead in Christ shall be raised first. Then we who are alive shall be caught up into the air to meet Him in the clouds! Now what's going to happen? Paul answers the rest of this question here.

We know what's going to happen to those who are righteous. We already have seen what's going to happen to those who don't repent and are sent off into exile and die.

Now then, those who are alive, and live a hundred years, what's going to happen to them? They're not going to die and be put into grave. They are going to be changed instantly from flesh to spirit. Just like we will read here in 1-Cor. 15. If they're righteous, what need is there for them to die. But in order to be transformed from flesh to spirit, there has to be an instantaneous death and transformation to spirit, because flesh and blood cannot inherit Kingdom of God. So that has to be.

1-Corinthians 15:44: "It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body."

That's why we're made in the image and likeness of God!

Verse 45: "Accordingly, it is written, 'The first man, Adam, became a living soul; the last Adam *became* an ever-living Spirit.' However, the spiritual *was* not first, but the natural—then the spiritual. The first man *is* of the earth—made of dust. The second Man *is* the Lord from heaven. As *is* the one made of dust, so also *are all* those who are made of dust; and as *is* the heavenly *One*, so also *are all* those who are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the *one* made of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly *One*" (vs 45-49).

Verse 50: "Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit *the* Kingdom of God..."

So, that shows that those who are righteous during the Millennium and live a hundred years, they will be changed. No need to bury them, but their death will be instantaneous from flesh to spirit!

"...flesh and blood cannot inherit *the* Kingdom of God, nor does corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I show you a mystery: we shall not all fall asleep... [be buried] ...but we shall all be changed, in an instant, in *the* twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for *the* trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed" (vs 50-52).

That's the first resurrection here, of course, but then during the Millennium there will be no need for a resurrection because it will be a transformation from flesh to spirit. Be changed in a twinkling of an eye!

Now, I've often thought about this. When will they be changed? I wonder if it could be on Pentecost every year. Those who are ready for the Kingdom of God will be transformed from flesh to spirit, being 100-years-old and enter into the spiritual nation of God.

Now notice the whole purpose of our corruptible body is this:

Verse 53: "For this corruptible must put on incorruptibility, and this mortal must put on immortality. Now, when this corruptible shall have put on incorruptibility, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: 'Death is swallowed up in victory.' O death, where is your sting? O grave, where is your victory?" (vs 53-55).

Yes, indeed! That gives us a guideline. What's going to happen during the Millennium? Let's come to see what's going to happen in Rev. 20

Let's finish this Day-7 in Rev. 20 with the last war at the end of the Millennium. This is why Satan is reserved for this time. Then we will see that after this war is accomplished, Satan and the demons will be judged and they will receive their sentence.

Revelation 20:7: "Now, when the thousand years have been completed, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison; and he shall go out to deceive the nations that *are* in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, of whom the number *is* as the sand of the sea, to gather them together for war" (vs 7-8).

That's that exiled area of Gog and Magog where the sinners are who are from all nations. Now we don't know how many during the Millennium are going to commit the unpardonable sin so that they're exiled to Gog and Magog and live out their life for a hundred years or shorter. However, it may work out when they're exiled for committing the unpardonable sin. And then they will be buried.

Now then, at the end of the Millennium, there's going to be a great multitude who have not died. Of course, all have to die that are incorrigibly wicked; they have to die the first death, as well as the second death.

So, at the end of the Millennium, how are you going to accomplish getting rid of all of these sinners? You send Satan out to gather them together for battle. Then this happens to them all.

Verse 9: "Then *I saw* them go up upon the breadth of the earth and encircle the camp of the

saints, and the beloved city; and fire came down from God out of heaven and consumed them."

Notice it didn't consume the devil because the devil and the demons are spirit beings and cannot die. God has the punishment for them, which begins at the end of the Millennium before The Great White Throne Judgment takes place, *because Satan has to be completely removed!*

Verse 10: "And the Devil, who deceived them, was cast into the Lake of Fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet *had been cast....* [that was at the beginning of the Millennium] ...and they..."

This is interesting because the "they" doesn't refer to the beast and the false prophet; but it refers to Satan and the demons, because the beast and the false prophet committed the unpardonable sin and they await the second resurrection to once again be cast into the Lake of Fire.

Satan and the demons will be tormented day and night into the ages of eternity, not by the fire alone, as we will see, because that fire that's going to take place here is not going to consume the whole earth. Now we'll talk about that tomorrow with the Last Great Day.

So, where are Satan and the demons going to be tormented after they're in the Lake of Fire? That punishment is finished and they are completely removed forever, and they do not die. We will see that because v 11 talks about the Great White Throne Judgment. Satan's punishment and the demons' punishment is going to be completed before the Great White Throne Judgment of the Last Great Day.

We find this in the book of Jude. Very interesting. This is why we must carefully put the Word of God together *a little here and a little there!*

Jude 6: "And the angels..."

Angels become demons when they rebel, just like Lucifer, who was a covering cherub, he became Satan the devil when he rebelled. Because they're created of spirit, they don't die. It says they're going to be tormented forever. But the Lake of Fire is not going to be continuing forever. *No!*

So Jude answers the question: What happens to them after they have been tormented by the Lake of Fire for however long that would be before the Great White Throne Judgment begins?

Jude 6: "And the angels who did not keep their own original domain, but deserted their habitation, He is holding in eternal bonds under darkness unto the judgment of *the* Great Day"—*the*

Last Day of the Feast of Tabernacles.

Then he goes on showing how they influenced men in Sodom and Gomorrah, and how they corrupted everything. How it was with Cain.

Verse 11: "Woe to them!.... [talking about human beings but are led by demon spirits] ...For they have walked in the way of Cain; and for gain, they have wholly given themselves up to Balaam's delusion, and have perished in the rebellion of Korah. These are subversive stains in your love Feasts..." (vs 11-12).

This is talking about those who come into the Church and who do not repent and who do commit the unpardonable sin.

"...feasting in person together with you; fearlessly they are feeding themselves. They are clouds without water..." (v 12).

Now this then begins to get into the final punishment of the demons because their sin is caused by the demons.

"... They are clouds without water being driven by the winds; trees of late autumn, without any fruit, uprooted, twice dead" (v 12).

Now then, those are all the humans that the satanic powers and demons used against men.

Verse 13: "Raging waves of *the* sea, casting up like foam their own *ignominious* shame; wandering stars..."

What did Satan take with him? A third of the stars of heaven or a third of the stars of God, which are angels. Wandering stars. These are the demons and Satan.

"...<u>for whom has been reserved the blackest darkness forever!"</u> (v 13).

So this tells us the final punishment of Satan, the devil and the demons after the Lake of Fire in Rev. 20 is a complete exile to somewhere where in the universe, where it is completely dark, black, locked in. They cannot get out. There is no way out, but blackness and darkness for torment forever!

Why would God do that? He does it because that will be a perpetual witness and warning for all of us who are in the Kingdom of God! That only God's way is the true way!

- there will be no rebellion
- there will be no war
- there will be no contrary things against
 - ✓ God
 - ✓ His people

✓ New Jerusalem

that we will see about tomorrow! That will be a perpetual witness!

This is going to be quite a thing! The Plan of God and everything that He is doing and how He's going to bring it all about is so great and so tremendous.

All of this is in preparation for the Great White Throne Judgment!

So, you come back tomorrow. You will see the Great White Throne Judgment. Come back tomorrow, *the Last Great Day*, the end of the Feast and you will learn the finality of God's Plan.

Scriptural References:

- 1) Jeremiah 31:31-37
- 2) Zechariah 8:7-9, 12-13, 17-23
- 3) Micah 4:1-4
- 4) Revelation 20:7-8
- 5) Ezekiel 38:1-12, 14-23
- 6) Ezekiel 39:1-7, 6-7, 17-23, 25
- 7) Isaiah 65:17-20
- 8) 1 Corinthians 15:44-55
- 9) Revelation 20:7-10
- 10) Jude 6, 11-13

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Revelation 1
- Hebrews 10:16
- Psalm 103
- Isaiah 60
- Matthew 24
- Luke 21
- Revelation 21; 22
- 1 Thessalonians 4

Also referenced:

- Booklet: *Judge Righteous Judgment*. by Fred R. Coulter
- Book: God's Plan For Mankind Revealed by His Sabbath and Holy Days by Fred R. Coulter

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A Great Mystery of God Revealed

(Last Great Day)

Fred R. Coulter—October 7, 2023

Greetings, everyone. Welcome to The Last Great Day, the eighth day, and what a Feast that it has been and always is, because God's Word is:

- always new
- always ancient
- always true
- always right

All of the opinions of all men everywhere are null and void!

Lev. 23 is where God has listed all of His Holy Days and we've progressed through the year, Sabbath after Sabbath, and then right through beginning with Passover, Unleavened Bread, Pentecost, Trumpets, Atonement, Feast of Tabernacles, and now The Last Great Day. *This is a mystery of God revealed!*

We'll just rehearse the verses that cover the Feast of Tabernacles. If you want to know how important it is, go to Num. 28 & 29 and look at the number of sacrifices that were given during this time. *It's extraordinary!* All of them have meaning concerning what God is going to do spiritually in fulfilling the Feast of Tabernacles and especially The Last Great Day.

Leviticus 23:34: "Speak to the children of Israel, saying, 'The fifteenth day of this seventh month *shall be* the Feast of Tabernacles for seven days to the LORD." We just finished that!

Verse 35: "On the first day *shall be* a Holy convocation. You shall do no servile work *therein*. Seven days you shall offer an offering made by fire to the LORD. On **the eighth day** shall be a Holy convocation to you. And you shall offer an offering made by fire to the LORD. **It** *is* **a** *solemn* **assembly**..." (vs 35-36).

God is going to reveal the secret of this day, which affects all mankind, all the way down through the history of men!

Now we're to proclaim these and we do. We're going to take up an offering. So, we will go ahead and take that up at this time and then I'm going to present the rest of this to people who have never heard about The Last Great Day or the meaning of it. In it, it will cover everything we need to know for us for The Last Great Day.

(pause for the offering)

Greetings everyone, this is Fred Coulter, a great mystery of God revealed! What is that? All men and women—everyone—wants to know what happens when people die? Nearly every religion says you go to heaven, but the Bible says clearly in the words written by the Apostle John that no one has ascended to heaven except the Son of man who came down from heaven.

Let's ask questions as we go along here:

- Do you believe God?
- Do you believe Jesus Christ?
- Do you believe the Word of God?

There are many translations out there, so it gets real confusing. That's why we have the Bible, *The Holy Bible in Its Original Order, A Faithful Version*. It's the only Bible in English ever printed that has all the books of the Bible, Old Testament and New Testament *in their original order!*

This is necessary because Jesus said... Now, I want you to listen carefully. As I ask these questions, I want you to answer honestly for yourself"

• What did Jesus say when He was tempted of Satan the devil? The very first thing?

The devil came along and said, 'If you're the Son of God command these stones become bread.'

What was Jesus' answer?

This is absolutely true: 'Man—that means men and women—shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.'

If you're a Protestant or a Catholic, you were told many different things, doing away with large portions of the Bible:

- You were told that the Old Testament is for the Jews. *Wrong!*
- You were told that souls go to heaven. Wrong!
- You were told there's an ever burning hell. *Wrong!*
- You were told that Sunday is a day sanctioned by the Bible. *Wrong!*
- You were told that the holidays of this world are sanctioned by God. *Wrong!*

You need this book that we have: Occult Holidays or God's Holy Days—Which? We will send it to you, no cost.

I want to ask another question of you:

➤ Do you suppose that you have believed a lot of lies concerning the Bible?

a lot of lies concerning:

- Sabbath/Sunday?
- ➤ Holidays/Holy Days?
- ➤ Have you?
- Do you believe the lie that the Bible wasn't canonized until the second century A.D.? Wrong!

The Bible shows internally that it was canonized by Peter, Paul, and John!

- ➤ What else do you believe?
- ➤ Do you believe that the Bible had been published in every language possible so that it is right near to understanding for everyone <u>IF</u> they would **believe God** and **believe His Word**?

So, if now you're a little bit upset, you need to consider this: When you really know the Bible, which you don't, and you really understand what the words are as they were inspired to be written and believed, <u>95%</u> of what you're taught in Protestantism and Catholicism <u>are lies and overlaid</u> with human tradition!

If you believe God, do you believe this about God?:

Come to 2-Tim. 1:9—a lot of people like the Apostle Paul, but they don't understand the difficult Scriptures that Paul wrote, and hence they think the Law is done away.

Well, if the Law is done away, then you don't exist.

2-Timothy 1:9: "Who has saved us and called *us* with a Holy calling—not according to our works..."

But that doesn't mean we don't have works. We must do the works of God! By what? 'Living by every word of God, as Jesus said.

"...<u>but according to His own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the ages of time</u>" (v 9).

You see, God looks at things time wise different than we do.

Now let's expose <u>one of the greatest sins</u> of theologians, priests, pastors, evangelists, cardinals and popes!

Titus 1:1: "Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect and the knowledge of the Truth..."

Jesus said that the Word of God is Truth!

➤ Do you believe that?

Properly translated, it carries the same force as the original! Unfortunately, there are so many bad translations out there, and so many false things taught that most people do not know.

"...knowledge of the Truth...[the Word of God is the Truth] ...that *is* according to Godliness in *the* hope of eternal life..." (vs 1-2).

How do we get eternal life since no one has ascended to heaven?

All of the relatives that you have gone to their funerals and they said, 'They're in heaven right now looking down at us and they're very happy that we're all here.' *Really?* When there's an open casket showing the person there.

The Bible says, now listen carefully.

- ➤ Do you believe the Bible
- ➤ Do you believe the Word of God?

It says, the soul that sins shall die! It also says that at death 'our thoughts perish,' but our spirit goes back to God!

We'll find out why the spirit goes back to God a little later, but there's a reason. And everyone who has lived and died, that spirit has gone back to God! We will see for what <u>a great purpose</u> that that is

- God is NOT going to consign people to an ever-burning hell!
- God is NOT going to consign them to heaven

because heaven is coming to the earth!.

You may have never heard of all of these things in your life, so just hold on because *a great mystery of God revealed* is the topic I'm going to cover. So, *stay with it to the end* even though you might be upset because you've never heard anyone say anything like this.

Verse 2: "In *the* hope of eternal life, which God Who cannot lie..."

- Do you believe that?
- > Do you believe that the Word of God is the Truth of God from the God of Truth?

'Well men wrote it, so how can we trust it?'

➤ Do you think God is so weak and powerless that He can't cause men to write what He wants them to write? Of course He can!

God gave us this Word and it was preserved and canonized by Peter, Paul, and John.

"...which God Who cannot lie promised before the ages of time, <u>but revealed</u> in its own set time in *the* proclamation of His Word, with <u>which I [Paul] was entrusted</u> according to *the* commandment of God our Savior" (vs 2-3). That says a lot, doesn't it?

Now let's look and see that we're told that none of the wicked will understand the Word of God (Dan. 12).

We're also told that <u>the wise shall</u> <u>understand!</u> Who are the wise? The wise are the ones who love God and keep His commandments!

Jesus said to His disciples that <u>they</u> were given to understand the mysteries of God, but not the world. Why is that? Because the world wants to:

- trust in its own philosophies
- trust in *its own* theories
- trust in men rather than trust in God

Paul writes that <u>the wise of this world</u> have rejected the Truth of God and that their wisdom is foolishness with God!

Think about all the great theologians that are praised in the Catholic Church and in the Protestants.

Let's see what God says in 1-Cor. 2. You will notice that in everything we are covering, we are using the Word of God! We are not using any theories of men. We are going Scripture to Scripture to Scripture to put it together so that we then will understand the mystery of God, which is a great mystery, and how He has revealed it.

1-Corinthians 2:7: Rather, we speak *the* wisdom of God in a mystery..."

Mystery to the world, but open to those who love God and keep His commandments and understand it. I am going to try and bring this to you so that you will have the desire to understand it and to believe what the Scriptures really say!

"...even the hidden wisdom that God foreordained before the ages unto our glory" (v 7).

Again, *God has a plan!* He is working it out and it's all contained in the Bible. But we will see how to understand what's in the Bible. Because you can't pick it up and read it like a novel.

Verse 8: "Which not one of the rulers of this world has known..." *None of them!*

Why? Because they've all followed the fallen angel, Satan the devil, who comes as an angel of light and leads them into darkness.

Look at all the things that they are doing in archaeology today to try and find out:

- How long has the earth been?
- How long have men been here?
- What did they worship?
- What did they do?
- What did they find?

The whole thing shows that everything that man does—it doesn't matter who you are, where you are, whatever age you live in—death happens to all!

Only the Word of God tells us how God is going to overcome death. *So hang on!*

Verse 9: "But according as it is written, 'The eye has not seen, nor the ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him."

I want you to think about this verse. There are a lot of people who claim God's love is unconditional. We will see *that is also a lie!*

God's Law is everlasting, *not unconditional!* We'll see that, so hang on. because you need to open up your mind and your heart to understand.'

➤ Do you really want the Truth of God as it really is?

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- ➤ Do you want your own ideas about it, which then will lead you astray?
- ➤ What is it that you want?
- Do you really want salvation God's way? When you stop and think about it, there is no other way! Only God's way!

So we'll talk about that in a little bit as we get this mystery being revealed.

"...neither have entered into *the* heart of man *the* things which God has prepared for those who love Him. But God..." (vs 9-10). *God does* something, but not to everyone as we will see!

Verse 10: "But God has revealed *them* to us by His Spirit, for the Spirit searches all things—even the deep things of God."

That's what we're going to talk about today; the deep things of God revealed in a mystery and understood and explained from the Bible!

Verse 11: "For who among men understands the things of man except by the spirit of man, which is in him?...."

- everybody has consciousness
- everybody has life
- everybody can think
- everybody can have all kinds of ideas

But unless you have the ideas and Truth of God in your heart and in your mind, you will never understand the Bible! It's that simple!

"...In the same way also, the things of God no one understands except by the Spirit of God" (v 11).

- the Spirit of God is Truth
- the Spirit of God is His power
- the Spirit of God is what leads us

Now, we'll see that in a little bit here. So, just hang on. Don't get mad at me. Just relax and think about:

Have I really understood God?

or

- Have I been misled?
 - ✓ if you've been misled, that means you've been lied to
 - if you've been lied to and you believe it, *you believe lies*

You don't believe God, but you think you do!

Verse 12: "Now, we have not received the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that *is* of God, <u>so</u> <u>that we might know</u> the things graciously given to us by God." We might know! God wants you to know!

- Do you want to know the Truth of God?
- Are you willing to give up the things that you may treasure so greatly?
 - or think that you have salvation?
 - or think that you have been born again?
 - or think that you're right with God?
 - or think that Sunday and holiday keeping is okay with God?

When God says those are pagan days to Satan the devil!

Maybe you've never heard it put that way, but that's what it is!

Verse 13: "Which things we also speak, not in words **taught by human wisdom**..."

> Do you understand that?

The smartest people in the world do not understand the Truth of God! They may have good philosophy according to the world and be well thought of according to the world as intelligent, but unless they actually keep the Word of God...

As Jesus said where we first started, man shall not live by bread alone, but by every Word of God!

"...not in words taught by human wisdom, but in *words* taught by *the* Holy Spirit *in order to* communicate spiritual things by spiritual *means*" (v 13).

That's what we're going to do, and spiritual means by the Word of God. *No other way!*

We're going to answer the question: What is God's answer for all of those who died and never heard anything about Jesus Christ, because He didn't come until roughly 2000 years ago? So, that means down through the history of man, nobody knew about Jesus Christ!

Has God written them all off?

or

- Does He have a plan to also offer them salvation, even though at the present time they're dead?
 - no *philosophy* can answer that
 - no **religion** can answer that
 - Only the Word of God!

Here's why:

Verse 14: "But *the* natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand *them* because they are spiritually discerned."

- Are you ready to set aside all your thoughts about Christianity and listen to the Word of God?
- Are you willing to listen to the inspired words of Christ as recorded in the book of John?
- > Are you?
- Are you willing to admit where you are wrong and understand the Truth?

Because you can't understand the Truth of the Bible until you understand that the way of man can't understand it on his own. *You need the Spirit of God!* That's what Jesus is talking about here in John 14.

So, we're going to look at some Scriptures now that Jesus gives so that we can understand spiritually what God is doing. So let's read it. And as we do, I want you to ask yourself the question

➤ Do you do this?

John 14—Jesus said, a first person, quote recorded by John, the one whom Jesus loved.

- ➤ Do you think John would write anything that wasn't truth?
- ➤ Do you think he would put down anything that God did not inspire him to put down? Of course not! Here's what Jesus said:

John 14:15: "<u>If</u> you love Me..."

All right, that clause right there if means the choice is up to each one of us! How are we to love God? Jesus explained that, that this is the love of God—the greatest commandment—that we love Him with all our heart, with all our mind, with all our strength, with all of our being! This is the first and greatest commandment.

> Do you do that?

That's what this four word phrase means!

➤ Do you love me?

Furthermore, Jesus came to reveal the Father!

➤ Do you love God the Father with all your heart, with all your mind, with all your soul, with all your being?

Because <u>IF</u> you don't, what you have been told about the love of God, that it's unconditional is completely wrong!

What is the first word in this four letter phrase? *IF!* You have to make a choice!

John 14:15: "<u>If</u> you love Me, <u>keep the</u> <u>commandments</u>—namely, My commandments. And I will ask the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that it may be with you throughout the age"

Another thing you're going to learn, there's no such thing as the 'trinity.' Now. that's going to make a lot of people mad, but it's the power of God.

You need our book that we're sending out, *The Holy Spirit, The Power of God*, a Scriptural perspective, not what men think.

So, I'll give you a little challenge right here. Read the first two or three verses in every Epistle of the Apostle Paul and you ask the question and see if you can answer it:

- Can you find any reference to the Holy Spirit as being a separate God being in a trinity? The answer is <u>no</u>!
- How did we get to trinity in what is called Christianity today? Because <u>men</u> brought in lies, and they want to have a trinity!

Little do most people today ever understand is that that goes back to paganism!

"...that it may be with you throughout the age: *Even* the Spirit of the Truth..." (vs 16-17).

Will the Holy Spirit inspire something not true? No! It's impossible because it's the power of God coming from God and God cannot lie!

Verse 17: "Even the Spirit of the Truth, which the world cannot receive because it perceives it not, nor knows it, but you know it because it dwells with you, and shall be within you.

Now then, that's another whole study! But you see what is happening, which is this: When you go by the Scriptures, that tells you the truth, which cuts across all of the presumptions and lies and false doctrines of men.

Now notice again what Jesus said; first person to the apostles:

Verse 21: "The one who has My commandments..."

- <u>IF</u> you believe the commandments are done away, you don't have the commandments.
- <u>IF</u> you believe the Sabbath was for the Jews only, you believe the biggest lie possible

The Jews are happy to have you believe that, because they know that what you do is following paganism. But the problem is they don't know what they're doing because those who are Jews reject the true Jesus Christ and are without Christ.

Verse 21: "The one who has My commandments and is keeping them, that is the one who loves Me, and the one who loves Me shall be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will manifest Myself to him."

How's God going to do that? <u>IF</u> you're truly seeking for God, you'll find Him. And you will begin to understand the Word of God, and <u>THEN</u> Christ will send the Holy Spirit of God to be with you so you can come to understanding and repentance so that you can be baptized and receive the Holy Spirit of God.

You can't receive the Holy Spirit of God unless you're baptized, and you cannot receive the Holy Spirit unless you are keeping the commandments of God! That's how you love God!

Verse 22: "Judas (not Iscariot)..." wanted to know, 'Lord, how are you going to do that?' So, Jesus answered it. Now listen carefully, these next two verses are some of the most important in the Bible:

- for understanding Jesus
- for understanding the Father
- for understanding what you need to do

• for understanding how you can have your mind opened to understand the Truth

<u>or</u>

 how you can have your mind closed so you won't understand it.

Verse 23: "Jesus answered and said to him, 'If anyone loves Me..." *Think about that!*

So you ask the question yourself:

- Do you really love God with all your heart, with all your mind, with all your soul, with all your being?
- Huh?
- Really?

"...he will keep My Word..." (v 23). That means his whole message!

Stop and think about this: Who was Jesus? *Jesus was God manifested in the flesh!* That's what John wrote in the very first verses of the Gospel of John.

John 1:1: "<u>In the beginning was the Word,</u> and the Word was with the God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. <u>All things came into being through Him</u>, and not even one *thing* that was created came into being without Him" (vs 1-3).

- ➤ Do you believe that?
- Do you really want to understand the Word of God?
- ➤ Do you really want to understand the mystery that we're going to show you today, that reveals what is God going to do with all of the dead?

John 14:23: "Jesus answered and said to him, '<u>If anyone loves Me, he will keep My Word; and My Father</u>..."

- ➤ Do you want the love of God the Father?
- What does it say you need to do? Keep the Word of Jesus Christ.

That means Old Testament, New Testament!

"...and My Father..." (v 23)—the Great Sovereign of the universe.

Think about that! Think about how important true Christianity really is! <u>Because it connects you with God's Spirit to God the Father!</u>
Now think about that!

"...My Father will love him, and <u>We</u>... [Christ and the Father] ...will come to Him and make Our abode with Him" (v 23). That means that you will have the Spirit of God from the Father, which is the Spirit of salvation and sonship, combined with the Spirit of Christ, because there are two parts to the Holy Spirit, which will give you the mind of Christ! (Philip. 2:5).

Verse 24: "The one who <u>does not</u> love Me <u>does not keep My words</u>, and the Word that you hear is not Mine, but the Father's, Who sent Me."

- ➤ Do you believe that?
- ➤ Do you understand that?

Let's take a break and we will come back and then we will begin to answer the question, the great mystery of God revealed concerning the dead. What is God going to do?

(break@ 39:00)

Now let's continue on with *a great mystery of God revealed*, and let's come to the book of Revelation.

The book of Revelation is the last book in the Bible, and it's one of the most difficult to understand *unless you're doing the things that we have covered already first*; that:

- you're loving God
- you're keeping His commandments
- you're living by every Word of God

He's not going to give you understanding if you don't, but if you do, and if right now you're hearing this for the first time, set aside everything that you have been taught or think that you have been taught or that you supposed in your own mind.

Jesus wants us to know this; Revelation 1:11, where Jesus said, "<u>I am Alpha and</u> Omega...."

That's the first letter of the Greek alphabet and the last letter of the Greek alphabet. The New Testament was preserved in Greek, not in Aramaic and not in Hebrew. The Old Testament was preserved in Hebrew.

"...the First and the Last..." He was before the first and brought the first, and He's going to bring the last!

Same way with the Word of God. Here's what He told John.

"...and what you see, write in a book, and send it to the churches..." (v 11)—the seven churches!

Now let's come forward all the way to Rev. 20—this talks about *the return of Christ and the*

<u>resurrection</u> of the saints! <u>No one has gone to heaven!</u> Those who have died in Christ will be raised from the dead; that's what God shows.

The spirit of man that is now with God, waiting to be put into a spirit mind and spirit body is called the spirit of the just perfected (Heb. 12). It's going to be by the resurrection.

Now then, we're going to learn something very important here and very startling indeed if you've never understood it and never read it.

The first thing that's going to happen when Christ and the saints return to the earth from what the Bible shows is a great Sea of Glass. It is going to be in the atmosphere above the earth and all of the saints will be raised and come to that Sea of Glass.

You need to go online—truthofgod.org—and download the messages that we bring concerning Pentecost. because the day of Pentecost pictures the first resurrection and it occurs on the Day of Pentecost because all of those in the first resurrection, we will see, are the firstfruits of God.

Revelation 20:1—first of all concerning Satan the devil: Then I saw an angel descending from heaven, having the key of the abyss, and a great chain in his hand. And he took hold of the dragon, the ancient serpent, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years" (vs 1-2).

➤ Have you heard of the Millennium?

Satan is going to be bound. He will not be on the earth tempting and seducing people any longer for a thousand years.

Verse 3: "Then he cast him into the abyss, and locked him *up*, and sealed *the abyss* over him, so that he would not deceive the nations any longer until the thousand years were fulfilled..." We'll talk about that a little later!

"...and after that it is ordained that he be loosed for a short time" (v 3)—or season!

Verse 4—the saints will be resurrected; everyone from Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, all the patriarchs, all of those in the Old Testament *who qualified*, all will be raised along with all the saints from the Churches. Let's read it here and pay special attention to it.

Verse 4: "And I saw thrones; and they that sat upon them, and judgment was given to them; and *I saw* the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus, and for the Word of God, and those who did not worship the beast or his image, and did not receive the mark in their foreheads or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a

thousand years."

Now then, we're living in the last times and this *mark of the beast* is close at hand. *So, now's the time*:

- to pay attention to the Word of God
- to make your life right with God

But notice this; pay careful attention to these words:

Verse 5: "But <u>the rest of the dead</u> did not live again until the thousand years were completed." *That's another resurrection!*

If you live again, isn't that a resurrection? We will see that even in the Old Testament this was prophesied to be. This begins to unlock the mystery:

- What is God going to do with all the people that died?
- What about those who never committed the unpardonable sin?

The unpardonable sin is to give yourself wholly over to Satan the devil and his way. and refuse to believe God and refuse and reject the Spirit of God. We'll talk about those a little bit later. But it says:

"...the <u>rest</u> of the dead did not live again..." (v 5).

- this shows they lived one life
- this shows they're going to have another life

Let's put this together now!

"...<u>until the thousand years were completed</u>" (v 5).

Now then, for those who are raised and come to rule and reign as kings and priests, that's the first resurrection, which is what John says here in:

Verse 5: "...This is the first resurrection." *Those that John saw receiving judgment!*

Verse 6: "Blessed and Holy is the one who has part in the first resurrection..." What does that tell us?

If there was only one resurrection, He would say <u>the</u> resurrection. But this tells us there's more than just one resurrection. Why? <u>Because it says</u> "...<u>the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years are completed...."</u>

So here it is concerning the first resurrection:

Verse 6: "Blessed and Holy is the one who has part in the first resurrection..." Why?

They're called "Blessed and Holy..." Why? Because they now are spirit beings with a spirit

mind and they are the sons and daughters of God as it shows us in:

1-Corinthians 6:20: "For you were bought with a price. Therefore, glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."

Spirit beings, because you go clear back to Gen, 1, and it says, 'God made them male and female in His image and after His likeness. That is carried right on down through time. No one can change that!

Revelation 20:6: "...over these <u>the second</u> <u>death</u> has no power...."

What is the second death? We'll talk about it here in a little bit; *the second death means you have to live twice!* Is that not true?

How can you have a second death unless you've already died once and come back to life and then have a second death?

"...But they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years" (v 6).

The First Resurrection

Now then, let's talk about the resurrection, the *first* resurrection, and then we will talk about what we can call the *second* resurrection, *which* takes place at the end of the thousand years!

We will see that will include <u>all</u> who never had an opportunity for salvation. **That is the great mystery revealed!** So we'll see that. Hang on; we've got a lot to learn.

After Satan is loose and there's a final battle, and all of those who were in that battle were instantaneously executed by fire coming down from heaven from God. After that, this is at the end of the Millennium.

Verse 11: "Then I saw a Great White Throne and the One Who was sitting on it, from Whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and no place was found for them. **And I saw the dead**..." (vs 11-12)—the rest of the dead!

Isn't that what John said? up here in v 5?

Verse 5: "But the rest of the dead did not live again $\underline{\text{until}}$ the thousand years were completed...."

Verse 12: And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God..."

That means they were resurrected! They are living. <u>All</u> that have lived and died, that never had a chance for salvation!

"...and *the* books were opened; and another book was opened, which is *the Book of Life*...." (v 12). *Now the Book of Life is open for them!*

As we're going to see, they will live another life in the <u>flesh</u> for their <u>first</u> opportunity for salvation!

Maybe you've never heard of that, so hang on! The Truth of God reveals the Truth of what God is doing! The traditions of men and the philosophies of men and the lies of religion can never teach you the Truth!

"...And the dead were judged out of the things written in the books, according to their works" (v 12).

Now they have a new life, they have A NEW start all over again. Now they have a chance for salvation, the first chance!

This is not a second chance; don't confuse that with a second chance. This is a first chance; but since they weren't given the chance in their first life, *God is giving them a chance in a second life!*

- God is Love
- God is Truth
- God doesn't want any to perish

Any that perish will be those who choose to reject God!

Let's come back here to 1-Cor, 15 and see what Paul writes about *the first resurrection* and then this will apply to those who will be in *the second resurrection*. They will be physical again as we will see, *but they will have an opportunity for salvation*, *which they never had!*

1 Cor. 15:20—Christ was the Firstborn from the dead! Right? Yes!

Sidebar: To be born again does not mean to have an emotional experience. It means to literally be born from flesh—from death—to spirit! That's what we just read in Rev. 20.

1-Corinthians 15:20: "But now Christ has been raised from *the* dead; He has become the Firstfruit of those who have fallen asleep. For since by man *came* death, by Man... [that is Christ] ...also *came the* resurrection of *the* dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive" (vs 20-22).

- How is God going to accomplish that?
- Don't we all die in Adam?
- Doesn't that go clear back to what God said to Adam and Eve after they sinned?

God said to Adam, 'Dust you are and unto dust you shall return.

Does not everyone face death? Yes! It doesn't matter from conception or to old age, death is the death of the physical body!

Verse 23: "<u>But each in his own order</u>: Christ *the* Firstfruit; then those who are Christ's at His coming.... [that's the *first resurrection*] ... Afterward the end *comes*..." (vs 23-24).

Now we'll have to put some other Scriptures in there to fill out *the rest of the dead*.

Verse 45: *Paul writes*: "Accordingly, it is written, 'The first man, Adam, became a living soul..."

That's exactly it; that means a *living being*. But 'the soul that sins dies.

- Did Adam sin? Yes!
- Did he die? Yes!

"...the last Adam *became* an ever-living Spirit.' However, the spiritual *was* not first, but the natural—then the spiritual. The first man *is* of the earth—made of dust. The second Man *is* the Lord from heaven. As *is* the one made of dust, so also *are all* those who are made of dust... [every human being] ... and as *is* the heavenly *One*, so also *are all* those who are heavenly" (vs 45-48). *Those in the first resurrection!*

Remember, the first resurrection, they will all be the sons and daughters of God the Father, resurrected to be eternal beings to start ruling the world with Christ for a thousand years! That's what we just read!

Paul writes, v 49: "And as we have borne the image of the *one* made of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly *One*. Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit *the* Kingdom of God, nor does corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I show you a mystery..." (vs 49-51).

The mystery revealed, and we're going to show you the mystery of the second resurrection revealed!

This is going to be startling! God is going to take care of it. God is going to make sure that it will happen, because God has the power through Jesus Christ to resurrect every human being that has ever been!

That's why it says in Rev. 20 that there was no room standing before the Great White Throne! Why? Because that represents all of those who died without the true knowledge of God!

All of those who lived out their lives under Satan the devil but did not commit the unpardonable sin; *they will be raised to a second physical life*, which we will see in just a bit.

Verse 51 *concerning the first resurrection*: "Behold, I show you a mystery: we shall not all fall asleep, but we shall all be changed, in an instant, in *the* twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for *the* trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed" (vs 51-52). *This is the first resurrection!*

The Second Resurrection

Let's begin to focus in on *the second* resurrection, which Rev. 20 tells us.

Why do you need the Old Testament? Ezek. 37 talks about Israel, and Israel is a type of all the other nations. First to the Israelites and then to the rest of the nations, because under Christ for the first resurrection they're from all nations!

Under Christ and all the saints, in the second resurrection they're of all nations of all ages, but it's depicted by Israel first!

Remember this, another great Truth that you will not find in Protestantism and Catholicism: Israel really consisted of 12 tribes and they were never lost!

If you don't believe that, then get our book: America and Britain—Two Nations That Changed the Word—Their Biblical Origin and Their Prophetic Destiny.

This will surprise you to understand that the 12 tribes of Israel never died out, *nor were they absorbed into the tribe of Judah*, *the Jews!*

It's talking about a great number of people down through history.

- Didn't the children of Israel go astray?
- Didn't they worship other gods?
- Were they ever given an opportunity for *spiritual salvation*, to live as a spirit being in the Kingdom of God? *No!*
- Why? Because God shows that there is that second physical life!

John 7—this is when Jesus was there at the Feast of Tabernacles and The Last Great Day. Here is a prophecy of Jesus concerning The Last Great Day, which is the day that we are observing today.

This is quite a thing for us to understand, because God is providing a way through this Last Great Day and prophesied by Jesus right here that it

opens salvation to everyone who had not received the opportunity for salvation.

John 7:37: "Now, in the last day... [that's this day] ... the great day of the Feast, Jesus stood and called out, saying, 'If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink."

That applies to anyone! This is why there's that second resurrection. *So all of those who never had a chance for salvation,* as we will see in Ezek. 37 in just a bit, *will be given salvation!*

Now that's an amazing thing! That's an amazing thing that God is going to do. *This is a great mystery of God revealed in His Word and prophesied up by Jesus here in John 7!*

Verse 38: "The one who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.' But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, which those who believed in Him would soon receive; for *the* Holy Spirit was not yet *given* because Jesus was not yet glorified" (vs 38-39).

Jesus is showing by the Scripture that the Holy Spirit will be made available to those who never committed the unpardonable sin!

Ezek. 37 becomes important to understand, and follow through on this:

Ezekiel 37:1: "The hand of the LORD was on me, and brought me by the Spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the midst of a valley, and it *was* full of bones."

Now, if there are bones, that means they lived once. There are a lot of archaeological digs that they're doing now and they find bones.

They can tell by analyzing, was it a man or was it a woman. They can pretty well guess what the age was. But notice what Ezekiel was told to do, and this was a mystery to him until God explained it to him.

Verse 2: "And He made me walk among them all around. And behold, very many *were* in the open valley. And lo, *they were* very dry. And He said to me, 'Son of man, can these bones live?' And I answered, 'O Lord GOD, You know.'" (vs 2-3).

Ezekiel didn't know! Can the bones live again? *No!* But the *Spirit of God is going to be given and put into a new body!* We will see that right here.

Verse 4: "Again He said to me, 'Prophesy to these bones, and say to them, "O dry bones, hear the Word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones, 'Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live" (vs 4-5).

Physical life again! They lived once, now they're going to live again in the flesh. Let's see it.

Verse 6: "And I will lay sinews on you, and will bring up flesh on you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live...."

For what purpose? "... And you shall know that I am the LORD" (v 6). They didn't know that in their first life!

Verse 7: "So, I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a noise. And behold, a shaking! And the bones came together, a bone to its bone. And as I watched, behold the sinews and the flesh came upon them, and the skin covered them above. But *there was* no breath in them" (vs 7-8).

So again, God is showing this is a physical life to fulfill the prophecy of Jesus, that if anyone comes to Him, they can find salvation. So, they will have that opportunity.

It shows there in Isa. 65 that when they're resurrected and brought back to life, they will live about *a hundred years*.

Then they will have an opportunity to receive eternal salvation and become spirit beings like all those in the first resurrection and all of those who received salvation during the Millennium.

- this is a great thing
- this is a great mystery
- this is the most profound thing in the world to understand what God is going to do

Verse 9: "And He said to me, 'Prophesy to the wind, prophesy, son of man, and say to the wind, "Thus says the Lord GOD, 'Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain that they may live.""

Verse 10: "So, I prophesied as He commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army."

Isn't that what we read about there at The Great White Throne? Yes! The rest of the dead! This is it right here to a second physical life for a first opportunity for salvation! That is the great mystery that the religions of the world do not understand because they don't believe God!

Verse 11: And He said to me, 'Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel...."—all the way down through time!

From the time that they became the children of God through Abraham, Isaac and Jacob down through all the centuries! They never were lost. We are the greatest collection of the children of Israel today right here in America and the Northwestern countries of Europe!

They are the so-called 'lost 10 tribes,' the end-time descendants. What about all of those down through all time?

- "...Behold, they say..." (v 11). Now they have consciousness! Now they knew they knew that they died.
- "...Behold they say 'Our bones *are* dried and our hope is lost; we ourselves are completely cut off" (v 11). *That's what happened to them!*

Verse 12: "Therefore, prophesy and say to them, "Thus says the Lord GOD... [now listen very carefully to what God says]: ... 'Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up out of your graves, and will bring you into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD..." (vs 12-13). They didn't before, now they will know!

"...when I have opened your graves, O My people, and have brought you up out of your graves. And I shall put My Spirit in you..." (vs 13-14). *That's conversion!*

There's their opportunity for salvation! All of those who didn't know, who didn't serve God, but they hadn't committed the unpardonable sin.

Verse 14: "And I shall put My Spirit in you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. And you shall know that I the LORD have spoken it and have done it."

Ezek. 36 talks about the same thing over here. Here's what they're going to do. Here's how conversion is going to come to them.

Ezekiel 36:31: "And you shall remember your own evil ways, and your doings that were not good, and shall loathe yourselves... [repentance] ... in your own sight for your iniquities and for your abominations. I do not do this for your sake,' says the Lord GOD, 'be it known to you. Be ashamed and confounded for your ways, O house of Israel.' Thus says the Lord GOD, 'In the day that I cleanse you from all your iniquities, I will also cause you to dwell in the cities, and the waste places shall be rebuilt'" (vs 31-33).

That's what's going to happen! They will have 100 years for a chance for salvation. How do we know this is going to be for other nations, as

well? God wants all nations, but He always starts with Israel.

Matt. 12—here we find that it comes to all nations. Those who were never called in their lifetime, those who never committed the unpardonable sin. They will be raised to a second physical life for their first opportunity for salvation. That probably includes *all of the murdered babies that were aborted!* Were they not, from conception, what they were to be?

How far will God go? Well it's going to be such a magnificent thing that it is mind boggling for us to contemplate how great it will be. But notice what Jesus said here:

Matthew 12:30: "The one who is not with Me is against Me, and the one who does not gather with Me scatters. Because of this, I say to you, every sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven to men except the blasphemy against the *Holy* Spirit..." (vs 30-31).

That's the complete rejection of the Holy Spirit and God the Father! That is the unpardonable sin!

"...that shall not be forgiven to men. And whoever speaks a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this age nor in the coming age" (vs 31-32).

We just read about that after the thousand years, that extra 100 years!

Verse 33: "Either make the tree good and the fruit good, or make the tree corrupt and its fruit corrupt; for a tree is known by its fruit."

Now then here's what He says; they wanted to know a sign. 'Give us a sign!' So, Jesus said that 'there won't be a sign given to it except the sign of Jonah.'

Verse 40. "For just as Jonah was in the belly of the whale three days and three nights, in like manner the Son of man shall be in the heart of the earth three days and three nights. *The* men of Nineveh... [the Assyrians] ...shall stand up in the judgment with this generation..." (vs 40-41).—with, together.

That's The Great White Throne Judgment where the *Book of Life* is open so they have an opportunity for salvation.

"...and shall condemn it, because they repented at the proclamation of Jonah; and behold, a greater than Jonah *is* here. *The* queen of *the* south shall rise up in the judgment with this generation..." (vs 41-42).

Time span greatly separated. It shows together; this shows all human beings who have lived and died and not had an opportunity for salvation will be raised and given that opportunity for salvation to enter into the Kingdom of God.

That's what the Word of God shows. This great revelation of God, *the mystery of God* that the world does not understand.

But notice what God says; v 42: "The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with this generation and shall condemn it, because she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and behold, a greater than Solomon is here." So, that's what's going to happen!

Revelation 20:11: "Then I saw a Great White Throne and the One Who was sitting on it, from Whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and no place was found for them. And I saw the dead, small and great..." (vs 11-12)—of every nation, every language, down through every time span of the history of mankind!

God is going to do a greater work than men cannot even comprehend.

Even though we read these words, we can understand them to a certain extent. But: What is the fulfillment of that going to be like?

- to undo every evil
- to forgive every sin, *except* the unpardonable sin
- to receive salvation

There it is. They were resurrected from every place in the earth and out of the sea.

Verse 12: "And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God; and *the* books were opened; and another book was opened, which is *the Book of Life*. And the dead were judged out of the things written in the books, according to their works."

- a new life
- a new beginning
- no sins remembered
- they repent of what they did in their first life
- they receive the Holy Spirit of God

Then they enter into the Kingdom of God!

Afterward we find in Isa. 65, a hundred years, all changed. The Family of God, the whole thing concerning God is expanded greatly with what God is doing. So this is *the mystery of God revealed*:

• by His Word

• by His Truth

Can't be understood by just thinking about it as human beings!

After that will come a new heaven and a new earth. This is where it will be.

Revelation 21:1—John writes this: "Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth..."

All spiritual for all who enter into the Kingdom of God. *Magnificent!*

"...for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away, and there was no more sea" (v 1).

Peter writes that everything is going to be melted, all the elements and there will be no need for the sea because we will be all spirit beings.

Verse 2: "And I, John, saw the Holy City, the New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband."

Now notice what happens next. God the Father Himself comes down!

Verse 3: "And I heard a great voice from heaven say, 'Behold, the Tabernacle of God... [which is New Jerusalem] ...is with men..."—men and women made perfect through the power of the resurrection and transformation by the Holy Spirit of God!

"...and He shall dwell with them, and they shall be His people; and God Himself shall be with them *and be* their God" (v 3).

That's how God is going to save the world through Jesus Christ. That's how it's going to be. This is the great mystery of God revealed!

God is going to undo every work of the devil, and undo every work of man and give salvation to everyone who is willing to repent and come to the knowledge of the Truth and be converted!

That is the mystery revealed!

Now let's continue on because there's still more that's coming. It's going to be fantastic and we'll see it the rest of Rev.21 & 22.

Verse 4: "And God shall wipe away every tear from their eyes; and *there* shall not be anymore death, or sorrow, or crying; neither shall *there* be any more pain, because the former things have passed away.' And He Who sits on the Throne said, 'Behold, I make all things new.'...." (vs 4-5).

New Jerusalem, everything, all of God's Plan, and now the whole Family of God is going to participate in it in a great and a marvelous way. And who knows what the Plan of God is going to be? *That is yet in the future!*

"...Then He said to me, 'Write, for these words are true and faithful.' And He said to me, 'It is done.... [I've finished the plan] ...I am Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the one who thirsts, I will give freely of the fountain of the Water of Life. The one who overcomes shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be My son" (vs 5-7).

That's amazing! Quite an amazing thing! Then He shows New Jerusalem coming down out of heaven, a great and beautiful, almost incomprehensible for its size and its beauty and its wonder.

So, we see this here in the rest of Rev. 21. And it lists it all. It describes it in great detail:

- about the gates
- about the wall
- about the length of the city
- about the height of the city
- about all of the precious stones
- about the twelve precious stones with the apostles' names
- about the twelve tribes of Israel's name
- about
- the twelve gates to come into this city

Verse 22: "And I saw no temple in it; for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the Temple of it. And the city has no need of the sun, or of the moon..." (vs 22-23).

It doesn't mean they aren't there, because they will be there, but it just means that they have no need, because God is here.

"...that they should shine in it; because the glory of God enlightens it, and the Light of it *is* the Lamb. And the nations that are saved..." (vs 23-24).

We just covered that. All the nations, down through all time!

Verse 24: "And the nations that are saved shall walk in its Light; and the kings of the earth... [that's all of us, we'll be kings and priests forever] ...shall bring their glory and honor into it. And its gates shall never be shut by day; for there shall be no night there. And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it" (vs 24-26).

So whatever that means, we don't know exactly how that's going to be, but it's going to be spiritual, indeed! What a thing this is going to be!

Verse 27: "And nothing..."

- no more sin
- no more defiling
- no more Satan the devil
- no more corruption

Verse 27: "And nothing that defiles shall ever enter into it, nor shall *anyone* who practices *an* abomination or *devises* a lie; but *only* those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life."

Now then, we have in Rev. 22 a close insight. What is it going to be like to be there? *Then we will be able to see God the Father face-to-face!*

Think about that! That also is a great mystery of God!

Revelation 22:1: "Then he showed me a pure river of *the* Water of Life, clear as crystal, flowing out from the Throne of God and of the Lamb." *Coming right out from God!*

- eternal power
- eternal life
- eternal cleanness
- eternal righteousness

Verse 2: "And in the middle of the street, and on this side and that side of the river, was the Tree of Life, producing twelve manner of fruits, each month yielding its fruit; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations."

That means whatever it is to keep us all yielding to God and having no sin!

Verse 3: "And there shall be no more curse; and the Throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and His servants shall serve Him, and they shall see His face; and His name *is* in their foreheads. And there shall be no night there; for they have no need of a lamp or *the* light of *the* sun, because *the* Lord God enlightens them; and they shall reign into the ages of eternity" (vs 3-4).

- What is that going to be like?
- What is eternity going to be like?

If you see some of these pictures of the universe and the stars and the heavens and what they are now, either with a Hubble telescope or with a James Webb telescope, that helps you understand that God's Plan is:

so great

- so mighty
- so powerful
- so loving
- so marvelous indeed

that all we can do is say, 'Yes, Lord,' and:

- bow down and worship Him
- serve Him
- love Him

through all eternity!

Verse 6: "And he said to me, 'These words are faithful and true; and the Lord God of the Holy prophets sent His angel to show His servants the things that must **shortly come to pass**"—that is on God's time!

Verse 7: "Behold, I am coming quickly. Blessed *is* the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book"—and that means *the whole Bible!*

Verse 8: "Now I, John, was the one who saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who was showing me these things. But he said to me, 'See that you do not do this!...." (vs 8-9).

No angel worship, we worship God; that's what the angel said!

""...For I am a fellow servant of yours, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God.' And he said to me, 'Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book because the time is near" (vs 9-10).

In other words, when the time to understand these words as we have now, that means the end is near. Christ is coming, and we will be in the Kingdom of God.

Verse 11: "Let the one who is unrighteous be unrighteous still; and let the one who is filthy be filthy still; and let the one who is righteous be righteous still; and let the one who is Holy be Holy still.

Aren't we called 'blessed and Holy are those who have part in the first resurrection'? Yes, indeed!

Verse 12: "And behold, I am coming quickly; and My reward is with Me, to render to each one according as his work shall be." *Those are all the good works of*:

- love
- obedience
- faithfulness
- commandment keeping

complete yieldedness and conversion to God

Verse 13: "I am Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last. Blessed... [listen] ...are those who keep His commandments, that they may have the right to eat of the Tree of Life, and may enter by the gates into the city." (vs 13-14)—that's the blessing!

Now, He gives another warning so that we understand that while we're still in the flesh:

- we better not backslide
- we better not give up on God
- we better draw close to Him in prayer, study and yieldedness to Him

to have our heart and mind completely converted with His Spirit and love written in our heart and in our mind with His commandments and laws!.

Verse 15: "But excluded are dogs, and sorcerers, and fornicators, and murderers, and idolaters, and everyone who loves and devises a lie."

No more lie, because God cannot, *it's impossible* for God to lie. And it will be impossible for us to lie. Now, think about that!

So notice the closing:

Verse 16: "I, Jesus, sent My angel to testify these things to you in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, the bright and morning star.' And the Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come.'..." (vs 16-17).

That's what we'll do all during the Millennium and all during The Great White Throne Judgment.

"...'Come.' And let the one who hears say, 'Come.' And let the one who thirsts come; and let the one who desires partake of the water of life freely. For I jointly testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book.... [that means the whole Bible] ...that if anyone adds to these things, God shall add to him the plagues that are written in this book" (vs 17-18).

Verse 19: "And <u>if anyone takes away</u> from the words of *the* book of this prophecy, God shall <u>take away his part from the Book of Life</u>, and from the Holy City, and from the things that are written in this book."

That's why we need to always hold on to the words of God. Now, notice the final closing. Here's John, he's seen all of these things. he's completely overwhelmed with it, just beyond able to describe it! So he says:

Verse 20: "He Who testifies these things says, 'Surely, I am coming quickly.' Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ <u>be</u> with you all. Amen" (vs 20-21).

So that is the great mystery of God revealed!

Thank you for coming to the Feast. And when you go back home, <u>keep all these words close</u> in your heart and in your mind!

NOTE: Sheet music for the ending hymn can be found on page 76 of the Hymnal or at the following website:

The Almighty God https://www.cbcg.org/Sheet_Music/76.pdf

Scriptural References:

- 1) Leviticus 23:34-36
- 2) 2 Timothy 1:9
- 3) Titus 1:1-3
- 4) 1 Corinthians 2:7-14
- 5) John 14:15-17, 21-23
- 6) John 1:1-3
- 7) John 14:23
- 8) Revelation 1:11
- 9) Revelation 20:1-6
- 10) 1 Corinthians 6:20
- 11) Revelation 20:6, 11-12, 5, 12
- 12) 1 Corinthians 15:20-24, 45-52
- 13) John 7:37-39
- 14) Ezekiel 37:1-14
- 15) Ezekiel 36:31-33
- 16) Matthew 12:30-33, 40
- 17) Revelation 20:11-12
- 18) Revelation 21:1-7, 22-27
- 19) Revelation 22:1-21

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Numbers 28; 29
- Daniel 12
- Philippians 2:5
- Hebrews 12
- Genesis 1
- Isaiah 65

Also referenced: Books {truthofGod.org}

- Occult Holidays or God's Holy Days— Which? by Fred R. Coulter
- The Holy Spirit, The Power of God by Fred R. Coulter
- America and Britain—Two Nations That Changed the Word by Philip Neal

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