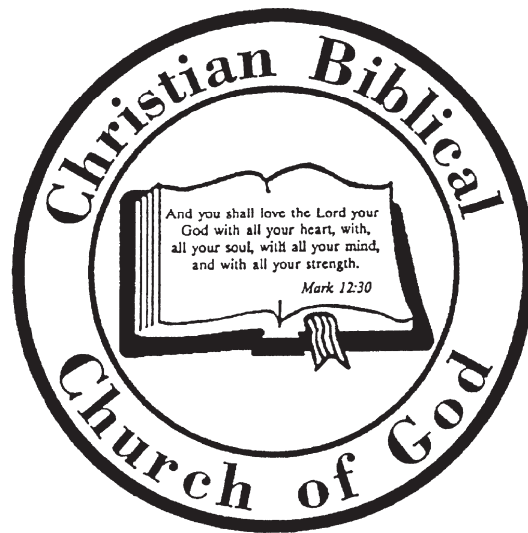


Fall Feasts 2018



Transcript Book

By Fred R. Coulter

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Fred R. Coulter
Christian Biblical Church of God
P. O. Box 1442
Hollister, California 95024-1442

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Feast of Trumpets The Day of the Lord Culminating with The Battle of Armageddon

Before the Day of the LORD'S anger comes upon you, seek the LORD

Fred R. Coulter—September 10, 2018

Greetings, brethren! Welcome to the Feast of Trumpets! Time, as we say, marches on. The plan of God is right on schedule, right on time. It may not be right on schedule and right on time as some people count events. This is why we need to understand very clearly that there will be more time.

- we don't know what's going to happen in the world
- we don't know how this new agreement that has been signed back in June with North Korea is going to turn out
- we don't know what's going to happen with Iran

We do know one important thing: *things in the Middle East will probably settle down to just normal slaughter, rather than all out war.* There are a lot of things that have to take place.

This is the war-Feast of God, the Feast of Trumpets. We will see that Lev. 23 doesn't tell us very much about *the meaning* of the day, except that the trumpets are to be blown.

Leviticus 23:23: "And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 'Speak to the children of Israel saying, "In the seventh month, in the first *day* of the month, you shall have a Sabbath..."'" (vs 23-24).

Please note that every single Holy Day is called a Sabbath. When it is the weekly Sabbath, in almost all cases it is the Sabbath. Hebrew:

- 'ha Shabbat' for the Sabbath
- 'Shabbat' for *Sabbath*.

Nevertheless, it is a Holy Day to God!

"...a memorial of blowing of ram's horns... [ram's horns were always used to sound the warning of war] ...a Holy convocation" (v 24). They also blew the silver trumpets as well.

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 have sacrifices with animals, *but we have sacrifices from our substance of what we earn and what we make!* It all has to do with the return of our labor or the return of our

money in the case of investments. We find that God believes in investing and properly multiplying the funds (Matt. 25; Luke 19).

Also, God shows that the reason for giving is to help preach the Gospel and help serve the brethren. That's what it's for. *It's not to make the minister wealthy! It's not to make him high and mighty!* It's so the money can be used to:

- serve the Church
- serve the brethren
- preach the Gospel
- advertise the Word of God

This is what we do. I just take wage; Paul said he took a wage. It's the same thing.

We're told that those who preach the Gospel will live of the Gospel *as the priests did at the temple* (1-Cor. 9). Paul said *that's what the Lord instructed*, meaning that *the law of tithing was carried over* (Heb. 7).

The original law was that it went to Melchizedek. The subsequent law for Israel was God commanded it to go to the Levites. With the Church, and the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and development of the Church, there had to be a change of *the Law* concerning tithing as to who would receive the tithes and offerings.

(pause for offering)

2-Peter 3 ties right in with the Feast of Trumpets and ties right in with what is happening today:

- there is more resistance against God
- there are more atheists than ever before
- there are more false prophets

Some of them even within the Churches of God!

This is why we need to know the Word of God. We need to study and pray. *We need to keep and maintain the first and greatest commandment*, which is:

- to love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your mind, and with all your soul!

then:

- we're to love our neighbors as ourselves
- we are to love the brethren
- we are even to love our enemies

The best prayer for our enemies that we can pray for them is **'may God keep you far away.'**

2-Peter 3:1: "Now, beloved, I am writing this second epistle to you; in *both*, I am stirring up your pure minds by causing *you* to remember *in order* for you to be mindful of the words that were spoken before by the Holy prophets, and of the commandment of the Lord and Savior, *spoken* by us, the apostles" (vs 1-2).

Whatever the apostles spoke was what the Lord commanded. Does this not include the whole Bible? *Yes, indeed!*

Verse 3: "Knowing this first, that in the last days *there* will come mockers, walking according to their own personal lusts... [Haven't we seen that again and again? *Yes, indeed!*] ...and asking, **'Where is the promise of His coming?** For ever since the forefathers died, everything has remained the same as from *the* beginning of creation" (vs 3-4). *A lot of them don't believe in creation, just evolution!*

Verse 5: "But this *fact* is hidden from them—they themselves choosing *to ignore it*—that by the Word of God *the* heavens existed of old, and *the* earth came forth out of water and amid water... [Gen. 1] ...by which the world at that time, having been deluged with water, had itself been destroyed" (vs 5-6).

As it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be in the days of the coming of the Son of man! Very interesting, indeed!

We find that since the book of Revelation was not available to Peter, he understands the events at the end, minus the things that are in the book of Revelation.

Verse 7: "But the present heavens and earth are being held in store by His Word, *and* are being reserved for fire in *the* day of judgment and destruction of *the* ungodly."

That is true; *that is the second death!* But there are other things between the time Peter wrote this and the second death, revealed to John in the book of Revelation.

Verse 8: "Now, beloved, do not let this one fact be hidden from you: that with *the* Lord, one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. **The Lord is not delaying the promise of His**

coming, as some in their own minds reckon delay; rather, He is longsuffering toward us, not desiring that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (vs 8-9).

This is a very interesting verse, because it appears to be a contradiction with something else; v 10: "However, the Day of *the* Lord shall come as a thief in *the* night in which the heaven itself shall disappear with a mighty roar, and *the* elements shall pass away, burning with intense heat, and *the* earth and the works in it shall be burned up."

That is a progression of several events tied together in one verse. First of all, the Day of the Lord shall come as a thief in the night. Then the one that it says, the heaven itself shall disappear with a mighty roar: that's an indication of something that we've already looked at before. How can He come as a thief in the night, and yet, the heaven itself shall disappear with a mighty roar? Let's see what Paul wrote concerning the return of Christ:

1-Thessalonians 5:1: "Now then, concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, there is no need that I write to you; for you yourselves understand perfectly that the Day of *the* Lord will come exactly as a thief *comes* by night. For when they say, 'Peace and security,' then sudden destruction will come upon them, as travail *comes* upon a woman who is with child; and they shall by no means escape" (vs 1-3).

How can He come as a thief in the night, and yet, everybody's going to know it? That seems a little contradictory, but it's not.

We've been in Rev. 6 before, but I want you to think about this again. When there's peace and safety... Here's another thought, a speculation: we've always thought that *the beast* is going to come on the scene and he's going to magically bring peace around the world.

The reason this is speculation is because this is something to think on and look at. Think about what President Donald Trump, has done beginning with his very first trip to the Middle East with all of the Arab nations there at the great conference that they had in Saudi Arabia. They all pledged in their countries to work at reducing all of the violence of the people, especially the radical Islamists. Think of that! That has already been working and starting to take effect.

Now then, we have the situation with what the President did this summer in June concerning North Korea. What is, through the period of time that it takes to get it, that that issue is settled? What

if President Trump settles the issue with Iran? Tie that together with some other things, when it comes to Europe. The European nations are beginning to take a hard stance against the Islamists. They are closing mosques and sending some of them back to their own countries.

In order for things in the book of Revelation to take place, and Dan. 11, there has to come a revival of Europe, a revival of Catholicism, along with all of the daughters of Rome, of the pagan religions, coming home. That includes Protestants, because Protestants are just as nearly as pagan as anybody else. The only thing is they use the name of Jesus, and they use more Scriptures than the other religions.

What if what President Trump is doing is setting the stage, then the Beast Power rises in Europe and helps add to the peace. They will say *peace and security, then sudden destruction will come!* I just want you to think on that.

Dan. 11 talks about the time of the end. It's very interesting how all of these things come down, and they've all been prophesied, they've all been written about in the Scroll of Truth in heaven above.

Daniel 11:40: "And at the time of the end... [What did Jesus about the time of the end? *All these things must be in place!*] ...the King of the South shall push at him...." There will be the Muslims coming against Europe.

After all they've gone through, with what we're seeing they're going through now, they're not going to stand for it and he's going to retaliate.

"...And the King of the North shall come against him like a whirlwind with chariots and with horsemen and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries and shall overflow and sweep through. He shall also enter into the glorious land, and many countries shall be overthrown..." (vs 40-41).

We know what we have studied with the abomination of desolation that he is going to go into the Holy of Holies and declare himself God. That will start the Great Tribulation. That event will come *suddenly*, and destroy whatever peace that there is in the rest of the world. *That's the sudden destruction!*

But how is He going to come as a thief in the night? You would think that that would be quiet, surreptitious, hardly known, but that's not the case. You have to reconcile something else with it. Jesus said that He comes in the clouds and *all eyes shall see Him* (Rev. 1). How is that going to take place? We've already covered it, but let's just review it.

As we saw in Matt. 24, there is a coming *sign of the Son of man* in heaven, which will be a second sun that will be right there in the skies. After it's there, people are going to think, 'It's just an anomaly out there,' because it doesn't happen all at once. Let's see what happens when the sign of the Son of man when it appears. It's going to be like a thief in the night, *all of a sudden*. We've covered this before, so this is just a review to set the stage.

Revelation 6:12: "And when He opened the sixth seal, I looked, and behold, there was a great earthquake..." We counted five major earthquakes just in the book of Revelation.

There may be some others associated with the things going on the earth as well, but those five are the major ones that are shown. The sixth one is, as we will see when we end this sermon, when Christ and the saints come down onto the Mount of Olives and the Mount of Olives splits in two from the north to the south. And there's a great earthquake.

"...and the sun became black as *the hair of sackcloth*, and the moon became as blood; 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.... [spectacular event] ...**Then the heaven departed like a scroll** ..." (vs 12-14).

That's the entrance of Christ into the affairs on the earth. Everything up to this time, the beginning of the Great Tribulation and how that was carried out. Now then, when Christ intervenes, just before the next to the last Pentecost, and Rev. 7 with the 144,000 and great innumerable multitude are saved out of the Tribulation, this is going to take place.

Verse 14: "Then *the heaven departed* like a scroll that is being rolled up..."—***something never heard of before; never seen before!*** *Suddenly as a thief in the night!* They didn't expect it and here it is.

"...and every mountain and island was moved out of its place.... [another earthquake, so that gives us six] ...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" (vs 14-15). *Never happened before!*

The world by that time will be deceived into believing that this is probably the work of aliens. Even though right at first they say that it's Christ.

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, and who has the power to stand?’” (vs 16-17).

The 144,000 and the great innumerable multitude are saved on the next to the last Pentecost. Then we have Rev. 8-10: it unleashes furious war on the face of the earth *while the sign of the Son of man stays in heaven and they see it every day!* Doesn’t that also fulfill the prophecy that *‘every eye shall see Him’? Yes, indeed!*

Then it’s going to be fulfilled when they see Christ and the Church coming back from the Sea of Glass. That’s the end of the story. We’ll get there a little later.

Let’s see how all of these things are going to come together; Daniel 11:44—when he settled right there in Jerusalem: “But tidings out of the east ... [China, Japan, Vietnam, India, Pakistan, Iran, and all of the ‘stans’ north of the Himalaya mountains] ...and out of the north shall alarm him... [because they are going to start arming and getting ready to come after him] ...Then he will go forth with great fury to destroy and to utterly annihilate many. And he shall plant his royal tents between *the* seas in the glorious Holy mountain... [declaring Jerusalem as his headquarters] ...Yet, he shall come to his end, and none shall help him” (vs 44-45).

Isn’t that what it says in Revelation? We’ll read that a little later.

Dan. 12:1 is when the 144,000 and the great innumerable are saved. That’s two full years into the 3-1/2-year Tribulation. Once they are saved and converted, receiving the Holy Spirit of God, there’s another year to the resurrection, and there are 18-months until the saints and Christ come back to the earth.

Daniel 12:1: “And at that time Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands for the children of your people...” Michael is going to be charge of those angels that are sent to seal the 144,000 and great innumerable multitude.

“...And there shall be a time of trouble... [all of the prophecies end in this time of trouble] ...such as never was since there was a nation even until that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered—every one who shall be found written in the book” (v 1). *That’s the time of the great innumerable multitude and the 144,000!* Then it goes right on into the resurrection.

Think about this for a minute. All the prophecies in Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, the Minor Prophets, and all the prophecies in the book of Revelation all point to the same ultimate climax. Let’s see that that is verified by what God said to Isaiah, that God has a purpose, and His purpose is only known to those to whom He reveals it. ***He only reveals it to those who obey Him!*** Yes, and at the time, it’s necessary to reveal it. The things that we are doing right now, and understanding through the Sabbath and Holy Days of God, and the plan of God, was not known like we know it today.

Even Jesus told the apostles that they have been given the knowledge of the secrets of the Kingdom of God, which many prophets and wise men of old wanted to know, but didn’t know. Why? *Because it wasn’t time!* Look at what we read with Peter to begin with. He didn’t fully understand some of these things either.

Isaiah 14:21: “Prepare slaughter for his children because of the iniquity of their fathers, so that they do not rise, nor possess the land, nor fill the face of the world *with* cities.” ***Great slaughter!*** That’s what the Great Tribulation is all about. We just read that in Daniel.

Verse 22: “‘For I will rise up against them,’ says the LORD of hosts, ‘and cut off from Babylon...’” *This is Babylon the Great!* The first fulfillment was a type; the latter fulfillment is the anti-type.

“...the name and remnant, and children, and grandchildren,’ says the LORD. ‘I will also make it a possession of the hedgehog, and pools of water; and I will sweep it with the broom of destruction,’ says the LORD of hosts.” (vs 22-23).

Will it happen? ***Yes, in the time that God says! The first fulfillment and the final fulfillment!***

Verse 24: “The LORD of hosts has sworn, saying, ‘Surely as I have thought, so it shall come to pass; and as I have purposed, *so* it shall stand.’”

All of these ministers of the world need to learn a lesson, even in the Churches of God, which is that ***you can’t tell God what to do!***

- God is perfect
- His plan is perfect
- His way of doing things is perfect

Who are we, being imperfect, sinful human beings, **to tell God what to do?** *He has purposed it!*

Verse 25: “That I will break Assyria in My land, and upon My mountains, and trample him

under foot. Then his yoke shall be removed from them, and his burden shall be taken off their shoulders.”

There are two fulfillments of this. During the ministry of Isaiah, in the days of Hezekiah, the Assyrians came to conquer Jerusalem, but you know what happened there. They prayed to God, and God intervened and destroyed the whole armies of the Assyrians, 180,000 dead at one time. How’s that for winning the battle without lifting the sword?

Sidebar: Israel was never to go to war *unless God told them to go to war*. Keep that in mind.

Verse 26: “This *is* the purpose that *is* purposed upon all the earth; and this *is* the hand that *is* stretched out upon all the nations.... [What did we just read in Rev. 6?] ...for the LORD of hosts has purposed, and who shall reverse *it*? And His hand is stretched out, and who shall turn it back?” (vs 26-27). *It is going to happen, without a doubt!*

Let’s look at the Day of the Lord. We find all through the Bible, just like it says, ***‘here a little, there a little, line upon line, line upon line, precept upon precept’*** (Isa. 28); you put it together. For those who have the Spirit of God, believe God, and love God, ***they will have understanding!*** Those who don’t won’t have understanding.

Zephaniah 1:14: “The great Day of the LORD *is* near; *it is* near and comes swiftly, the sound of the Day of the LORD. The mighty man shall cry bitterly there.” Isn’t that what we saw with those when the heavens departed like a scroll? *Yes!*

Verse 15: “That day *is* a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness.”

Think about that for a minute! When we get done, you’re going to understand that this whole earth is going to be in one gigantic destroyed mess. We’re going to be the ones who are going to have to straighten it out under Christ, Who gives us all the directions in what we need to do to do that.

Verse 16: “**A day of the ram’s horn** and alarm against the fortified cities, and against the high towers.” Ram’s horn: *a day of war*. On the Day of Trumpets they were to blow the ram’s horn. This is a ***war Feast***.

Verse 17: “And I will bring distress on men, so that they shall walk as the blind because they have sinned against the LORD....”

Didn’t we read in Rev. 8 & 9 these terrible plagues coming upon them and the demons fighting against the angels of God and the demons and men fighting against each other that they didn’t repent.

“...And their blood shall be poured out as dust, and their flesh as dung” (v 17). Think about that for a minute! Think about all the dead bodies, all the dead animals.

We’re going to see the earth will be, by time we come back to the earth from the Sea of Glass, nearly destroyed.

Verse 18: “Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to deliver them in the day of the LORD’S wrath; but the whole earth shall be devoured by the fire of His jealousy... [that’s where Peter got what he wrote in 2-Pet. 3] ...for He shall make even a full end, yea, a terrible end of all who dwell upon the earth.”

First part of Zephaniah 2:1 is very interesting and very instructive: “Gather yourselves together; yea, gather together, O nation not desired; before the decree is brought forth, and the day passes like the chaff; before the fierce anger of the LORD comes upon you, **before the day of the LORD’S anger comes upon you. Seek the LORD...**” (vs 1-3).

That’s what’s going to happen with the 144,000 and the great innumerable multitude. They’re going to heed the message of the angel who said, ‘Babylon the Great is fallen, is fallen.’ And the message, ‘Come out of her My people.’

Verse 3: “Seek the LORD, all you meek of the earth who have executed His judgment; seek righteousness; seek meekness. It may be that you shall be hidden in the day of the LORD’S anger.”

That’s about the few who will go to a place of safety, which the world thinks is the great rapture, that millions are going to be raptured into heaven.

When you go through Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel and the prophets, you will see that many things tie right in with the second coming of Christ and the Day of the Lord. Here’s a direct reference to what we read back in Rev. 6:

Isaiah 2:9: “And men will be brought low, and humbled—forgive them not. Enter into the rock and hide in the dust for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of His majesty. 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” (vs 9-11)—***the Day of the Lord***, that’s what the Feast of Trumpets pictures.

Verse 12: “For the Day of the LORD of hosts *shall be* upon every proud and haughty one, and upon every exalted one; and they *shall be* brought low, and it shall be upon all the high and lifted up cedars of Lebanon, and upon all the oaks of Bashan” (vs 12-13). That talks in a simile about their armies. It’s going to come!

Verse 17: “And the pride of man shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be made low; and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day.” *Quite a thing, the Day of the Lord!* That’s amazing, the things that are going to happen.

We can read it, but what is it going to be like to see it happen? There will be some in the Church who will see it happen. Let’s see how this war continues in that way. This ties right in with Rev. 6.

Verse 18: “And the idols He shall utterly abolish.... [no more idolatry, because that’s the first thing to take you away from God] ...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**” (vs 18-19). Isn’t that what we read back in Rev. 6? *Yes, indeed!*

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).

Amazing thing! Great and horrendous things are going to happen, brethren. That is all a part of the meaning of the Feast of Trumpets.

Haggai 2:6: “For thus says the LORD of hosts, ‘Once *again*—it *is* yet a little while...’” That’s how God views things. That’s why Peter wrote a day is a thousand years, a thousand years is as a day. In other words, time as humans look at it is different from how God looks at it, but it’s all scheduled, and the plan is going to come to fruition and be completed.

“...I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land. And I will shake all the nations; and the desire of all nations shall come... [that’s Christ] ...and I will fill this house with glory,’ says the LORD of hosts” (vs 6-7).

That’s quite a statement, right there in the middle of the prophecy of Haggai. Think what that’s going to be like. God just literally taking the whole

earth and shaking it. Amazing things going to take place!

We find in the book of Isaiah a number of references to Babylon and Babylon the Great. Let’s see what it says about Babylon. Again, you have the *first* fulfillment and you have the *final* fulfillment.

This is some 300-years before Daniel and King Nebuchadnezzar and the dream that King Nebuchadnezzar had. So, tie that in with today, and you’re looking at pretty close to a 3,000-year old prophecy. Didn’t it happen to Babylon? Wasn’t it turned into a waste place? *Yes, indeed!*

Isaiah 13:1: “The burden of Babylon, which Isaiah the son of Amoz saw: ‘Lift up a banner upon the high mountain, exalt the voice to them, wave the hand, so that they may go into the gates of the nobles. I have commanded My Holy ones, I have also called My mighty ones for My anger, *even* those who rejoice in My triumph.’ The noise of a multitude in the mountains, as of a great people; a tumultuous noise of the kingdoms of nations gathered together...” (vs 1-4).

We’re going to see that the fulfillment of the Day of Trumpets is worldwide—all people, all nations. They are going to see Christ’s return. Every eye shall see Him. These are great and horrendous and tremendous things that are happening.

“...the LORD of hosts gathers an army for the battle... [we’ll see that] ...They come from a far country...” (vs 4-5). You wonder why China is rising? And all of Asia is rising? Right there; it’s in the Bible.

“...from the end of heaven, the LORD and the weapons of His indignation, to destroy the whole earth” (v 5). Isn’t that amazing?

Think of what it’s going to be like. Good thing we’re going to be spirit beings. Just think of how we’re going to have to help these people shattered with war, shock, and all of that.

Verse 7: “Therefore, all hands shall be faint, and every man’s heart shall melt; 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” (vs 7-8).

Doesn’t that sound like some of things in Rev. 8 & 9, which we’ve covered previously?

Verse 9: “Behold, the Day of the LORD comes... [When? *In His time!*] ...cruel both *with* wrath and fierce anger...”—*because this is the*

judgment against Satan the devil and the whole world!

“...to make the earth a desolation; and He shall destroy the sinners out of it, 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). Doesn't that sound like Revelation, where we read that? *Yes, indeed!*

Verse 11: “And **I will punish the world for their evil**, 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...” (vs 11-12).

How many are going to die? *We don't know*, but it looks like it's going to be 50% plus! What if it's two-thirds?

Verse 13: “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.”

That's precisely why no one knows the day or the hour, because all of that shall be from God!

(go to the next track)

Isa. 24 is quite a prophecy of what's going to happen to the world. Think about it, brethren! ***God has called us to work with Jesus Christ, to save humanity!***

Then think about the coming meaning of the Feast of Tabernacles. Don't get discouraged when you hear all these things. They're coming, and probably a good many of us will have our place of safety in the grave. Every true Christian, who has lived faithfully and died in the faith, are in a place of safety called *the grave*, waiting for the resurrection.

When it happens that there's a death of the saints, who have died in faith, regardless of the circumstances of their death, that is another one who is going to be in the Kingdom of God. So, we can rejoice in that.

Isaiah 24:1: “**Behold, the LORD makes the earth empty and makes it waste, and turns it upside down, and scatters its inhabitants.**”

How is that going to be? *I do not know!* I don't know if He's going to literally change the poles—North Pole/South Pole—or whether it is everything is going to be so destroyed that it's all upside down, destroyed and moved out of its place.

With all the earthquakes and shaking that's going on—remember, we just read ***He's going to***

shake the heavens and the earth! That's going to be something.

Verse 2: “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.”

You talk about a time He's going to wipe out all debt, forgive everything that has taken place. After all this destruction a brand new start for the whole world, and those who survive through it.

Verse 3: “The earth shall be completely laid waste... [that's what it means upside down] ...and utterly stripped; for the LORD has spoken this word.”

Every single prophecy in the Bible—and God has spoken it, put it here, so we know that He said it—***is going to take place to the maximum!*** Never forget that. That can give you:

- hope
- strength
- understanding
- ***and help you draw closer to God***

Also, *the promise is to you of eternal life is true and faithful and will take place*, without a doubt! That's why we're here.

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” (vs 4-5).

Remember: ***God always brings His judgment when He is ready! This is the judgment of God!***

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 few men are left.**”

What is a *few*? *We don't know, but these are absolutely horrendous things that are in the Bible!* They're all going to take place. The meaning of the Feast of Trumpets shows that they will be fulfilled.

Verse 10: “The city of shame is broken down; every house is shut up so that no one may come in.”

Verse 15: “Therefore, glorify the LORD in the east where the light dawns, the name of the

LORD God of Israel in the isles of the sea. From the ends of the earth we have heard songs, ‘Glory to the righteous.’ But I said, ‘Leanness to me! Leanness to me! Woe to me! Deceivers deceive, even treacherously. Deceivers deceive!’” (vs 15-16). *That’s what it’s going to be!*

Isn’t Satan the master deceiver? Think about the final deception. Isa. 34 talks about the same thing. The first verse is an admonition for us to draw near to God:

Isaiah 34:1: “Come near, you nations, to hear; and, you people, hearken; let the earth hear, and its fullness; the world, and its offspring.... [you hear God *first*] ...for the anger of the LORD *is* upon **all** nations ... [that literally means *all* nations] ... and His fury upon all their armies....” (v 2).

It’s going to be the greatest number of armies that the world has ever seen throughout the whole history from the beginning of creation to the end.

Think about the group of armies of 200-million (Rev. 9). You can’t have them all in one place at one time, so they’re strung out all the way from the Far East, all the way over to the Holy Land. They will come like waves, like many attacks. It’s going to be something.

“...He has completely destroyed them, He has delivered them to the slaughter. Also, their dead shall be thrown out, and their stink shall come up out of their dead bodies, and the mountains shall be melted with their blood. And all the host of the heavens shall be dissolved, and the heavens shall be rolled up like a scroll... [Rev. 6] ...and all their host shall fall down, as a leaf falls off from the vine, and as the falling fig from the fig tree” (vs 2-4).

Isn’t that what it says, that it’s going to be like a fig tree shaken by a mighty wind that loses all of its figs? Everything in the Bible is all tied together. All of that is tied to the Sabbath and the Holy Days, and then the covenant with Abraham. That covenant stretches clear down through the Millennium. All tied to those things. You read of some of it in one place, some of it in another place. That’s exactly what we’re doing.

Verse 5—God says: “For My sword *is* bathed in the heavens. Behold, it shall come down upon Edom, and upon the people of My curse for judgment.”

That last generation is going to suffer for all the generations that went on before, even though they suffered for what they did. This is coming down in a mighty swath of death and blood.

Verse 6: “‘The sword of the LORD is filled with blood; it is made fat with fatness, with the blood of lambs and goats, with the fat of the kidneys of rams; for the LORD has a sacrifice in Bozrah, and a great slaughter in the land of Edom. And the wild oxen shall come down with them, and the young bullocks with the bulls; and their land shall be soaked with blood, and their dust shall be greased with their fat.’ For *it is* the day of the LORD’S vengeance, the year to repay for the fighting against Zion” (vs 6-8).

This is going to be something, almost horrendous! You can hardly believe it. Let’s come to the book of Jeremiah, who also brings out for us the same things. It talks about *all* the kingdoms on *all* the earth. This is absolutely an amazing thing that is going to take place.

In the first part it is what God told Jeremiah. Jeremiah had to write this down, but he never really did this, because it was for the future time for the end. This is talking about Babylon and the Chaldeans:

Jeremiah 25:13: “And I will bring on that land **all My words**, which I have spoken against it...”

You look at all the words that God has spoken against Babylon and Babylon the Great; He’s going to fill “...**all** My words...”

“...**all** that is written in this book...” (v 13). Then you can read about Jer. 50, 51, 52 and the detailed instructions on the destruction of Babylon the Great.

“...which Jeremiah has prophesied against all the nations. For many nations and great kings shall make them slaves, also. And I will repay them according to their deeds, and according to the works of their own hands” (vs 13-14). Look at the things that they are making today, awesome indeed!

Verse 15: “For thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, to me, ‘Take the wine cup of this wrath at My hand...’” We’re going to read that again in Rev. 16. *It’s going to happen!*

Isn’t it interesting how many of the things that we see are going to be fulfilled in the New Testament and the book of Revelation were prophesied in the Old Testament thousands of years ahead of time? How true, valuable, and sure is the Word of God? When God says ***He’s going to bring all the words that He has spoken***—every one of them—***to pass! He’s going to!***

“...and cause **all** the nations to whom I shall send you to drink it” (v 15). Jeremiah didn’t get there; however, the Bible will. Whether they read it or not, they will have had the message. Like I have told people many times:

- Do you have a Bible? *Yes!*
- Have you read it? *No!*
- Then why are you against God?

If you haven’t read what God has said, and if you don’t understand what’s in the Bible, why are you angry at God? Why when something comes upon you that you don’t understand, you complain about and accuse God? If you would have read the Bible when you got it, and drew close to God, He would have given you understanding.

Verse 16: “And they shall drink...” *It’s going to happen!* No one’s going to turn it down; no one is going to turn it back.

“...and reel to and fro, and be crazed because of the sword that I will send among them.’ Then I took the cup at the LORD’S hand, and made all the nations drink, to whom the LORD had sent me” (vs 16-17). Obviously that was symbolic then. It starts where?

Verse 18: “Jerusalem, and the cities of Judah, and their kings, and their rulers, to make them a desolation and an astonishment, a hissing, and a curse, (as *it is* today).”

He’s talking about what a desolation it was when he was writing this. There were three major invasions over a period of twenty years against Jerusalem and Judea. Always remember this, too: **God judges His people first**, and **then** the world.

Here’s where he is to take it and these are the ancient names of these nations. Some of them still have the same names. Going to **all**! He mentions that how many times.

Verse 19: “Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and his servants, and his rulers, and **all** his people, and **all** the mixed people, and **all** the kings of the land of Uz, and **all** the kings of the land of the Philistines, and Ashkelon, and Gaza, and Ekron, and the rest of Ashdod; Edom, and Moab, and the sons of Ammon, and **all** the kings of Tyre, and **all** the kings of Sidon, and the kings of the isles beyond the sea, Dedan, and Tema, and Buz, and **all** that are in the uppermost corners. And **all** the kings of Arabia, and **all** the kings of the mixed people who dwell in the desert, and **all** the kings of Zimri, and **all** the kings of Elam, and **all** the kings of the Medes, and **all** the kings of the north...” (vs 19-26).

Don’t you think that’s inclusive? **No one is going to escape!**

“...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.... [that’s *the beast*] ...‘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...”’” (vs 26-28).

When it says Lord of hosts, that means *Lord of the armies, the hosts of the armies of the Lord!* We will see when we come to Rev. 19 that all the resurrected saints will fight. Isn’t that what Jesus said? *‘If My kingdom were of this world, then should My servants fight!’* That’s when we’re going to fight. We’re going to put down evil.

It’s going to take us from the time of the Feast of Trumpets and the Day of Atonement to clean up things and get it ready so the Millennium can officially start. There’s a lot of work to do.

Verse 28: “...‘You shall certainly drink.... [God says that He wants us to always remember this]: ...For, lo, I begin to bring evil on the city, which is called by My name; and 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” (vs 28-29).

Some may escape to live through it, but it’s coming says the Lord of hosts!

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’”—right from the very throne of God.

That’s why when you see the Sea of Glass there (Rev. 15), you also see the temple of God in heaven. On the earth below, they won’t be able to see the temple of God, but we will. The only thing they will see is this great Sea of Glass and say. ‘We have got to fight against the aliens coming to invade the earth.’ That’s what they will believe.

Why else do you think all the nations will hear the beast, the false prophet, and Satan with those special messengers sent out to gather them to the battle of Armageddon? *They’re all deceived!* It’s going to happen exactly like he says here.

“...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” (v 30).

- v 26: “...all the kingdoms of the world...”
- v 29: “...all the inhabitants of the earth...”
- v 31: “...all flesh....”

Verse 31: “A noise shall come to the ends of the earth; for the LORD has a controversy with the nations; He will plead with all flesh. He will give those *who are* wicked to the sword,” says the LORD. Thus says the LORD of hosts, ‘Behold, evil shall go forth from nation to nation, 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. 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” (vs 31-34).

Amazing! That’s quite a chapter. You think about that and go back and read that again. Isn’t that something? We’ll finish the chapter because the whole chapter is important in fulfilling the Day of Trumpets.

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. 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 35-38).

Quite a chapter! That almost takes your breath away! That’s quite a thing! Let’s see how it’s prophesied here in Joel 2, which talks about that great army of 200-million. They are coming; they are coming. I’ve already told you about the railroads and the gas lines and oil lines coming from the east, clear over to the Mediterranean and on up into Europe. There will be roads. Everything will be ready for them.

Of course, with the earthquakes and everything upside down, they’re going to have to clean that up before the armies can really move in with great power. That’s why there’s the time from Pentecost, of sealing the 144,000 (Rev. 7) and then

beginning the Trumpet plagues (Rev. 8). There are seven distinct trumpets.

Joel 2:1: “‘Blow the ram’s horn in Zion, and sound an alarm in My Holy mountain!’ Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the Day of the LORD comes, for *it is* near at hand.” *It gives a time and space of repentance, and that’s what God wants!*

Verse 2: “A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness. As the morning *is* spread across the mountains, *so comes* a great people and a mighty people; there has never been the like... [200-million] ...nor shall there ever be again, even to the years of many generations.” *That’s down through the Millennium!*

Remember the first thing the Millennium starts with: *You’re going to beat your swords into plowshares and your spears into pruning hooks. No more war!*

Verse 3: “A fire devours before them, and behind them a flame burns. The land *is* as the Garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness—and nothing shall escape them. Their appearance *is* as the appearance of horses; and as war horses, so they run... [ties right in with Rev. 8; 9] ...They shall leap with the noise of chariots on the tops of mountains, with the noise of a flame of fire that devours the stubble, like a mighty people set in battle array. In their presence the people shall *greatly* tremble; all faces shall grow pale. They shall run like mighty men. They shall climb the wall like men of war, and they shall march each one in his path, and they shall not break their ranks” (vs 3-7).

This is really going to be something when these armies come with all their power, and all the things that they are doing.

Verse 8: “And each one shall not crowd another; they go every one in his *own* path. And when they fall upon the sword, they shall not be wounded.”

Isn’t that what they’re talking about today? *To have ready medications right in their suits of armor that they have!* How modern and up-to-date is the Bible? *It’s right there!*

Verse 9: “They shall run to and fro in the city; they shall run upon the wall; they shall climb up upon the houses; they shall enter in at the windows like a thief. The earth shall quake before them; the heavens shall tremble. The sun and the moon shall grow dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining. And the LORD shall utter His voice before His army; for His camp *is* exceedingly great; for

powerful *is He* who executes His Word, for the Day of the LORD *is* great and very terrible; **and who can endure it?**” (vs 9-11).

Then right in the middle of all of that there’s ***a call to repentance!*** Think of that. The end result of what God wants with these things is ***repentance!*** Quite a fantastic thing!

Joel 3:9: “Proclaim this among the nations, ‘Prepare for war!’... [that’s going to lead up to it] ...Wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near; let them come up. Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruning hooks into spears. Let the weak say, ‘I *am* strong’” (vs 9-10).

Isn’t that what ‘little rocket man’ did? Let’s hope he doesn’t back down from what he agreed to do.

Verse 11: “Gather yourselves and come, all you nations, and gather yourselves together all around; cause Your mighty ones to come down there, O LORD. Let the nations be awakened and come up to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; for there I will sit to judge all the nations all around. Put in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe... [Rev. 14, the two harvests; the resurrection and the harvest of the wicked] ...Come, come down; for the press is full; the vats overflow—for their wickedness is great. Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision; for the Day of the LORD *is* near in the valley of decision! The sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall withdraw their shining. The LORD shall also roar out of Zion and utter His voice from Jerusalem. And the heavens and the earth shall shake. But the LORD *will be* the hope of His people and the strength of the children of Israel” (vs 11-16).

Mighty things taking place; that’s going to be something! Everyone of you who say, ‘I want to live to see the Day of the Lord,’ you better think about that one again. Remember what it says in Isa. 57, that ***the Lord takes the righteous***—that’s why He dies—***away from the time of trouble to come!*** That’s just a paraphrase of it. We’ll just have to wait and see how these things come.

We’ve already covered the Sea of Glass, so we’ll just reiterate the Sea of Glass and then the seven last plagues. They’re all poured out. I gave that some time back with the flow of things to happen in the book of Revelation {Note Sermon: *Order of Events in the Book of Revelation*}. This is the last deception that is going to take place.

Revelation 16:12: “And the sixth angel poured out his vial into the great River Euphrates; and its waters were dried up...”

Has to happen twice. Once back in Rev. 9 and here again. When that happens, *the beast and the false prophet, and all the nations* are going to look at it and say, ‘Look at what happened. Now we can come and really fight against the Sea of Glass.’ So, here’s the last call.

“...so that the way of the kings from the rising of *the* sun might be prepared. 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 12-14).

That’s going to be something! They’re going to look at that, when the river dries up, and they’re going to say, ‘A miracle, what a wonderful thing.’ *No! It’s a trap!* God wants you to come. They will come and they’ll fall into it.

Verse 16: “And he gathered them together to the place that in Hebrew is called **Armageddon**.”

Armageddon is going to be the last battle that’s to be fought, not one of the first, *the last!* When they’re all gathered there, what a great thing this is going to happen. But there’s still some strung out, going clear back to the east.

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 done] ...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” (vs 17-18).

Just think, the whole earth is going to completely discombobulated because of:

- the sins of Satan
- the sins of men
- the sins of the nations
- the final judgment of God

That is going to be awesome, indeed!

Verse 19: “And the great city was divided into three parts; and the cities of the nations fell...” Think about all these tall buildings that they have, smashed down. Amazing!

- Does anyone want to fight against God?
- Does anyone want to disagree with God?
- Does anyone want to read the Bible, and say, ‘Lord, here’s how I look at it. You

ought to look at it the way I'm looking at it here'?

For anyone who does that, I tell you read the book of Job. I think you'll understand. You're not going to get very far with that. *No, indeed!*

Rev. 19 we covered on the Day of Pentecost, through v 10 and all the things that take place. Now:

- we're all organized
- we're all prepared
- we have our weapons
- Christ is going to lead us

This is really going to be the war to end all wars!

Revelation 19:11: "And I saw heaven open... [open again, this time now something really big is going to happen] ...and behold, a white horse; and He Who sat on it *is* called Faithful and True... [that's Jesus Christ] ...and in righteousness He does judge and make war.... [the final battle is coming] ...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.... [tie that in with John 1:1-3] ...And the armies in heaven were following Him... [that's us] ...on white horses..." (vs 11-14). *That's going to be spectacular! Here's:*

- the Sea of Glass
- Christ is ready
- everything is prepared
- all of the armies are gathered below
- they've had the hail come upon them

and now here comes the final battle! Christ is going to lead us off the Sea of Glass and we're going to come down and finish off that army. Remember at the same time, we'll read it here, all of the flesh-eating birds are going to be circling over this area, where the battle took place. We're going to be coming down right alongside them.

"...and they were clothed in fine linen, white and pure.... [that's us on white horses] ...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).

All of the other kings, lords, magistrates, city mayors, and all of that we're all spirit beings following Him on our horses.

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 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'" (vs 17-18). *What a clean-up job that's going to be!*

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, 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; and the rest were killed by the sword of Him Who sits on the horse... [all He has to do is speak the word and POOF!] ...*even the sword* that goes out of His mouth; and all the birds were filled with their flesh" (vs 19-21).

Zech. 14 talks about this. Think about that, everything that took place now. Here we are!

Zechariah 14:1: "Behold, the Day of the LORD comes, and your spoil shall be divided in your midst, 'For I will gather all nations to battle against Jerusalem; 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 and fight against those nations, as when He fought in the day of battle. 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, 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" (v 4). *From the east to the west, and then it will split!*

Verse 5: "...And the LORD my God shall come, and all the saints with You." *That's us!* It's going to be something.

In that day, v 9: "And the LORD shall be King over all the earth; in that day there shall be one LORD, and His name shall be one."

That's the solution to the problems of this world. It's going to come in a mighty profound way on the Feast of Trumpets.

This is why this day is a memorial of blowing trumpets all day long! We can look forward to the Day of Atonement now and the Feast of Tabernacles.

or recording, as well as the use of information storage and retrieval systems.

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- 6) Daniel 11:44-45
- 7) Daniel 12:1
- 8) Isaiah 14:21-27
- 9) Zephaniah 1:14-18
- 10) Zephaniah 2:1-3
- 11) Isaiah 2:9-13, 17-21
- 12) Haggai 2:6-7
- 13) Isaiah 13:1-5, 7-13
- 14) Isaiah 24:1-6, 10, 15-17
- 15) Isaiah 34:1-8
- 16) Jeremiah 25:13-38
- 17) Joel 2:1-11
- 18) Joel 3:9-16
- 19) Revelation 16:12-14, 16-19
- 20) Revelation 19:11-21
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- Luke 19
- 1-Corinthians 9
- Hebrews 7
- Genesis 1
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Also referenced: Sermon:

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Day of Atonement

Satan has to be removed and why the symbolic goat for Azazel was for Satan!

Fred R. Coulter—September 19, 2018

Greetings, brethren! Welcome to the Day of Atonement! Time, as we say, continues going forward! God's plan is right on schedule, and it's all laid out according the framework of the Holy Days.

Sidebar: If you don't have our book *God's Plan for Mankind Revealed by His Sabbath and Holy Days*... Oh, I guess that's a wrong work today! ***I don't care!*** To those that thing being politically correct is right; ***it's not!*** It's satanic. You have to be ***Godly correct!***

If you don't have our book *God's Plan for Mankind Revealed by His Sabbath and Holy Days*, you need to get it. It is important! It is profound! The way it is in the world, religion is to help you be a nice person. ***God's way is that He wants you to become a son or daughter of God!*** Is that not greater than a 'nice' person? ***Yes, it is!***

The reason that the world is in the mess that it is, is because of Satan the devil. This day pictures his removal. And the last day of the Feast of Tabernacles pictures his fate.

Randy Vild is our production manager for doing Church at Home—and I suggest that you watch Church at Home on a regular basis—has just finished doing *The Shroud of Turin*, showing what an absolute fraud, lie, cheat, deceit and wretchedness. All of that comes in this world because of Satan the devil, and men and women who give themselves over to him and the demons who help bring that all about.

That's why this day is a fast day, not eating any food or drinking any water. The problems that we face are not physical; the physical things are only a reflection of the spiritual problems. Those spiritual problems can never be resolved unless Satan and his demons are removed!

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 and offer an offering made by fire to the LORD. 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'" (vs 26-28). That means to be *at-one with God!*

Here's how important it is, v 29: "For whoever is not afflicted in that same day, **he shall be cut off** from among his people"—meaning he won't have the blessings of God.

Verse 30: "And whoever does any work in that same day, the same one will I destroy from among his people."

That doesn't mean that He's going to kill them; that just means that ***if you desecrate the Day of Atonement by working, your life is going to end up being a terrible mess!*** And you won't know how it came about, because it will be a *spiritual* problem.

Now, He repeats it three times about working, so you ask: Does God mean what He says? ***Yes!*** If He says it once, ***it's true;*** twice, ***it's true;*** three times, ***you better pay attention!***

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, from sunset to sunset, you shall keep your Sabbath" (vs 31-32). ***That's why all the days begin at sunset!***

Considering everything that God has done for us, our calling, what God has provided to us, and how God is doing things, we need to consider that in relationship not only to our lives and everything we do, but also to our offerings that we give on the Holy Days and the tithes and offerings we give regularly.

(pause for the offering)

Let's see the meaning of the day of the Feast of Atonement^[transcriber's correction], and it is a Feast because it's a ***spiritual Feast***, even though it is a fast day. The Bible tells us that 'old serpent, that ancient serpent—Satan the devil—rebelled and took a third of the stars of heaven with him' (Rev. 12); that is took a third of the angels. At that time, when he fell he became Satan the devil, and the angels that went with him became demons!

We also find that 'God created him perfect in his ways, until iniquity was found in him' and he sinned (Ezek. 28). That rebellion was the end result of that sin!

- How long was this going on?
- How long did it take to persuade a third of the angels to go with him? ***We don't know!***
- But if we did know, what difference would it make? ***None!***

We know that Satan's ultimate goal was 'to become like the Most High' (Isa. 14). Because of this rebellion there was war in heaven and the earth

became a shambles and God had to cover it with a flood.

The rest of the story, how long between that time and God making mankind, we don't know! Even if we did know, what good would it do us? *None!* God wants to know:

- Do you love Me with all your heart, mind, soul and being?
- Do you?
- Really?
- In everything?

This is why we have tests, trials and difficulties! God wants to know!

Remember that when it came to Abraham, he was tried for 40 years from the time that God first called him to the offering of his only son Isaac. What did God say when Abraham reached down to get the knife to offer Isaac? *Abraham!*

Abraham answered and said, 'Here I am!' God said, 'Don't touch the lad! ***For now I know that you fear Me!***'

- Wasn't God with Abraham for 40 years, all the time? *Yes, indeed!*
- What does this tell us? *That free moral agency must always be used to do the will of God, and not to do your own thing!*

As too many people do, they stamp the name of God on it! That's what all the religions of this world do, and the 'Christianity' of this world!

Satan always likes to come along—and he's got plenty of his agents—in religion teaching a false christ, a false salvation, ***and all of that is of Satan the devil!***

That's why we have this Lev. 16 offering of the two goats. We will see that it also symbolizes that mankind alone ***cannot know*** the difference between the true God *and* Satan the devil, the false god of this world. ***God has to reveal it!***

Many people know things about Satan and demons and things like this, but they don't know the *true God!* Or as Jesus said, 'If they're on our part, they don't speak against us.' So, there are some of those out there, as well.

The depths of Satan's sin of wanting to become like the Most High, can there be any other sin more grave or horrendous than that one? *No!*

There were two identical goats that were chosen for the Day of Atonement. After all the other things that Aaron was to do with the special offering for himself, his household and for Israel, here's what he was to do.

Leviticus 16:7: "And he shall take the two goats and present them before the LORD *at* the door of the tabernacle of the congregation." There they are side-by-side. Just like the world: Which one is the true God? They all have the Bible. It's kind of like the Bible is the door of the tabernacle. How many million and billions of Bibles are there in the world? But how many still serve Satan the devil? *Nearly all!*

Verse 8: "And Aaron shall cast lots on the two goats; one lot for the LORD and the other lot for Azazel.... [another name for Satan the devil] ...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 and sent away into the wilderness for Azazel" (vs 8-10).

Why? *God makes the choice!* A sin offering takes away all the sins of the children of Israel. But here's the truth as to why the other one is for Satan the devil and not the stupid comment of someone who wrote a commentary a hundred years ago saying that goat 'pictures Christ taking our sins to heaven'!

God doesn't want our sins in heaven! He wants them forgiven on the earth. Those who won't repent will be burned up; *God wants nothing to do with sin!* The truth of the matter is that you can forgive sin all the time, ***but unless Satan is removed and he is held responsible for his part in our sins,*** which is what the live goat does, and that's why the priest confesses over them. If you don't believe that, go to Rev. 20. As soon as Satan is released, what happens? *War!* Brethren, it's up to all of us to stay alert and alive and be watchful for false doctrines.

Remember what Jesus said? *That there will arise many false christs and many false prophets who will show great signs and wonders so to try and deceive the elect!* That's happened to way too many that we even care to think about. The truth of the Bible is what we follow, not the conjectures of some men stepping out to 'create' doctrine or believe past false doctrines ***created by those who never had the Spirit of God!***

Verse 15: "Then he shall kill the goat of the sin offering that is for the people..."—for the Lord, for the people; the other one was for Azazel, completely separate and different.

"...and bring its blood inside the veil. 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. And so he shall

do for the tabernacle of the congregation, which remains with them in the midst of their uncleanness” (vs 15-16).

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...” (vs 20-21).

Here’s how this works. The offering to God forgave the people for their sins. The live goat and the confession over the head of the live goat is that ***Satan is the instigator and the author of sin, and he is responsible for all the sins of angels and mankind, because of his evil wickedness!***

Why does he leave the goat alive? *Because Satan the devil is a spirit being, and God is not going to execute him or destroy him!* We find that on the last day of the Feast of Tabernacles, after the Lake of Fire that he’s cast into, ***he’s taken to the ‘blackest darkness forever!’ That’s the torment that Satan and the angels [demons] have talked about!*** Not just the torment of being thrown into the Lake of Fire.

“...and all their transgressions in all their sins, putting them on the head of the goat...” (v 21). When God said to Eve. ‘Why did you do it?’

- What did Eve say? *The serpent, he persuaded me!*
- Was that a sin of Satan to do so? *Yes!*
- Was that sin of Eve to obey him? *Yes!*

If you’re going to get rid of sin, you’ve got to remove Satan!

“...and shall send it away by the hand of a chosen man into the wilderness.... [that’s like the angel in Rev. 20] ...And the goat shall bear upon him all their iniquities to a land in which no one lives....” (vs 21-22).

How can that be heaven? *God lives there forever! The wilderness is where Satan lives!*

“...And he shall let the goat go in the wilderness” (v 22). That’s symbolizing his day is coming, *but it hasn’t yet arrived!*

Verse 23: “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, 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. 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” (vs 23-26).

Verse 29: “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.** It *shall be* a Sabbath of rest to you, and you shall afflict your souls, by a statute forever” (vs 29-31).

This Day of Atonement this year is on a Wednesday, and it’s very unusual to have a Day of Atonement on a Wednesday; it does not happen very often. It happens this year, and it happens next year. We have not had during a period of ten years where you would have this sequence. There was no Passover (Atonement???) on the 4th day of the week, during those ten years. We have one more year to go, 2019.

Leviticus 25:3: “You shall sow your field six years, and you shall prune your vineyard six years, and gather in the fruit of it.”

Verse 8: “And you shall number seven Sabbaths of years to you, seven times seven years. And the time of the seven Sabbaths of years shall be forty-nine years to you. Then you shall cause the trumpet of the jubilee to sound on the tenth *day* of the seventh month; in the Day of Atonement, the trumpet shall sound throughout all your land. And you shall make the fiftieth year Holy, and proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee to you, and you shall return each man to his possession, and you shall return each man to his family. That fiftieth year shall be a jubilee to you. You shall not sow, neither reap that which grows of itself in it, nor gather the grapes of your undressed vine in it, for it *is* the jubilee. It shall be Holy to you. You shall eat the increase of it out of the field. In the year of this jubilee you shall return each man to his possession” (vs 8-13).

When Jesus began His ministry, it was in a Jubilee year on the Day of Atonement. Who dwells in the wilderness? *Satan!* That’s what the wilderness pictured. After Jesus was baptized then He immediately went into the wilderness so that He could be confronted by Satan the devil and tempted by him.

Would He [Jesus]—as God manifested in the flesh—carrying human nature be able to withstand all of the pressure and all of the spiritual power of Satan the devil coming against Him, and yet, not sin! Though He would fast for 40 days and

40 nights!

Think about how important the Day of Atonement is! The year Jesus began His ministry was on the Day of Atonement in 26^{A.D.} a Jubilee!

Let's see how Satan—the god of this world (2-Cor.)—comes at people. Let's notice what he wants them to do. He wants them to obey him. Is Satan able to bless those who obey him? *Of course!*

Matthew 4:1^[transcriber's correction]: “Then Jesus was led up into the wilderness by the Spirit in order to be tempted by the devil. And when He had fasted for forty days and forty nights, afterwards He was famished” (vs 1-2).

- Why did God do this?
 - Why did Jesus do it?
 - *Because He had to confront Satan the devil when He was at His weakest as a human being!*
 - Would He rely on God?
 - Would He be faithful to the Father?
 - Could He resist all the temptations?
- when you look at them*
- Do you think any other human being could have resisted all of that? *No!*

Verse 3: “And when the tempter came to Him, he said, ‘If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.’”

Think about it! Satan says, ‘You can do it, You know that You’re the Son of God; You can do it! You have the power to do it. Just think about how nice it would be, the aroma of those stones turning into fresh bread coming out of the oven. Look at You, You’re weak, miserable, horrible and wretched. You need something to get your strength back, don’t you?’

What did Jesus answer? Think about this in relationship to yourself and your life.

Verse 4: “But He answered *and* said, ‘It is written...’” He always went to the Word of God. He didn’t say that it’s a tradition. And what is written is found in Deut. 8).

“...“Man... [any human being, man or woman] ...shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God”” (v 4). That’s the first lesson and the first test! Isn’t that what Satan the devil didn’t do? *Yes!*

What about us? Our old human nature goes in there, and we try and figure a way around it! Think about it! Think about how many people are really willing to do this.

Sidebar: All the words that God spoke

concerning the sacrifices have been all fulfilled and replaced with a far superior sacrifice: *Jesus Christ!* The priesthood has been replaced with the ministry. Is that still the Word of God? *Yes, it is!*

- **Only God** can change something in His Word!
- **No man** can change it and tell God that He must obey!

That’s the sin of Sunday and holiday-keeping of all the Christianity of this world!

Verse 5: “Then the devil took Him to the Holy city and set Him upon the edge of the temple... [way up there above the Valley of Kidron] ...and said to Him...” (vs 5-6). *Let’s test You out...*

- Are you really going to trust God or not?
- Do you really believe the Word of God or not?

“...‘If You are the Son of God, cast Yourself down; for it is written, “He shall give His angels charge concerning You, and they shall bear You up in *their* hands, lest You strike Your foot against a stone”’....” (v 6). *Satan quotes Scripture!*

Are there a lot of these Sunday-keeping ministers that quote Scripture? *Of course!* You’ve got to make a counterfeit seem correct, but they always hop over the Sabbath and Holy Days and Passover. They all endorse the holidays of this world! So, they’re not of God! Yes, they’re using the Scriptures. Yes, they can help some people live better lives by following some of the Scriptures. **But:**

- that has nothing to do with salvation
- that’s has nothing to do with knowing God
- that has nothing to do with the pure Truth of living by every Word of God

What happens when you do that? *You tempt God!*

Verse 7: “Jesus said to him, ‘Again, it is written, “You shall not tempt the Lord your God.”’” How do you tempt the Lord your God? *By doing something that He said not to do, and say that God says that it’s okay to do!*

You’re not going to jump in front of a speeding train and say, ‘God, I’m testing You out to see whether You’re true or not!’ BANG! **You aren’t going to test God!**

Verse 8: “After that, the devil took Him to an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.” Luke 4 says *in a moment of time; like on a giant television screen:*

- all the kingdoms

- all the cities
- all the wealth
- all the armies
- all the people

Verse 9: “And [Satan] said to Him, ‘All these things... [and everything of it] ...will I give You...’ Now do you understand why he’s called *the god of this world* or this age? *Yes, indeed!*”

“...if You will fall down and worship me” (v 9)—because he wanted to be like the Most High. ‘You can have it all.’ *Jesus knew that He was going to get it all sooner or later anyway, so that was stupid of Satan to suggest that!* But he wanted to know.

Think of it this way: If Jesus would have said, ‘If I just give a little genuflect, maybe he would go away.’

Remember what happened when God told Moses to *speak* to the rock to bring forth water. God did tell him the time before to strike the rock, that’s true. Moses was so frustrated with all the sinful, rebellious, carnal, glaring Israelites demanding water and food that he got angry and *beat* the rock with his staff.

For that one sin, he didn’t go into the ‘promised land.’ *Think about that!* He would have violated the first commandment, the second commandment, all the commandments if he would have done that! Satan could have claimed, ‘Look, I got the Son of God to worship me; I must be like the Most High!’

Do you the understand the severity of these things? Today, too many of the Churches of God are turning into heresy mills and social clubs. Why can’t people love God, love one another, be zealous and understand the great calling that God has given to us, instead of succumbing to all of the pulls of the flesh?

How nice do you think Jesus was when the young man told Him that he would follow Him, but ‘let me go bury my father.’ Jesus said, ‘Let the dead bury their dead; come and follow Me.’ How many people would say, ‘How can that be the Son of God? How could that man have any love to tell that poor grieving son that he should bury his father, but let the dead bury the dead? What an insult that is!’ *Satanic logic!*

Why would Jesus tell him that? *Because his father is going to resurrected later!* So, don’t give any concern about it. ‘Come and follow Me.’

Verse 11: “Then the devil left Him; and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.” Jesus was absolutely completely exhausted, weak and as close to death as you can get.

When Jesus was out there in the wilderness being tempted by Satan the devil, He could not make it known to the world that He was the Savior of God. So, He did in the account of Luke 4, but that was saved for the Feast of Pentecost, *the day of the weeks*. Not just an ordinary Sabbath. Counting Pentecost is the same way you count the Jubilee: 49 plus 1=50!

So, when He came into Nazareth, there’s where He made His announcement, because His announcement was that He was the Savior to bring about the saving of the world, but on Pentecost because it would first begin with His Church. Here’s what Jesus did, and this is important because this is in a Jubilee year. In a Jubilee year He announced that He was the Messiah to bring freedom from all sin to all people according to the plan of God.

Luke 4:14: “Then Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee; and word about Him went out into the entire country around. And He taught in their synagogues, *and* was glorified by all. And He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up; and according to His custom, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath Day and stood up to read” (vs 14-16).

{read the footnote at the bottom of the page in *The Holy Bible in Its Original Order, A Faithful Version*}

Verse 17: “And there was given Him *the* book of the prophet Isaiah; and when He had unrolled the scroll, He found the place where it was written, ‘*The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me...*’” (vs 17-18). *He was emphasizing Himself!*

- Was not Jesus filled with the Holy Spirit during the temptation? *Yes, indeed!*
- Was He not filled with the Holy Spirit during His entire ministry? *Yes, indeed!*

“...for this reason, He has anointed Me...” (v 18). What does ‘Christos’ or ‘Christ’ mean? ***The Anointed One!***

“...to preach the Gospel to *the* poor; He has sent Me to heal those who are brokenhearted, to proclaim pardon to *the* captives and recovery of sight to *the* blind, to send forth in deliverance those who have been crushed” (v 18).

By who? *Satan, people, the agents of Satan the devil, and life that come from government, religion, education, and all of that!* Look at this world today, giving itself over to Satan the devil. Look at the stupidity that’s going on in the schools and universities, teaching all of the young adults to be sixth graders again.

Can you imagine 30-year-old people with a

sixth grade mentality? That's why they'll fall for socialism, stupidity and atheism, *because they haven't been taught anything in their lives about God or what is true and what is right!* That's because of:

- Satan the devil
- the government
- the education
- the religion
- the Christianity of this world

We need to really wake up and understand the severity of Satan the devil and this world, and why God is going to put all the sins of this world on the head of Satan the devil and the demons, and cast them into the Lake of Fire! And *then remove them for a memorial forever into the blackest darkness!*

Verse 19: "To proclaim *the* acceptable year of the Lord"—*a Jubilee year!* The Jubilee runs from Atonement to Atonement!

Verse 20: "And after rolling up the scroll and delivering *it* to the attendant, He sat down; and the eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fixed on Him. Then He began to say to them, **'Today, this Scripture is being fulfilled in your ears.'**"

"Today" meaning not only this Day of Atonement^[transcriber's correction] when He was preaching, but this day meaning the beginning year of His ministry for casting out demons, healing the sick and preaching the Gospel.

How well did they receive Him? *They wanted to kill Him!* Lovely people! Yes, there's goodness in the heart of every person. There may be some good in every person, but also they have a lot of evil, because of the human nature and the way that Satan the devil is! Even the very best of them!

(go to the next track)

Let's look at some prophecies concerning our day and some of the things that took place in the New Testament. We will see how the whole transformation took place.

1-Timothy 4:1: "Now, the Spirit tells *us* explicitly that in *the* latter times some shall apostatize from the faith..." Now, there are two latter times:

1. the latter times of the apostles
2. the last days

Both had very similar things taking place. Everything in Matt. 24 happened except *the abomination of desolation!* Everything that these prophecies say, the latter times, have the first fulfillment in the latter times of the apostles. Then in the latter times of the world before the return of

Jesus Christ.

"...apostatize from the faith... [Is that happening today? *Yes!*] ...and shall follow deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons" (v 1). All demons do not come in a destructive mode at first.

- they come with intelligence
- they come with logic
- they come with charisma
- they come with humor
- they come friendly
- they come with piety

I can't help but think every time I see some of these Catholic ceremonies, that those men are not just possessed by sweet religious demons, but they're still against God! I don't care how sweet they may appear, or how nice they can pretend to be, *they're not of God!*

"...and doctrines of demons" (v 1). Which one doctrine in the Catholic Church is really true? There may be some Truth in some statements, but if the overall is a deception, then the Truth is overwritten by the deception.

Verse 2: "Speaking lies in hypocrisy, their consciences having been cauterized *with a hot iron.*" We have to be the judge of those things with the Word of God! They were fighting them all along.

Remember the first one who wanted to have a substitute religion? *Simon Magus (Acts 8)!* Then they had Eliamus the sorcerer (Acts 13). Then you had the seven sons of a Jewish priest trying to cast out demons in Paul's name. We will see that they even infiltrated the Church and kicked the Apostle John out of the Church!

I want you to think about some of those things! Yes, we've covered some of these because we've been going through 2-Corinthians, *true!* But let's look at them in light of the Day of Atonement. That's how people get deceived. They have the conception in their mind that demons are always known because they are just despicably evil. *Not so!* You go back and look at the videos we did on *Ecumenism: Satan's Gentle Touch to Deceive* #s 1-3 {truthofgod.org} *The sweet side of Satan!*

How do you think he conned Eve into eating the fruit? *By being sweet! By lying! By being gentle!*

Look how nice that will be. Don't you really want to be like God? You know, God hasn't told you everything. I know a little bit more about it, so if you eat of that tree you will be like God and you can make up your own mind as to what is good and evil. You don't have to listen to God. Why should you listen to God?

Aren't you an adult?
Aren't you a free moral agent?
Can't you make your own decisions?
Do you always have to rely on God?
Why don't you rely on yourself, you're smart, you're intelligent?

2-Pet. 2 is very interesting. Peter is warning after he got done explaining that they were producing the Truth, which became the New Testament.

2-Peter 1:19: "We also possess the **confirmed** prophetic Word..." That means it was given by Christ, given by the apostles; confirmed because it:

- agrees with God
- agrees with Christ
- agrees with the Truth
- agrees with the prophecies of the Old Testament

"...to which you do well to pay attention, as to a light shining in a dark place..." (v 19) Is not this world covered with darkness just like the prophecy says: *gross darkness covers the earth!*

"...until the day dawns... [the return of Christ] ...and *the* morning star arises in your hearts... [the resurrection] ...knowing this first..." (vs 19-20).

That's why we have the Bible inspired by God, layered and layered with meaning, multiple meanings with different ways of putting it together that fill out the whole picture.

"...that no prophecy of Scripture..." (v 20). Every Scripture in a sense, because it comes from God is a prophecy, whether it's foretelling of the future, or whether it is a telling forth of the Truth.

"...originated as anyone's own *private* interpretation" (v 20).

- Where do you think it says there, 'I think'?
- Where does it say, 'All you Israelites, I was in my tent and I was thinking and I came up with this brilliant idea'?

Always remember one thing, ***no man can improve upon a perfect God! and a perfect Christ!*** Never, ***never, never happen!***

Verse 21: "Because prophecy... [any speaking of the Holy Scriptures that had been written down] ...was not brought at any time by human will, but the Holy men of God spoke as they were moved by *the* Holy Spirit"—*the same way as when they wrote.*

Peter was warning them, and these warnings

we really need to understand as ever before, because there's more satanic activity that is thrown at us, thrown at the world through religion, politics, music, entertainment, television, Internet, books, false teaching and activities; ***all to deceive the elect if possible!***

2-Peter 2:1: "But there were also false prophets among the people, **as indeed there will be false teachers among you...**"

- Have we not all experienced that and still are experiencing it today?
- What happens when someone comes along and speaks the Truth, *the Truth, the Truth*, and then begins to turn?
- What happens?
- How many people follow that?

Quite a thing to keep in mind—isn't it?

"...who will **stealthily**..." (v 1). They don't come and say, 'Hey, everybody, I'm here! I'm a false prophet!' *Of course not! Stealthily!*

- What do the Protestants teach on it?
- What do the Catholics teach on it?

They do have some good—don't they? *Watch out for that kind of reasoning!* Remember that not all 'good' comes from God. There's good from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil.

"...stealthily introduce destructive heresies, personally denying *the* Lord who bought them, and bringing swift destruction upon themselves" (v 1). For us, 'swift' means *immediately!* For God, 'swift' means *when the destruction comes it will come immediately.* There may be a length of time between the beginning of it and the end of it.

All the people of God will reject every one of them and we'll get rid of all false prophets! ***NO!***

Verse 2: "**And many people will follow as authoritative their destructive ways; and because of them, the way of the Truth will be blasphemed.**"

How do they blaspheme? 'This is an allegory! It doesn't mean what it says.' *That's how it starts!* ***or*** 'This was for those people back there, but not for us today. 'They kept the Sabbath there.' *No, they never kept the Sabbath there.* 'We keep Sunday; we're not like them.'

When the children of Israel followed Baal, what do you think they were worshipping? Tuesday? **"...the way of the Truth will be blasphemed."**

Verse 3: "Also, through insatiable greed they will with **enticing messages exploit you for gain;** for whom the judgment of old is in *full* force,

and their destruction is *ever* watching.”

Since this is the Day of Atonement, keep this in mind, v 4: “For if **God did not spare the angels who sinned**, but, having cast *them* into Tartarus... [a place of restraint] ...delivered *them* into chains of darkness to be kept for *the* judgment.”

“...**God did not spare the angels who sinned...**” *They knew better!* That’s why the Day of Atonement, so we can be at-one with God and not have all these other things coming in upon us:

- not compromising with the world
- not compromising with our own evil within us

So we can think we can get away with things when we shouldn’t be doing them. Do you understand that? “...**God did not spare the angels who sinned...**”

Notice the power that Peter^[corrected] is bringing here in this situation.

Verse 5: “And *if* God did not spare the ancient world... [the Flood is called the ‘kataklysmos’] ...over **the whole** world.” *It destroyed the whole world!*

What did Jesus say it would be like before His coming? *As it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be in the days of the coming of the Son of man!*

“...but saved Noah, *the* eighth, a preacher of righteousness, when He brought *the* Flood upon the world of *the* ungodly” (v 5). So, Peter lists all of these major events, major sins caused by Satan and his demons.

- now you know why Satan has to be removed
- now you know why the symbolic meaning of the goat for Azazel was for Satan

You can’t get rid of sin unless you get rid of Satan and the demons—*period!*

Verse 6: “And having reduced *the* cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to ashes, condemned *them* with a catastrophic *destruction*, making *them* an example *for those* who would be ungodly in the future. And *if* He personally rescued righteous Lot, who was oppressed by the lawless ones *living* in licentious conduct” (vs 6-7). *That’s the way it is today! Oppressed!*

- that’s why we need God
- that’s why we need the Day of Atonement
- that’s why we need the Holy Spirit
- that’s why we need to draw close to God every day in prayer and study
- that’s why we need to yield ourselves to Him

This world is being oppressed by Satan the demons through every manipulating device and method possible:

- to deceive people
- to trick them
- to destroy their mind
- destroy belief

Oppressed by their licentious conduct!

Verse 8: “(For that righteous man, dwelling among them, through seeing and hearing *their* lawless activities, *was* tormented day-by-day in *his* righteous soul).

A lot of the problems and difficulties we have is because the world is coming in on us today. Remember what happened when the two angels came to bring them out of Sodom, it was riotous! What do we have today? *Riots! Stupidity! Same thing!*

Verse 9: “*The* Lord knows *how* to rescue *the* Godly out of temptation, and to reserve *the* unrighteous to *the* day of judgment to be punished; but particularly those who walk after *the* flesh in corrupting lust, and **hold in utter contempt the lordship of God...**” (vs 9-10).

How do people hold in contempt the lordship of God? *By following their own traditions, ideas and their own interpretations of the Bible, which are contrary to the Word of God!*

Listen! If we’re going to stand for the Truth, there are going to be people who are not going to like us. That’s just a fact, because ***we love the Truth*** more than they have any understanding or love of God.

Verse 12: “But these—as irrational brute beasts, born to be caught and destroyed—blaspheme those things of which they are ignorant, *and* shall be utterly destroyed in their own corruption. They are bringing upon themselves *the* reward of unrighteousness, while finding pleasure in satisfying *their lustful* desires day-by-day....” (vs 12-13).

Witness all of the sex crimes within the Roman Catholic Church. *Think on that!*

Sidebar: John Guenther is bringing the history of the Church from 100 A.D. to 1600 A.D. and he sends me material all the time. I can’t help but think of the great courage and great strength that God gave to those who were martyred, especially those who went through trials and tortures, and were burned at the stake and had their heads cutoff. Those who were arrested and burned at the stake were singing hymns and glory to God while they were being led away.

Here we have pompous fools as ministers in

too many places, and we have brethren that are willing to follow them! What does God think? *There's coming a vomiting out from Laodiceans, and you'd better be prepared, because it is going to come!*

“...*They are stains and blemishes, reveling in their own deceptions, while feasting together with you*” (v 13).

I cannot help but think about the yearly reunion of graduates from Ambassador College. Guess what, there are those all the way from atheists to those who are still holding to the Truth. Does that not fit what we're reading here? Where did they have their last conference? *In the wonderful sin city of Las Vegas!* Remember, ‘what is done here stays here’! that's the motto of the city! But the motto of God is ***God knows!***

Verse 14: “Having eyes full of adultery and that cannot cease from sin, *they are engaged in seducing unstable souls...*”

- Are you an unstable person?
- Can you be swayed by stupid false doctrine?

That's up to you! You have to stand on your own two feet. If you're unstable, you'd better *get stable with God!*

“...having a heart trained in *lustful* cravings—cursed children who have abandoned the straight way. They have gone astray, having followed the way of Balaam, *the son of Beor*, who loved *the* reward of wickedness. But he received a rebuke for his own transgression; *the* dumb donkey, speaking in a man's voice, restrained the madness of the prophet. These *false prophets are fountains without water, clouds driven by a storm, for whom is reserved the blackest of darkness forever*” (vs 14-17).

They're all demon-inspired! How do we know that?

1-John 4:1: “Beloved, do not believe every spirit... [there are plenty out there today; that's why we have the Day of Atonement] ...but test the spirits whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this *test* you *can* know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in *the* flesh is from God” (vs 1-2).

That is He had human flesh like we have human flesh, and He had the law of sin within Him, like we have the law sin within us. That was necessary in order to condemn sin in the flesh (Rom. 8:3[transcriber's correction]). ***Sin was condemned in the flesh of Jesus Christ, no one else's flesh!***

Verse 3: “And every spirit that does not

confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not from God. And this is the *spirit* of antichrist, which you heard *was* to come, and even now it is already in the world. You are of God, little children, and have overcome them because greater is He Who *is* in you than the one who *is* in the world. They are of the world; because of this, they speak of the world, and the world listens to them” (vs 3-5).

Do you understand that, brethren? Notice the difference! ***That's why the Sabbath and Holy Days are so important!***

I can't get over it. I remember one woman I used to know years ago. She was supposedly so dedicated and such a wonderful woman in serving, praying and all of this sort of thing. When all of the changes came, and everyone was told it was all right to celebrate Christmas, they ran out and got a Christmas tree! She said, ‘All of these years I missed the smell and the aroma of the Christmas tree in the house.’ *Amazing!*

Can people be led astray and back into the slop trough of the swine of Satan the devil? *Yes, indeed!*

Let's see another sign of I, and this sure applies to us today, because of all that is in the world, all the gadgets and things that are going on. I mean, it is something! It's getting so that you won't even have to think! Just hook yourself up to ‘Watson’! Artificial intelligence! ‘We'll do your thinking for you; isn't that nice of us?’

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.**” *That's why it's important that every day, day-by-day:*

- prayer
- study
- yieldedness to God
- overcoming
- watching

Being alert to the things that are in the world that are going to try and appeal to the lust of the eyes, the lust of the mind to draw you away from God!

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!*

Verse 17: “And the world and its lust is passing away... [it all comes to nothing] ...**but the one who does the will of God abides forever.**”

The reason that we keep all the things that

God wants us to keep, and to maintain the Spirit of God and grow in grace and knowledge is *because the goal is:*

- eternal life
- rulership of the world
- living in New Jerusalem
- expanding into the greatness of the universe

Think of that! Why is Satan after us? The truth of the matter is that we are the most important people in the world!

Not the ones that we look at in the world and see out there who are presidents, prime ministers, chief executives, television mucky-mucks and all this sort of thing. **NO! The people of God are the most important people in the world because we're going to rule the world!**

- Do you grasp that?
- Do you understand why there's a fight?
- Do you understand why Satan comes after us?
- Do you understand why these things are important that we really grasp and understand and hold to?

Verse 18: "Little children, it is *the* last time; and just as you have heard that the antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have risen up, by which we know that it is *the* last time."

This is the beginning of it. At first they were leaving, which was good that they left. Later they were kicking the brethren out and kicking the Apostle John out. Isn't that what we have today? Look at the organization that it grew to. That's why when John saw Babylon the Great, the harlot woman sitting on the great beast, he wondered with amazement! He was awestruck!

- How could this come out of the Church of God?
- And with all of these other religions associated with it?
- How could it get to the point that they killed those for the name of Christ and killed the saints?

All of that blood is on their hands! Amazing, isn't it? *Yes, indeed!*

Verse 19: "They went out from among us, but they were not of us because if they were of us, they would have remained with us; nevertheless, **they left that they might be exposed to show that they all were not of us.**"

2-John^[transcriber's correction] is powerfully full of meaning; Verse 1: "The elder to *the* chosen

lady... [the Church] ...and her children... [us who are alive and have the Spirit of God] ...whom I love in Truth, and not I alone, but also all those who have known the Truth."

- it is *the Truth* that is going to keep us straight
- it is *the love of God* that is going keep us straight

Verse 2: "For *the* sake of the Truth that is dwelling in us, and shall be with us forever: Grace, mercy, *and* peace shall be with us from God *the* Father, and from *the* Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love." (vs 2-3).

That's what it has to be. We have to fight the world, and there's enough of it out there; we don't need all the confusion and stupidity within.

Verse 4: "I rejoiced exceedingly that I have found among your children those who are **walking in Truth...**"

- walking in the way of the Lord
- Christ is the Way, the Truth, the Life
- walking in the Truth

"...exactly as we received commandment from the Father. And now I beseech you, lady, not as though I am writing a new commandment to you, but that which we have *observed* from *the* beginning, that we love one another. And this is the love of God: **that we walk according to His commandments...**" (vs 4-6).

- Truth
- commandments
- walking in Truth
- walking in commandments

YES! Not as the Protestants do, 'The ones we agree with it and accept.' As the Mormons say, 'How do we know that it's been translated properly?' *Do a little study and you'll find out!*

"...This is the commandment, exactly as you heard from *the* beginning, that you might walk in it, because **many deceivers have entered into the world...**" (vs 6-7). *Now the apostasy is taking hold!*

"...those who do not confess *that* Jesus Christ has come in the flesh. This is *the spirit* of the deceiver and the antichrist. Watch out for yourselves in order that we may not lose the things we have accomplished, but *that* we may receive a full reward" (vs 7-8).

What a warning! Think about it! He was very intent in wanting them to keep the Truth and the love!

Verse 9: “**Anyone who transgresses and does not continue in the doctrine of Christ does not have God....**” Transgressing the Law of God, the whole teaching, everything that He has ***does not have God!*** Protestants, Catholics, Orthodox and independents! If you don’t keep the commandments of God in Truth, and if you don’t observe the Sabbath, Holy Days and Passover, ***you do not have God!***

Isn’t that what John wrote? And Paul wrote the same thing, too, because he have the same warning!

“...*But* the one who continues in the doctrine of Christ **has both the Father and the Son.** If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, **do not receive him into your house...**” (vs 9-10).

‘That would be unfriendly.’ *NO! You don’t want it in your house! and Not in your congregation!*

“...and do not say to him, ‘Welcome!’ [Is that politically correct behavior today? *No!*] ...For anyone who says, ‘Welcome!’ to him is partaking in his evil works. I have many things to write... [yes, there was a lot for him to write] ...but I do not wish to *convey these things to you* with paper and ink; but I hope to come to you and speak face to face in order that our joy may be *completely full*” (vs 10-12).

3-John 5: “Beloved, you are faithfully practicing whatever you have been doing for the brethren and for strangers, who have testified of your love before *the Church*. You will do well to send them on their way in a manner worthy of God; because for the *sake of His* name they went forth *preaching*, taking nothing from the Gentiles. For this cause, we are personally obligated to receive *those who do such service*, in order that we may be fellow workers in the Truth. I wrote to the Church, but Diotrephes, the one who loves to be chief among them, does not accept us” (vs 5-9).

Diotrephes kicked out the Apostle John!

Verse 10: “Because of this very thing, if I come, I will call him to account for the actions that he is practicing with evil words—maliciously berating us; and he is not satisfied with these things, ***for he himself neither receives the brethren, nor does he permit those who wish to receive the brethren, but he forbids them and casts them out of the Church.***”

Sounds like something many of us went through in recent years, not too far back!

Verse 11: “Beloved, do not imitate that which is evil; rather, *imitate* that which is good. The one who practices good is of God... [good of God,

not the ‘good’ of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil] ...**but the one who practices evil has not seen God.**”

- I’ve seen Jesus Christ
- I’ve seen God
- I had a vision from God
- He told me all of this

Listen! All of that is straight from Satan the devil!
That’s why we have the Day of Atonement!

Verse 12: “We have received testimony from everyone on behalf of Demetrius, and from the Truth itself; and we also bear witness, and you know that our witness is true. I had many things to write, but *now* I will not write *them* with ink and pen; for I hope to see you shortly, and I will speak with you face to face. Peace *be* to you. *Our* friends salute you. Salute the friends by name” (vs 12-15).

Amazing how suddenly this was talking place in the Churches of God. We have seen it! Someone asked me about the parable of wheat and the tares: Do you suppose that could have cyclical fulfillment? ***Yes! God separates the tares from the wheat!***

That’s why we have to really yield to God, love God, love one another!

Now that we’re going to the Feast of Tabernacles, or wherever we are at the Feast, have a marvelous Feast and spend time together, rejoice together, look forward to the plan of God that we’re going to take over and rule the world. Satan is going to be removed! All of these things will be changed! We will reign a thousand years!

Have a good Feast of Tabernacles!

Scriptural References:

- 1) Leviticus 23:26-32
- 2) Leviticus 16:7-10, 15-16, 20-26, 29-31
- 3) Leviticus 25:3, 8-13
- 4) Matthew 4:1-9, 11
- 5) Luke 4:14-20
- 6) 1 Timothy 4:1-2
- 7) 2 Peter 1:19-21
- 8) 2 Peter 2:1-10, 12-17
- 9) 1 John 4:1-5
- 10) 1 John 2:15-19
- 11) 2 John 1-12
- 12) 3 John 5-15

Scriptures quoted, not referenced:

- Revelation 12
- Ezekiel 28

- Isaiah 14
- Revelation 20
- Deuteronomy 8
- Matthew 24
- Acts 8; 13
- Romans 8:3

Also referenced:

- Church at Home series: *The Shroud of Turin*
(churchathome.org)
- Book: *God's Plan for Mankind Revealed by His Sabbath and Holy Days* by Fred R. Coulter
- Sermon Series: *Ecumenism: Satan's Gentle Touch to Deceive*

FRC:bo
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Welcome to Feast of Tabernacles

A foretaste of dwelling with God

Fred R. Coulter—September 23, 2018

Greetings, brethren! Welcome to the Feast of Tabernacles 2018, and time just keeps going on! Here we are preparing for the Kingdom of God and the greatest thing that's going to happen to this world. It's very interesting how the whole Bible relates to the fulfillment of the Feast of Tabernacles and the Last Great Day.

We'll see that beginning tomorrow, but today let's ask:

- Why are we here?
- What do we understand?
- What do we really believe?
- Do we believe it to live by it?

Jesus said to **'live by every Word of God.'** Yes that's why we're here. If we didn't believe it we wouldn't be here.

People not in the Church or in other churches of the world will ask us, 'What makes you think that you know more than all of our great religious leaders?' We know that *God has 'chosen the foolish things of the world,' and that's us!* He didn't choose the high and mighty. Psa. 25 tells us why *we* know, and why *the world* doesn't know.

Psalms 25:1: "To You, O LORD, do I lift up my soul. O my God, I trust in You... [notice every word, because these are all important] ...do not let me be ashamed, let not my enemies triumph over me" (vs 1-2).

There are many enemies out there lurking and waiting in the wings to come and get us. More and more anti-Christian things are coming to the fore. While it may look like there may be a little more peace in the world for a little while, ***the forces of evil that are coming against all forms of Christianity are gaining momentum!*** There will be the day coming when everything will be for the last shot: Church at Home (churchathome.org).

Verse 3: "Yea, let none who wait on You be ashamed..." *That's all of us!* God wants us not to be ashamed; He wants us to:

- rejoice
 - be thankful
 - be alert to the things that are happening
- and He wants us most of all*
- to really grow in grace and knowledge and prepare for what the meaning of the Feast of Tabernacles shows us

"...let them be ashamed who deal treacherously

without cause. Show me Your ways, O LORD; teach me Your paths" (vs 3-4).

True Christianity is *a way of life*, and ***Jesus is that way! He is the Truth and He is the Life!*** Notice how this ties in directly with the New Testament. Amazing isn't it?

Verse 5: "Lead me in Your Truth and teach me..." *Now think about that!* We're told that ***we will all be taught of God!*** How is that? *That's because we have the Word of God!* It's inspired of God. So, whatever we learn from here and with God's Spirit *we're being taught by God!* Amazing isn't it?

"....for You are the God of my salvation; on You do I wait all the day long. Remember, O LORD, Your tender mercies and Your loving kindness, for they have been of old. Do not remember the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions; according to Your loving kindness remember me for Your goodness sake, O LORD" (vs 5-7).

We have the Passover, baptism, forgiveness of sin, and removing our sins away from us as far as the east is from the west! Amazing how the Bible over and over again shows us how it's all one fantastic marvelous book.

Verse 8: "Good and upright is the LORD; therefore, He will teach sinners in **the way**. The meek He will guide in judgment; and the meek He will teach **His way**" (vs 8-9). Right there in two verses ***the way of the Lord!***

Verse 4: "Show me **Your ways**, O LORD; teach me **Your paths**"—*all the paths of the road!* Jesus said, 'I am the Way and the Truth.' ***Way*** comes from the word 'hodos,' and 'x-hodos'—the book of Exodus—tells us how God brought the children of Israel out from Egypt. God is 'x-hodosing' us out of Babylon the Great *spiritually*.

The world doesn't know us. But just think what a surprise it is going to be, and we're going to be part of that, brethren.

Verse 10: "All the paths of the LORD are mercy and Truth to those who keep His covenant and His testimonies. For Your name's sake, O LORD, pardon my iniquity, for it is great. What man is he who fears the LORD? He shall teach him in **the way** that He shall choose. His soul shall dwell in ease, and his seed shall inherit the earth" (vs 10-13).

Isn't that what we were going to inherit? *Yes!* Psa. 37 says three times *inherit the earth!* What are

we? We're co-inheritors with Christ (Rom. 8). See how it ties all in together? There's the *physical* there's the *spiritual*, but they all tie together in one great fantastic *mystery to the world, but knowledge to us!*

Verse 14: "**The secret** of the LORD is with those who fear Him..." The New Testament calls it *mystery!* What is the secret of the Lord? *His whole plan as pictured by the Sabbath, Passover and Holy Days of God!* The secret is that **if you don't love God and keep His commandments**, believe Him, and keep the commandments of the Sabbath, Passover and Holy Days, **you will never understand!** It's that simple!

People in the world think that they can take the occult holidays of the world and tack on the name of Jesus Christ and think that they're Christian. Well, *they are not!* They may have some Christian principles, but that's not what true Christianity is all about. We'll see that in a little bit. "...and He will show them His covenant" (v 14).

Now let's look at one of the *secrets of God* in Isa. 9. This is something that the Jews have never understood though they have the Old Testament. Just like the Christians of the world they have the whole Bible, but 'Christians' say that you don't need to read the Old Testament because that's all been fulfilled. So, they concentrate on the New Testament and they don't even understand what it says. They extract from it Christian living principles *minus* obedience to God! Now, you think on that!

Isaiah 9:6 is a great mystery to the Jews: "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." *Let's analyze this a little bit more:*

"...**Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God...**" How can a physical baby be called "...The Mighty God..." unless He's God manifested in the flesh? *The only way you find out about that is in the New Testament!*

"...**The Everlasting Father...**" When will Jesus be become a Father? When He's married to the Church and all the children that come into the Kingdom of God through the Millennium will be the children of Jesus Christ and the Church. Therefore, He will be an "...Everlasting Father..." *because He lives forever!*

God the Father will be the Father of those in the first resurrection, and He likewise is an *Everlasting Father*. Now think about that. That's all contained here in the Bible.

Verse 7: "Of the increase of *His* government

and peace *there shall be* no end, 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." *Amazing!*

Even the disciples wanted to know, just before Jesus ascended to heaven for the last time, 'Will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?' They were all looking for Jesus to establish the kingdom. *But God has a greater plan a bigger plan far beyond what they ever dreamt of!* They had some glimpses of it, but today we're in a position to look back and see what God has been doing and how He has been doing it. We have some greater understanding.

Let's see what God wanted to do with Israel in the letter of the Law. It's possible to keep the commandments of God in the letter. It will do certain things for you and certain blessings will come from God if you do. That's why there are people in the world who are what you would call *decent upright citizens*. They live good lives, they try to be good and honest, etc.. even though they're still deceived by the false religion of this world with their Sunday-keeping and holiday-keeping. They only come so far.

Just before the children of Israel were to go into the Holy Land, Moses gave them the book of Deuteronomy. He reminded them of everything that went on up through the 40 years that they wandered in the wilderness. When the 12 spies came back from spying out the land (Num. 14), ten of them were moaning and groaning and saying, 'We can't possibly do it.' Only Caleb and Joshua said that *God will fight for us!* Because the people didn't believe, they wandered in the desert for 40 years. So at the end of the 40 years after Moses was told he's not going to go into the 'promised land'...

Deut. 4—let's apply these things to us because we are to enter into the Kingdom of God to rule the world. Let's apply these things to us so that we stay on the straight and narrow path and the way as we saw in Psalms 25.

Deuteronomy 4:1: "And now, O Israel, hearken to the statutes and to the judgments which I teach you, in order to **do** them..." Jesus said, 'Why do you call me *Lord, Lord* and you do not the things that I say.' Same thing.

"...so that you may live and go in and possess the land, which the LORD God of your fathers gives to you.... [for us to enter into the Kingdom of God] ...You shall not add to the word, which I command you; neither shall you take away from it, so that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you" (vs 1-

2). *We're going to see how similar that is to the New Testament!*

Verse 3: "Your eyes have seen what the LORD did because of Baal Peor. For the LORD your God has destroyed from among you all the men that followed Baal Peor. And you who held fast to the LORD your God *are* alive, every one of you, this day. Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments, even as the LORD my God commanded me, so that you should do so in the land where you go to possess it" (vs 3-5).

That was a type of the coming Kingdom of God. So as we read these things let's apply them to us today. We will see a little bit later that there's a *spiritual application* for it is well.

Verse 6: "And you shall keep and do *them*, for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all these statutes and say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.'" *That's what we should be his physical Israel wise and understanding people!*

But we're foolish and stupid and given over to our own lust. Today it's absolutely unbelievable. Here is what the nations were to do., look to the physical nation of Israel and they would say:

Verse 7: "For what nation is so great whose God *is* so near to them, as the LORD our God *is*, whenever we call upon Him? And what great nation has statutes and judgments that *are so* righteous as **all this Law, which I set before you today?**" (vs 7-8).

Think about everything that God has set before us. Think about all the understanding that we have with the whole Bible and the New Testament. Why? *Because we love God and keep his commandments!*

Always remember that the greatest commandment is ***love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your mind and with all your strength!*** This is the first and greatest commandment, and the second is like it: ***you shall love your neighbor as yourself!*** And upon these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Everything in the Old Testament is based on *loving God*. Don't you think that all of the patriarchs of God loved God, obeyed His voice and kept His commandments like it was said of Abraham. You know that that was true of Abel, Enoch, Noah and all of the kings who were righteous and all of the prophets who loved and obeyed God. *Yes indeed!*

I want you to remember what we covered concerning what Paul told the elders to do: ***Take***

heed! So likewise with us; ***we are to let God's Spirit rule in our lives through the Word of God, and we are to take heed to ourselves and our own weaknesses so that our sins do not take hold of us!***

Instead of having just the physical Law to keep it in the letter, now we have the Spirit of the Law, *which is going to convert our mind*, something they never had with the covenant with Israel. But with the covenant of Israel here's what Moses told them:

Verse 9: "Only take heed to yourself and diligently keep yourself..."

If you don't do it you begin to forget. You put self, pleasure, things and success first, and then God just gradually goes away. Like it says there in John 3, the one who is of God comes to the Light, and Christ is the Light. *So we are coming to the Light constantly, to Christ!* If you turn and go the other way because the Light exposes your sins, and you walk away, sooner or later the Light becomes dimmer and dimmer, and blank.

"...lest you forget the things, which your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. But teach them to your children, and your children's children, to remember the day that you stood before the LORD your God in Horeb, when the LORD said to me [Moses], 'Gather the people to Me, and I will make them hear My words so that they may learn to fear Me all the days that they shall live upon the earth, and they may teach their children.'" (vs 9-10).

So, they came near. God spoke all of these words. What happened? 'Moses, you speak to us. Don't let God speak to us, lest we die.'

Now we're going to see something very, very interesting, because the whole meaning of the Feast of Tabernacles, as we will learn beginning tomorrow, ***is to dwell with God!*** That's how it started with Adam and Eve, and it ends up in Rev. 21 & 22: ***dwelling with God***, 'behold the tabernacle of God is with men'; ***men and women made perfect!*** That's why we're here!

It's quite amazing that if you analyze John 14-17, that it actually lays out the whole substance of the New Covenant and the plan of God. The plan of God begins with *the Sabbath*. What comes after that? *The Passover!* And these words in John 14-17 were spoken by Jesus on his last Passover night, spoken to his apostles.

Then we have Unleavened Bread, getting sin out of our lives, and conversion of our mind and heart. That comes with Pentecost and receiving the Spirit of God, and then growing and overcoming. Even persecution, where those would take us out and

kill us and thinking they are doing service to God.

Read John 17 where Christ lays out in His final prayer, the finality of the plan of the New Covenant. That's amazing! The Bible is truly the most amazing astounding book in the world. Even though we have it, and even though we study it, it's something that we will not fully grasp in our lifetime regardless of how long we study it or how long we've been in the Church or whatever.

Always remember that most of the critical mistakes by the patriarchs of old and the kings of old, happened in their latter years or their old age. We'll see some of that as we go through the Feast of Tabernacles.

John 14:1: "Let not your heart be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in Me.... [have faith] ...In My Father's house are many dwelling places..." (vs 1-2).

- What is the Father's house? *New Jerusalem!*
- Isn't that where the Father and Christ are going to dwell?

We won't need any light because the glory of God lightens New Jerusalem. When we read it and see what kind of city that is, that's awesome and overwhelming. But this is what God has promised us!

"...if it were otherwise, I would have told you. I am going to prepare a place for you" (v 2). *Think about what Christ is doing preparing for all the saints down through time:*

- a place to live
- a job
- to have a work to do
- a truth to preach

in the coming Government of God, which Christ is going to sit on the Throne of David and be King over all the world. This is what God has called us to!

Verse 3: "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again..." As we covered on Trumpets, when He comes it's going to be mighty awesome.

"...and receive you to Myself; so that where I am, you may be also" (v 3). ***To dwell with God!*** That's the whole purpose of the Feast of Tabernacles, and Jesus was God in the flesh.

Verse 4: "'And where I am going you know, and the way you know.' Thomas said to Him, 'Lord, we do not know where You are going; how then can we know the way?'" (vs 4-5).

In v 6 Jesus said some of the most important

words in the Bible: "Jesus said to him, 'I am **the** Way... [not **a** way] ...and **the** Truth... [not **a** truism] ...and **the** Life...'"

That's important. Remember what Jesus said to the young man who wanted to follow him. And he said 'I'll follow you wherever you go, but first let me go bury my father.' What did Jesus say? *Let the dead bury the dead, because spiritually as far as God is concerned, those who are unconverted are as good as dead! They have the law of sin and death with in them, and life only comes from Christ!*

That's why we have to be buried in the watery grave of baptism ***to get rid of the old self, to get rid of the carnality that we have, and walk in God's way!***

Verse 13: "And whatever you shall ask in My name, this will I do that the Father may be glorified in the Son."

Remember that regardless of the trial, regardless of how depressing it may be, ***Christ and God the Father are there to help you.***

- turn to Them with all your heart, mind, soul and being
- ask Them to help you
- ask Them to inspire you

They will! They surely will!

Verse 14. "If you ask anything in My name, I will do *it*.... [according to the will of God] ...If you love Me..." (vs 14-15).

- a lot of people say they love of the Lord
- a lot of people say they love Jesus

"...keep the commandments—namely, My commandments" (v 15).

Magnify that and understand that Jesus was the Lord God of the Old Testament, God manifested in the flesh. This covers more than just going through and trying to pick out his commandments. But I guarantee you one thing, you'll find all the Ten Commandments of God, and all about the love of God in the words that He has said and in the words that He inspired the apostles to write for us. ***God's plan is going to be carried out in power, strength and wonder!***

Verse 16: "And I will ask the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that it may be with you throughout the age: *Even* the Spirit of the Truth... [Psa. 45 where we began] ...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. I will not leave you orphans..." (vs 16-18).

Lord, how are you going to do this? Verse 21: “The one who has My commandments... [Do we have them? *Yes!*] ...and is keeping them... [yes] ...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.’ Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, ‘Lord, what has happened that You are about to manifest Yourself to us, and not to the world?’ Jesus answered and said to him...” (vs 21-23).

Now vs 23 & 24 are the most important of all, because this shows that *in this life that God is dwelling in us with the earnest of the Holy Spirit!* We, in a sense, *are tabernacling with God as a foretaste of what it’s going to be like in the Kingdom of God!*

Verse 23: “Jesus answered and said to him, ‘If anyone loves Me, he will keep My Word.... [that’s His whole message] ...and My Father will love him...”

- when you get down
- when you get depressed
- when you’re facing a trial
- when it seems like it’s more than you can handle

Remember, when all else fails God loves you! The Father Himself loves you.

“...and **We** will come to him and make Our abode with him” (v 23). *That’s the earnest of the Spirit!*

Pentecost pictures the full payment of receiving the Spirit of God so that we can become spirit beings; that we will be like Christ in his glorified form. We’ll be able to have glory much less than His, but nevertheless it’s glory. “...and We will come to him and make Our abode... [dwelling place] ...with him.”

Verse 24. “The one who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the Word that you hear is not Mine, but the Father’s, Who sent Me.”

2-Cor. 6—Paul writes that this is why we’re called of the world, because we’re not in the system of it we don’t live like it. We live God’s way in the world and Jesus said that God the Father is going to protect us from the evil one, Satan the devil, *if* we yield ourselves to God. Here’s a warning. Just like Moses gave the warning to the children of Israel (Deut. 4).

2-Corinthians 6:14. Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and lawlessness *have* in common?.... [*nothing*] ... And what fellowship *does* light *have* with darkness?.... [can’t be] ...And what union *does*

Christ *have* with Belial?....” (vs 14-15)—all those foolish pastors and prophets out there that think they can take the days of Satan the devil—the occult holidays and their Baal-worship, Sunday—and put that with a Christian covering. They have a false Christianity, and yet, they think they’re doing the will of God. ***Never happened!***

“...Or what part *does* a believer *have* with an unbeliever? And what agreement *is there between* a temple of God... [we are a temple of God, because we have the Holy Spirit within us] ...and idols? For you are a temple of *the* living God, exactly as God said: ‘I will dwell in them... [John 14] ...and walk in *them*; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people” (vs 15-16).

Today, because we were living in Babylon the Great, there’s a very important verse for us; v 17: “Therefore, **come out from the midst of them and be separate,** says **the Lord,** ‘and touch not *the* unclean, and I will receive you; and I shall be a Father to you, and **you shall be My sons and daughters,**’ says **the Lord Almighty**” (vs 17-18).

What does this impel us to do? 2-Corinthians 7:1: “Now then, beloved, since we have these promises, we should purge ourselves from every defilement of *the* flesh and *the* spirit, **perfecting Holiness in the fear of God.**”

Now that’s what we are to do. That’s what the Feast of Tabernacles is all about. This is a preview of our work for a thousand years in the Government of God under Jesus Christ Who is ***King of kings and Lord of lords.*** So, have a great Feast see you tomorrow!

Scriptural References:

- 1) Psalm 25:1-8, 4, 10-14
- 2) Isaiah 9:6-7
- 3) Deuteronomy 4:1-10
- 4) John 14:1-6, 13-18, 21-24
- 5) 2 Corinthians 6:14-18
- 6) 2 Corinthians 7:1

Scriptures quoted, not referenced:

- Psalm 37
- Romans 8
- Numbers 14
- John 3
- Revelation 21; 22
- John 15-17

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Glory of the Millennium

(Day 1—FOT)

*The greatest and most historical thing to happen since creation:
Jerusalem is going to be the most fantastic place on earth!*

Fred R. Coulter—September 24, 2018

Greeting, brethren! Welcome to the Feast of Tabernacles!

Keeping the Feast of Tabernacles and all the Holy Days of God are very, very important. We know that because the Bible teaches us in the Old Testament, Lev. 23.

‘The Feast and Holy Days of God are something that has already been fulfilled. That’s from the Old Covenant, so we don’t need it today with the New Covenant’ *is the way that the Christianity of this world presents it today!* With their Sunday and holidays, they are **completely blinded** as to what is going to take place in prophecy.

So, let’s come back to Lev. 23 and read about the Feast of Tabernacles. We’re going to see that this portrays, as the Bible shows, the coming Kingdom of God on this earth, and we’re going to be the resurrected saints to come back with Christ from the Sea of Glass and take over the world. ***The greatest and most historical thing to happen since creation!***

Let’s get our thinking straight and let’s grasp the importance of this. Here is *the seed* of it. All of the Holy Days listed in Lev. 23 are like a seed. The rest of the Bible explains what kind of plant grows from this seed. The seed is not the finished product. *The plant or the tree, and its fruit represents the finished product!* Let’s keep that in mind as we go through this Feast of Tabernacles this year.

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. On the first day *shall be* a Holy convocation. You shall do no servile work *therein*.’” (vs 34-35).

That’s why we’re here, it’s a Holy convocation; it’s a time when we all come together as brethren, or there may be smaller groups scattered because of circumstances today, due to age or whatever other circumstances that there may be. We have probably have a hundred other small video sites where the brethren are there few in number. But that’s okay, we don’t have to worry about the numbers. *We have to worry about the quality of what we are doing and what we are learning!*

This is a Holy Day! When they had the animal sacrifices; v 36: “Seven days you shall offer an offering made by fire to the LORD....” Today, because we don’t have a temple on the earth and we don’t offer animal sacrifices, we give of our offerings—tithes and offerings—from the increase that we have from our work, occupation or business.

This is how the Gospel is able to be preached, and how we are able to do the things that we do. As you know, every year we send you an accounting for how the money was used:

- for the Church
- Church at Home
- reaching out to new people
- those who are in the Church as well

Then it says, as it comes to the end of the Feast of Tabernacles, and the day that is least mentioned in the Bible, *the eighth day*, becomes another gigantic momentous, historical, eternal thing to take place: *The Last Great Day!* Everybody who wants to know about that, stick around for all eight days.

“...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. And you shall do no servile work *therein*. These are the Feasts of the LORD **which you shall proclaim to be Holy convocations** to offer an offering made by fire to the LORD, a burnt offering and a grain offering, a sacrifice, and drink offerings, everything on its day; 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” (vs 36-38).

All of these are involved. There is a great principle involved: ***where your treasure is, there is where your heart will be!*** The treasures that we are seeking are not the things on the earth. But it’s the treasure that comes from God, eternal life and what we will be doing and how we will be serving the world. That’s what is the important thing. But in order for the Gospel to be preached between now and that time, we also have to, as it is in modern colloquialism, *put your money where your mouth is!* That will result in:

- blessings from God

- providing the things that are needed for brethren to grow and overcome
so they can qualify to be in the first resurrection and be in the Kingdom of God

- reaching out to new people to help them to come to the knowledge of the Truth

We know that in Deut. 16, that it tells us for the Feast of Tabernacles as well as Unleavened Bread and Pentecost, that we are to *give according to the blessing that the Lord God has given to us!* So, we are to keep that in account and remember that.

(pause for the offering)

Thank you very much for what you have provided, and we will use it wisely and give you a full accounting at the end of the year.

We know that Trumpets is when we return from the Sea of Glass with Christ, the final Battle of Armageddon takes place, and we know that Satan and the demons have to be put into the abyss. Then we come to Rev. 20:4^[transcriber's correction], and this is the beginning of the Millennium.

Revelation 20:4: “And I saw thrones; and they that sat upon them, and judgment was given to them...”

We are going to judge the world; we are going to rule the world under Christ! Think about that! Rev. 5 tells us that we are going to rule on the earth, not in heaven. ***On the earth!*** That’s where all the troubles are, and they need to be solved.

“...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...**” (v 4).

Remember the serpent in Gen. 3 is a beast. Doesn’t Rev. 12 & 13 talk about that ancient serpent Satan the devil? That includes all of those, going clear back who attain to the first resurrection “...**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).

That’s a difficult length of time for us to contemplate with our ‘little pea brains’ that we have.

Verse 5: “...This *is* the first resurrection.” That tells us that if it is the first, *there’s got to be more than one!* Otherwise it would say, ‘this is ***the*** resurrection.’

Verse 6: “Blessed and Holy” think about what this calls us! At the present time we’re blessed and Holy brethren, but we’re not spirit beings. At this time it’s talking about them being:

Verse 6: “Blessed and Holy... [as spirit beings] ...is the one who has part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power....”

That’s also interesting, too, because ***this tells us that in the second resurrection that death still has power over those who will not repent and believe!***

“...But they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years” (v 6). That’s something to really contemplate! The Feast of Tabernacles is where we’re going to learn:

- How is God going to do this?
- What are we going to do?
- How we need to prepare for it?

Now let’s look at a four minute video, and draw some parallels from it. This is the video that President Donald Trump showed Kim Jung Un at the summit in Singapore. Most people don’t realize it, because ‘fake news’ says, ‘This is just off the cuff, Donald Trump doesn’t know what he’s doing.’ They deliberately did not report that Trump had over a hundred experts working on this for months and months before the summit. Think on that!

It’s important to understand something here that we can add into it: it appears that there’s going to be a good number of year before the return of Christ comes, so there has to be the Gospel preached. There has to be a relative peace in order for that to be done. As I’ve mentioned many times, the only place in the world that this can be done is in the United States of America. It’s the only country in the world where there are enough brethren who are called to participate to make it possible to do the things we need to do than any other country in the world.

So, if President Donald Trump is going to help bring some peace to the world, it’s not because he’s a miracle man, though God is probably leading him to do many things like He has other leaders in the past, such as King Nebuchadnezzar, King Cyrus and Alexander the Great, those men who had nothing to do with the nation of Israel or the Church of God.

But Donald Trump probably comes from one of the nations of the ten tribes of Israel. What that exactly is, we don’t know. So, if he’s there to

bring peace for a short time, this means we have got to be busy really preaching the Gospel.

I want you to watch this four-minute video and we'll draw some parallels, and we will see what a fantastic thing that it was when he presented this to Kim Jong Un.

(pause for video)

Article and Video: *Trump's Disruptive Innovation: A Film Trailer Starring Kim Jong Un* by Petr Svab

The Epoch Times, June 12, 2018:
{theepochtimes.com/trumps-disruptive-innovation-fictional-movie-trailer-starring-kim-jong-un_2560166.html}

Among the many details prepared to make the June 12 U.S.–North Korea summit go off without a hitch was a short video apparently designed to instill confidence and excitement in North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, encouraging him to part with the past and usher his country into a new era

The roughly four-minute video, styled in the fashion of blockbuster movie trailers, seems to have been tailored specifically for Kim, hitting upon his life experiences, personality traits, and aspirations.

The format itself is well-suited to Kim, who grew up with his father's massive DVD collection—30,000 titles, according to GQ.

The video starts by ramping up the stakes for Kim, declaring that “there comes a time when only a few are called upon to make a difference.”

It acknowledges the longstanding tensions on the Korean Peninsula and all the failed attempts to resolve the conflict, as if history was repeating itself. But then it adds a twist: that history only “seems” to go in circles. While North Korea was stuck in the past, the world has expanded in prosperity.

“The past doesn't have to be the future,” the narrator says. “Out of the darkness can come the light, and the light of hope can burn bright.”

“What if,” the video asks, “a people that share a common and rich heritage can find a common future?”, referring to the idea of a reunified Korea, which builds on the historic meeting of North and South state heads earlier this year.

But then the stakes are raised even more, presenting Kim with a “special moment in time when a man is presented with one chance that may never be repeated,” ending with a scene of a basketball player doing a slam-dunk—Kim is a basketball fan.

“What will he choose? To show vision and leadership? Or not?” the narrator asks. Suddenly, the tone changes, presenting an ultimatum.

“There can only be two results. One of moving back,” the narrator states, showing pictures of dilapidated habitats, empty store shelves, rockets launching, and a fighter jet flying above a flotilla of American aircraft carriers.

“Or one of moving forward,” the narrator states.

With decisive music, the video shows a rocket launch footage in reverse followed by an aerial image of the Korean Peninsula at night with the North covered in darkness. Suddenly, the city lights spread to the North, Pyongyang shining just as brightly as Seoul.

“A new world can begin today,” the narrator says over an image of massive skyscrapers being constructed in Pyongyang, dwarfing the pyramid-like Ryugyong Hotel, the tallest structure in the isolated country.

“One of friendship, respect, and goodwill,” the narrator continues. “Be part of that world.”

Then the question comes again: “What if? Can history be changed?”

The video then puts Kim on the world stage, offering him to be the hero of his own movie, one who brings prosperity to his people and the world's respect to himself, striking at both his ego and his sense of nationalism.

“It comes down to a choice,” the narrator says. “On this day. In this time. At this moment. The world will be watching, listening, anticipating, hoping.”

“The future remains to be written,” it concludes.

Notice that it talks about the *one man*. Think about that in relationship to our calling. ***The one man, the resurrected Jesus Christ, is the One Who is going to bring peace to this earth! Remember that Jesus Christ was Creator, Lord God of the Old Testament.***

When He came in the flesh He was a builder. It says *carpenter* in the New Testament, but that means builder. He worked with stone and timber and built buildings.

Also, it's very interesting that Trump says that unless you (Kim Jong Un) choose peace, it's going to revolve back to what it was before, *war and destruction!* That's why Trump showed North Korea in two fashions:

1. destroyed because Kim does choose peace
2. all lit up at night because Kim chose peace and prosperity

Isn't it interesting that in 1-Thess. 5 it says, 'When they say peace and safety, then sudden destruction comes upon them' So, there has to be a time of peace. Let's not be fooled by some of these things that we slow down and don't do what we're supposed to do.

We know that we're resurrected at the seventh trump, covered on Pentecost. We go to the Sea of Glass and we all get familiar with what it's going to be like to have a spirit body and mind, and all the things that are going to be. We are going to have our assignments given to us, but let's look at what the world is actually going to be like when we come down to the earth.

We're going to have one of the greatest challenges ever given because of the condition of the earth. As we saw in Revelation there are five major earthquakes. It talks about the day that God rises 'to shake terribly the earth.' Everything is going to upside down, backward, chaotic, confusion—'tohu and bohu'—***because of the war and the actions of Satan the devil, the beast and the false prophet!*** That's why the beast and the false prophet are cast into the Lake of Fire.

Here's what the earth is going to be like. The first part of it is going to literally turn everything upside down on the earth; let's see what the Kingdom of God starts out as. Remember, the book of the Revelation says that *all* the cities fell. That means *all* the buildings, *all* the cities are destroyed.

Isaiah 24:19: "The earth is broken, yea broken down!...."—because of:

- all the earthquakes
- all the wars
- all the plagues
- all the terrible things

"...The earth is crumbling, yea crumbling to pieces! The earth is tottering, yea tottering! 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" (vs 19-20).

That is the end of human society as man has run it under Satan the devil. Satan will be bound and removed. We are going to take over! Look at the challenges that we're going to have.

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, and the kings of the earth upon the earth."

That's all Satan and the demons, and all the leaders of the world. The leaders of the world don't even know the first thing to do that is right. So, there it is right there!

Verse 22: "And they shall be gathered, *as* prisoners are gathered in a dungeon.... [referring to Satan the devil and the demons] ...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... [where Christ is going to setup ***the new government of the Kingdom of God*** of this world] ...in Jerusalem, and gloriously before His elders" (vs 22-23).

Sidebar: What is the Bible? *We know that it's the Word of God!* What is the major theme throughout the whole Bible? which the Feast of Tabernacles helps explain? *To dwell with God!* That starts with Adam & Eve, then Israel, the Church and the Kingdom of God on earth *to dwell with God!* Then on into New Jerusalem, and the new heaven and new earth and God 'dwelling with men and women made perfect.' That's the whole story of the whole Bible. Everything else in between covers the sins:

- of men
- of countries/nations
- of races
- of demons
- of Satan the devil

Isaiah 25:1: "O LORD, You *are* my God; I will exalt You, I will praise Your name; for You have done wonderful *things*... [awesome indeed] ...***Your counsels of old are faithfulness and truth.***" What was the *counsel of old*?

- love Me and keep My commandments
 - obey Me and keep the Truth!
 - I will be your God and you will be My people
- And the other half of the story is:*
- you will be able to become My very spirit sons/daughters and rule with Me

Amazing!

Verse 3: “Therefore, the strong people glorify You, the city of the terrible nations shall fear You.”

We’ll see what’s going to happen, because there will be many encounters by Christ and the nations that are similar to what Donald Trump did with Kim Jong Un, only his was on a smaller scale

Verse 4: “For You are a stronghold to the poor, a stronghold to the needy in his distress, a refuge from the storm, a shadow from the heat, when the blast of the terrible ones *is* like a storm *against* the wall. You shall bring down the noise of foreigners, as the heat in a dry place; even the heat with the shadow of a cloud. The shouting of the terrifying ones shall be brought low” (vs 4-5). *No more war!*

Verse 6: “And in this mountain... [the Government of God] ...the LORD of hosts shall make a feast of fat things for all the people, a feast of wines on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of refined wines on the lees. And He will destroy in this mountain **the face of the covering, which covers all people, and the veil that is woven over all nations**” (vs 6-7).

Isn’t that an amazing verse; strip away all the deception. Remember that it says ‘Satan has deceived the whole world’ (Rev. 12:9), and ‘the whole world worships Satan (Rev. 13). God is going to take away that blindness from them.

Verse 8: “He will destroy death forever... [the ultimate goal] ...and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces. And He shall take away from all the earth the rebuke of His people, for the LORD has spoken it.”

That’s an amazing thing! That gives us preview of what the Millennium is going to be like.

Verse 9: “And one shall say in that day, ‘Lo, this *is* our God. We have waited for Him, and He will save us. This *is* the LORD; we have waited for Him, we will be glad and rejoice in His salvation.’ For the hand of the LORD shall rest in this mountain...” (vs 9-10)—*of Jerusalem*.

Isa. 9 is a prophecy concerning Christ as the One Who is going to King over all the earth. This is quite a prophecy because it talks about Him

- as God
- as a man
- as a baby being born
- that He’s going to sit on the throne of David

All in different time-sequences!

Remember that Isa. 28 says that it’s ‘line upon line, line upon line; here a little, there a little; precept upon precept.’ So, we put it all together, and sometimes that happens in a couple of verses. In these verses that we’re going to read, we’re going to find that’s exactly how these verses are put together. We have to take other parts of the Bible and properly put it together so we get the complete picture.

It’s like a giant puzzle, and how do you put a thousand piece puzzle together? You start with the borders and the corners, and you fill in as you go. That’s how the Bible is put together. The corners and the borders are the laws and commandments of God. If we keep those then we will be able to figure out where the pieces go as God leads us to understand it. Just like Daniel was told that in the end-time ***the wise***—those who belong to God—***shall understand, but none of the wicked shall understand!***

When the Jews read this verse, they couldn’t figure it out, because they understood that God is spirit. So, how could this be?

Isaiah 9:6: “For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulders... [but not right away] ...and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God...”

His name is Jesus Christ and also known as Emmanuel, *God with us*. But these things won’t take place until He comes back to the earth.

“...The Everlasting Father...” (v 6). He will become an Everlasting Father when people begin to come into the Kingdom of God during the Millennium through Christ and the resurrected saints as the Church. Those who come in will be the children of Christ and the Bride. That’s different from the first resurrection where *we are the children of the Father and Jerusalem above is the mother of us all!*

See how these things fit together? Very interesting indeed!

Verse 7: “Of the increase of *His* government and peace *there shall be* no end... [hasn’t even started with peace] ...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.**”

That’s an amazing Scripture! That tells us that it’s going to be the Government of God. We finished Zech. 14 off on the Feast of Trumpets, but let’s see: When does Jesus take over the reigns of government? *When He comes back to the earth!*

Zechariah 14:2: “For I will gather all nations to battle against Jerusalem; 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 and fight against those nations, as when He fought in the day of battle. 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, from the east and to the west, and make a very great valley....” (vs 2-4).

We will see about the coming tabernacle that will be there in Jerusalem.

“...And half of the mountain shall move toward the north, and half of it toward the south.... [v 5 (last sentence)]: ...And the LORD my God shall come, and all the saints with You” (vs 4-5).

Verse 9: “And the LORD shall be King over all the earth...” When it talks about that we’re going to reign with Him for a thousand years, as kings and priests, that’s all the earth, all the nations and people.

“...in that day there shall be one LORD...” (v 9)—and I’m sure there’s going to be one language.

The first thing they’re going to do is start keeping the Feast of Tabernacles, but let’s see what else is going to happen.

It’s also very interesting that the Old Testament has more things by the actual inner-workings of the Kingdom of God coming on this earth, whereas, the New Testament has all of the things necessary so that we qualify to rule and reign with Christ as spirit beings.

Joel 3:16: “The LORD shall also roar out of Zion and utter His voice from Jerusalem. And the heavens and the earth shall shake. But the LORD *will be* the hope of His people and the strength of the children of Israel.”

Where does that start? *Rev. 7 and the 144,000 and then the great innumerable multitude!* All of them will be necessary to help bring the Government of God on this earth.

Verse 17: “Then you shall know that I *am* the LORD your God dwelling in Zion, My Holy mountain. And Jerusalem shall be a Holy thing, and no stranger shall pass through her any more. And it shall be, in that day the mountains shall drop down new wine, and the hills shall flow *with* milk, and all the rivers of Judah shall flow *with* waters; and a fountain shall come forth from the house of the LORD, and shall water the valley of Acacias” (vs

17-18).

Isn’t that fantastic? Now let’s see what else is going to happen. Let’s see one of the first things that we’re going to enforce. We’ll start this right away, even before the tabernacle and everything is setup in Jerusalem.

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, ‘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” (vs 1-2).

- When they come up, what is Christ going to show them?
- Will He show them what it will be like for their nation?
 - ✓ from destruction *to prosperity?*
 - ✓ from starvation and disease *to health and well-being?*
 - ✓ from chaos and confusion, and Satan and the demons *to the rule of the sons and daughters of God as kings and priests?*

He will set that choice before them! If they don’t want to choose it, then He’s going to do like He prophesied to those in Zech. 14; like Egypt and the other nations ***that don’t come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.*** For the nations that have rain, He’s going to take it away. For Egypt that doesn’t have rain, they’re going to have plagues. So, they will soon learn! It talks about that:

Verse 3: “And He shall judge among many people, and will rebuke strong nations afar off...” I think one of the last nations to come under the reign of the Kingdom of God will be like China and India, all the kings of the east.

“...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). Isn’t that going to be great? *Yes, indeed!*

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.**”

Remember what Jesus said? *Heaven and earth shall pass away, but My words shall never pass away!*

Many people are told that the temple in Ezek. 40-48 is the Millennial temple. That is not true! If you read it carefully, beginning in Ezek. 40, you will find that Ezekiel is told to measure the current temple in Jerusalem at that time before it was destroyed. Why would that be necessary? *Think about it!*

The plans originally were given by God to David who drew them out and gave them to Solomon, who gave them to the workers to build the temple according to the specifications that God intended it to be. Since God was getting ready to destroy the temple and send them into exile for 70 years, when they came back, what would they need? *They would need God's instructions on how to build the temple!* That's the temple in Ezek. 40-48.

Then toward the end of Ezekiel, then it gets into the deep river and waters and on out into the ocean. That's a symbolic foretype of the preaching of the Gospel to the whole world, which started at the second temple in Jerusalem (Acts 2).

Now let's see what's going to be in Jerusalem. It's really going to be an amazing thing. It doesn't tell us much about it, but let's read it:

Isaiah 4:5: "And the LORD will create over every dwelling place of Mount Zion, and over her assemblies... [there's going to be a lot of people at Mt. Zion, ruling and reigning with Christ and doing the things that need to be done in Jerusalem, carrying out everything that needs to go on in the whole world.

"...a cloud and smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night; for over all the glory shall be a canopy" (v 5)—*a great canopy over Jerusalem!* Isn't that going to be something?

Verse 6: "And there shall be a tabernacle..." there's not going to be a temple. What will this tabernacle be like? *We're not told, but if God says it's going to be there, it will be there!* If it's going to be there it's going to be marvelous and glorious indeed!

"...for shade by day from the heat, and for refuge, and for shelter from storm and rain" (v 6).

How big will it be? *We don't know!* So, there are quite a few things that we're not told about this, but let's really understand some of the things we need to know concerning the Millennium. That is very good indeed!

Here we have a prophecy of what Jerusalem and Zion will be like; Isaiah 62:1:1: "For Zion's sake I will not be silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until its righteousness goes out as

brightness, and her salvation as a burning torch." *For all people!* That's going to be an amazing thing!

Verse 2: "And the Gentiles will see your righteousness, and all kings your glory... [that will be us as kings and priests] ...and you will be called by a new name, which the mouth of the LORD shall name.... [He's going to rename everything] ...You also will be a crown of glory in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. You will no more be called Forsaken; nor will your land any more be called Desolate; but you will be called My Delight *is* in Her, and your land, Married; for the LORD delights in you, and your land shall be married" (vs 2-4).

That means that it will be properly used according to the way that God wants the land used, and that means that they will be able to have ownership and use of the land. No one is going to come in and take it from them.

Verse 5: "For *as* a young man marries a virgin, so will your sons marry you; and *as* the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, *so* will your God rejoice over you. I have set watchmen upon your walls, O Jerusalem, every day and every night. They shall never be silent day or night; you who remember the LORD, do not be silent" (vs 5-6).

That's very interesting, too. When you read about the throne of God in Rev. 4, they call 'Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty! So, here's a type of it over Jerusalem.

Verse 7: "And give Him [God] no rest until He establishes and makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth." How long is that going to take? *It may take a few years given the disposition of some nations!*

Verse 8: "The LORD has sworn by His right hand, and by the arm of His strength..."

Now, listen to this pledge. Like we read that they will 'learn war no more,' here's another part of that. God says:

"... 'Surely I will no more give your grain *to be* food for your enemies; and the sons of strangers will not drink your wine for which you have labored. But those who have gathered it shall eat it and praise the LORD; and they who collected it shall drink it in My Holy courts'" (vs 8-9). Isn't that something? *The blessing of God!*

Verse 10: "Go through, go through the gates; prepare the way of the people. Raise up! Raise up the highway; clear away the stones; lift up a banner for the people."

What is that going to be like? *Jerusalem is going to be the most fantastic place on earth,*

because that's where Christ is going to dwell! *It's going to amazing!*

Remember that when the Mt. Olives splits it raises way up, so it's going to be the highest that there is. It's not like it is today. Everything is going to be changed. That's why He has to rename everything.

Verse 11: "Behold, the LORD has sent a message to the end of the earth, 'Tell the daughter of Zion, "Behold, your salvation comes. Behold, His reward *is* with Him, and His work before Him.'" And they will call them, **The Holy People**... [that's us; *blessed and Holy is he who has part in the first resurrection*] ...**The Redeemed of the LORD**; and you will be called Sought Out, a city not forsaken" (vs 11-12).

(go to the next track)

I want you to really have a better and deeper grasp of what the Feast means and the teachings that come with the Feast of Tabernacles, and for your calling, for you to *realize that God has called us to the greatest calling ever!*

Just like that short video that Donald Trump showed Kim Jong Un, it is one time! That's our life now, **one time!** There is no second chance for us. But the reward is so great and the things we will do will be so fantastic, and we are going to make this world so great that it's going to put to shame everything that all the nations have done through all of history up to the time of the Millennium.

Think about that! That's why we have been called, and we need to keep our mind focused on that very thing, so that we can fulfill what God wants us to do!

- that's why we pray
- that's why we study
- that's why we learn
- that's why we grow
 - ✓ in grace and knowledge
 - ✓ in understanding
 - ✓ in developing the character of God

So that we can be part of all of this! That is mind-boggling!

Let's see what it's going to be like for the people during the Millennium. There are some things they're going to have to learn to do. We will see that they will have every opportunity, but they're going to have some knowledge so great that it is going to be phenomenal!

Isaiah 58:8: "Then shall your light break out as the dawn, and your health shall spring out quickly; and your righteousness shall go before you;

the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard."

God is going to lead the whole world to salvation! Beyond the Millennium and the second resurrection, there is the new heavens and new earth and New Jerusalem. How great is that going to be?

There's lots to think about and look forward to! Don't let anything hold you back or pull you down or put you in a situation where you doubt what God has said, or you don't believe what God has said. What you need to do is really repent of those things and put yourself in God's hands so it will be like this for you.

Verse 9: "Then you shall call, and the LORD shall answer; you shall cry, and He shall say, "Here I *am*." If you take the yoke away from among you, the pointing of the finger, and speaking malice; and *if* you draw out your soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall your light rise in darkness, and your gloom *shall be* as the noonday. And the LORD shall always guide you..." (vs 9-11).

We're going to learn, *learn and learn* for all eternity! An amazing thing that's going to be, brethren!

"...and satisfy your soul in dry places, and make your bones fat; and you shall be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water whose waters fail not. And *those who* come of you shall build the old ruins..." (vs 11-12).

That's getting into the next generation. How long is it going to be to take care of rebuilding the cities? "...the old ruins..."—*think about that!* Every city is going to collapse because of the shaking of the earth by God!

"...you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; and you shall be called: **The Repairer of the Breach, The Restorer of Paths to Dwell in**" (v 12). Isn't that what we will do? *We'll tell them what to do!* \ In addition to the Feast of Tabernacles, what is one of the first things they'll do? *Sabbath!*

That's how it's going to be. We've read these Scriptures, but think about it as at the beginning of the Millennium. How many people of the world have heard of the Sabbath they way we have heard of it? *Very few!* So, here's what we're going to teach them:

Verse 13: "If you turn your foot away from the Sabbath... [stop doing your own things on the Sabbath] ...*from* doing your own desires on My Holy Day, and call the Sabbath a delight, the Holy of the LORD, honorable; and shall honor Him, not doing your own ways, nor pursuing your own

desires, nor speaking *your own* words, then you shall delight yourself in the LORD; and I will cause you to ride upon the high places of the earth... [symbolic of all the blessings from God] ...and feed you with the inheritance of Jacob your father, **for the mouth of the LORD has spoken it**" (vs 13-14).

Look at all of these promises that God has given. Think about that and how it's been. That's why it says in:

Verse 12: "And *those who* come of you shall build the old ruins; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; and you shall be called: The Repairer of the Breach, The Restorer of Paths to Dwell in."

Fantastic! What a marvelous thing that is going to be? *Compare that with the world today!* Think about what we are going to be doing. It's going to be utterly amazing! Isn't it interesting that so much is in Isaiah and the Psalms about the actual Kingdom of God?

Isaiah 60:1: "Arise, shine; for your Light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you." *They're coming out of the darkest time in the history of the world!*

Verse 2: "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. And the Gentiles shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising" (vs 2-3).

That is typical of the conversion of the whole world, bringing all the things of God. Amazing!

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." *This is Israel coming out of captivity!* And also for many of the nations that are also scattered.

Verse 5: "Then you shall see and become radiant, and your heart shall throb and swell for joy..." Instead of all the sorrow, anguish, wounds, diseases and sickness, and all of the things that they had to go through before.

"...because the abundance of the sea shall turn to you, the wealth of the Gentiles will come to you" (v 5). That's talking about those who will be the priests and kings, as well as those who will be working to bring it.

Verse 6: "A host of camels shall cover you, the camels of Midian and Ephah. All of them from Sheba shall come; they shall bring gold and incense;

and they shall proclaim the praises of the LORD." What is that going to be like?

- no more Satan the devil
- no more evil going on

If there is evil, as we'll see later on, Isa. 30 says that we tell them that they're going the left and to the right, ***'but you stay right on the course of God!'*** ***We'll be there to teach them! This is what we're going to teach!*** This is why we need to learn the Word of God *now!* But think how much more we're going to learn as spirit beings.

Verse 7: "All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered together to you; the rams of Nebaioth shall minister to you. They shall come up with acceptance on My altar, and I will glorify the house of My glory."

That was what we read in Isa. 4; what's going to happen with that huge tabernacle and the glory of God: all those working there, and all of those ***bringing the Government of God to the world!*** What a thing that is going to be! ***We will be the Government of God: the teachers, the leaders!***

Verse 8: "Who *are* these *who* fly like a cloud..." could that be us as we're administering things that we need to do.

- we can walk
- we can fly
- we can be present and appear
- we can turn up our glory
- we can be invisible

Isn't that going to be something? *Yes!* That's why we have to build the character of God now so we'll be able to do it rightly when God makes us His Spirit sons and daughters.

Verse 9: "Surely the isles shall wait for Me, and the ships of Tarshish first, to bring your sons from far, their silver and their gold with them, to the name of the LORD your God, and to the Holy One of Israel because He has glorified you. And the sons of strangers shall build up your walls..." (vs 9-10).

There's going to be a lot of building going on during the Millennium! Is that why Jesus was a builder? *Of course!*

"...and their kings shall serve you; for in My wrath I struck you, but in My grace I had mercy upon you" (v 10).

That's the whole world, not only Israel, but the whole world. There will be Israel *first*, then the rest of the world as they're all brought into the Kingdom of God.

Verse 11: “Therefore, your gates will always be open; they will not be shut day nor night... [talking about Jerusalem] ...that men may bring unto you the wealth of the Gentiles, and their kings in procession.”

- I wonder what that’s going to be like?
- I wonder what kind of things we’ll be doing to come before God?
- All of line up together and come before Jesus Christ?

Then when the Father comes to the earth, what will that be like?

Verse 12: “For the nation and kingdom that will not serve you will perish. Yes, *those* nations will be completely wasted”—*if necessary!* Think about that and carry that over to the end of the Millennium:

- What’s going to happen then?
- Will there be those who will not submit?
Yes!
- What is going to happen to them? *We’ll talk about that on Day 7!*

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.”

Again, talking about New Jerusalem with the tabernacle during the Millennium. That has nothing to do with the New Jerusalem that’s coming from God the Father in heaven.

Verse 14: “Also, the sons of your afflictors 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.’”

Notice the change that’s going to come over the whole earth. Think about that! Let’s see what God is going to do to human nature to make all of this take place. No longer will there be human carnal nature that is:

- against God
- hostile to Him
- enmity to God

Like it is today! And most people are that way—aren’t they? *Yes, indeed!*

Ezek. 36—speaking of a time before the return of Christ when God sends Israel out into captivity, which will happen.

Sidebar: Keep your eyes on the UK. They may end up in captivity on their own island. We’ll have to wait and see.

Ezekiel 36:20: “And when they came unto the nations where they went, they even profaned My Holy name in that it was said of them, ‘These *are* the people of the LORD, and they are gone out of His land. But I had pity for My Holy name, which the house of Israel had profaned among the nations where they were exiled. Therefore, say to the house of Israel, “Thus says the Lord GOD, ‘**I do not do *this* for your sake, O house of Israel, but for My Holy name’s sake, which you have profaned among the nations where you went. And I will sanctify My great name, which was profaned among the nations, which you have profaned in their midst. And the nations shall know that I am the LORD,’ says the Lord GOD, ‘when I shall be sanctified in you before their very eyes.’” (vs 20-23).**

They’re going to see Israel raised up out of captivity, brought back to their land, re-established with God, and they’re going to know that it’s from God!

Verse 24: “For I will take you from among the nations and gather you out of all countries, and will gather you into your own land. And I will sprinkle clean waters upon you, and you shall be clean. I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from your idols. And **I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit within you....**” (vs 24-26).

- to take away the hostility that is there today naturally in the carnal mind to be against God
- to have the works of the flesh (Gal. 5:19-21)

All of that will be changed! This is going to be something! People are not going to be like they are today, and what a great thing that is going to be.

“...And I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh” (v 26).

- salvation
- redemption
- grace
- forgiveness

Verse 27: “**And I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you shall keep My ordinances and do them.**”

Today we’re doing some of the ordinances of God—aren’t we? Statutes and ordinances? *Holy*

Days! Feasts!

Verse 28: “And you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers. And **you shall be My people, and I will be your God.**” *All the sons of God will be there:*

- to teach
 - to train
 - to help
- in every way*
- to rule
 - to understand
 - to coordinate
 - to help the whole Millennium get going

Verse 29: “I will also save you from all your uncleannesses, and I will call for the grain, and will increase it, and will lay no famine upon you. And I will multiply the fruits of the tree and the increase of the field, so that you shall never again receive the curse of famine among the nations. And **you shall remember your own evil ways, and your doings that were not good, and shall loathe yourselves 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!” (vs 29-32)

Verse 33: “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. And the wasteland shall be tilled, instead of being desolate before all who pass by. And they shall say, “**This land that was desolate has become like the Garden of Eden....**”’” (vs 33-35)—*the whole world!* Think of that!

It says in another place that God is going to cause the deserts to bloom. What’s it going to be like with all the deserts of the world productive? *That is going to be an astonishment beyond belief!* Look at all the waste places that there are on earth. Think about how many more people can live on the earth if every bit of it were productive and livable. That’s something!

Verse 36: ““And the nations that are left all around you **shall know that I the LORD build the ruined places and planted that which was desolate. I the LORD have spoken it, and I will do it.**””

How will He do it? *Though us!* That’s why the calling is so great. Remember, it is one life, one choice for us! Just like Donald Trump told Kim Jong Un, ‘You have one chance and this is it!’

Likewise for us with God! The rewards and

everything are so fantastic, and everything that God has promised is so marvelous.

Verse 37: “Thus says the Lord GOD, ‘I will yet be sought by the house of Israel to act for them. I will increase them with men like a flock. As a Holy flock, as the flock of Jerusalem in her **appointed Feasts...**” (vs 37-38).

How about that? *The greatest appointed Feast is the Feast of Tabernacles showing how the Government of God is coming to the whole world!* This is astounding! The whole Bible is a magnificent book to tell us:

- Who God is
- where God is
- what we’re going to do
- how we can fulfill our destiny through:
 - ✓ repentance
 - ✓ conversion
 - ✓ growing
 - ✓ overcoming
 - ✓ being faithful to the end

That is absolutely amazing!

“...**And they shall know that I am the LORD**” (v 38). *That’s really an amazing thing to understand!*

Isa. 61 is quite a chapter. It talks about:

- the first coming of Christ
- the second coming of Christ
- what things are going to be like during the Millennium
- us directly

Isaiah 61:1: “The Spirit of the Lord GOD *is* upon Me because the LORD has anointed Me to preach the Gospel to the poor; He has sent Me [Christ] to bind up the brokenhearted... [that can also apply to His second coming] ... to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to preach the acceptable year of the LORD...” (vs 1-2).

The first type of that was His ministry at His first coming, and the anti-type of that is His ministry as King over the earth and all the saints with Him. See how in depth all the Word of God really is. It’s a magnificent thing.

“...and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to appoint to those who mourn in Zion, giving to them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the mantle of praise for the spirit of heaviness; **so that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that He might be glorified**” (vs 2-3)—*that’s about*

us!

- we're to produce
- we're to bring forth

Verse 4: "And they will build the old wastes, they will raise up the desolations of former times. And they shall repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations. And strangers will stand and feed your flocks, and the sons of the stranger *will be* your plowmen and your vinedressers. But you shall be called **the priests of the LORD...**" (vs 4-6)—*that's us (Rev. 20)!*

"...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" (v 6).

Isn't that an amazing thing? *The only way we're going appreciate all of that is because we'll be spirit beings!* We won't be corruptible!

Verse 7: "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.... [talking about the people, and also about us] ...'For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery for burnt offering; and I will direct their work in truth, and **I will make an everlasting covenant** with them'" (vs 7-8).

When we're up there and there's the marriage covenant with the Lamb and the whole church, there it is right there "...**an everlasting covenant...**"

Verse 9: "And their seed shall be known among the Gentiles, and their offspring among the people; all who see them will acknowledge them, that they *are* the seed the LORD has blessed."

They're going to be coming into the Millennium, and we will see how that is going to be.

- What's going to happen?
- When will they be converted?

Verse 10: I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul will be joyful in my God; for He has clothed me *with* the robes of salvation..."

We're going to be worshipping God in such a way that we will think that how we were worshipping God in the flesh before was so pitiful juvenile that it's going to be amazing, indeed!

"...He covered me with the robe of righteousness 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; so the

Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to grow before all the nations" (vs 10-11).

Think of that! *The impact of all the nations!* What I'm trying to do here is expand upon the Bible's narration of salvation and the opportunities to be saved for ourselves, and save the world. To teach multiple millions of people the way of God *so they can enter into the Kingdom of God*. What a fantastic thing that will be!

Isa. 11 will tell us exactly what the world is going to be like, and we are going to be the ones to make it happen. I want you to think about that! **We are going to be the ones to make it happen!**

Like everything else it starts out with a little seed. How do we become spirit beings? 1-John 3 says that we have the seed of God the Father in us, and that remains in us. Also, we have the Spirit of Christ within us, as well! So, between the two we have the begettal to become the sons and daughters of God. From Christ we have the Spirit of Christ to develop the mind of Christ! **We are the children of the Father through Jesus Christ!**

Jesus said. '**I'm the Way, the Truth and the Life, and no one comes to the Father except through Me.**'

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 first coming of Christ] ...the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD. 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 shall judge the poor, and shall reprove with equity for the meek of the earth.... [that's coming on into the Millennium] ...And He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked. And righteousness shall be the girdle of His loins, and faithfulness the girdle of His reins" (vs 1-5).

The whole environment is going to be changed. Talk about environmentalists in this world, what they plan to do is so absolutely futile, wait until they have an opportunity to see what God is going to do to this earth:

- to beautify it
- to glorify it
- to expand it

Here's what's going to happen. Everything is going to change:

- the nature of the world
- the nature of man
- the nature of the animals

Verse 6: “Also the wolf shall dwell with the lamb... [unheard of] ...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.**” *I think that’s a whole lot better than plastic toys!*

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.”

I don’t know how that’s going to be! What’s going to happen to those big teeth? What’s it going to be like to eat grass? *That’s amazing!*

Verse 8: “And the suckling child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the viper’s den”—*unthinkable!*

But that’s how different the Kingdom of God is going to be, and the world that we’re going to bring to them. ***The righteousness of God is going to make it all happen!***

Verse 9: “They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My Holy mountain; for **the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD**, as the waters cover the sea.”

Doesn’t that tell us how pitiful the knowledge that we have today is *compared to* what it will be during the Millennium. If that’s going to be for the people there, think of what it’s going to be for us. We’re going to look upon our time in the Church and in the flesh as kindergarten.

Verse 10: “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 His rest shall be glorious.” ***The whole Feast of Tabernacles fulfilled!***

- that’s why we’re here
- these are choices
- this is our destiny
- this is the work that God is going to give us to do

Let’s keep the rest of the Feast with joy, understanding, love and thankfulness for everything that God gives us!

- 2) Revelation 20:4-6
- 3) Isaiah 24:19-23
- 4) Isaiah 25:1, 3-10
- 5) Isaiah 9:6-7
- 6) Zechariah 14:2-5, 9
- 7) Joel 3:16-18
- 8) Micah 4:1-4
- 9) Isaiah 4:5-6
- 10) Isaiah 62:1-12
- 11) Isaiah 58:8-14, 12
- 12) Isaiah 60:1-14
- 13) Ezekiel 36:20-38
- 14) Isaiah 61:1-11
- 15) Isaiah 11:1-10

Scriptures quoted, not referenced:

- Deuteronomy 16
- Revelation 5
- Genesis 3
- 1 Thessalonians 5
- Revelation 12:9; 13
- Isaiah 28
- Revelation 7
- Ezekiel 40-48
- Acts 2
- Revelation 4
- Isaiah 30
- Galatians 5:19-21
- 1 John 3

Also referenced: Article:

Trump’s Disruptive Innovation: A Film Trailer Starring Kim Jong Un, by Petr Svab
(*The Epoch Times*, June 12, 2018) {theepochtimes.com/trumps-disruptive-innovation-fictional-movie-trailer-starring-kim-jong-un_2560166.html}

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Scriptural References:

- 1) Leviticus 23:34-38

God the Father Qualifies Us

(Day 2—FOT)

Godly character must be developed with the Spirit of God and the Word of God

Fred R. Coulter—September 25, 2018

Greeting, brethren! Welcome to the Feast of Tabernacles!

The whole Bible is teaching us about the Kingdom of God, the kingdoms of the world and the kingdoms of Israel and Judah. The Old Testament focuses on the nations, not only Israel and Judah, but different nations of the world that are directly interfacing with Israel, plus other nations of the world.

We know that when the apostles began preaching the Gospel, they were preaching it from the Old Testament. Let's see that the New Testament brings about the King Jesus Christ and those who are going to be serving with Him as rulers in the Kingdom of God. How do they become rulers? This is all is very interesting.

Let's see two prophecies from the Old Testament: one from the Law (Deut. 18), then we will take one from the Psalms. We've already covered a good number out of the Prophets. All of these foretold the coming Kingdom of God and the rule of God on the earth.

Deuteronomy 18:15—Moses speaking: "The LORD your God will raise up unto you a Prophet from the midst of you, of your brethren, One like me. To Him you shall hearken, according to all that you desired of the LORD your God in Horeb in the day of the assembly, saying, 'Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God, neither let me see this great fire any more, so that I do not die.' And the LORD said to me, 'They have spoken well what they have spoken'" (vs 15-17).

That is they were well intentioned. What God has is a plan so great, reaching out so much further involving everything that He has in His plan that is absolutely magnificent and spread throughout the whole Bible. The main thrust of the Old Testament is the physical nations. The main thrust of the New Testament has to do with *who is going to rule with Christ!* We'll that this is very fascinating study today.

Verse 18: "I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, *One* like you... [Moses] ...and will put My words in His mouth..."

What did Jesus say about His words? *I do nothing of Myself, but what the Father has commanded Me this I speak! What I see Him do, this is what I do!* This verse is the fulfillment of this.

"...And He shall speak to them all that I shall command Him. And it shall come to pass, whatever man will not hearken to My words, which He shall speak in My name, I will require *it* of him" (vs 18-19). This is a prophecy coming from the Most High coming through Moses representing Christ.

Verse 20: "But the prophet who shall presume to speak a word in My name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or who shall speak in the name of other gods, **even that prophet shall die.**"

Let's see another prophecy in the Psalms. This is very interesting from the point of view that this is a Psalm about the crucifixion of Christ. Remember what we have read that 'Jesus endured the cross despising the shame for the joy that lay before Him' (Heb. 12).

Actually, that was shown in Psalms 22. The first part of it talks about the suffering Jesus on the cross and how He died and the mocking and everything like that. But here is a continued prophecy of what He would do, and this refers right back to the *Prophet* (Deut. 18).

Psalm 22:22: "I will declare Your name to My brethren..." All those who are baptized and have the Holy Spirit of God are called *the brethren of Jesus Christ!* Quite a prophecy!

"...in the midst of the congregation I will praise You" (v 22). That has to do with the resurrection on Trumpets on the Sea of Glass. He's going to praise God for all He did for all of those in the first resurrection.

Verse 24: "For He has not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; and He has not hidden His face from him, but when he cried to Him, He heard." *See your calling, brethren, that not many wise...* See how that ties in with the New Testament.

Listen, brethren, the Bible is the most fantastic, absolute marvelous book in the whole world. This is why God has caused it to be published more than any other book in the world, as a witness to everyone:

- to those who are in the world
- to those who hate God
- to those who are 'religious'
- to those who are in the Churches of God

All of it together!

Verse 25: From You comes my praise in the great congregation... [the resurrection] ...I will pay my vows before those who fear Him. The meek shall eat and be satisfied; **those who seek the LORD shall praise Him**; may your heart live forever” (vs 25-26).

Now here’s a prophecy of the Kingdom of God, v 27: “All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD... [during the Millennium] ...and all the families of the nations shall worship before You, for **the kingdom is the LORD’S and He rules over the nations**” (vs 27-28). *That’s quite a thing!*

Let’s see something else that is interesting, and perhaps one of the most misunderstood sections of Scripture that the Protestants don’t understand. One that they turn to, to say that ‘everything in the Old Testament has been done away.’

Matthew 11:11—talking about John the Baptist: “Truly I say to you, there has not arisen among *those* born of women *anyone* greater than John the Baptist. **But the one who is least in the Kingdom of Heaven is greater than he.**”

That’s quite a statement! Think about that! What does that mean?

Verse 12: “For from the days of John the Baptist until now, the Kingdom of Heaven is taken with a *great* struggle... [sound like Matt. 7, narrow is the gate and difficult is the way that leads to life] ...and *the zealous ones* lay hold on it.”

This shows that the ones who are going to be in the Kingdom of God are those who are zealous enough:

- to lay hold of it
- to understand it
- to draw close to God

Verse 13 is the famous verse that Protestants look to, to say that the Law and the Prophets have been done away:

Verse 13: “For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John.” That means that the Law and the Prophets were the authority from God up until John the Baptist. ***That was the final authority!***

Verse 14: “‘And if you are willing to receive *it*, he is Elijah who was to come.’ The one who has ears to hear, let him hear” (vs 14-15).

Then Jesus goes on to show that there has to be the keeping of the Law, and now He’s revealing a higher standard. Let’s see how Jesus began His

ministry in Galilee. The Law and the Prophets were until John, now the greater authority is the Kingdom of God, or the Kingdom of Heaven.

Why? *Because the standards are so much higher!* Now it’s not just going to Israel and Judah, it’s going to the whole world. Remember that God took them into the ‘promised land.’ What did God tell the apostles through Jesus Christ as He ascended to heaven for the last time? *Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to all nations!*

So, here’s how Jesus started out His ministry in Galilee; Mark 1:14: “Now, after the imprisonment of John, **Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the Gospel of the Kingdom of God**”—*not the kingdom of Israel or the kingdom of Judah!*

Verse 15: “And saying, ‘The time has been fulfilled... [at the appointed time it began] ...and **the Kingdom of God is near at hand; repent and believe in the Gospel.**’”

Notice how much different that is from the letter of the Law, the Old Testament. The Gospel is the teachings of God about who is going to be in the first resurrection, and who is going to be serving with Christ. It also tells us many interesting things about what we will be doing.

Matthew 4:23 has to do with the preaching of the Gospel: “And Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the Gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every bodily ailment among the people. Then His fame went out into all Syria; and they brought to Him all who were sick, oppressed by various diseases and torments, and possessed by demons, and lunatics, and paralytics; **and He healed them.** And great multitudes followed Him from Galilee, and Decapolis, and Jerusalem, and Judea, and beyond the Jordan” (vs 23-25).

Let’s see what Jesus preached, and this becomes a greater authority. What we will see is the Old Testament preached about your outer conduct and how you live with your neighbor and what you do in relationship to God and the temple sacrifices and all of that. It had somewhat to do with the mind and your thoughts, *but not like the New Testament!*

One of the things that’s important to understand concerning the Old Testament and the nations, rulers and people is: What was the greatest problem even among the kings of Israel? Even among David and Solomon? *Character!*

Now the focus is not on your behavior outward in the letter of the Law as the most essential thing, it is:

- What is your thinking?
- What is in your mind?
- How is your attitude?

Which brings up the thing of conversion! That's the fundamental difference between the Old Testament and the New Testament. By the way, we all know that it has nothing to do with doing away with the Law and the Prophets, or nothing to do with doing away with the Law.

It has to do with making the Law greater, making the Law spiritual and helping everyone to develop the kind of mind that is necessary to be in the first resurrection. Right after that we have Matt. 5 and Jesus was teaching His disciples who came to Him.

Under the Old Covenant it had to be physical circumcision from the tribes of Israel. They were ones who went into the land. Now in the New Testament it goes to the whole world, and it's entirely different.

John 1:9: "The True Light was that which enlightens everyone who comes into the world." God gives them the spirit of man and that gives man thought, function as a separate individual being.

Verse 10: "He was in the world, and the world came into being through Him, but the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him" (vs 10-11). That's the whole story of the Gospel as the world toward Christ. Think about it! Isn't that the way it is even to this day? *Yes, indeed!*

Verse 12: "But as many as received Him, to them He gave authority to become *the* children of God..."

That's far different than being just the children of Israel or Judah. To be the children of God goes right back to the promise given to Abraham (Gen. 15). ***If we are Christ's we are Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise for the spiritual seed!***

"...even to those who believe in His name; who were not begotten by bloodlines, nor by *the* will of the flesh, nor by *the* will of man, but *by the will of God*" (vs 12-13). We find on into the book of John:

- Who is the One Who draws us? God the Father!
- How do we come to the Father? *Through Jesus Christ!*

All of this is the preaching of the Gospel, and the Gospel then is more powerful than just the Law and the Prophets alone.

Matthew 5:2—after the disciple came to Jesus: "And He opened His mouth *and* taught them, saying."

Here are the spiritual conditions necessary to enter into the Kingdom of God or Kingdom of Heaven, as Matthew writes it, meaning the kingdom is coming from heaven. Not that they're going to the kingdom in heaven, but the Kingdom of Heaven is coming to the earth and is also called *The Kingdom of God!*

Verse 3: 'Blessed *are* the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven. Blessed *are* those who mourn, for they shall be comforted" (vs 3-4). Keep in mind 1-Cor. 1 about our calling.

Verse 5: Blessed *are* the meek, for they shall inherit the earth." That goes back to Psa. 37 where it says four times *inherit the earth*.

Verse 6: "Blessed *are* those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled." We read in Psa. 22 that *the zealous...* God wants us to put our full effort into what He has called us to do. It is so important what He has for us to learn:

- to teach us
- to lead us
- to help us develop the character

so we can become the kings and priests in the Kingdom of God with Jesus Christ! Since it's so important here's what you need to do, and this is why you heard it said:

- prayer and study
- living God's way
- keeping the Sabbath
- keeping the Holy Days
- understanding the plan of God
- building the Word of God 'a little here and little there'
- seeing the depth of God

Remember what Jesus said to the disciple in John 6: *The words that I speak to you are spirit and life, and the flesh profits nothing!* That all ties in with:

Verse 6: "Blessed *are* those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled. Blessed *are* the merciful, for they shall find mercy" (vs 6-7). *That's why God calls those whom He calls!*

- we need mercy
- we need forgiveness
- we need understanding

Then we are told and taught by Jesus that 'you also need to be merciful to those who have difficulties, and you need to be forgiving. We want

our sins forgiven before the very throne of God in heaven above. Think about what an absolute marvelous blessing that is.

Verse 8: “Blessed *are* the pure in heart, for they shall see God.” The whole process of the conversion is to purify the mind and the heart, to prepare for the spirit mind that comes at the resurrection.

As spirit beings—and that’s what it would have to be—they shall see God. Remember what it tells us about seeing God (Rev. 22)? *We shall see His face!*

Verse 9: “Blessed *are* the peacemakers, for they shall be called **the sons of God.**” *These are the brethren of Jesus Christ!*

Then it talks about the other things that will happen to us, and it also says that Jesus said He didn’t come to abolish the Law or the Prophets, but to fulfill.

This covers many things in Matt. 5-7 concerning the character traits—***the love, the obedience, the yieldedness to God***—that we need to have to become the sons of God! He starts right out there and tells us.

Verse 48 is where God telegraphs the whole plan of God in one verse, that the rest of the New Testament and the Bible tells us how this will be done. God is not going to have those who are going to be kings and priest ruling under Christ to be lacking in the character they need as spirit beings to rule the way that God wants the rule.

Verse 48: “**Therefore, you shall be perfect...**”—or *become perfect!* This is telling us that conversion is a process. Think about that for a minute! We’ll cover this a little bit later.

“...even as your Father Who is in heaven is perfect” (v 48). *What a goal!*

That’s why I showed you on Day 1 the four-minute clip that Donald Trump showed to Kim Jong Un, and how willing he has been. There’s been a lot of work behind that that they’ve been doing. For months and months hundreds have been working on this. So, let’s see what happens. It’s the same thing.

Kim Jong Un is despised; he’s a murderer/killer, but can he repent enough to turn around his nation? Can he be inspired enough to want to change? *Not for conversion, but just enough to help his people!* That would be an amazing thing indeed! Notice what God holds out for us:

- this is why we are to be zealous
- this is why we are to hunger and thirst

- this is why we are to grow and overcome
- this is why we need to develop the mind of Christ

How on earth are we going to rule on the earth if we don’t have the spiritual mind of Christ coming from the spirit of God and the laws and commandments of God written in our heart and mind. Verse 48: “Therefore, **you...**”

- whoever you are
- wherever you are
- whatever you are doing
- however young or old you are
- however weak or strong you are
- whatever you know or don’t know

“...shall be perfect, even as your Father Who *is* in heaven is perfect” (v 48). That’s one of the greatest verses in the Bible. Think on that!

How are we to yearn for the Kingdom of God in our prayers? ***God wants us to be focused:***

- on the kingdom
- eternal life
- love and Truth
- serving the Father
- serving Christ
- zealous
- growing
- overcoming

We will see that when we do, God is reveals things to us that have been hidden from other generations and ages. ***An amazing calling!***

That’s why being in the Church of God is not like having a ‘religion’ and being in the fake Christianity of the world.

Concerning prayer He says, Matthew 6:5: “And when you pray, you shall not be as the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, in order *that* they may be seen by men. **Truly I say to you, they have their reward**”—they have been seen

Verse 7: “And when you pray, do not use **vain repetitions...**” Let’s understand something about *repetitions*: we are to be constantly praying about whatever we’re praying about in our prayers until the prayer is answered. Those are not “...vain repetitions...”

“...as the heathen *do...*” (v 7). You hear the chants of the Buddhist, and what they’re trying to do is bring peace to their minds and get evil thoughts out of their minds. ***Never happen! It takes the Spirit of God to do that!***

That's why that when we pray we're not to use "...vain repetitions...."

Verse 6: "But you, when you pray, enter into a private room; and after shutting the door, pray to your Father Who *is* in secret..."

What did Job say? *Now I know that I can withhold no thought from You!* That's why you pray to the Father in secret.

- He knows
- He hears
- He understands

We have a great High Priest in heaven above—Jesus Christ—the High Priest after the order of Melchisedec. This also telegraphs what's coming later, that we have direct access to God the Father and Jesus Christ through prayer, through Christ! *Amazing! An Amazing thing!*

Think about the earth and everything that is in it, everything that God created. That's hard to do. You look at a globe and you see how much water there is, and how there's more water under the crust of the earth than there is in the oceans. How God has made everything for us so that we can live, move and have our being in God.

We need to come to understand that we need God in everything that we do. That's why it talks about the Kingdom of God is preached and that the Kingdom of God has come upon you when you hear the Word of God.

"...and your Father Who sees in secret shall reward you openly" (v 7)—*in His time and in His way, if it is according to His will!*

Don't do as the hypocrites, "...for they think that by multiplying their words they shall be heard. Now then, do not be like them; for your Father knows what things you have need of before you ask Him" (vs 7-8).

Someone always says, 'Why ask Him if He knows?' *Because He wants to know if you really want them and need them, and will receive them God's way!*

Satan comes along and says, 'I'll give it to you,' just like he did to Christ. Did Satan not offer to give Christ the world, all the kingdoms of the world, and the rulership of them? But what did Satan require? *That Jesus bow down and worship him!*

Those people who fall for Satan's counterfeits don't realize that they're worshipping Satan. God will take care of it. Now, understand that in praying, not every answer from God is yes, because God answers prayers according to:

- our attitude
- our heart
- our need

Verse 9: "Therefore, you are to pray after this manner..." Here's the outline. Notice why the Kingdom of God is above the Law and Prophets, though the prophecies in the Law and Prophets prophesied about what would come with the Kingdom of God. But it could not have ever been fully developed unless:

- Christ came
- called the 12 apostles
- inspired them to write what they wrote
- called the Apostle Paul and all of the others

So that we would have the complete New Testament! So, you have to see the whole building of the whole system that God has for us.

"... 'Our Father, Who *is* in heaven, hallowed be Your name" (v 9). God's name is Holy, and that Holy name is *the Father!* Everything comes from God, everything that there is. Everything that we have God has given to us, *so we pray to the Father!*

- Holy is Your name, Father
- You're a God of love, mercy, truth, kindness, goodness and power
- You're a God Who punishes the wicked and rewards the righteous
- You're a God Who places the angels around us so we're protected

All of those things become part of our prayers. After we acknowledge God the Father and Jesus Christ:

Verse 10: "Your kingdom come..." We've been praying that for a long time, but it isn't here, yet. What does that mean in our lives today? *That we are under the jurisdiction of the Kingdom of God, and we are living with God's Spirit from the Father and from Christ in growing and overcoming!*

Verse 10: "Your kingdom come..." in our lives so that we can grow and overcome to enter into Your kingdom when Jesus returns. Isn't that what the whole Feast of Tabernacles is all about? *Yes, indeed!*

"...Your will be done..." (v 10). A great thing to understand. Our will is *not* the will of God, God's will for us. What did Jesus say? *I of Myself, coming from Me, can do nothing! But what the Father does, and the will of the Father, this I do!* Likewise with us! That's why we have the Bible and everything that we have!

"...Your will be done on earth... [and everything that You're doing on the earth and in our

lives] ...**as it is in heaven**" (v 10). Is everything in heaven going God's way? *Without a doubt, it surely is!*

Verse 12: "And forgive us our debts, as we also forgive our debtors." That one of the most important things for us as brethren together.

- we be kind
- we be understanding
- we be merciful
- we be forgiving

But we also be strong in the Lord and don't give into sin! All of those things are combined with our behavior. You see how this prayer is also **a character developing mechanism**, an outline that God has given to us so we can be in contact with God and be the sons and daughters of God and rule with Christ.

Verse 11: "Give us this day our daily bread." For today with all of the modern conveniences we have, we are overloaded with food and things. But what's going to happen when that doesn't continue?

Jesus said in Deut. 8, 'When you have eaten you're full, and you live in sealed houses, **everything you have is blessed, then you forget God!** What is the sin of the Laodiceans? *They don't remember God like they really should!*

Verse 11: "Give us this day our daily bread." Know this: every breath of air you breathe, every morsel of food you eat, every drop of water you drink **comes from God!**

Verse 13: "And lead us not into temptation..."—*trials*; we have enough without being led into them, and God rescues us from all of them.

"...but rescue us from the evil one. For Yours is the Kingdom..." (v 13). Again, the kingdom; it starts out with the kingdom and ends with the kingdom.

"...and the power and the glory forever... [into the ages of eternity] ...Amen" (v 13).

Then He gives a little bit here about how you need to forgive! If you don't, then God won't forgive you.

(go to the next track)

Sidebar: There are some companies that say, 'Our most important product is...' Let's do that with the New Testament, and the most important thing to become a son or daughter of God *is character*. That comes:

- by love
- by mercy
- by obedience
- by forgiveness
- by yielding to God

All the things that are in the New Testament so that we develop the mind of Christ!

We also know that it is the Father Who draws us and brings us to Christ. It's also Christ Who paves the way for us to go the Father, so it's a joint thing that They do together. That's why we are here and are brethren of Christ. Notice what is all involved with this.

Colossians 1:7: "Even as you also learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ for you; Who has also informed us of your love in the Spirit" (vs 7-8). ***Love is the most important thing:***

- love that is strong
- love that is true
- love that is not just maudlin
- love that is strong in Lord

Verse 9: "For this cause we also, from the day that we heard of it, do not cease to pray for you and **to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding.**"

- that's a summary of why we pray and study
- that's a summary of why we do what we do
 - ✓ we are to learn
 - ✓ we are to grow

All of these things are for when we are sons and daughters in the Kingdom of God and are teaching people on the earth. To begin with those who survive through the Great Tribulation:

- we can teach them
- we can show them
- we can help them come to God
- we can help them be healed
- we can help them to learn about God

We are qualifying for those things through God the Father! "...with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and **spiritual understanding**"—not carnal understanding.

Let's see how Paul explains this. It's very important so that we understand:

- what we learn
- what we know
- what we do
- what we understand

all comes from God, in spiritual understand, not carnal understanding!

1-Corinthians 2:9: “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.*’”
Keep that in mind!

- whatever we understand comes from God
- whatever knowledge that have when we put the Bible together and God gives us understanding

That comes from God; it doesn’t come from us!
Look at all the theologians in the world that study a lot of things in the Bible, and even write a lot about it and have a religion and denomination. **But:**

- **Do they have the understanding of God?**
NO!
- **Why?** *Because they don’t love God!*

In Col. 1 their love for God is why they were growing and overcoming, so they could have the knowledge and spiritual understanding. That’s what we need, and that’s why we’re here for the Feast of Tabernacles,

- to grow in grace and knowledge and spiritual understanding
- to really learn and grasp the meaning of what it’s going to be like to be in the Kingdom of God

The first thing that is required is the love of God and character of God, and all of the spiritual things that put it all together.

For those who love Him, v 10: “But **God has revealed...**” God gave the understanding, *not us!*

- we do have to put it together
- we do have to work
- we do have to be zealous
- we do have to apply ourselves

“...revealed *them* to us **by His Spirit...**” (v 10). Totally different from the way that people lived in the Old Testament. That’s why the Kingdom of God is preached from John the Baptist forward. The Law and the Prophets are there; they never go away. *They’re never going to be abolished!* But now God wants us to put the spiritual understanding that He has of the Law and the Prophets into practice. A lot of that is defined in the New Testament for us.

“...for the Spirit searches all things—**even the deep things of God**” (v 10). Don’t we want to ***understand as much about:***

- the Word of God
- the Bible
- the plan of God

as we can, so we can prepare and do the things that are pleasing to God in His sight! That’s what it’s all about!

Verse 11: “For who among men understands the things of man except *by* the spirit of man, which *is* in him? In the same way also, the things of God **no one understands except by the Spirit of God.**” That’s why, brethren, ***we’re not to get all exalted about:***

- how much we know
 - how we’re important for this or that
- or*
- that God has to do this or that for us

because we are special of ourselves! NO! If there’s anything special it’s because God has given it to us through His Holy Spirit. We need to have the same attitude that Jesus had: *I do nothing of My own self!* Spiritually speaking, that is true! “...**no one understands except by the Spirit of God.**”

Verse 12: “Now, we have not received the spirit of the world... [which comes from Satan] ...but the Spirit that *is* of God, **so that we might know the things graciously given to us by God.**” That’s what the New Testament is all about! How much has God given to us?

Verse 13: “Which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in *words* taught by *the* Holy Spirit *in order to* communicate spiritual things by spiritual *means*. 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**” (vs 13-14).

Now, here is Paul’s prayer for all of the brethren, and this prayer applies to us. The Word of God is living, spiritual and goes beyond generations, family lines and human will.

Colossians 1:9 “...ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that you may walk worthily of the Lord” (vs 9-10). *We saw how our attitude has to be there in Matt. 5 with the blessings.*

“...unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work and growing in the knowledge of God” (v 10).

- Is the knowledge of God infinite?
- Is the knowledge of God spiritual?

- What are we going to learn after the resurrection?

That's something to contemplate! We won't know until we get there!

Verse 11: "Being strengthened with all power according to the might of His glory, unto all endurance and long-suffering with joy."

That's how we can go through difficult times. But if we are not strengthened by God, when difficult times come crushing down on us, we may not be able to handle it. That's why we have to always be growing in grace and knowledge.

Verse 12: "Giving thanks to the Father, **Who has made us qualified...**"

- Who qualifies us for eternal life?
- Who qualifies us to receive knowledge?
- Who qualifies us to have spiritual understanding?
- **God the Father!**

That's amazing to think!

"...for **the share of the inheritance...** [in the Kingdom of God] **...of the saints in the Light;** Who has **personally rescued us...**" (vs 12-13).

Remember Matt. 6, *rescue us from the evil one!* Didn't Jesus pray that in John 17: *I pray not for the world, but I pray for them that You keep them from the evil one, and sanctify them with Your Truth!*

Truth comes from God. Being sanctified means that we're *being made Holy*. We are called 'Holy brethren.' I mean, this is amazing and mind-blowing when we understand it.

"...**personally rescued us** from the power of darkness... [Satan the devil who is deceiving the whole world] ...and has transferred *us* unto the kingdom of the Son of His love" (v 13). This means that *the Kingdom of God*—God the Father and Jesus Christ—is *where we're headed!* That we go by what God wants us to do, not by what the world wants us to do.

In that sense, while we live in the world and we have to obey the laws of the land, we are truly under the jurisdiction of the Kingdom of God. The *spiritual application* of the laws of God in our life as directed by the Father and the Son.

Verse 14: "In Whom we have redemption through His own blood, *even* the remission of sins." That goes right back to where we started in Psalms 22: ***the sacrifice of Christ, His shed blood, forgiveness of sin***, all of that!

Verse 15: Who is *the* image of the invisible God, ***the Firstborn of all creation.***" Some people read that and say that Jesus didn't exist until He was born of the virgin Mary. *No! That's not it means!* Here's what it means:

No other human being in the history of all eternity, because it's only a one-time event, was actually the Son of God by begetting of the Father. He willingly divested Himself of His glory to become a pinprick of life, to be impregnated in the womb of the virgin Mary, and then born as a baby, a human, fully human.

When He was born, what does Matt. 1 call Him? *The firstborn of Mary!* Since He was God manifested in the flesh, was not His human life greater than any other human life going clear back to everyone who has ever been born? *Yes!* So therefore, he is "*...the Firstborn of all creation*" for those who are going to be the sons of God. No other firstborn is greater than He in the flesh.

Verse 16: "Because by Him were all things created, the things in heaven and the things on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or lordships, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by Him and for Him. And He is before all, and by Him all things subsist. And He is the Head of the Body, the Church; Who is *the Beginning, the Firstborn* from among the dead..." (vs 16-18).

What does this tell us? *Jesus was firstborn of Mary. He was the only human being to be begotten directly by God the Father*, as Jesus was, which makes Him the Firstborn of the creation of all human beings. Then He became our Savior by living and dying and sacrificing His life, laying it down, and then He was raised from the dead, and He is the Firstborn from the dead.

What else does this tell us? *Jesus was born again!* This verifies that our first birth is by water and our second birth is by spirit. We are called *The Church of the Firstborn* (Heb. 12).

Amazing how all of this comes together! It's just mind-boggling! All of this is in the Bible, and it's spiritually understood. It's in every Bible everywhere, anyplace in the world. There are those who are so hateful of God they say it's full of lies. They can't understand it because of the 'religion' that they have.

"...so that in **all things...** [pertaining to the plan of God and all human beings] ...He Himself might hold the preeminence. For it pleased *the Father* that in Him all the fullness should dwell" (vs 18-19). *That all has to do with:*

- why we're here
- where we're going
- how God is doing it
- the meaning of the Feast of Tabernacles
- what it's going to be like to rule the world with Him

But we must have the character first!

Let's understand something important about the Old Testament and the prophecies in the O.T. concerning what we are covering now and what is written in the New Testament. I want you to understand how vitally important that all of this is. This is something, as we read, that God the Father grants us the understanding, the spiritual meaning, because we love Him and keep His commandments.

How many people in the world really do that? *Not very many, because it says, 'Many are called but few are chosen!'* A lot of the world won't believe anything and will reject it and go their way. Remember that at the beginning of every epistle there is God's blessing that is written down first, so that when we read it and understand it, we will be blessed with understanding and Truth.

1-Peter 1:1: "Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to *the* elect strangers scattered in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia; *who have been chosen* according to *the* predetermined knowledge of God *the* Father..." (vs 1-2).

In other words, what God laid out in His plan *before* He created the world! Think about what we've been called to.

"...by sanctification through *the* Spirit... [that's how we're made Holy] ...unto obedience and sprinkling of *the* blood of Jesus Christ: Grace and peace be multiplied to you" (v 2). That's what God wants us to have.

Verse 3: "Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who, according to His abundant mercy, has begotten us again unto a living hope..."—*that we will live forever!* As the promise of Jesus was, those who believe in Him shall not taste of death forever.

With that one sentence you have to take the other Scriptures and insert the resurrection. Die in the faith, but you won't stay dead forever. There it is, right there!

Verse 3: "Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who, according to His abundant mercy, has begotten us again..."—because you were begotten by your father when you first came into existence. Now our heavenly Father begets us and we become His future spiritual

children.

But just lit the newly begotten life in the mother must grow, change and overcome physically and be ready to be born at the proper time. Likewise, the resurrection—being born again—is going to be *at the set time!*

"...unto a living hope through *the* resurrection of Jesus Christ from *the* dead; unto an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and unfading, reserved in heaven for us... [Christ is going to bring it to us] ...who *are* being safeguarded by *the* power of God through faith for salvation *that* is ready to be revealed in *the* last time. In this you yourselves greatly rejoice; though for the present, if it is necessary, you are in distress for a little while by various trials" (vs 3-6).

We all have them! Here's why we have them; v 7: "in order that the proving of your faith, which is much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is being tested by fire, may be found unto praise and honor and glory at *the* revelation of Jesus Christ"—at His return and revealing Himself to the world at the first resurrection.

- Peter saw Jesus
- the apostles saw Jesus
- they lived with Him
- they walked with Him
- they were taught by Him

But not us!

Verse 8: "Whom, not having seen, you love..." that can only be a *spiritual love* that comes from God the Father and Christ Himself.

"...in Whom, *though* at the present time you do not see Him, you believe, *and* rejoice with unspeakable joy, and filled with glory"—as much of the glory of the Holy Spirit can be in us to give us hope, joy, etc.

Verse 9: "*And are* receiving the end of your faith—even *the* salvation of *your* lives." A receiving—day by day—a prophecy to the future resurrection.

How important is what we are going over to you? To what has gone on in past ages? Remember when Daniel wanted to know when all of these things would take place, God answered him, '*At the time of the end the wicked shall do wickedly and none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand!*' The wise are the few who are called to the first resurrection! *Think about that!*

Verse 10: "Concerning which salvation the

prophets who prophesied of the grace *that would come* to you have diligently searched out and intently inquired.”

Like Daniel, ‘Lord, what will be the end of these?’ God told him through the angel, ‘It’s not for you to know. Go your way, Daniel, you’re going to make it; you’ll be in the Kingdom of God. But you’re not going to understand this before you die.’

Here’s what they were doing with the Scriptures, v 11: “Searching into what *way* and what manner of time the Spirit of Christ *which was* in them was indicating, testifying beforehand of the sufferings of Christ, and these glories that would follow; to whom it was revealed that, **not for themselves**, but to us they were ministering these things, which now have been announced to you by those who have preached the Gospel to you by *the* Holy Spirit, sent from heaven—into which things the **angels desire to look**” (vs 11-12).

Those are amazing statements! Jesus said the same thing. Let’s see that what we are covering here today contains many of the ***secrets or mysteries of God!*** The world doesn’t understand, cannot understand, will never understand, *because they won’t obey!*

We’ve gone over Matt. 13 many times; this is fantastic! This is one of the most important chapters in the New Testament—*The Parable of the Seed*:

Matthew 13:10: “And His disciples came to Him and asked, ‘Why do You speak to them in parables?’ And He answered *and* said to them, ‘**Because...** [here’s the reason that we understand anything]: **...it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven, but to them it has not been given.**” (vs 10-11).

You tie that into all the other Scriptures that we just read in 1-Peter 1, that is a profound, astounding understanding! *Whatever we have has been given to us!* Paul wrote, ‘What do you have that you didn’t receive?’ How do we understand? *By comparing Scripture with Scripture through the Spirit of God to serve Him and love Him! He gives us the understanding!*

Verse 12: “For whoever has *understanding*, to him more shall be given...” If we study and pray and keep growing in grace and knowledge, we’ll increase in that grace and knowledge, because God will give more. Isn’t that what Jesus said? What does that mean that we’re something of ourselves? *Of course not!*

“...and he shall have an abundance, but whoever does not have *understanding*, **even what**

he has shall be taken away from him” (v 12). That is an amazing statement! Think on that for a minute! How important is what we’re doing in:

- loving God?
- serving him?
- keeping His commandments?
- keeping His Sabbaths?
- keeping His Holy Days?
- keeping His Feasts?
- loving God with all of our heart, mind, soul and being

This is something, brethren! These are all the things that are necessary to have God qualify us, to enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.

All of these things develop the character that God wants us to have. As kings and priests, rulers and administrators in the Kingdom of God we must have character, and ***character must be developed with the Spirit of God and the Word of God!*** It doesn’t come any other way to us as human beings, because God designed that that’s the only way it’s going to come.

Verse 13: “For this *reason* I speak to them in parables, because seeing, **they see not**; and hearing, **they hear not**; **neither do they understand.**”

Why is that? Isa. 29 is quite astounding even though they have the Bible. I’ve been checking up on TBN and all the ministers there, and they go along and quote Scripture that’s really nice, but they can’t really get beyond relationships and try to overcome the sin within. But they really don’t understand the Bible or the Truth because Jesus said that they don’t understand.

Isaiah 29:8: “It shall even be as when a hungry one dreams, and behold, he eats... [in his dream] ...but he awakes and his soul is empty; or as when a thirsty man dreams, and behold, he drinks; but he awakes, and behold, *he is* faint and his soul is longing. So shall it be with the multitude of all the nations who fight against Mount Zion.” *Prophecy of our end-time!*

Isn’t it amazing to understand prophecies that the world cannot. Here’s why:

Verse 9: “Be stunned and amazed! Blind your eyes and be blind! They are drunk, but not with wine; they stagger, but not *with* strong drink, for the LORD has poured out upon you the spirit of deep sleep, and has closed your eyes; He has covered the prophets and your rulers, *and* the seers. And the vision of all has become to you like the words of a book that is sealed, which they give to one who is

learned saying, ‘Please read this,’ and he says, ‘I cannot, for it is sealed.’ And the book is delivered to him who is not learned, saying, ‘Please read this,’ and he says, ‘I am not learned’” (vs 9-12). Here’s why, and we’ll see that this is spoken of by Jesus in Matt. 13:

Verse 13: “And the LORD said, ‘Because this **people draws near Me with their mouth...**’ *Ninety percent of the people say they believe there is a God!*

Sidebar: To believe God is to love and obey Him. If you believe in God, James says that’s what the demons believe, and they know their fate.

“...and with their lips honor Me, but **their worship of Me**... [think about that with the Catholics, Protestants, Jews] **...is made up of the traditions of men learned by rote, and their fear toward Me is taught by the commandments of men.**” That’s why they don’t understand. Therefore, God says:

Verse 14: “Therefore, behold, I will proceed to do again a marvelous work among this people, *even* a marvelous work and a wonder, for the wisdom of their wise ones shall perish, and the wisdom of their intelligent ones shall vanish”—*behold Washington, DC! London, England! Paris, France! Germany! All the nations of world!*

Do they have any real understanding of what is right? *Look at the mess that is created **because men:***

- **reject** God
- **reject** the Truth of God
- **reject** the commandments of God

Verse 15: “**Woe to those who go deep to hide their purpose from the LORD!**...” Isn’t that what has happened? Ever heard of the ‘deep state’? *It’s amazing how the Bible is so accurate!*

“...And their works are in the dark...” (v 15). Think about all that’s going on with these investigations trying to find the truth, and know one is really willing to give all the truth so that they can be convicted and removed. *Sad state of affairs!*

“...and they say, ‘Who sees us? And who knows us?’ Surely, **you have turned things upside down!**...” (vs 15-16).

Get rid of God and embrace all the fake religion of Satan the devil and the sexual morays that he preaches. His way and attitude and they bow down and worship him (Rev. 13). The whole world worships Satan. Stop and think about that! That may sound like an outlandish statement. If you’re really

not worshipping the *true God* in spirit and truth—as He has shown we have to do (John 4)—and you have a ‘religion’ and you go to church, synagogue, or cathedral, and you’ve got all the other pagan religions of the world in their stupidity and nonsense.

- Do any of them understand anything? *Maybe some, a little!*
- Do they understand what we are talking about here today? *No!*

“...Shall the potter be regarded as the potter’s clay; for shall the work say of him who made it, ‘He did not make me?’....” (v 16). Isn’t that what the atheists say?

Sidebar: How can everything that there is come from nothing? What do they say? *There was the big bang!* Was the bang nothing? *or* Was it something? They don’t even understand what they’re saying! Think of that! Everything came from nothing, but it all came from the ‘big bang.’ Well, isn’t the ‘big bang’ something? If everything came from the ‘big bang,’ it didn’t come from nothing! ***They don’t know how to think!***

“...Or shall the thing formed say to him who formed it, ‘He had no understanding?’” (v 16).

This is amazing! See how great and marvelous the Word of God is! God is so great that He will give us understanding if we yield to Him. Not get all lifted up and thinking that we’re important people, or thinking that God has got to do this or that for us because of this or that.

Keep this in mind, and the Bible shows this: ***When you get old, do not make presumptuous and arrogant mistakes, because it will end in disaster!***

Tomorrow—day 3—we will see some other things on ***how we become kings and priests, and administrators serving cities and people, and what we will be doing!***

Scriptural References:

- 1) Deuteronomy 18:15-20
- 2) Psalm 22:22, 24-28
- 3) Matthew 11:11-15
- 4) Mark 1:14-15
- 5) Matthew 4:23-25
- 6) John 1:9-13
- 7) Matthew 5:2-9, 48
- 8) Matthew 6:5, 7, 6-10, 12, 11, 13
- 9) Colossians 1:7-9
- 10) 1 Corinthians 2:9-14
- 11) Colossians 1:9-18
- 12) 1 Peter 1:1-12

- 13) Matthew 13:10-13
- 14) Isaiah 29:8-16

Scriptures quoted, not referenced:

- Hebrews 7; 12
- Genesis 15
- 1 Corinthians 1
- Psalm 37
- John 6
- Revelation 22
- Deuteronomy 8
- John 17
- Matthew 1
- Revelation 13
- John 4

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The Kingdom and Our Work

(Day 3—FOT)

Jesus uses parables to teach us how to enter into the Kingdom of God

Fred R. Coulter—September 26, 2018

Greeting, brethren! Welcome to the Feast of Tabernacles, a fantastic time for us to get together:

- to fellowship
- to know and understand the Word of God
- to let the Spirit of God be here with us
 - ✓ to help us to love each other
 - ✓ to serve each other

and most importantly

- ✓ to learn how to prepare to enter into the Kingdom of God
- ✓ to know that God is going to give the kingdom to us

I want review something from Day 2, from Col. 1; this is very important for us to understand.

Colossians 1:12: “Giving thanks to **the Father, Who has made us qualified...**” God the Father is the One Who qualifies us. Think about this for a minute, because this is really important:

- God the Father draws us
- Christ teaches us
- we receive the Spirit of God from the Father to be the sons and daughters of God
- then the Spirit of Christ

It says that if you don’t have the Spirit of Christ you don’t belong to Him. John says that you have to have the Father and the Son; *you can’t have one without the other!*

It’s the Father Who qualifies us! That’s a fantastic and an important thing to know and understand. Here’s what else He does:

“...for the share of the inheritance of the saints in the Light; Who has personally rescued us from the power of darkness and has transferred us **unto** the kingdom of the Son of His love” (vs 12-13). That is not entering *into*.

If something from God happens to you, then that’s from the Kingdom of God to you. But you can’t enter into the Kingdom of God as a fleshly human being. We need to understand that. So, this means *unto*. Just like Jesus said, ‘The Kingdom of God has come *unto* you.’ In other words, you’re ***under the jurisdiction*** of the Kingdom of God.

We’re also subject to the law of the land, we know that. But we are subject to the laws and commandments of God in the spirit, in our heart and mind, *unto* the Kingdom of God, through the Father

and through Christ.

Verse 14: “In Whom we have redemption through His own blood... [the perfect sacrifice] ...even the remission of sins; Who is *the* image of the invisible God, ***the Firstborn of all creation***” (vs 14-15).

I want to cover this, because people look at that and say, ‘Jesus was the first thing God created. *No! That’s not what it means!* Other people say that this shows that Jesus didn’t exist until He was born of the virgin Mary. *No! That’s not what this means!*

It means that Jesus Christ is the *only begotten Son of God! No one else was begotten like Him!* How was He begotten? *He emptied Himself of His glory and Divinity down to a pinprick of life, and in covenant with God, God the Father impregnated Him into the womb of the virgin Mary!* No other human being has come into the world with that impregnation or begettal. So therefore, He is “...*the Firstborn of all creation*”; *that is of all those born of women!*

Are we created in the womb? *Yes! That’s how God creates new life!* No other human being is like Jesus Christ Who was begotten that way and born that way. So, He’s the Firstborn, preeminent over every other human being that had been born in the world. That is “...*the Firstborn of all creation.*”

He’s also called *the firstborn of Mary*. We know that He’s called *the Firstborn from among the dead*. This shows that Jesus was born again when He was resurrected from the dead. It expands on v 15 in:

Verse 16: Because ***by Him were all things created...*** [go back to Gen. 1 and John 1] ...the things in heaven and the things on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or lordships, or principalities, or powers: ***all things were created by Him and for Him.*** And He is before all, and ***by Him all things subsist***” (vs 16-17)—Heb. 1, by the Word of His power He upholds all things.

Verse 18: “And He is ***the Head of the Body, the Church***; Who is *the Beginning, the Firstborn* from among the dead... [that means there are others to be born] ...so that in all things He Himself might hold the preeminence.”

- He was Firstborn in the flesh above every other human being

- He was Firstborn from the dead, above every other one who has died

There we have it!

Verse 19: “For it pleased *the Father* that in Him all the fullness should dwell.”

As we’re going through, we’re seeing that in the New Testament, and particularly in the Gospels... as a matter of fact, we need to look at the Bible this way: ***It’s the Word of God to tell us:***

- why we’re here
- why He created us
- where we’re going

It’s all about God dwelling with mankind! And mankind dwelling with God! How do we get from here to there? *That’s the whole story of the Bible!* Of course, when Jesus came proclaiming the Kingdom of God, that’s what He always preached. Did He preach anything else? *No!*

- it is a way of life
- it is the way we have to walk

And there are times when it’s very difficult!

The way that we have to go—and this will be a problem during the Millennium—we like to give ourselves a little more leeway and give us a few little indulgences along the way. That’s called *leaven!* That’s why we have the Feast of Unleavened Bread, to get rid of those little indulgences those things that come along that way by incrementalism!

Matthew 7:13—Jesus says: “Enter in through the narrow gate; for wide *is* the gate and broad *is* **the way** that leads to destruction, and many are those who enter through it; for narrow *is* the gate and difficult *is* **the way** that leads to life, and few are those who find it” (vs 13-14).

Then He gives a warning about false prophets, because *He knew* right from the beginning that there would be more false prophets than there are *true* prophets.

Now we’re going to see that the Kingdom of God is something you enter into. How do you enter into the Kingdom of God? *By the resurrection from the dead!*

Verse 21: “Not everyone who says to Me ‘Lord, Lord’...” You might say that’s the minimum. You acknowledge that He is Lord. You acknowledge that there is a God. But He said that ***the narrow way is difficult!*** So, saying “...Lord, Lord...” is the broad way, it’s easy, called *fake Christianity!*

“...shall enter into the Kingdom of Heaven; but the one who is doing the will of My Father, Who

is in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, “Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy through Your name? And *did we not* cast out demons through Your name? And *did we not* perform many works of power through Your name?” **And then I will confess to them, “I never knew you...”**” (vs 21-23).

He will of the Father in heaven, that’s what we are to follow. What is that? *Repent, be baptized and receive the Holy Spirit!*

When we receive the Holy Spirit what does that do to us? *It’s very similar to the begetting of human life!* When the egg of the mother is penetrated by the sperm from the father, the egg seals so there’s just that one life. Sometimes it ends up being two, sometimes three, and then forced, false kind of births—induced by men—can bring about five, six, seven and even eight. But that’s not what God designed.

Nevertheless, when there’s the impregnation, the begetting from the father, sealed! Let’s see some Scriptures concerning that, because no one is going to get into the Kingdom of God or Heaven...

Sidebar: Catholics say that the Kingdom of Heaven is where all the souls go, and the Kingdom of God is the domain of pope, being the earth.

Let’s see something very important concerning baptism. You have to receive the Holy Spirit through the laying on of hands.

Acts 19:1: “...Paul traveled through the upper parts *and* came to Ephesus; and when he found certain disciples He said to them, ‘Did you receive *the* Holy Spirit after you believed?’ And they said to him, ‘We have not even heard that *there* is a Holy Spirit.’ Then he said to them, ‘Unto what then were you baptized?’ And they said, ‘Unto the baptism of John.’ And Paul said, ‘John truly baptized *with* a baptism unto repentance, saying to the people that they should believe in Him Who was coming after him—that is, in Jesus, the Christ.’ And after hearing this, they were baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus. Now, when Paul laid *his* hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with *other* languages and prophesied. And all the men were about twelve” (vs 1-7).

Ephesus is where Paul did the baptizing, and he actually stayed there for a long time, over two years.

Ephesians 1:13: “In Whom you also trusted after hearing the Word of the Truth, the Gospel of your salvation; in Whom also, after believing, **you were sealed** with the Holy Spirit of promise.”

- there has to be repentance
- there has to be belief
- there has to be the laying on of hands
- there has to be the sealing with the Spirit and power of God

2-Cor. 1 defines it even more. This is how we put Scripture together to come to an understanding of what the Truth is.

2-Corinthians 1:21: “But He Who establishes us with you in Christ, and Who has anointed us, *is* God”—the Father; the two work together. We receive the Spirit of the Father and the Spirit of Christ (John 14), and if we don’t have the Spirit of Christ we’re none of His (Rom. 8).

Verse 22: “Who has also sealed us and has given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.” ***That’s how we are sealed!*** Here we tie the two together. Let’s see the interaction of this.

All of this is important because we’re the ones who are going to be the rulers, teachers and authorities in the Kingdom of God. We can’t enter into the Kingdom of God unless we are sealed, walk in the way, grow and overcome. This is what is taught through the whole New Testament.

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

That’s the broad definition of it, because that also covers the things that are against the laws of God that look ‘good’ *but are sin!* Those are *the traditions of men!* They look good, sound good, and it ‘agrees with the Scripture.’ Does it really?

Lawlessness! Not just the violent transgression of the Law, but the well-intention of doing ‘good.’ Example: Back in Matt. 16 Jesus was telling the disciples... This is interesting because right in that same chapter Jesus asked the apostles, ‘Who do men say I am?’ Some said Jeremiah, one of the prophets, or John the Baptist raised from the dead. Peter said, ‘You are the Christ, the Son of the living God!’ and Jesus said, ‘Blessed are you Simon Bar-Jonah, for My Father has revealed this to you.’

In the same chapter a little later, Jesus was saying that they were going to Jerusalem and ‘I’m going to be arrested and killed/crucified.’ Peter comes to Him and says, ‘Lord, far be this from You!’ In other words, ‘Lord, look at me, I’m here to save you.’ What did Jesus say to him? *Get behind Me Satan, for you are an offense to Me! You are minding the things of men rather than the things of God!*

Was that not a good deed that Peter told Him what he was going to do? *Of course, that was a*

good deed in the mind of a man! But it was sin—lawlessness—and it was from Satan the devil, because it’s not of God!

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). The *King James* says ‘does not sin,’ but we know that’s impossible and it’s a wrong translation.

“...anyone who *practices* sin has not seen Him, nor has known Him. Little children, do not allow anyone to deceive you...” (vs 6-7).

How many, even within the Church of God have been deceived into believing things that sound Scriptural, that are actually lawless and against God, and have gone off on their own? They look at us and say that we left, therefore, we’re great sinners.’ ***NO! if you stand for the Truth and you have to leave, you are doing what is right with God!***

1-Timothy 6:3: “If anyone teaches any different doctrine, and does not adhere to sound words, *even those* of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the doctrine *that is* according to Godliness.... [v 5]: ...**From such withdraw yourself**” (vs 3, 5).

It’s important to realize the difference. We know that it has to be *practice sin* rather than *cannot sin*, because it says:

1-John 1:9: “If we confess our own sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

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

So, 1-John 3 is the correct translation. 1-John 3:6: “...anyone who *practices* sin has not seen Him, nor has known Him. The one who practices righteousness is righteous, even as He is righteous” (vs 6-7). *Because if you’re practicing the righteousness of God, that’s the righteousness that God wants you to do!*

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...” (vs 8-9)—*the Father!*

- begotten
- repent
- baptized
- laying on of hands
- receive the Holy Spirit
- sealed

You are begotten! Just like when new life is formed, it is sealed! Likewise, *receiving the Holy Spirit of God you are sealed!*

Verse 9: “Everyone who has been begotten by God does not practice sin, because His seed of *begettal*... [sealed] ...is dwelling within him, and he is not able to *practice* sin because he has been begotten by God.”

That’s why we find in the daily prayer that we’re to ask God to forgive us our sins! We progress from ceasing sin outwardly in our actions to having our mind purified and washed and cleansed *within!* ***That’s the true righteousness that God wants!***

Those are the only ones who are going to enter into the Kingdom of God. There are quite a few things in Luke 18 about entering into the Kingdom of God. It’s always concerning the Kingdom of God; that’s what Christ came to preach. That’s why in the prayer the first thing we ask for is, after hallowing God’s name, ‘Your kingdom come!’ We end with ‘Yours is the power and the kingdom forever.’

Luke 18:9: “And to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others...” ***That’s self-righteousness!*** You look at others and say, ‘Oh, how good I am! Look at the poor wretched people out there!’

“...He also spoke this parable, ‘Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one *was* a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed with himself...” (vs 9-11).

Our prayers are to be to God according to ***His*** will! Not to ourselves and praising what ourselves for what we do: ‘I’ve been good!’

Verse 11: “The Pharisee stood and prayed with himself in this manner: ‘God, **I** thank You that **I** am not like other men—extortioners, unrighteous, adulterers—or even as this tax collector....’” (vs 11-12)—elevating himself above others by comparing himself with others. Paul says that those who compare themselves among themselves are *not wise!*

“...**I** fast twice in the week, *and I* give a tithe of everything that **I** gain.” (v 12). ***Wonderful!*** Jesus said that you should do but ‘you’ve left off love, faith and the things you should be doing.

Verse 13: “And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat himself on *the* chest, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, **a sinner.**’.... [quite a different attitude] ...I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself shall be humbled; and the one

who humbles himself shall be exalted” (vs 13-14).

For all of those self-righteous people in Jerusalem at the time of Jesus, who lived up to the destruction in 70 A.D., were they all humbled? ***Yes, mightily!*** And still are to this day.

Verse 15: “Then they brought to Him infants also, so that He might touch them; but when the disciples saw *it*, they rebuked them. But Jesus called them to *Him* and said, ‘Permit the little children to come to Me, and do not forbid them; **for of such is the Kingdom of God**’” (vs 15-16).

- they don’t have the guile
- they’re not involved with Satan the devil

Today many of them are, but back then they didn’t have all the things that we have today to draw kids into that sort of thing.

Verse 17: “Truly I say to you, whoever shall not receive the Kingdom of God like a little child shall in no way enter into it.”

You enter into the Kingdom of God by the resurrection from the dead. That’s what it’s teaching all the way through the Gospels! That’s what it’s teaching all the way through the General Epistles, the Epistles of Paul and the book of Revelation!

Notice the next one, a rich man, a ‘do-gooder,’ one who probably disciplined himself well. Successful and honest in business. Probably had a good reputation in the community, looked up to because he was a good man. There are a lot of people like that in the world. That’s fine, but we will see that became an idol for this man. Let’s see what Jesus said to him:

Verse 18: “And a certain ruler asked Him, saying, ‘Good Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?’ Then Jesus said to him, ‘Why do you call Me good? No one *is* good except One—God’” (vs 18-19).

Sidebar: Why did Jesus say that? Was He God manifested in the flesh? ***Yes, He was!*** But also, He was carrying the law of sin and death in Him, and He was not ‘good’ as God is good in heaven in His spirit form. Therefore, He said, “...No one *is* good except One—God.”

He didn’t say that the man was very perceptive. ‘Yes, I’m very good, because I came from God, and you recognized that! Wonderful! Come over here and be one of My disciples!’

Verse 20: “You know the commandments...” The Protestant’s say, ‘Aha! He didn’t say about Sabbath-keeping.’ What was the law of the land in Galilee and Judea in those days?

Sabbath-keeping! Holy Day-keeping! No question! So, the man's conduct beyond that is what Jesus is talking about:

"...‘You shall not commit adultery. You shall not commit murder. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness. Honor your father and your mother.’ And he said, ‘I have kept all these *commandments* from my youth.’.... [I’m a good man, Lord] ...And after hearing these things, Jesus said to him, ‘You still lack one thing...’” (vs 20-22).

Kind of like Job, who was so self-righteous he thought that he was more righteous than God!

“...sell everything that you have... [get rid of all your idols] ...and distribute to *the* poor, and you shall have treasure in heaven; and come *and* follow Me” (v 22).

What is it we will do to make sure that we’re going to be in the Kingdom of God?

- Not lifting ourselves up?
- Not getting self-righteous?
- Not looking down and condemning other people that they are inferior to us because God has called us?

*Listen! God called us because we are the **nothing** of the world!* So, let’s not get all excited about some of the things that come along, *because we’re looking to eternal life to rule the world when Christ returns!*

Verse 23: “But when he heard these things, he became very sorrowful; for he was quite rich. Now, when Jesus saw him become so sorrowful, He said, ‘**How difficult it is for those who have riches to enter into the Kingdom of God!**’” (vs 23-24).

The Kingdom of God is going to come, the resurrection will take place, and I hope that every one of us pass this earthly life in faith so that we will be in the resurrection. When the resurrection comes, we will enter into the Kingdom of God at that time *and not before!*

Verse 25: “For it is easier *for* a camel to go through an eye of a needle than *for* a rich man to **enter into** the Kingdom of God.” *Hold up a needle and look where the thread goes!*

Verse 26: “And those who heard *this* said, ‘Who then is able to be saved?’ But He said, ‘The things *that are* impossible with men are possible with God’” (vs 26-27).

Look at that eye in the needle. Could God reduce down a camel small enough to go through that eye? *Of course!* And bring it back to full size? *Of course!* There’s nothing impossible for God to do! But He won’t do it because this is a parable and

a lesson for us to learn, that we need to put the Kingdom of God first. Jesus said, ‘Seek first the Kingdom of God.’

This kind of got to the apostles, v 28: “Then Peter said, ‘Behold, we have left everything and have followed You.’.... [that’s quite a statement] ...And He said to them, ‘Truly I say to you, there is no one who has left house, or parents, or brothers, or wife, or children, for the sake of the Kingdom of God, Who shall not receive manifold more in this time, and in the age that is coming—eternal life.’” (vs 28-30). *Right there it tells us everything we need to know about entering into the Kingdom of God!*

Verse 31: “And after taking the twelve *aside* to *Himself*, He said to them, ‘Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and all things that have been written about the Son of man by the prophets shall be fulfilled. For He shall be delivered up to the Gentiles, and shall be mocked and insulted and spit upon. And after scourging *Him*, they shall kill Him; but on the third day, He shall rise again.’ But they understood none of these things...” (vs 31-34).

When you go through the book of Luke, you see that he wrote an awful lot about the teachings of the Kingdom of God, and *entering into* the Kingdom of God.

Luke 13:18: “Then He said, ‘What is the Kingdom of God like? And to what shall I compare it?’” He doesn’t tell you all about what New Jerusalem looks like. That’s saved for later.

Verse 19: “It is like a *tiny* mustard seed, which a man took and cast into his garden; and it grew and developed into a great tree, and the birds of heaven roosted in its branches.”

This is the Kingdom of God established on the earth. It starts out like a little grain of mustard seed. That’s two things:

1. the work that Jesus did started with 12 apostles, later 70 others

By the time Jesus finished His ministry, all of those who gathered together in the upper room were 120. Isn’t that small as a grain of mustard seed, compared to the Kingdom of God filling the whole earth? *Yes, indeed!* It grows! That’s the way it has to be with us.

2. it also shows God’s plan down through time
 - there must be growth for us
 - we must grow and overcome

This is answering the question somewhat. But all of those aspects are various features of the Kingdom of God to help us understand that it’s going to be *a worldwide kingdom over all nations* and all the birds

depict all the different nations of the world.

(go to the next track)

Talking about what the Kingdom of God is like, we're covering all the aspects:

- when it's going to come
- who is going to be in it
- how it's going to be

On Day 4 we're going to see some other aspects of the Kingdom of God and how it will be when we're dealing with people. It's going to be quite a thing! Remember that the harvest for the Feast of Tabernacles is the *great harvest*, all the fruit! Ours is quite different. We're the grain, the bread. So, it's going to be a magnificent thing, and we're going to have part in that. Keep that in mind, because:

- being called and receiving the Spirit of God
- being the Church of God
- having direct access to God the Father and Jesus Christ

is the greatest thing that we can have in this physical life; nothing can be greater! Add onto that the promise of eternal life! The promise of what God is going to have us do to help us grow and develop in:

- character
- knowledge
- understanding
- preparing for the Kingdom of God

This is the greatest thing that can possibly happen to anyone anywhere at any time!

Luke 13:18: "Then He said, 'What is the Kingdom of God like? And to what shall I compare it?'" We already covered v 19.

Verse 20: "And again He said, 'To what shall I compare the Kingdom of God? It is like leaven...'" (vs 20-21).

Is the Kingdom of God sin? *No!* The truth is, leaven is a type of sin only during the Feast of Unleavened Bread. There is a good action to leaven, and that is to have bread rise! That's like the unseen work of the Holy Spirit within us. When bread rises it is the unseen action that is produced by the yeast or baking powder to give the expansion of the bread.

It's just like the Holy Spirit, in this case, that we receive the things of God with His Holy Spirit and it changes us. When it's baked, it's permanent. That's kind of a little different comparison, but

that's what it is.

Verse 21: "It is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of flour until all was leavened."

Another parable similar to it, and this shows what it's going to be like to be able to appear and disappear. But it also tells who is going to be in the Kingdom of God, and what they're going to be like. This is also in the phraseology that even Nicodemus—a learned one among the Jews—couldn't understand.

John 3:1: "Now, there was a man of the Pharisees, Nicodemus by name, a ruler of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to Him, 'Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher *Who* has come from God...'" (vs 1-2).

Didn't they know better? *Yes!* Nicodemus ended up being one of those who was converted. Compare this with John 9 where the man who had been blind from birth said, 'Has it ever been heard that man has been able to do this and you say that he's not of God.' Some of the Pharisees were just the opposite of Nicodemus.

"...because no one is able to do the miracles that You are doing unless God is with him.' Jesus answered and said to him, 'Truly, truly I say to you, **unless anyone is born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God**'" (vs 2-3).

Sidebar: We've got two appendices in *The Holy Bible in Its Original Order, A Faithful Version*:

1. Appendix P: *What Does It Mean to be "born again"?*
2. Appendix Q: *What Does It Mean to be "Born of God"?*

Of course, we understand that is at the resurrection!

"...unless anyone is born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God"—which means *it's impossible to see the Kingdom of God!* It is spiritual, and unless it's manifested like it's described in Rev. 20-22, you don't know what it looks like. A person has to be *born again!*

Protestants have this all wrong. They say that their little 'conversion experience' is born again. All they have to do is read on and they'll see that it's talking about an impossibility if they believe that.

Verse 4: "Nicodemus said to Him, 'How can a man who is old be born? Can he enter his mother's womb a second time and be born?'" He didn't understand; he knew it was a birth process, he didn't understand it.

Verse 5: Jesus answered, 'Truly, truly I say

to you, unless anyone has been born of water...” That’s your first birth; embryonic fluid is the water. Your first nine months of existence you lived in water. When you’re born the contractions of the mother’s muscles and the water pushes you out. Another thing is you’re all greased up so you can slip out.

“...and of Spirit, he cannot enter the Kingdom of God. That which has been born of the flesh is flesh... [born of water] ...and that which has been born of the Spirit is spirit” (vs 5-6).

What is meant by that? *Nicodemus couldn’t understand that!* Spirit being! We’ll see later what it was like.

Verse 8: “The wind blows where it wills, and you hear its sound, but you do not know *the place* from which it comes and *the place* to which it goes; so *also* is everyone who has been born of the Spirit”—*a spirit being*, if you’re born of the spirit at the resurrection.

This is why you have to take different Scriptures and put them together. When you’re born of the spirit at the resurrection, you *enter into* the Kingdom of God. As a spirit being you can also make yourself invisible. Jesus—after the resurrection—suddenly appeared in the middle of the room where the disciples were assembled, because they were afraid of the Jews.

Sidebar: Why were they afraid of the Jews? *Because the Jews told the soldiers to say that the disciples stole the body away!* They were afraid of the Jews, that the Romans would come and arrest them and kill them as well. All of a sudden BOOM! right in the middle of the room there stood Jesus. What a thing that was! They were so astonished that at first they thought it was an apparition. Then Jesus asked them if they had anything to eat. *Yes, we have some fish and honey!* So He ate some fish and honey.

If you’re born of the spirit you can go where you want—invisibly—any time you want to. For all of those who believe in fake Christianity that they have been born again: walk through walls, disappear through the floor, go to the floor below or above, whichever you desire.

Verse 7: “Do not be amazed that I said to you, ‘It is necessary for you to be born again’... [to see the Kingdom of God; to have eternal life] ...The wind blows where it wills, and you hear its sound, but you do not know *the place* from which it comes and *the place* to which it goes; so *also* is everyone who has been born of the Spirit.’ Nicodemus answered and said to Him, ‘How can these things

be?’ Jesus answered and said to him, ‘You are a teacher of Israel, and you do not know these things? Truly, truly I say to you, We speak that which We know, and We testify of that which We have seen; but you do not receive Our testimony. If I have told you earthly things, and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things?’” (vs 7-12).

How amazing is eternal life going to be?

Matthew 16:28: “Truly I say to you, there are some of those standing here who shall not taste of death until they have seen the Son of man coming in His kingdom.”

Isn’t it interesting that everything in the whole Bible surrounds *the kingdom*? On Church at Home {churchathome.org} we’ve got 21 different half-hour segments on *The Kingdom of God*. That’s never preached in the churches of this world.

Matthew 17:1: “And after six days, Jesus took with *Him* Peter and James and his brother John... [the three main leaders of the apostles] ...and brought them up into a high mountain by themselves. And He was transfigured... [in vision] ...before them; and His face shined as the sun... [Rev. 1] ...and His garments became white as the light. Then behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah talking with Him” (vs 1-3).

Who was Moses? *The one who received the Law of God and talked to God, and God talked to Moses, face-to-face!* That shows that God did not talk to him in his glorified form, because God said that ‘no one can look upon the face of God and live.’ That means as spirit beings you’re able to glorify yourself or reduce yourself down to what would appear to be a human being.

How is that going to work? *That’s going to be a great power to really know and understand!* We can use that very effectively during the Millennium!

Verse 4: “And Peter answered *and* said to Jesus, ‘Lord, it is good for us to be here. If You desire, let us make three tabernacles here: one for You, and one for Moses, and one for Elijah.’”

- Why did Jesus bring just those three up there to see it?
- Why not show it to all?
- Why not even Judas Iscariot?

Because these three were to be the leaders among the apostles! He wanted to give them, through this vision, the experience of what it’s going to be like to be a spirit being resurrected from the dead, and to give them the rest of their lives the burning remembrance of that in their minds. Also, this experience to be with them. Peter wrote about it.

Verse 5: “While he was speaking, a bright cloud suddenly overshadowed them; and behold, a voice out of the cloud said, ‘This is My Son, the Beloved, in Whom I delight. Listen to Him!’.... [listen and do] ...And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their faces in extreme terror. But Jesus came *and* touched them, and said, ‘Arise, and do not be terrified.’ And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus alone. Now, as they were descending from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, ‘Tell the vision to no one until the Son of man has risen from *the* dead’” (vs 5-9). *They didn’t even understand that!*

- Can you imagine the shock that they were in after seeing that vision?
- Don’t you if you saw something like that it would be in your memory forever?

This is a good way to understand that that was good way to ensure that the Word of God would be accurate, that the Word of God would be sure and true!

Verse 10: “Then His disciples asked Him, saying, ‘Why then do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?’ And Jesus answered *and* said to them, ‘Elijah shall indeed come first **and restore all things**. But I tell you that Elijah has already come...’” (vs 10-12). *That means there are three Elijah’s:*

1. the one in the Old Testament
2. John the Baptist
3. the one in Malachi 4 who is also going to appear with the two witnesses to restore all things

By the way, the Church has never restored all things, and the Church is not a type of John the Baptist or Elijah.

“...and they did not recognize him; but they did to him whatever they desired. In like manner also, the Son of man is about to suffer from them.’ Then the disciples understood that He was speaking to them about John the Baptist” (vs 12-13).

Verse 9: “...**Tell the vision to no one until the Son of man has risen from *the* dead**”

Luke 19 is a parable concerning what we need to do and learn from the parable. All of these parables are things that Jesus used to teach us the Truth, and to draw things to help us understand how we need to conduct our lives.

Luke 19:11: “Now, as they were listening to these things, He went on to speak a parable, because He was near Jerusalem, and they thought that the Kingdom of God was going to appear

immediately.”

The Jews were expecting another physical human being to take over the kingdom, raise up an army, get rid of the Romans, and they would have the rule and they would have the kingdom themselves without the Romans. They didn’t understand that Jesus’ plan was to include the whole world, all nations. They thought it was going appear immediately.

Verse 12: “Therefore, He said, ‘A certain nobleman set out to a distant country to receive a kingdom for himself, and to return’”—*that’s Christ!*

He went to heaven to wait until everything is accomplished of God, doing all the work through the Church and individuals down through time and centuries, and then return.

Verse 13: “And after calling ten of his servants, he gave to them ten pounds, and said to them, ‘Trade until I come *back*.’”

What does this show? *Once we understand things, we need to do, God expects us to have the initiative to do them:*

- without being told
- without being lorded over

How is that going to be possible? ***By having the laws and commandments of God and the Word of God written in our heart and mind!***

Verse 14: “But his citizens hated him and sent an ambassador after him, saying, ‘We are not willing to have this man reign over us.’.... [directly to the Jews and other people]And it came to pass that when he returned after receiving the kingdom, he directed that those servants to whom he had given the money be called to him, in order that he might know what each one had gained by trading” (vs 14-15).

This means with the Word of God written in our heart and mind, we’re to live our lives and do what we need to do; we are to:

- preach the Gospel
- serve one another
- love God

*All of these things together to produce the **spiritual** fruit, to produce the **eternal** things that will be with us down through ages of time!*

Verse 16: “And the first one came up, saying, ‘Lord, your pound has produced ten pounds.’ Then he said to him, ‘Well *done*, good servant; because you were faithful in a very little...’” (vs 16-17).

This tells us what most of us will be doing. How many cities are there in the world? cities? towns? villages? Who knows? *Millions and millions!* Don't worry, all the places of authority are not occupied or even all filled.

“...you shall have authority over ten cities.’.... [amazing] ...And the second one came, saying, ‘Lord, your pound has made five pounds.’ Then he also said to this one, ‘And you be over five cities.’” (vs 17-19).

- Doesn't that sound like being on the Sea of Glass?
- What are we going to do, Lord?
- *I've got all the instructions here!*

Then He lists it all out! He can call us all by name, because it says that He's the Shepherd of the sheep and He knows them all by name, and He's going to give us new name. We're going to have authority to carry out the will of God and the plan of God to make sure that it accomplishes all that God wants.

Verse 20: “But another came, saying, ‘Lord, behold your pound, which I kept laid up in a handkerchief.... [didn't do anything with it] ...For I was afraid of you, because you are a harsh man. You take up what you did not lay down, and you reap what you did not sow.’ Then he said to him, ‘Out of your *own* mouth I will judge you, *you* wicked servant! You knew that I am a harsh man, taking up what I did not lay down and reaping what I did not sow. Then why didn't you deposit my money in the bank, so that at my coming I might have received it with interest?’” (vs 20-23)—a proper amount of interest, not usury.

That's the bare minimum. You look at the Church of Sardis and think that maybe some of them fit here, because Jesus warned, ‘Strengthen the things that remain, and if not I'll blot your name out of the Book of Life.’ *God isn't going to leave things undone!*

Verse 24: “And he said to those who were standing by, ‘Take the pound from him, and give it to the one who has ten pounds. (And they said to him, ‘Lord, he has ten pounds.’)” (vs 24-25).

- Did he get the job done?
- Did he know what he was doing? *Yes!*

Give to him because he will accomplish what I want him to do!

Verse 26: “For I tell you that to everyone who has, *more* shall be given; but the one who does not have, even what he has shall be taken from him. Moreover, bring my enemies, those who were not willing *for* me to reign over them,

and slay *them* here before me” (vs 26-27). *That's the return of Christ and getting rid of all the evil!*

Verse 28: “And after saying these things, He went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.”

Quite a thing! Yes, indeed, that it! It's also an amazing thing concerning the Psalms, which has an awful lot to do with the Kingdom of God, rulership of God over the whole world. You might say that Psa. 145 is *the Kingdom Psalm*. All the things here have to do with the Kingdom of God and the various aspects of how it's going to be run. This is marvelous, indeed!

Psalms 145:1: “I will extol You, my God, O King; and I will bless Your name forever and ever. Every day I will bless You; and I will praise Your name forever and ever” (vs 1-2).

This is how we worship God! Doesn't that start out much like Jesus said when you pray, ‘Our Father, hallowed is Your name.’ Isn't that what David is doing here? *Yes!*

Take those Scriptures in Matt. 6 about praying and look into the Psalms and see how many of the Psalms are constructed exactly like that. This Psalm here is right at the beginning.

Verse 3: “Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; and His greatness is unsearchable.” What is that going to be like?

Verse 4: “One generation shall praise Your works to another and shall declare Your mighty acts.” *That's us to all of those during the Millennium!* We're going to teach them God's ways!

Remember what it said in Isa. 11, that the knowledge of the Lord shall cover the earth as the seas cover the earth. What is that going to be like? Who is going to dispense that knowledge to the people? Think about what we are going to learn when we learn of it so that we can teach to the people!

- that's why the Feast of Tabernacles is so great
- that's why the holidays of this world are so wretched compared to the Holy Days and Feasts of God

Amazing thing!

Verse 5: “I will speak of the glorious splendor of Your majesty and of Your wondrous works. And men shall speak of the might of Your awesome works; and I will declare Your greatness” (vs 5-6).

Stop and think about this for just a minute. Think about the ocean. If you've got a globe, look at it. Those of you who live near the ocean, I know that you go down there and you look at and here's all this water. It goes on for 14,000 miles, clear over to the East Coast of Asia nonstop! There are some valleys in the ocean that go down seven miles. What's down there? What's in the ocean? Think about every drop of water in the ocean is beneficial for all the animals that are there—the fish and the air-breathing whales, seals, dolphins, and so forth—and when every wave comes up on the shore, a little oxygen comes out of the water up onto the land and into the air so that we can have air to breathe, oxygen to keep us alive.

It's an amazing thing that God did with the oceans; His mighty acts!

Verse 6: "And men shall speak of the might of Your awesome works; and I will declare Your greatness."

Think about what they're going to learn about God! Compare that with the education that people get today; what a pitiful thing the education is today! Almost worthless! It's good enough that you can function in the world, but I mean, comparing to what God has here...

Verse 7: "They shall pour forth the memory of Your great goodness and shall sing of Your righteousness." There are two things we're going to be doing in the Millennium:

1. a lot of singing
2. a lot of drinking of wine

Not drunkenness, but in the right measure. The singing is going to be stunning! The music today mostly is raw satanic evil!

This is all about salvation, v 8: "The LORD is gracious and full of compassion; slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love."

What do you think it's going to be like for all the world to be loving God and keeping His commandments, and we are teaching them. We are part of the God Family doing the work of God to help as many as possible come into the Kingdom of God. There never could be a greater calling for us, brethren. Think about all of those down through past history of time that God has called. We're all going to be involved in it. This is going to be a mighty, mighty thing to be, to be in the Family of God and be in the Millennium, and carry that down a thousand years, and see all of those who are converted and brought into the Kingdom of God.

Don't worry, every single one will be needed! There will be no unemployment lines!

Verse 9: "The LORD is good to all, and His tender mercies are over all His works. All Your works shall praise You, O LORD; and Your saints shall bless You.... [that's us and all the converted people, as well] ...They shall speak of the glory of Your kingdom and talk of Your power" (vs 9-11)—*a Kingdom Psalm!*

Verse 12: "To make known to the sons of men His mighty acts..." That's what we're going to do:

- teaching them
- training them
- instructing them
- watching over them

It's going to be something! Think about how great that's going to be, to be in the Kingdom of God!

"...and the glorious majesty of His kingdom. **Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and Your dominion endures throughout all generations**" (vs 12-13)—all people, past, present, future is all included in God's plan.

What do we do in the light of this? Let's see one of the first instructions that Jesus gave concerning what we are to do. This is quite amazing when you tie it together with Matt. 5:48, because this is telling us what God wants us to do, what He wants from us and how we need to participate in what He's doing in our lives.

It isn't going to be that God is going to do everything for us. We've got to work, be zealous and strive.

Matthew 5:48: "Therefore, you shall be perfect, even as your Father Who is in heaven is perfect." *That's what the whole plan of God is about: for us to serve in the Millennium!*

To keep us going, even the world knows that you've got to have your mind always on the goal:

- Where are you going?
- What are you doing?
- How are you getting there?
- What do you want to accomplish?

It's the Kingdom of God! We saw where we started: *keep your mind fixed on Jesus and His purpose for us!*

Matthew 6:33: "But *as for* you, **seek**... [and keep on seeking] ...**first**... [always first] ...**the Kingdom of God and His righteousness**..." His perfection, His righteousness and His Kingdom, all three combined together.

“...and all these things shall be added to you” (v 33).

Let’s finish with a wonderful verse in Luke 12; so don’t worry about anything. If you’re young and just getting started, keep at it. If you’re old, don’t worry; God loves you and wants you, and wants you to endure to the end, and you’ll be there in the Kingdom of God.

Luke 12:31: “But seek the Kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added to you. **Do not be afraid, little flock...** [do not worry, fret or doubt; don’t let any of those things enter into your mind] **...for your Father delights in giving you the kingdom**” (vs 31-32).

- that’s what God wants
- that’s why we’re here
- this is why we keep the Feast of Tabernacles

On Day 4 we’re going some other things concerning the Kingdom, and how things are going to operate. ***This is going to be very exciting and insightful for us to learn!***

- Revelation 20-22; 1
- Malachi 4
- Isaiah 11

Also referenced:

from *The Holy Bible in Its Original Order, A Faithful Version*:

- Appendix P: *What Does It Mean to be “born Again”?*
- Appendix Q: *What Does It Mean to be “Born of God”?*

Church at Home {churchathome.org}: *The Kingdom of God*

FRC:bo

Transcribed: 7/15/18

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Scriptural References:

- 1) Colossians 1:12-19
- 2) Matthew 7:13-14, 21-23
- 3) Acts 19:1-7
- 4) Ephesians 1:1-13
- 5) 2 Corinthians 1:21-22
- 6) 1 John 3:4-7
- 7) 1 Timothy 6:3, 5
- 8) 1 John 1:9
- 9) 1 John 5:16
- 10) 1 John 3:6-9
- 11) Luke 18:9-34
- 12) Luke 13:18-19, 18, 20-21
- 13) John 3:1-6, 8, 7-12
- 14) Matthew 16:28
- 15) Matthew 17:1-13, 9
- 16) Luke 19:11-28
- 17) Psalm 145:1-13
- 18) Matthew 5:48
- 19) Matthew 6:33
- 20) Luke 12:31-32

Scriptures quoted, not referenced:

- Genesis 1
- John 1
- Hebrews 1
- John 14
- Romans 8
- Matthew 16
- John 9

The Glory of the Kingdom

(Day 4—FOT)

*The LORD shall give all nations rest from sorrow, fear and bondage,
and we shall teach all people that “this is the way walk in it”*

Fred R. Coulter—September 27, 2018

Greeting, brethren! Welcome to the Feast of Tabernacles, Day 4! This means that we are halfway through the one thousand year period or the Millennium, which means we’re 500 years into actively fulfilling and carrying out God’s plan of salvation for the whole world.

In Matt. 24 it tells us that this Gospel shall be preached as a witness to *all nations* in the world. Of course, that’s before the coming of Christ!

What we’re going to focus on today is that the magnitude of the work of the Millennium is going to be really awesome indeed! Think about the whole world and all the people that will be on the earth at that time. After 500 years of peace and prosperity and the knowledge of God, just think what that’s going to be like compared to 500 years of the nations under their own control under Satan the devil.

- that’s why the Family of God
- that’s why we have to be spirit beings

We’ve covered some of Isa. 25 before, but we’ll add on, because everything in the Bible is done ‘here a little, there a little,’ especially in the Prophets, and exceptionally so in the book of Isaiah. ‘Here a little, there a little, precept upon precept,’ and we put it together. Of course, the book of Isaiah has more to do with the Millennium and the Kingdom of God ruling the earth than any other book in the Bible.

Isaiah 25:1: “O LORD, You *are* my God...” That’s what everyone is going to say during the Millennium. No other false gods or false teachings. If they pop up we will see how we’re going to handle those.

“...I will exalt You, I will praise Your name; for You have done wonderful *things*...” (v 1). Think about what it’s going to be like during the Millennium. We covered that during the first three days.

“...*Your* counsels of old *are* faithfulness and truth” (v 1).

Verse 6: “And in **this mountain**... [of the Kingdom of God] ...the LORD of hosts shall make a feast of fat things for **all** the people, a feast of wines on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of refined

wines on the lees. And He will destroy in this mountain the face of the covering, which covers **all** people, and **the veil that is woven over all nations**” (vs 6-7)—*this is Satan’s deception*, having them all wrapped up in *his* way. God is going to destroy it!

Verse 8: “He will destroy death forever...” That won’t happen until the Lake of Fire takes place and the second death occurs.

“...and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from **all** faces. And He shall take away from **all** the earth the rebuke of His people, for the LORD has spoken it” (v 8).

Think about this for a minute: *When God says something, it’s as good as done!*

Verse 9: “And one shall say in that day, ‘Lo, this *is* our God. We have waited for Him, and He will save us....’”—*constant salvation all though the Millennium*; that is going to be really something to behold, and we will have an active part in it.

Just think of it, as kings, priests, teachers and administrators controlling every aspect of the Government of God. We’re going to be the ones implementing these things. That’s why it’s so important that we grow, change and overcome, so that we will be able to fulfill what God wants us to do.

I think we’re going to find that there are going to be so many more teachings that the knowledge covers the earth, the Word of God. That’s more than just the Bible! I will be anxious to see what that’s going to be like.

Verse 9: “And one shall say in that day, ‘Lo, this *is* our God. We have waited for Him, and He will save us. This *is* the LORD; we have waited for Him, we will be glad and rejoice in His salvation.’”

Isaiah 26:1: “In that day... [this is going to be an important time] ...this song shall be sung in the land of Judah: ‘We have a strong city... [spiritual Jerusalem and the great tabernacle that will be there] ...He sets up salvation *as our* walls and banks. Open the gates, so that the righteous nation shall enter in, **one that is faithfully keeping Truth**’” (vs 1-2).

I don’t know what kind of ceremonies and processions and things that we’re going to have, but

let me tell you, *it's going to be marvelous, indeed!*

Psalms 118:19 “Open to me the gates of righteousness; I will go through them, and I will praise the LORD. This is the gate of the LORD; **the righteous shall enter through it**” (vs 19-20). *That's the gate for us! The gate of salvation or the gate for the sons of God!*

Isaiah 26:3: “You will keep *him* in perfect peace, whose mind *is* stayed on You; because he trusts in You.”

Sidebar: a little clue for us on this. Whenever troubles and difficulties come along, keep your mind stayed or fixed on God and His Word; *He'll see you through it!* You have to work at it, **the way that God wants** you to work at it. Here's how to do it:

Verse 4: “Trust in the LORD forever; for God the LORD *is* the everlasting Rock.” That's something to consider and contemplate.

We are this righteous nation of kings and priests that are going to rule the world!

1-Peter 2:4: “To Whom coming...”—Christ! This is how we grow, change and overcome and develop the character that we need.

“...as to a living Stone, rejected indeed by men, **but chosen by God**, and precious” (v 4). Same way with us! We're going to be rejected by the world, but we're chosen by God! **So:**

- What difference does it make if the world rejects us?
- What does that matter?
- What's the world going to come to?

Verse 5: “You also, as living stones, are being built up *as* a spiritual house...” We belong to the house of God, the Church of the Living God, and we are being built up, prepared and taught. *We learn, grow and overcome!*

“...—a Holy priesthood—...” (v 5).

Go back to Exo. 19. Israel was given the opportunity to be a priesthood for God, for the whole world! *They failed!* Now then, the Church—spiritual Israel, and all of the patriarchs, prophets and faithful kings and so forth—will all be in the Kingdom of God.

We are being built up as that spiritual house, a Holy priesthood, “...to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God through Jesus Christ” (v 5).

Those are spiritual sacrifices of work and things like prayers, songs, all part of it.

Let's look at an interesting Scripture, because many of the scribes, Pharisees and leaders of Jerusalem during the days of Jesus understood that it was time for the Messiah to come. Their idea was that the Messiah would come, He would be a human being—which He was—and that He would join with them and set up a government to expel the Romans and begin ruling the world from Jerusalem.

They didn't accept Jesus the way that He was. Matt. 21 is one of the confrontations that He had with them, and we just read that the Stone that the builders built was rejected.

Matthew 21:42: “Jesus said to them, ‘**Have you never read in the Scriptures...**?’”

Stop and think about that for a minute. What's one of the greatest difficulties that ministers and teachers have? *After a while they think they know the Bible well enough, and they don't need to continue to read and study!* That's just the opposite of what it needs to be. Yes, you need to continue to study, to pray, to grow, because that's the only way that you're going to be able to teach the brethren. If not, what happens? *You start to become lukewarm!* When that happens guess what pops in? *Satan's got a good sounding false doctrine!*

That's exactly what it is here, v 42: “Jesus said to them, ‘Have you never read in the Scriptures “The Stone that the builders rejected, this has become the Head of the corner. This was from the Lord, and it is wonderful in our eyes?”?’”

Quite a thing! Notice that Jesus gives this warning to them, and let's take it as a warning to us as well:

Verse 43: “Because of this, I say to you, the Kingdom of God shall be taken from you...” They expected to receive the Kingdom of God and that the Messiah would world with them and they would rule the world!

“...and it shall be given to a nation *that* produces the fruits of it” (v 43). That's why we must grow, overcome, produce the fruits and be developing the character of God. *We are that nation*, not yet formed, but when the resurrection takes place that the whole nation. The first resurrection will be a one-time event and there will be those who serve and rule with Christ. I want you to compare how you stand with God.

Let's see what Jesus said, and think about the promises, what we're going to become. Peter said that ‘***we are going to receive the Divine nature.***’ Won't it be nice to get rid of all the human nature? *The Divine nature!* Think of what a blessing that will be! Think about all of those of the nation of

the first resurrection. *The Divine nature!*

John 10:22: “Now it was winter, and the Feast of Dedication was taking place at Jerusalem. And Jesus was walking in the temple in Solomon’s porch. Then the Jews encircled Him and said to Him, ‘How long are You going to hold us in suspense? If You are the Christ, tell us plainly.’ Jesus answered them, ‘I have told you, but you do not believe. The works that I am doing in My Father’s name, these bear witness of Me. But you do not believe because **you are not of My sheep**, as I said to you’” (vs 22-26).

That was one of the greatest affronts that Jesus could have said to the scribes, Pharisees and priests, “...**you are not of My sheep**...” What did He say of them? ***You are of your father the devil*** (*John 9:44*_[transcriber’s correction])!

Stop and think about how corrupt that became because they left the Scriptures of God and were trusting in their own traditions instead of the Word of God. ***You are of your father the devil! You have nothing to do with God, yet, they were the priests, scribes and Pharisees.***

Verse 27: “My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; and no one shall take them out of My hand. My Father, Who has given *them* to Me, is greater than all; and no one has the power to seize *them* from My Father’s hand. I and the Father are one” (vs 27-30).

Verse 31: “Then the Jews again picked up stones so that they might stone Him. Jesus answered them, ‘Many good works I have showed you from My Father. For which of them are you about to stone Me?’ The Jews answered Him, saying, ‘We will not stone You for a good work, but for blasphemy, and because You, being a man, are making Yourself God.’ Jesus answered them, ‘Is it not written in **your** law...’” (vs 31-34).

They weren’t reading the Bible at all! That’s exactly what happens with most religionists today.

“...I said, ‘You are **gods**?...’” (v 34)—‘*theoi*,’ which is the plural ‘*theos*’—god.

- Didn’t the Apostle John says that *we will see Christ as He is because we will be like Him? Yes!*
- Didn’t Paul write that our bodies will be transformed like His glorious body? *Yes!*

Verse 35: “If He called them gods, to whom the Word of God came’ (and the Scriptures cannot be broken).” *Think about that for a minute!*

Sidebar for all of you clay-manipulators: Shall the clay say to the one who is making it, ‘What are you doing? What are you making?’ *We have a better idea, we have this tradition and this law!* The Protestants and the Catholics say they have a better day to worship on, Sunday. Shall the clay say to the maker, ‘What are you making?’

Can’t be! Men can never tell God what to do? Men, being imperfect and having human nature, can never devise anything that is worthwhile ***to replace the work of a perfect God!*** If they could, they would be God Himself instead of God being God. If that’s hard for you to take, read and study the whole book of Job and see that, although he did everything in the letter of the Law that God required, Job thought that he was as righteous or more righteous than God. *That is one of the most blasphemous thoughts that anybody could have!*

God dealt with Job and showed him that ‘unless you can deck yourself with glory and majesty and rebuke all of those who are evil, and have all the attributes of God, then I will tell you that you can save yourself.’

Job repented! What did he say? ***Now I know that no thought can be withheld from You!*** This is why we need conversion and the Spirit of God. You are gods!

Verse 35: “If He called them gods, to whom the Word of God came’ (and the Scriptures cannot be broken), ‘*why* do you say *of Him* Whom the Father has sanctified and sent into the world, “You are blaspheming,” because I said, “I am *the* Son of God?”’” (vs 35-36).

- What are we going to be? *We’re going to be the sons and daughters of God!*
- To do what? *To rule the world!*

That’s why we’re here; that’s why we keep the Feast of Tabernacles. This goes back to Psalms 82. Aside from the book of Isaiah, the book of Psalms has many, many things concerning the kingdom and so forth.

Psa. 67_[transcriber’s correction]—think about the words; they’re very important and they’re living and spiritual. They apply to us.

Psalms 67:1: “May God be gracious to us, and bless us, and cause His face to shine upon us. Selah.... [stop and think upon that] ...So that Your way may be known on earth...” (vs 1-2). That’s going to be our job:

- to make it known
- to bring the grace
- to bring the knowledge

- to bring the Truth

“...Your salvation among all nations. Let the people praise You, O God; let all the people praise You” (vs 2-3). *Fantastic!*

Brethren, think about how marvelous this is going to be during the Millennium.

Verse 4: “O let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for You shall judge the people righteously and govern the nations upon earth. Selah.”

Think about what it’s going to be like. Get yourself a nice globe and look at it, and think about all the people that are here. Even God in His love provides everything for physical life. Even to the just and the unjust, and even to the evil ones. They’re given a space of time. What are you going to do with it? So, God sustains everything! God is so much greater than we have thought or anticipated.

Let’s see if we, through this Feast of Tabernacles, get a greater perspective of God and have more understanding with a deeper comprehension of His Word.

Verse 5: “Let the people praise You, O God; let **all** the people praise You.”

Think about this: the Sabbath starts in the area of New Zealand where the International Dateline is. The reason it is there is because you cannot have a day happen in the middle of a Continent, so it happens in the middle of the ocean where nobody is. Here comes the Sabbath and it starts out with them all worshipping God and keeping the Sabbath. Think about the earth turning on its axis. It takes one day—24 hours—and then it comes around and everyone is praising God.

Think about it as it’s coming up from the earth, coming up to the throne of God through Jesus Christ, through all the sons and daughters of God. What a fantastic thing that is going to be!

Verse 6: “The earth shall yield its increase; and God, even our own God, shall bless us. God shall bless us, and all the ends of the earth shall fear Him” (vs 6-7).

This is quite a Psalm and that’s what it’s going to be like. We’re going to be the ones causing it to happen. Think about the worst trial that you’re going through. We’re all going to have them. How is that compared to what God is going to do:

- to us
- for us
- through us

Think on that for a minute! This is what it’s going to

be like:

- no more war
- no more gangs
- no more killings
- no more Satan the devil

*And add in everything that we’re doing here with all these Scriptures! **We** are the ones who are going to bring it about, coupled with all of those who have been faithful through all the ages!*

Psalm 72:7: “In His days the righteous shall flourish and abundance of peace until the moon be no more.... [the moon is always going to be there] ...He shall also have the rule from sea to sea, and from the river unto the ends of the earth. Those who dwell in the wilderness shall bow before Him, and His enemies shall lick the dust.... [let’s put it this way, they shall become dust] ...The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall bring presents; the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts. Yea, all kings shall prostrate themselves before Him; all nations shall serve Him” (vs 7-11). *That’s us worshipping God!*

Think about what that’s going to be like; right to Christ directly, and to God the Father Who will be in heaven above! Think about that! That is going to be awesome, indeed!

Verse 16: “May there be an abundance of grain in the earth upon the top of the mountains; may its fruit wave like Lebanon, and they of the city shall flourish like grass of the earth. His name shall endure forever; His name shall be continued as long as the sun; and men shall be blessed in Him; **all nations** shall call Him blessed” (vs 16-17).

I want emphasize **all nations** so that we get the scope of how great and worldwide this rule is for **all people!**

Verse 18: “Blessed is the LORD God, the God of Israel, Who alone does wondrous things. And blessed be His glorious name forever; and **all the earth** is filled with His glory! Amen and Amen. The prayers of David the son of Jesse are ended” (vs 18-20).

God gave David the understanding of what it’s going to be like in the Millennium, and Jesus is going to sit on the throne of David! Think about that! This is awesome, indeed!

There’s a lot in Isaiah; it’s tremendous! If we can kind of get a grasp of how evil that the world is today, and then compare that with Isa. 43, and compare that with the Protestants, ‘Heaven is going to be such a lovely place.’ Well, all the problems are on the earth, and you have to come back down here

and cure the problems!

We have a glorious work to do, and after the Millennium is over, there's the whole universe ahead of us. That's an awesome thing, indeed!

Isaiah 43:1: But now, thus says the LORD Who created you, O Jacob, and He Who formed you, O Israel..."

- Who forms us in the womb? *God does!*
- Who created you? *God did!*
- Who's going re-create you and give you a spirit body and mind, and all the glory that goes with that? *God!*

When we read these things, think about that and plug it into here, because that applies!

"... 'Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called *you* by your name; you *are* Mine. When you pass through the waters, I *will be* with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned; nor shall the flame kindle on you'" (vs 1-3).

That's the blessing of God all during the Millennium, but also showing the protection that He gives to us.

Verse 4: "Since you are precious in My sight, you have been honored, and **I have loved you...** "Never forget the love of God, because all of this is being done because God is love. We are to love Him and He loves us. We are to love each other, and we are to prepare to love the people of the world, to help them and teach them.

Verse 5: "Fear not; for I *am* with you. I will bring your seed from the East, and gather you from the West." This is the return of Israel out of captivity, and to go into their lands again.

Verse 6: "I will say to the North, 'Give up'; and to the South, 'Do not keep back'; **bring My sons from afar and My daughters from the ends of the earth.**" We're going to re-establish all nations where they need to be, and teach them the way of God.

Verse 7: "*Even* everyone who is called by My name; for I have created him for My glory, I have formed him; yea, *I have* made him." Isn't that something?

Verse 8: "Bring out the blind people who have eyes, and the deaf who have ears. Let **all the nations** be brought together, and let the people be gathered; who among them can declare this and show us the former things?..." (vs 8-9).

Everything is going to be compared to what

it was before. That's going to be virtually no comparison at all. Let's see how God is going to bring Israel back, and *all nations*. Read the book of Revelation and how the earth is going to be so utterly destroyed! We have to get it all in great shape and in order. Everyone is going to rejoice! Just think what it's going to be like! I've often wondered what it is going to be like for a nice little city.

- How many church areas will there be there?
- How are we going to run the schools?
probably right in the church buildings
- Why not have that together just in one place?

You don't have to have church over here and school over there. We will have everything we need with the Word of God, and to be doing the things that are fantastic and serving God, teaching the people.

Jeremiah 31:1: "'At that time,' says the LORD, 'I will be the God of **all** the families of Israel, and they shall be My people.'" That's *all 12 tribes*; then *all the nations* of the world. Just like it is in the Bible, to Israel first, then to the Gentiles. What do we have in Rev. 7 with the 144,000 and the great innumerable multitude? *To Israel and then to the nations!*

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.'.... [the Millennium] ...The LORD has appeared to me from afar, *saying*, 'Yea, **I have loved you...**'" (vs 2-3). *Think about this when you get down and almost out because of difficulties!*

"...**with an everlasting love...** [that's what's going to make all of this work] ...therefore, with loving kindness I have drawn you" (v 3). *Everyone is going to have a part in it*, so God declares what He's going to do.

- Who is going to do the work? *The people!*
- Who is going to supervise it? *We will!*

Verse 4: "Again, I will build you, and you shall be built, O virgin of Israel. You shall again put on your drums, and shall go forth in the dances of those who rejoice. You shall yet plant vines on the mountains of Samaria; the planters shall plant, and shall eat *them* as common things. For there shall be a day *that* the watchmen on Mount Ephraim shall cry, 'Arise and let us go up to Zion to the LORD our God!'" (vs 4-6).

I can't help but think about all the singing that's going to go on. Look at all the stupid music that there is today. Can you think about how bad it is. Maybe a lot of you can't think about it, because you turn it off; *that's a good thing!* That has

destroyed the minds of an awful lot of young people.

Verse 7: “For thus says the LORD, ‘Sing with gladness for Jacob, and shout among the chief of the nations. Cry out, give praise and say, “O LORD, save Your people, the remnant of Israel.” Behold, I will bring them from the north country and gather them from the corners of the earth...”’ (vs 7-8).

It says in another place, even if you are out in heaven He’s going to get you there (Deut. 30). Think about how many millions have died in the oceans.

“...and with *them* the blind and the lame, the woman with child and she who is in labor with child, together; a great company shall return there. They shall come with weeping, and with prayers I will lead them....” (vs 8-9).

The first thing Israel is going to do is repent and weep for joy for the relief that God finally has fulfilled His will.

“...I will cause them to walk by the rivers of waters in a straight way; they shall not stumble in it, for I am a Father to Israel, and Ephraim *is* My firstborn” (v 9).

(go to the next track)

Let’s see how it’s going to be. We’re going to be able to teach them, but here’s one thing that’s going to be really true. If they start deviating too far, we’ll let them know. There won’t be any secret plan of rebellion in a dark little room someplace, which shall not be exposed and exterminated.

Isaiah 30:18: “And therefore, will the LORD wait, that He may be gracious unto you. And therefore, He will be exalted, that He may have mercy upon you, for the LORD *is* a God of justice; blessed *are* all those who wait for Him. For, O people, who dwell in Zion at Jerusalem, you shall weep no more; He will be very gracious to you at the voice of your cry. When He hears it, He will answer you. And though the LORD gives you the bread of adversity... [at this time] ...and the water of affliction... [before the Millennium starts] ...yet, your teachers shall not be removed into a corner anymore, but your eyes shall see your teachers” (vs 18-20).

We are going to be the teachers, the rulers, the governor and the administrators, because the whole situation of men cutoff from God has proved to be one great gigantic lesson. When men reject God and put themselves under the control and authority of Satan the devil, they don’t know how to rule themselves or know what really is right, wrong, true and good. All you have to do to understand that

is just read world history; get *Langer’s Encyclopedia of World History* and it’s war after war and rebellion after rebellion. There’s slaying, killing, intrigue, lying and cheating and all of these things. *No more!*

“...but your eyes shall see your teachers” (v 20). We’ll be just like Christ if we have to, if there’s something going on that needs to be changed. We can even walk through a door and say, ‘What are you doing here?’

Verse 21: “And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, ‘**This is the way...**’”

- the way of the Lord
- the way of Truth
- the way of love
- the way of understanding

So, if they start going too far: they’re not doing self-correction, they’re not governing themselves the way they ought to...

Remember, for us today that has to be the same for us! Think about it for a minute. ***We’re to let the Spirit of God, the Word of God, rule in our lives!*** That’s what we do today so that we, during the Millennium, will be able to help them to learn that lesson.

Verse 21: “And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, ‘**This is the way walk in it,**’ when you turn to the right hand and when you turn to the left.” That’s what you would say is instantaneous correction.

Just think about how much trouble people get themselves into, because they don’t have anything like that today. It’s going to be an amazing time, and we are going to be the ones who are bringing it to pass! When you study the book of Isaiah, you’ll see exactly what it is:

- a lot of things about the Millennium
- some things about the battles and fights at the end-time
- some things concerning the wars and battles right there
- then the section where King Hezekiah and Isaiah, and the invasion of the Syrians to try and take Jerusalem
- how God intervened mightily to save them

The book of Isaiah, we might say, is the premier prophetic book for the Kingdom of God!

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. Behold, God *is* my salvation...’” (vs 1-2). *Think about that!*

- Can any man save himself? *No!*
- How can something only equal to a man save a man *spiritually speaking*?

No! You have to have God; greater than we are to save us! That's what we're going to be for the people in the Millennium. We'll be there to teach them. We're not going to be off in a corner anywhere; we're going to be right there. Think about it! We won't have to worry about getting tired or worn out, any of those things.

"...I will trust and not be afraid; for the LORD God is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation" (v 2). That's going to be the mantra of the whole Millennium. The whole Millennium is to bring literally *millions* into the Kingdom of God. You might ask why we're going to need millions. Well, eventually, God is going to bring us out into the universe. We still don't know how vast and how awesome that that is.

We can look at some pictures and be awe-inspired by looking at them, that is absolutely true. But what is it going to be like to be a spirit being and go out into the universe? What is God's plan going to be for that? *I'm getting ahead of myself!*

Verse 3: "And with joy you shall draw water out of the wells of salvation"—talking about the Holy Spirit. Water represents *Spirit*. Wells *bringing God's Holy Spirit in abundance!*

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; for He has done gloriously..." (vs 4-5).

Think about the glorious things that God is going to do. All people will see it and we're going to help bring it to pass.

"...this *is* known in **all the earth**" (v 5). That's what I want to emphasize all through this:

- all the earth
- all nations
- all people

All worshipping and serving God!

Verse 6: "Cry out and shout, O inhabitant of Zion; for great *is* the Holy One of Israel in your midst."

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. 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..." (vs 1-4).

Then it blends into the type of Satan the devil, who is the actual king of Babylon, King of Babylon the Great, as we know in the New Testament. We need to understand how great this is.

Isaiah 33:5: "The LORD is exalted, for He dwells on high. He has filled Zion *with* justice and righteousness. And wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of your times, *and* strength of salvation: the fear of the LORD *is* his treasure" (vs 5-6). *Think about how that's going to be!*

Now let's think about little children growing up and how they're going to be taught the right way and how they're going to be watched over. We're going to be teaching the parents *how*. It's going to be a wonderful thing, indeed!

Verse 5: "And wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of your times, *and* strength of salvation: the fear of the LORD *is* his treasure."

Verse 20: "Look upon Zion, the city of our Holy gatherings..." What's it going to be like to keep the Feast of Tabernacles during the Millennium? *That's going to be quite a thing!* Every nation is going to send their representatives to Jerusalem. All people can't come to Jerusalem and be there. We know that they're going to have to keep the Feast of Tabernacles (Zech.14).

Think about what that is going to be like to keep the Feast of Tabernacles during the Millennium, which pictures the fulfilling of the Millennium, and the working of the great plan of God! That's going to be something!

"...your eyes shall see Jerusalem **a quiet home, a tabernacle that shall not be taken down...**" (v 20). I might show tomorrow that the temple in Ezek. 40 onward is not the temple of the Millennium.

"...not one of its stakes shall ever be removed, nor shall any of its cords be broken. But there the glorious LORD *will be* to us a place of broad rivers *and* streams, in which no galley with oars shall go, nor shall a mighty ship pass by it, for the LORD *is* our Judge, the LORD *is* our Lawgiver, the LORD *is* our King; He will save us" (vs 20-22).

Salvation to ***the whole world***, and God is

going to do it through His sons and daughters who are now the spirit beings ruling the world. This is going to be something, brethren! I want you to understand, and let's see if we can understand even more of this.

Fully a quarter of the whole landmass of the world is given over to deserts. Then you take all that are given over to the vast jungles, and then look at the world and see how 7.5-billion people live on very little land. Think about what it's going to be like during the Millennium when all will be productive, and when the climate will be made just right and will be made to produce everything. *When there will no longer be:*

- the curse
- Satan the devil
- gangs
- marauding armies

I saw a special on the Sahara Desert, and out somewhere in the middle of the Sahara Desert is an abandon ship. How did it get there? *The Sahara Desert was not always a desert!*

Isaiah 35:1: "The wilderness and the desert shall be glad and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose."

Namibia is one of the driest countries in the whole world. It rains there once in about every ten years; one of the hottest places on earth. But when it rains, it rains lots of rain and all of the dormant seed blossom and bloom. Insects, frogs and fish! When I saw that I was thinking of this Scripture right here. What is it going to be like with the deserts blooming. That's going to be something!

Verse 2: "It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even *with* joy and singing; the glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon, they shall see the glory of the LORD *and* the majesty of our God. Make the weak hands strong and make the feeble knees sure. Say to those of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, fear not; behold, your God will come... [talking about the return of Christ; He is going to come]: ...*with* vengeance, with the full recompense of God. He will come and save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened... [spiritually and physically] ...and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing; for in the wilderness waters shall break out, and streams in the desert" (vs 2-6)—***and we are going to be a part of that!***

Men think that they're going to bring it all together with their coming new world order and everything like that, but that's going to be most

colossal failure in the whole history of the world! They are going to end up fighting against God, so God can bring this to the world! ***He and He alone can do it!***

Verse 7: "And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land shall become springs of water in the home of jackals, in its lair, it shall be a place for the reed and rush. And a highway shall be there..." (vs 7-8)—a way to go! Great salvation to ***all*** people!

That's different from what it is today. Jesus said, ***'Enter in at the narrow gate, for straight is the way and difficult is the way that leads to life! But broad is the way that leads to destruction, and many go in that gate!'*** It's going to be completely reversed during the Millennium.

Verse 8: "And a highway shall be there and a way, and it shall be called The Way of Holiness. The unclean shall not pass over it. But it will be for him who walks in that way, but fools, shall not err *in it*." There will still be people who will reject. As hard as that may seem, because God is not going to take away free moral agency,

Verse 9: "No lion shall be there, nor *any* beast of prey shall go up on it, they shall not be found there. But the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away" (vs 9-10).

That's going to be something, and that can only come about with the Family of God, all of us serving and helping and bringing it about. God's plan is so great and magnificent that He has all of this right there in His Word! It's quite a magnificent thing, indeed, to understand it!

This time is going to be so productive, because of the blessing of God. We will have the land Sabbath every seven years, and we will have the Jubilee every fifty years, and that's how we're going to countdown time going down through the Millennium.

- no more famine
- no more starvation
- no more pestilence
- no more earthquakes

None of that will be there! You talk about productive! It's going to be just overflowing with so many things.

Amos 9:13: "'Behold, the days come,' says the LORD..." When God says it's going to happen, it'll happen!

“...‘that the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him who sows seed. And the mountains will drop sweet wine, and all the hills will flow with it’” (v 13).

That’s the way it’s going to be, because God says, v 14: “‘And I will bring back the exiles of My people Israel, and they shall build the cities, which are desolate, and they shall live *in* them. And they shall plant vineyards and drink their wine. They shall also make gardens and eat their fruit. And I will plant them in their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them,’ says the LORD your God” (vs 14-15).

Hab. 2:14—this ties in with Isa. 10. Here’s why all of these things will occur. This is what is missing with the people today, and everything that people have today. ***They don’t know have the knowledge of God!*** What they do have of the knowledge of God is quite distorted and are lies.

Habakkuk 2:14: **“For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.”**

Think about that the next time you look at a globe. Think about all the water that is there, and everything that’s been going on. God is going to change all of this in a magnificent way! It’s amazing how much is in the Bible, and it’s amazing how when we go over these things we learn more. That’s why you study, *study*, ***study***, and every time you do you bring the knowledge of what you have learned into what you have studied before. Everything just kind of opens up greatly.

Psalms 113:1: “O praise the LORD! Give praise to the LORD, O you servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD.”

We’re going to be teaching the people and we’ll be directing that. But all of us who are servants of the Lord will also have our worship of God together, and it looks like here *separate from the people*. I can’t imagine that. And all of us are going to be able to sing and the ‘joyful noise’ will in tune!

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**, and His glory above the heavens” (vs 2-4). *We’re going to bring this to the world!*

Verse 5: “Who is like the LORD our God, Who dwells on high, Who looks down low upon the heavens and upon the earth? He raises up the poor out of the dust...” (vs 5-7)—*bringing them salvation!*

Here is the shortest Psalm in all the Bible, and then we will look at some of the benefits, where it talks about ***the Lord reigns!*** Isn’t it amazing that people want to know what God is going to do? *They want to find out without studying the Word of God, the Bible!* The Bible tells us what God is going to do. What is the #1 key to find out? *Sabbath and Holy Days!* That’s why *none of them* understand. They can glean parts here and there, but it’s like looking at a puzzle that’s missing 80% of the pieces. They get a little picture and it looks pretty good to them, but they don’t know what to do with it.

Psalm 117:1: “O praise the LORD, **all you nations**; praise Him, **all people**, for His merciful kindness is great toward us; and **the Truth of the LORD endures forever**. Praise the LORD!” (vs 1-2).

God is a *God of Truth* and it’s impossible for Him to lie! No lie comes out of the Truth unless you twist it and turn it. When God says that He’s going to do something:

- He will do it
- it will come to pass
- it will be done

Isn’t that what we are to pray? *Yes!*

- Your will be done, not our will
- Your Truth, not our ideas
- Your righteousness, not our traditions

There are several Psalms here that says, *the Lord reigns!* That means He’s ruling and the Kingdom of God is on the earth. This is a prophecy of what’s going to happen:

Psalm 97:1: **“The LORD reigns**; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of islands be glad. Clouds and darkness are all around Him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of His throne” (vs 1-2). I wonder what His throne is going to be like in Jerusalem?

Verse 10: “You who love the LORD, hate evil! He preserves the souls of His saints; He delivers them out of the hand of the wicked. Light is sown for the righteous and gladness for the upright in heart. Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous ones, and praise His Holy name” (vs 10-12). *We’re going to have a lot of new songs to sing!*

Psalm 98:1: “O sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things... [by reigning and ruling with the saints who are the sons and daughters of God] ...His right hand and His Holy arm have worked salvation for Him. The LORD has made known His salvation; He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of **the nations**” (vs 1-2). *They don’t know it now!*

Verse 3: “He has remembered His steadfast love and His faithfulness toward the house of Israel; **all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God**”—and we are going to bring it!

Verse 4: “Make a joyful noise to the LORD, **all the earth**... [doesn’t leave out anybody] ...break forth, and rejoice, and sing praise. Sing to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre, and the voice of a psalm. With silver trumpets and sound of a ram’s horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD. Let the sea roar, and the fullness of it, the world, and those who dwell in it. Let the floods clap their hands; let the mountains sing for joy together before the LORD, for He comes to judge the earth; with righteousness He shall judge the world and the people with equity” (vs 4-9). *Fantastic and magnificent!*

Psalms 99:1: “**The LORD reigns**; let the people tremble. He sits between the cherubim; let the earth quake. The LORD is great in Zion, and He is high above all the people. Let them praise Your name as great and awesome; Holy is He” (vs 1-3).

That’s nothing like we have today! What’s it going to be *when we are together worshipping and praising God!*

Psa. 100 is another short Psalm that is going to tell the account of what things are going to be like.

Psalms 100:1: “Shout for joy to the LORD, **all the earth**.... [that’s going to be something] ...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...” (vs 1-3).

Apply that to physical people and to those who are born again into the Kingdom of God, spiritual people: **us!** He’s the only One Who can make it happen.

“...we are His people and the sheep of His pasture. Enter into His gates with thanksgiving... [Psa. 118] ...and into His courts with praise; give thanks unto Him and bless His name, **for the LORD is good; His steadfast love is everlasting; and His faithfulness endures to all generations**” (vs 3-5).

What a mighty, mighty picture of what the Millennium is going to be like. Isn’t that magnificent? Think about that in relationship to what the Protestants and Catholics say about the Old Testament.

‘It’s all been fulfilled, you don’t need it’ is what the Protestants say. The Catholics say, ‘That’s the old law.’

My, how willingly blinded have they made themselves and have come under the power of Satan the devil! Amazing! *We’re going to bring them out from it!*

Scriptural References:

- 1) Isaiah 25:1, 6-9
- 2) Isaiah 26:1-2
- 3) Psalm 118:19-20
- 4) Isaiah 26:3-4
- 5) 1 Peter 2:4-5
- 6) Matthew 21:42-43
- 7) John 10:22-36
- 8) Psalm 67:1-7
- 9) Psalm 72:7-11, 16-20
- 10) Isaiah 43:1-2, 4-9
- 11) Jeremiah 31:1-9
- 12) Isaiah 30:18-21
- 13) Isaiah 12:1-6
- 14) Isaiah 14:1-4
- 15) Isaiah 33:5-6, 20-22
- 16) Isaiah 35:1-10
- 17) Amos 9:13-15
- 18) Habakkuk 2:14
- 19) Psalm 113:1-7
- 20) Psalm 117:1-2
- 21) Psalm 97:1-2, 10-12
- 22) Psalm 98:1-9
- 23) Psalm 99:1-3
- 24) Psalm 100:1-5

Scriptures quoted, not referenced:

- Matthew 24
- Exodus 19
- John 9:44
- Psalm 82
- Revelation 7
- Deuteronomy 30
- Zechariah 14
- Ezekiel 40-48
- Isaiah 10

Also referenced: Book: *Langer’s Encyclopedia of World History*

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Judge Righteous Judgment I

(Day 5—FOT)

Twelve mistakes people make when passing judgments

Fred R. Coulter—September 28, 2018

Greeting, brethren! Welcome to the Feast of Tabernacles, Day 5! Let's realize that we're in the second part of the Feast. Perhaps what I'm going to bring today, I could have brought a little earlier in the Feast, because it has a lot to do with how we are going to conduct ourselves during the Millennium.

Also, it has an awful lot to do with how we conduct our lives today. God is training us to take over the world.

Rev. 20—we emphasize many times when we come here that we're to live and reign with Jesus Christ for a thousand years, which is true, and then we'll live on into all eternity after that. But let's read something that's very important concerning our duties: what will we do as kings and priests and administrators, and so forth?

Revelation 20:4: "And I saw thrones... [rulership] ...and they that sat upon them, and **judgment was given to them...**" That's an interesting statement.

This past summer we've seen all the hullabaloo about selecting a new Supreme Court justice and the Democrats are going to 'resist,' and the Republicans are going to fight. Yet, if what they say is true, a Supreme Court judge is one of the most important things that there is.

Why is judgment going to be given to us? *Because if we're going to rule, we're also going to judge!* You can say you don't know how to judge. *Yes, you do!*

- if you know the Truth of God
- if you love God
- if you choose the Truth

What are you doing? *You're making a judgment!* Every choice is a judgment, and God has given us *independent free moral agency*. All of those in the Millennium will still have *independent free moral agency*.

We saw last time that when they get out of line, we're going to tell them, 'Don't go to the left, don't go to the right, here's the way that God wants you to live.' Now, there's mercy, justice and all of that with it, and all of that is part of *judgment*.

Let's see that this is under Christ. We know that Christ is coming as King. We know that He's going to judge the world in righteousness and in Truth. That gives you a clue as to the guideline on

how we judge.

John 5:25: "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. 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 authority to execute judgment** because He is *the* Son of man" (vs 25-27).

It's quite interesting that during the Feast of Tabernacles, Jesus made another statement concerning judgment.

John 7:24: "Judge not according to appearance... [because you may not necessarily know] ...**but judge righteous judgment**"—*based upon*:

- the laws of God
- the commandments of God
- the statutes of God

All of those things are all part of it!

Let's first of all see how not to judge. Judgment also comes down to condemning and going against what people think, because we're dealing with truth and righteousness.

Look at what happens when you have judges who don't judge according to truth. Look at what's happened in the United States because they didn't judge according to the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, and the laws that are here. It's good that they're getting back to the Constitution and judging according to that, but greater than that is that the first thing that a judge has to do is to *get himself out of the middle of the judgment with his **personal preferences!***

Matthew 7:1: "Do not condemn *others*, so that you yourself will not be condemned."

That's why if there's anything that is not right it has to be done according to what God's Word says is right and what is wrong.

Verse 2: "For with what judgment you judge, you shall be judged; and with what measure you mete out, it shall be measured again to you. Now, why do you look at the sliver that *is* in your brother's eye, but you do not perceive the beam in your *own* eye?" (vs 2-3).

In other words, don't let your own personality, your own personal prejudices, and your own personal opinions give you a judgment, *because you may be wrong!*

Get yourself out of the way. This also tells you to *get your own problems solved!* Don't get them intermixed into whatever you're going to do in the way of judging.

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?" Don't we see that in the judges today? *Many of them, yes!*

Verse 5: "*You* hypocrite... [you can't be a hypocrite and make good and righteous judgments] ...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 what's important!

That's why character, the mind of Christ, how to judge, and judge rightly is important to do!

What you're not to do also reflects on what you are to do in the way of making judgments. Since judgment is going to be given to us, this becomes important from the point of view of what God wants us to do and how we are to do it. We have to make judgments in our lives every day.

Think of this way: ***Everything we choose to do is a judgment!*** When we do things that are not right, then *we have chosen* to do what is wrong. Therefore, we need to repent of it.

Leviticus 19:15: "You shall do no unrighteousness in judgment...." *Since judgment is going to be given to us:*

- it has to be right
- it has to be according to the Law of God
- it has to be fair
- it has to be good
- it has to be measured

"...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).

Also, here's part of judging, v 16: "You shall not go *as* a slanderer among your people; you shall not stand idly by the blood of your neighbor. I *am* the LORD. You shall not hate your brother in your heart. 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 16-18). **What is all judgment going to be based upon?**

- 1) loving God with all your heart, mind, soul and being
- 2) loving your neighbor as yourself
 - ***if*** you love God
 - ***if*** you love His laws
 - ***if*** you love His commandments
 - ***if*** you love His Truth
 - ***if*** you love His righteousness

This is what you're seeking!

Let's see some things in Proverbs that tells us some very important things that we need to know. The Proverbs are really important for us to use to really get a handle on right/wrong, good/evil, truth/unrighteousness, so that in making our choices day by day, or in whatever we're going to do, that it will be based upon truth! Look at how awful the world is:

- basing everything on a lie
- basing everything on an illusion
- basing everything on perverted and upside down laws

Here's how individuals can cause problems, and this gets into if you have witnesses.

Proverbs 11:13: "A talebearer is a revealer of secrets, but one who is of a faithful spirit keeps the matter hidden."

There are some things that are your own business and you don't need to tell anybody else. If you tell someone else, then the one who hears is not to be slandering. You cannot have righteous judgment when you have slander.

All these are really important in understanding what we are to do and where we are to go. Here's what happens when there's a judgment made and they listen to hearsay. Look at what they've done against President Trump with all the hearsay, all the corruption, all the battles against him. Yet, he's been able to stand strong! Then what happens when it's revealed what they are, because it always will be?

Proverbs 18:8: "The words of a talebearer *are* as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly."

You can't base anything on rumors, hearsay or whatever. Think about this: if you accept rumors and slander from someone against someone else, what does that do to your opinion of that person? How do you know what that person is telling you is correct? *Even if it is correct*, why should you know? ***Think on that!***

Proverbs 26:20: “Where there is no wood, the fire goes out; and where *there is* no talebearer, the quarreling ceases.”

Look at all the riots that we’ve been having just because Brett Kavanaugh was nominated to be a Supreme Court justice. Look at all the lies!

Verse 21: As charcoal to burning embers, and wood *is* to fire, so *is* a contentious man to kindle strife. The words of a talebearer *are* as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly” (vs 21-22). All of those are things that we need not get involved in when we are making judgments.

Let’s see one of the great sins and faults of the scribes and Pharisees—*hypocrites and fools!*

Matthew 23:23: “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithes of mint and anise and cummin, but you have abandoned the more important *matters* of the law—**judgment, and mercy and faith**....” *Think about that!* Notice the sequence of what they are:

- *judgment*—to make a right judgment concerning a matter
- *mercy and faith*—remember that you don’t give mercy first, you give mercy *after* repentance
- When does God give us mercy?
- When we’re in the middle of sinning? *No!*

His judgment is that you repent, then He will give mercy. That’s a very important one. Over in Luke it’s a little bit different.

Remember what it was like when you were in a church where there was no love, where everything was a hierarchy and everything was *obey the hierarchy and do what they tell you*. Here’s the version of it:

Luke 11:39: “Then the Lord said to him, ‘Now, you Pharisees cleanse the outside of the cup and the dish, but inside you are full of greediness and wickedness. Fools, *did* not He Who made the outside also make the inside?’” (vs 39-40).

It’s not a matter of being put into the position that gives you righteous judgment. ***Righteous judgment comes from righteousness within, with the Word of God and Spirit of God!***

Verse 41: “Rather, give alms *from* the things that are within; and behold, all things are clean to you. But woe to you, Pharisees! For you pay tithes of mint and rue and every herb, but **you pass over the judgment and the love of God**.... [notice how those are connected] ...**It is obligatory for you to do these things, and not to set aside those lesser**

things” (vs 41-42).

But what happens? *People get so fixated on certain things that they need to do, or make other people do.* With a hierarchy they leave out God, leave out love, and hence they have wrong judgments, wrong people in the wrong places, and everything is a mess!

So, there has to be ***judgment, righteousness and truth*** all connected together. Let’s see some things that God told the children of Israel. He talks quite a bit about judges in the book of Deuteronomy.

- What happens when you have a corrupt judge? *You have corrupt judgments!*
- What happens when you have a judge who gives His personal preference rather than the truth of the law? *Then you have perverted judgments!*

All of these things are important for us in our daily choices, in dealing with other people, in getting along with other people, in choosing what is right. Another thing that’s very important, too: the reason that God has chosen to call all kinds of different people is so that we learn, all of us together, to love God and not be criticizing other people because of who they are, what they are, what they look like and how they dress.

Remember what James said to the rich in James 2? *If you give preference to the rich man with all the good things he’s done, ‘Oh, come up here and take this seat...’!* And you tell the poor man to go back in the corner and shut up.

That’s ***unrighteous*** judgment! You are a respecter of persons. ***God is not a respecter of persons!*** God has one thing a little greater that we do not have; ***God know the heart and the intention and the mind!***

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. **You shall not respect persons in judgment**....” (vs 16-17). *That’s the biggest problem!*

Look at what happens; we see this all the time. Look at the case of the man who was from Pakistan who was taking money from all of the Democrat congressman, was sending money overseas, lying, cheating and stealing, hacking the Democratic central computer, and committing many, many crimes. They arrested him when he was on his way to go back to Pakistan. They had a whole bunch of charges against him.

Well, they selected the judge that they wanted to go to, so he was given the choice of pleading for one count of being guilty. Then it was amazing, and he didn't say that he repented, didn't say he told all the truth, didn't say what he did. All of that was wiped away. *That's what you call respect of persons!*

"...You shall hear the small as well as the great. You shall not be afraid of the face of man, **for the judgment is God's...**" (v 17).

If Christ is given judgment by the Father, and He gives judgment to us, ***the judgment is God's!*** that's how we are going to conduct it during the Millennium.

"...And the cause that is too hard for you, bring to me, and I will hear it" (v 17) *That's what Moses told them!* Later we'll see how they were to do that.

Verse 18: "And I commanded you at that time all the things, which you should do."

This becomes important because of how we're going to deal with people during the Millennium. All the people during the Millennium are all God's people. We are going to be doing the judgment ***for God!***

- we're going to be teaching them
- we're going to be training them
- we're going to be watching over them

There's going to be a lot of joy and happiness in doing that! There will also be judgments that we will have to make, but it's important to keep in mind that ***the people belong to God!*** We will be there to help them receive the blessings of God and the Truth of God. That's why we are going to be the teachers and the leaders.

Deuteronomy 7:6: "For you *are* a Holy people to the LORD your God. 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."

- Is that not true of the Church?
- Has not God chosen just the few?
- Who did He choose? *1-Cor. 1; that which the world pays no attention to and rejects!*

That is God's judgment so that He can teach us and train us so that we will be the kind of teachers, leaders and judges we need to be!

Here's why, v 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. But because the LORD loved you and because He would keep the oath, which He had sworn to your fathers..." (vs 7-8).

Why are we here? *Because of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob! Because of everything that preceded before us!* Didn't Jesus tell the apostles that He was sending them out to work in the field, which other people have planted, and you're going to reap from what they planted. How about us in the end-time? *Yes!*

"...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).

That's a type of Satan the devil; we've been redeemed from Satan the devil! Redeemed means to be bought back! You were bought with a price. What was that price? *That was the death of Christ!* That was the sacrifice! He wants us to know; isn't it interesting how New Testament this can be? That helps you understand why the Bible is one book: Old and New Testaments together.

Verse 9: "Therefore, know 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." There's never going to be a thousand generations, because that is type of saying that out on into eternity forever! Then God said that He would fight their battles for them.

Sidebar: God didn't want them to go to war *unless He said to go to war, and He would fight the battle for us!*

Verse 10: "And he repays those who hate Him to their face, to destroy them. He will not be slow to repay him who hates Him. He will repay him to his face. **You shall, therefore, keep the commandments and the statutes and the judgments which I command you today to do them.** And it shall come to pass, if you hearken to these judgments **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 and bless you and multiply you..." (vs 10-13).

Understand this and you will see that the love from God is eternal, everlasting, but not unconditional. ***You must repent, love and obey Him!***

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).

- Isn't that something?
- Are not all of those who are going to be in the first resurrection going to be blessed forever?
- Being in the category of those who are the very children of God the Father?
- *Yes, indeed!*

Think how important learn what right judgment is, so that we do the things that are right! Now, here are some more instructions concerning judgment.

Deuteronomy 17:6: “At the mouth of two witnesses or three witnesses...”

Look at how many accusations that are politically hurled at people from one witness, who is probably lying through his/her teeth! Look what it does, and we'll see something else connected with that a little bit later.

“...shall he that is worthy of death be put to death. At the mouth of one witness he shall not be put to death” (v 6).

We'll also look at one in John 8 a little later about making a righteous judgment.

Verse 7: “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.”

Now, there are some very difficult things to handle, hard to solve. How do you resolve it? Well, here they had what you would call *the court of appeals*:

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... [change of venue] ...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....” (vs 8-9).

- What was the type of government that God set up over Israel in the first place? *Judges!*
- What is He going to do during the Millennium? *Judgment is given to those in the first resurrection!*

So, we will be judges! Think on that!

“...And they shall declare to you the sentence of judgment. 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**” (vs 9-10).

- that's why it has to be righteous
- that's why it has to be legal
- that's why it has to be carried out in the proper way
- that's why it has to be carried out with the proper understanding of the Word of God

Verse 11: “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. 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. And **all the people shall hear and fear, and do no more presumptuously**” (vs 11-13).

- Why that particular command?
- What happens?

Just exactly what happens when President Trump chose Brett Kavanaugh to sit on the Supreme Court. Everybody started coming against him with lies, hatred and evil. What does that breed? *Lawlessness!* That reminds me of Matt. 24 that in the last time lawlessness shall be multiplied. Look at all the trouble it's causing!

- wrong judgments
- corrupt judges
- corrupt politicians

That's why it's important that everybody keep the laws and commandments of God! This is what God is going to do. Isn't it interesting that Deut. 16:18 is exactly what Christ is going to do in setting up the Government of God on the earth when He returns?

Deuteronomy 16:18: “You shall appoint judges and officers 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**. 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**. You shall follow that which is altogether just so that you may live and inherit the land, which the LORD your God gives you” (vs 18-20).

Think about that, and transfer that over to us coming in to takeover the world. What is the world? *All the land in the world!* All of these things apply to us!

Let's look at *an example of righteous judgment*. It's very interesting because this helps us understand that *mercy comes after judgment*. We will put all of this together, that they should not do, so let's see how Jesus handled it:

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 people all gathered around Jesus] ...they said to Him, 'Teacher, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery'" (vs 3-4).

If you were a defense attorney, what would you say? *Think about that!*

Verse 5: "'And in the Law, Moses commanded us that those who commit such a *sin* should be stoned. Therefore, what do You say?' 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" (vs 5-6).

Everybody wants to know what He wrote. Well, they all saw what He wrote, and it had an awful lot to do with their behavior, because He wrote it.

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...." (vs 7-9). **What was it that He wrote?**

"...And Jesus was left alone, with the woman standing *in the center*" (v 9). I imagine that all the people who were there were looking around saying, 'What's He going to do? That was quite a confrontation that He had and He sure talked pretty tough to them.'

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....'" (vs 10-11).

- What did He write on the ground?
- What would be the most obvious thing for Him to write?
- What was the sin? *Adultery!*

- How many does it take to commit adultery? *Two! A man and a woman!*
- Why didn't they bring the man?
- How could they catch her in the act of committing adultery and not bring the man?

*It says in the Law that **both** shall be stoned!* Not just the woman!

"...Go, and sin no more" (v 11). Notice that He didn't say, 'I forgive you.' Why? He said, "...**Go, and sin no more.**" This was a righteous judgment. It couldn't be a case that could hold a conviction where the other offending party was not also brought.

So, this was a mistrial; case dismissed! He didn't forgive her, but He told her "...**Go, and sin no more**"—*complete mistrial!* A lot of people don't understand that. They think that that is an act of forgiveness. He didn't say He forgave her; He didn't say, 'Your sins are forgiven.' He asked, 'Is there anyone to condemn you?' *No!*

What was the requirement? *In the mouth of two or three witnesses!* She did something to be worthy of death by stoning! So, you have to have two or three witnesses, and you have to have the man!

That's probably what Jesus was writing on the ground, 'Where's the man? How did you catch her?' There is an excellent example of judging righteous judgment, right after Jesus said in John 7 *judge righteous judgment!*

(go to the next track)

We will look at 12 things that cause *unrighteous* judgments. As we look out and see how things are done in the world, how things have been done in the past within the Church, you can see the problems and difficulties that take place and how they come about.

Let's first of all understand that *God's way is love, truth, justice, righteousness and equity!* There are a lot of lessons we're going to learn in Proverbs that tell us how to avoid making the wrong judgments. Sometimes when you make the wrong judgments everything starts to collapse.

Now, think of this concerning the land, concerning this nation or any nation in the world:

Proverbs 28:2: "Because of the transgression of a land, many *are* its rulers... [*It breaks down into tribalism*, and that's the greatest problem in most of the world.] ...but with a man of understanding *and* knowledge the state shall be prolonged."

- Who is going to be King of the world? *Jesus Christ!*
- Does He have understanding?
- Does He have knowledge?
- *Yes, He does!*
- Who is going to rule with Him? *All the saints:*
 - ✓ *Resurrected perfected*
 - ✓ *having been tried and tested*
 - ✓ *knowing what is right and wrong*
 - ✓ *knowing what is good and evil*
 - ✓ *knowing how to bring about the right*
- Is it going to be prolonged? *It will be the only government to last a thousand years!*

Verse 3: “A poor man who oppresses the poor is like a sweeping rain, which leaves no food.” What a picture that draws. Isn’t it true, the poor beating up on the poor, stealing from the poor, etc.

Verse 4: “Those who forsake the law praise the wicked...”

- Isn’t that’s what’s happening in the world?
- Isn’t that one of the great evils of politics?

Now we know why all the politicians hate Trump. Trump said that ‘I’ve been preparing this all my life.’ Here he comes in the only President not to draw a penny. There may have been some in the past who did the same thing, but Trump gave a up a lot to help straighten out the nation. There’s one thing you have to say, *he is keeping his word!* and *He is giving credit to God!* He’s trying to right the wrongs and put in the right judges, trying to do the right thing. We know from Jer. 18 that God will bless him in it.

“...but those who keep the law contend against them” (v 4). Here is the result of what happens when you have evil people, lawless people, taking over the government.

Verse 5: “Evil men do not understand justice... [judgment; justice is the result of righteous judgment] ...but those who seek the LORD understand all things.” *We’re going to see how true that is!*

This is really something, especially when you consider it tells us in Rev. 20 that we are going to kings and priests, and we’re going to rule on the earth (Rev. 5). There aren’t any problems in heaven; all the problems are on earth. We’ve got to take care of them on the earth!

Proverbs 29:4: “The king... [ruler, mayor, senator, representative or president] ...**establishes the land by justice**... [right judgment] ...but he who takes bribes tears it down.”

The only thing I can say is look at the different states in America and see where you have all the evil ones ruling. What do you have? *Chaos! Confusion! A lot of homeless!* There’s a terrible situation with the homeless in New York City, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Chicago. Look at what’s happening in Chicago because they won’t enforce the law. You’ve got a major is so financed by the evil people in his party that he cannot do what is right. He cannot stop all of the killing.

Sidebar: I have a report showing all the countries of the world. It lists all of those that have the most violence by guns. The two leading ones are in Central America: Honduras and El Salvador. All of them have strict gun control. Guess who has the least per 100,000? *Those two at the top have between 91 per 100,000, and 80 per 100,000 are killed with guns!* Yet, they have strict gun control!

Here in America we have 30-million guns—probably 120-million guns—and how many people are killed with guns per 100,000? 4.2! That tells you that it’s not the gun, it’s one who uses it. Are they evil? or Are they good? I’ll let you think on that!

Verse 4: “The king establishes the land by justice, but he who takes bribes tears it down.” Think about that in relationship to where we’re going with this with *righteous judgment!*

How many times have people been victimized by wrong judgment? You’ve heard of the case where President Trump pardoned this woman who was sentenced to life for a very small infraction.

The 12 Pitfalls and Errors in Judgment that People Make

This causes righteous judgment to be almost impossible. People wonder why we can’t get things done. *Because someone is violating some of the things that we have read! Righteous judgment can only come God’s way!*

- with His judgments
- with His laws
- with His commandments
- with His Truth

Let’s look at the first one, and I’m sure that you can identify with this. Here’s what causes bad or *unjust* judgment:

1. Being Opinionated and having a Closed Mind

There are times when you’re standing for the Truth and being assaulted with evil, and you’re not giving into it. *You’re making a right judgment against the evil!* But when there is something that

comes up where there is a dispute that needs to be settled, what happens when you come up against someone who is opinionated and closed-minded and won't listen to anything; won't listen to the facts or the truth?

You're going to see that we're going to be covering a lot of these things in the Proverbs. This is why the Proverbs are so important for people to learn, especially when they're young and beginning to make their minds up concerning things. They need to learn *how to think* and *think properly*!

- How many teenagers have ruined their lives because they made a wrong judgment?
- How many have ruined their lives because they were opinionated and rebellious and wouldn't listen?

Proverbs 26:12: "Do you see a man wise in his own conceit? **There is more hope for a fool than for him.**"

Wonder why Washington, DLC—District of Liars and Corruption—is so miserable and corrupt? *They're wise in their own deceits! Opinionated! 'I don't care what you say, I'm not going to listen.'*

2. **Being One-Sided**

When you're dealing with the Truth, that's one thing. But when you're trying to solve a dispute where there's a question of what is right and wrong, you can't be one-sided for one person and against the other.

How are on earth are you ever going to solve the problem? If there's a problem, it takes more than one person to cause it if it's between two people. So, you have to be **not closed-minded, not** unwilling to listen to every aspect of the situation. There may be many factors involved.

I remember one time a minister told me, because of some things that had come up. He took Delores and me out to dinner, he said, 'What I'm about to tell you may not be right, but you cannot say a thing back. Do you understand that? Because I am in charge!'

Well, we sat there and listened. To make a long story short, he was wrong and God took care of him in His own way, and removed him. God can fight the battles for you. ***But unwilling to listen!***

How are you going to understand something if you completely refused to listen? *You're not!*

3. **Believing the One Who Comes First**

This is a great capital problem today. What do you have from those who want to destroy other people? *Leaks! False accusations first! Why? Because the one who comes first is able to make his point!* It's like the saying: ***if you tell a lie often enough, long enough, big enough, pretty soon everyone will believe it, and they won't listen to the truth!***

Believing the one who comes first happens all the time! So, you have to be careful in making a judgment. You have to listen, be willing to listen to all sides. The person who comes first can be very convincing. He may have certain facts, but he may not be telling the whole story. Have you heard that before?

Proverbs 18:17: "The one who is first in his own cause *seems* just..." You listen to the person talking, and he giving his side of the story, telling you what happened.

- you don't know whether he's telling the truth or not
- you don't know if he has all the facts or not
- you don't know all the circumstances involved

But they come first and it sound reasonable and plausible.

"...but his neighbor... [the one involved] ...comes and searches him out" (v 17). That's called *investigation!*

Think about that in relationship to crime. The one who gives his story first seems reasonable. But the police or the forensic experts come in and they check out the story. Then they find that the facts don't fit the story that was give.

So, just because someone comes first and says, 'Did you know....? Have you heard....? Well, let me tell you something...!'

That ties in with slanderers and talebearers that we talked about before. You can't have that, because the one who comes first really seems like he or she is right. That's why you need to think about what needs to be done. So, don't just listen to the one who comes first. Isn't that what happens to children in the family. 'Johnny did this. Alice did that.' They have all those problems going back and forth in an argument. The one who wants to get their way always goes first.

4. **Failing to Get all the Facts**

This is the most important one of all. First of all, you have to decide what the facts are, and what are the opinions? Are those facts shaded with the

prejudice of the person relating what they're telling you *may be* the facts.

- How did it **actually** happen?

Not what someone might think! But:

- What was *really* the cause?
- How did it occur?
- Who was involved in it?

So, if you're not getting all the facts

- What was taking place?
- What occurred?
- How are you going to solve that?

This is especially true with some 'bleeding heart'; boohoo, boohoo, and it makes it really difficult. That's how a lot of wrong decisions are made, because they don't get all the facts.

That's why the analogy of a puzzle is really one of the best. In order to get the whole puzzle put together, ***you need all the pieces!*** If you leave some of them out, you're not going to have the picture.

You will see how, in all of these things, one leads to another, which leads to another. This is how ***perverted*** judgment ends up.

5. **Being a Respector of Persons**

That is *showing partiality*. I like this one, but I don't like that one. I'll have to figure out what I need to do.'

Proverbs 24:22: "For their trouble shall rise suddenly, and who knows the ruin of them both? These things also *are* for the wise: To have respect of persons in judgment *is* not good" (vs 22-23).

Not only is it not good, it is a catastrophe! Judgment is to *bring justice!* There can be no justice without *righteous* judgment. Think of this way: ***Having partiality or being a respector of persons falls into three categories:***

1) **liking one side and not liking the other side**

- you have to understand all the facts
- you have to know right from wrong
- you have to know truth from error
- you have to know good from evil

You do not show preference in judgment! Don't respect the person. Lots of times that comes in different ways.

2) **following the majority**

Is the majority always right? *No they're not! Sometimes they're wrong!* Sometimes the minority is right. What is truth?

If you show respect of persons by following the majority... Look at it this way: Is Christmas a good thing or not? *The majority of people do it, and they all have fun doing it.* So therefore, since the majority of people are doing it, therefore, it has to be right. Same way with:

- Sabbath-keeping vs Sunday-keeping
- Holy Days vs holidays
- Truth vs error

You can't go along with the majority. Look at what happened in Sodom and Gomorrah because they went along with the majority of those who were sinning. ***God destroyed them!*** Then the opposite of that is:

3) **excusing the minority**

'They've been downtrodden for hundreds of years, so we can't expect them to know what is right, or to do what is right. Therefore, we will not bring the penalty against them for what they have done, even though the law says you should do it. We want to go along with the minority.'

We have some things in Proverbs that tells us about this. Isn't it interesting how much is here in Proverbs.

Proverbs 18:5: "*It is* not good to favor the person of the wicked, nor to overthrow the righteous in judgment"—*especially if it favors a fool!*

Verse 2: "A fool has no delight in understanding, but only that his heart may discover itself." *You can apply that to many different things!*

Proverbs 17:15: "He who justifies the wicked and he who condemns the just, even both of them are an abomination to the LORD." ***That's why He says, 'Judge righteous judgment!'***

Remember what we read about the judge cannot be favoring the wealthy or the poor, the majority or the minority. *The law must be kept as written and defined!*

For all of those who believe that the Supreme Court justices have to read the Constitution and Bill of Rights, etc., and interpret it according to how it was originally written. Wouldn't that be novel for all of the Sunday-keepers? Why is there Sunday? *Because it was imposed upon people rather than looking into the Scriptures and rightfully understanding!* You've got to rightly divide the Word of God.

What did that do? Look at all of the problems that has caused for many, many years; thousands of years.

6. Allowing Gifts to Blind the Eyes

In other words, ‘You give me enough money and I’ll overlook it.’ or ‘You’ll be taken care of some other way.’ or if the person is blackmailed.

Proverbs 17:23: “**A wicked man takes a bribe out of the bosom to pervert the ways of justice.**”

We’ve seen a lot of that! How many people have gone into politics and have retired as millionaires; sometimes ten millionaires, twenty, whatever; all the schemes that have been done, all the taking of union money and government money and rotating it around in the hands of all the corrupt people. That’s all **bribe taking!**

Tomorrow in part two we’re going to cover some of the things in the Book of the Law showing the judgments of God ahead of time for certain things. What is to be done?

Exodus 23:8: “And you shall take no bribe... [God understands human nature] ...for the bribe blinds the wise and perverts the words of the righteous.”

In other words, bringing about unrighteous judgment. So, you can be sure that wherever there’s an unjust opinion by a judge, something has happened to cause that to be.

- don’t take any bribes
- don’t take any favors

Have you ever heard about different projects, such as building highways and bridges that went to nowhere! Spending all the money! Where did it go? Why did it take them so long? Why couldn’t they complete it?

7. Being Hasty

Rendering a judgment *before* really hearing the matter! We’ve all done that, haven’t we? What does that result in? *That’s an easy thing to do! That comes right along with those that come first!*

Proverbs 18:13: “He who answers a matter before he hears it, it is folly and shame to him.” How many times have you made a snap judgment without hearing all the facts?

- that’s why we’re here to learn
- that’s why God has given the Proverbs
- that’s why we have all of these things in the Word of God

So we can learn the righteousness that we need to have!

8. Looking at the Outward Circumstances and Physical Appearance Only

What is it that the prosecution wants to do for those they want to convict? *They want them to come into court looking the scrubbiest, the most wretched possible that they can be*, so that the jury and the judge will favor the prosecution!

What does the defense want to do for the wicked whom they’re trying to defend? *Make them look as normal as possible! Clean as possible!* So that they can get them off.

Remember, in television there were three famous shows: Perry Mason. Matlock and Columbo. All of these were designed to show what happens when you do not get all of the facts, you get partial facts or you get things where the person has been bribed or lied, or the judge has withheld or makes a wrong decision.

All of these are designed to make the whole show around them, focusing on what they want, rather than what needs to be. Outward appearances, first circumstances end in impressions. When that happens *righteous judgments* can’t take place.

9. Not Knowing the Intentions of the Parties Involved

That’s the hardest thing to get to. Why? *Because the heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked; who can know it?*

Won’t the person who has done wrong want to justify what he has done? *Because of this, that or the other thing!* You have to know the intentions. Then you have to test whether those intentions are really true, and what the motive really was. Otherwise, you can’t make a righteous judgment on it.

Think about this: Spies do not want you to know who they are, so they will pretend and act out, and even be trained to lie so well that their lies will sound like absolute truth. That happens all the time. *So, you have to know the intentions!*

- What did you intend?
- How did you find out what was right and what was wrong?

This is why they have trials with interrogations. To find out the best they can what the intentions was of the one who has been accused really were. That’s one of the most difficult ones to do, ***because God alone knows the heart!***

10. Doing What is Expedient, Rather than What is Right

This happens all the time. Isn't that how some disasters come about, because they do things that are expedient, rather than doing what is right?

We have a dam in Northern California where with the rain that we had last winter was beginning to erode the spillway. If that happened, it could erode back, because this was an earthen dam and it would flood thousands and thousands of acres and driven hundreds of thousands out of their houses.

They did what was expedient and kept it from collapsing, but what is the permanent solution? *To do what is right!* You see this all the time on television. There are ads asking if you Mesothelioma or heart problems. If you've had this or that problem with whatever drug it may be; they rush things out and it was expedient so they could make money. But now people are suffering because it wasn't done right. Therefore, you have to have **righteous judgment** to collect it.

Isn't it interesting that all of these things are forewarned in the book of Proverbs? Think about that for a minute. Think about the statement that it has 'all been fulfilled.' How could it all be fulfilled unless the plan of God is complete, because they're still on-going!

Proverbs 28:20^[transcriber's correction]: "A faithful man shall overflow with blessings, but he who makes haste to be rich shall not be unpunished. To have respect of persons *is* not good; yea, for a piece of bread a man will transgress" (vs 20-21).

Look at all of these Proverbs that help us understand how to make righteous judgments!

11. Getting One's Personal Vanity Involved

This is something that a lot of sports people do, and a lot of other people as well. ***Every way of a man seems right in his own eyes!***

Prov. 16 is good chapter on how people think, and also getting to the intentions, and so forth.

Proverbs 16:2: "All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes, but the LORD weighs the spirits." *In other words, what is right and what is wrong.*

Murderers say, 'Well, he deserved it, so I just did it.' How do you know he deserved it? ***You can't get your own vanity involved!*** You can't say that you're in charge and you'll tell others what to do, and *don't bother me with the facts.*

- How does that go over?
- What does that lead to?

- *A lot of trouble!*

Verse 5: "Everyone who is proud in heart *is* an abomination to the LORD; *though joined* hand in hand, he shall not be unpunished."

12. Applying an Over-Generalized Solution

Example: a person is having problems, and you say, 'You need to pray more.' If you don't tell them how to pray, what good has it done? 'You need to overcome.' If you don't help them overcome, how is it going to happen? ***So, over-generalized solutions won't work at all!***

These are the common things that lead to unrighteous judgment!

This is going to be the basis of what we're going to cover in part 2 on how to make righteous judgments. God says:

- What have I done to you?
- Why don't you return to Me?
- How come you go after all of these pagan gods who amount to nothing?
- *I'm the One Who created you and blessed you!*

Now you've sinned so grievously that I'm going to send you off into exile. But I'll give you a chance. ***Here's the chance!***

Jeremiah 4:1: "'**If**... [choice] ...you will return, O Israel,' says the LORD, '**Return to Me**.... [not to your ways or self] ...And **if** you will put away your abominations out of My sight, **then** you shall not be removed, and will swear, "As the LORD lives," **in truth, in judgment, and in righteousness**; **then** the nations shall bless themselves in Him, and in Him they shall glory'" (vs 1-2).

The Bible has an awful lot to say about justice and judgment, and how that right and proper judgment is necessary for people to have peace and understanding. You can't have all these errors in judgment take place! You can probably see all of these errors in judgment taking place right before our very eyes today.

Psalm 85:7: "Show us Your mercy, O LORD, and grant us Your salvation. 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" (vs 7-8)

Just because blessings come from God doesn't mean that you can quit being diligent; doesn't mean that you're so favored that you can just ignore *Truth and righteousness* and things like that.

Verse 9: “Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him, so that glory may dwell in our land. **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 9-11).

That is talking about the righteous judgment during the Millennium going to be carried out by Christ and the sons and daughters of God the Father.

Verse 12: “Yea, the LORD shall give that which is good, and our land shall yield its increase.... [to the whole world] ...Righteousness shall go before Him and shall set us in the way of His steps” (vs 12-13)—with ***judge righteous judgment!***

FRC:bo
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- 1) Revelation 20:4
- 2) John 5:25-27
- 3) John 7:24
- 4) Matthew 7:1-5
- 5) Leviticus 19:15-18
- 6) Proverbs 11:13
- 7) Proverbs 18:8
- 8) Proverbs 26:20-22
- 9) Matthew 23:23
- 10) Luke 11:39-42
- 11) Deuteronomy 1:16-18
- 12) Deuteronomy 7:6-14
- 13) Deuteronomy 17:6-13
- 14) Deuteronomy 16:18-20
- 15) John 8:3-11
- 16) Proverbs 28:2-5
- 17) Proverbs 29:4
- 18) Proverbs 26:12
- 19) Proverbs 18:17
- 20) Proverbs 24:22-23
- 21) Proverbs 18:5, 2
- 22) Proverbs 17:15, 23
- 23) Exodus 23:8
- 24) Proverbs 18:13
- 25) Proverbs 28:20-21
- 26) Proverbs 16:2, 5
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- 28) Psalm 85: 7-13

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Judge Righteous Judgment II

(Day 6—FOT)

Seventeen things we need to do to make righteous judgments

Fred R. Coulter—September 29, 2018

Greeting, brethren! Welcome to Day 6 of the Feast of Tabernacles!

This is something we really need to learn; I've given *Judge Righteous Judgment* several times in the past during the Feast of Tabernacles, because it tells us in Rev. 20 that 'judgment was given to them'—*those in the first resurrection!*

Remember, when God first put the children of Israel into the 'promised land' He set up over them *judges*. That's what we will be doing:

- judging
- teaching
- helping
- showing

It comes from learning from the Word of God!

- this is why we have our trials and difficulties
- this is why have choices to make.
- this is why we need to learn, from the Bible, what to do that right

As well as learn from our own mistakes and from the mistakes of others so that we can judge righteous judgment!

After Paul had them put out the man who was committing sexual immorality with his step-mother, then he told them concerning judging. There were those in the congregation who were taking others to court—Greek courts—to settle their disputes. So, Paul wrote this:

1-Corinthians 6:1: "Does anyone among you who has a matter against another dare to go to a court of law **before the unrighteous**, and not before the saints? Don't you know that **the saints shall judge the world**? And if the world is to be judged by you, are you unworthy of the most trivial of judgments?" (vs 1-2). *This is why we need to:*

- know the Word of God
- know what is right
- know what is wrong
- know how to apply these things in our lives
- know how to make right choices for us
- know how to help people make right choices for themselves

Verse 3: "Don't you know that we shall judge angels? How much more then *the things of this life*? So then, if you have judgments *concerning*

*the things of this life, **why do you appoint as judges those who have no standing in the Church?***" (vs 3-4).

In other words, get someone who doesn't know what he's saying or doing, get them all emotionally involved, get them on your side, and have them make a judgment so you'll be right! ***NO! that's not how it is!*** Paul says that it's a shame if you do that. ***Jesus tells us how to handle matters in the Church! And it's not handled by a hierarchy!***

Matthew 18:15: "So then, if your brother sins against you, **go and show him his fault between you and him alone**...."

How do you solve problems? *On the lowest level possible between the two principals!* Work it out; it can be worked out. Notice that it says that ***you go to him alone!***

It doesn't say to talk about it first with everyone in the congregation and then go to him alone after everybody knows everything. That won't work! *It says alone!*

"...If he is willing to hear you, you have gained your brother. But if he will not listen, take with you one or two others, so that in *the mouth of **two or three witnesses*** every word may be established" (vs 15-16).

That's exactly what we saw in the Old Testament in part one: ***two or three witnesses!*** Most things will be solved at the one-to-one level. Then you take one or two with you, so that with two or three witnesses everything will be established.

Verse 17 is the one that most churches fail on: "And if he fails to listen to them, tell *it* to the Church.... [that's the brethren in the Church] ...But if he also fails to listen to the Church, let him be to you as the heathen and the tax collector." *All of this has to be done according to the Word of God. That's what's important!*

How do you tell it to the Church? *Those who are involved have to go to the minister and say, 'We have a matter that has to come before the Church; we can't solve it!'* The minister can be the chairman of the meeting with the brethren, and then everybody listens to what the problem is. Then everybody involved can add what they need to add to it, and the minister announces the decision of the brethren. He does not impose his will upon them.

Generally, it will never get to a congregational meeting because everyone wants to solve it at the lowest level possible and as quick as possible. So, if a problem comes up, *work it out!* That will solve it.

In order for us to be educated in how to make judgments, Prov. 2 tells us *why* we need to study, *how* we need to study and *if* we apply ourselves to the Word of God! Let's see the conditions we need to have so that we can learn to make righteous judgments and right decisions, and what does it take?

Proverbs 2:1: "My son... [we're all going to be sons and daughters of God, so apply this spiritually] ...if you will receive my words and treasure up my commandments within you."

Notice that knowing the commandments of God give us the structure and the basis for understanding what's right and wrong.

Verse 2: "So that you incline your ear to wisdom and apply your heart to understanding."

We're going to see the *ifs* and *thens*, and that's why growing and overcoming takes time. That's why experience takes time.

Verse 3: "Yea, *if* you cry after knowledge and lift up your voice for understanding."

- that's why we study and pray
- that's why we learn the Word of God and how to apply it to our lives
- that's why we learn to think

Verse 4: "*If* you seek her as silver and search for her as for hidden treasures." *That's how we are to study the Bible!*

I can tell you that the more that you study and go back and re-study and go over things—this is why we have the Sabbath every week and the Holy Days every year—we learn more, even when we go over Scriptures we already know. We bring to it, every time we study, all of the other things that we have learned and studied before we come back to it again.

This gives us greater understanding! If we do these *ifs*, v 5: "*Then* you shall understand the fear of the LORD... [that's the first thing you do, you love and fear God] ...and find the knowledge of God."

How can you make a *righteous judgment* unless you fear and love God and have the knowledge of God? *Think on that!*

Verse 6: "For the LORD gives wisdom... [How does He give wisdom? *Through His Spirit and*

His Word!] ...out of His mouth... [it's written down for us] ...comes knowledge and understanding. He lays up sound wisdom for the righteous..." (vs 6-7).

When you're loving God and keeping His commandments, studying, praying and overcoming you are constantly learning, *learning, learning!* How long are we to learn? *Until we give up our last breath!* Is that not true? Then when we're resurrected and judgment is given to us, and we're given spirit minds and bodies and understanding with the Spirit of God in its fullest measure, then we will be able to judge and rule the world.

Verse 7: "He lays up sound wisdom for the righteous; *He is* a shield to those who walk uprightly. He keeps the paths of *right judgment* and preserves the way of His saints" (vs 7-8).

- that's why it is 'here is the way, walk in it'
- that's why Jesus said, 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life'
- that's why Paul wrote, 'Have the mind of Christ,' and 'Christ be formed in us'

This how we're going to have the ability to judge and rule the world!

Verse 9: "*Then* you shall understand righteousness and judgment and equity, every good path." To make the right choice for the *right thing, at the right time*. That's what *righteous judgment* is all about!

Verse 10: "Wisdom shall enter into your heart, and knowledge will be pleasing to your soul; discretion shall preserve you and, understanding shall keep you, *to deliver you from the way of the evil man...*" (vs 10-12).

- wrong judgment
- unrighteous ways
- unrighteous acts

"...from the man who speaks wicked things" (v 12). Being able to discern right and wrong, good and evil; all of that comes with it.

Every single one of these things here in Prov. 2 is a development of knowledge and understanding for judgment so that you live the right way and you're not a hypocrite. That's important! Just look at the things that passes judgment from many of the judges of this world. They all have 'an axe to grind.' What we do, we have no 'axe to grind,' but we have the way of God by which we judge and evaluate everything we do.

Did you know that Psalms 1 contains most of the plan of God? Ever thought of it that way? Tie Psalms 1 with Psalms 150. If you start with the first Psalm and go through all of them, and learn all of the

things that are there, then the last Psalm has to do with the resurrection and rejoicing in the Kingdom of God.

Psalm 1:1 “Blessed is the man... [and woman] ...who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked... [judge righteous judgment] ...nor stand in the way of sinners, nor sit in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the Law of the LORD...” (vs 1-2). How can you make judgments unless there are laws.

“...and in His Law does he meditate day and night” (v 2). What does that mean? *He learns to think with the Word of God!* And now we have the whole Bible. ***Think with the Word of God!***

Verse 3: “And he shall be like a tree planted by the streams of water that brings forth its fruit in its season...” That goes clear to Rev. 22 and the Tree of Life on each side of the river.

“...and its leaf shall not wither, and all that he does shall prosper. The wicked are not so... [that just brings out about the plan of God] ...but they are like chaff, which the wind drives away. 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, but the way of the wicked shall perish” (vs 3-6).

That’s why we are to learn how to *judge righteous judgment now!* We do it with the smaller things in our lives, then bigger things as they come along. and That’s how it all works out.

Let’s see the opposite of that. Of course, the first few verses of Matt. 23 are, in many cases, misunderstood, because they’re not understanding what Jesus is saying.

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’” (vs 1-2).

That was to be *the Judgment Seat*, and whenever they sat there, they were bound to go by the Word of God, the Laws of God. That’s important, because when they made a judgment it had to be based on the Word of God. This is why:

Verse 3: “Therefore, every judgment that they tell you to observe, observe and do.... [according to the Law of God] ...But do not do according to their works; for they say and do not.”

What were the works of the scribes and Pharisees? *None other than their traditions!* So, you don’t base judgments on traditions. That’s where they would make their mistakes if they deviated from going right by the Law of Moses. That’s why it says that they ‘sit in Moses’ seat.’ Actually, the

Levites and priests were to do that.

But the Pharisees sat themselves down in the seat of Moses. Yet, it was so important and binding that they only followed the Laws of God. That’s why Jesus said what He said here. In part one we covered:

- by righteous judgment *the land* is established
- by righteous judgment *the Church of God* is established
- by righteous judgment *your life* is established.

We all have choices to make and all of those choices—independent free moral agency (IFMA)—are all judgments, mini-judgments. This is why we need to make right judgments, right decisions, etc.

Proverbs 21:3: “To do righteousness and justice... [the result of judgment] ...*is* more pleasing to the LORD than sacrifice.” *Think on that one!*

Verse 15: “***It is joy to the righteous to do justice...***”—judgment—and that’s what we’re all doing to get ready for the Kingdom of God.

Proverbs 20:8: “A king who sits in the throne of judgment ***scatters away all evil with his eyes.***” *That’s what’s important to understand!* That means that the king, the judge, the ruler, whoever is involved:

- cannot be a hypocrite
- cannot live a double-standard
- cannot have his life in one way, but profess and preach another way

That doesn’t mean he won’t have problems, difficulties and trials to overcome, because we all do. When we get down to these things, because:

- we are to walk in the way of the Lord
- we are to keep in mind His commandments
- we are to love them and do them
- we are to love God with all our heart, mind, soul and being

Whenever a decision comes up that you could say would be a judgment...

17 Things We Need to do to Maintain Righteous Judgment

We can do this on an individual basis, on a group basis, etc.

1. Remember the Judgment is God’s, Not Yours

What does that mean? *We need to do it according to God’s Laws, commandments, statutes*

and judgments, and according to faith, love and hope! That's how we get involved in these things, and that's what we need to do.

- everything comes back to God
- everything comes back to His way
- everything comes back to His judgments, statutes, commandments
- everything is based on loving God

Think what that's going to be like during the Millennium! When Hezekiah setup the judges, here's what he told them:

2-Chronicles 19:6: "And he [Hezekiah] said to the judges, 'Take heed what you do...'" You can never, never really render righteous judgment if you are being hypocritical and have:

- one standard for yours
- one standard for others
- another standard for your friends
- another standard for your enemies

"...for you do not judge for man, **but for the LORD...**" (v 6).

There's always been this, and we've seen it with the confirmation of this new judge this summer, which is *Roe v Wade*. This law was enacted—one of the most unrighteous laws that have come—legalizing murder for mothers. It is so skewed with the laws of the land and God.

Everyone has, with the Constitution, the pursuit of life, liberty and happiness. That's what the Constitution is supposed to do, *preserve life*. But with this—*Roe v Wade*—since the early 1970s there have been 55-million killed in the womb! The most innocent, not even having a chance for life or liberty or the pursuit of happiness. Crushed right out of their mother's womb.

Yet, there are those who want to have it, because they want to live promiscuous lives. That's what it's all about! That was done because the daughter of the justice who wrote the opinion influenced him to do it. Look at that far reaching effect of that, and how permanent it has become in spite of more and more knowledge of how children develop in the womb and then are born.

The judgment is God's, not ours!

2. Know Yourself and Get Sin Out of Your Life

We've already touched on some of this, but let's look at it in a little more detail.

- don't give into your weaknesses
- don't give into your lusts

- know what your weaknesses are and stay away from them

How do we know our weaknesses? This is one of the things that we do every Passover. We are told to 'examine ourselves'; very important. This is why God is molding us in the image of Christ so that we will be able to be the sons and daughters of God, and to be able to execute righteous judgment, regardless of what our responsibilities will be during the Millennium.

Think about that! A whole vast army of spirit beings to run the whole world, and to ***run it in righteousness and with righteous judgment!*** That is going to be really a fantastic thing. That is our calling!

Now, I'm going to make a statement here that's important: ***It is impossible to live in sin and make righteous judgments, unless you are an absolute hypocrite!***

That's why we have got to be putting sin out of our lives every day. That's why we need to do what Peter says, 'We're to grow in grace and knowledge' so that we can develop the kind of character that we need.

- think about why God is calling us
- think about why we are learning these things
- think about why we keep the Feast of Tabernacles, Passover, etc.
- think about our calling to rule with Christ
- think about our calling to rule the whole world

God's plan is so great and so magnificent. It's not that He calls us so we can be nice little people. ***He's calling us to rule the world!*** In order to do that, Peter tells us why we need to strive and overcome and what we need to do in our lives. This in itself could be a whole sermon, but I'm going to just get the overall broad picture of what we need to do so that we can ***judge righteous judgment!***

2-Peter 1:1: Simon Peter a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to those who have obtained *the same precious faith as ours...* [the same as the apostles] *...by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ: Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord*" (vs 1-2).

Think about what an introduction that is! What a calling that is! That's amazing!

Verse 3: "According as His Divine power has given to us all things that *pertain* to life and Godliness, through the knowledge of Him Who

called us by *His own* glory and virtue; through which He has given to us the greatest and *most* precious promises...” (vs 3-4).

We’re involved in the greatest and most precious thing that God has given, the promises of God:

- to be in His Family
- to be spirit beings
- to rule the world
- to help bring millions and millions—during the Millennium—into the Kingdom of God

That’s why God wants us to love Him with all our heart, mind, soul and being. To learn His laws and commandments and the way of Christ.

“...that through these you may become partakers of the Divine nature...” (v 4).

- that’s why we are called *the sons and daughters of God*
- that’s why we are going to be given a spirit body fashioned like Christ’s

Of course, much less in glory, but nevertheless, even Jesus said to the people, ‘The one who is least in the Kingdom of God is greater than John the Baptist.’

“...Having escaped the corruption *that is* in the world through lust” (v 4). Then Peter gives all the steps on how to overcome and add to that. *That’s our calling!*

Remember that ***what God has called us to is to learn righteous judgment in our lives!***

3. Hear all the Facts

When something comes up, when a problem develops, ***get all the facts!*** *Without all the facts it’s impossible to make a righteous judgment or decision!* In some cases it’s going to take a lot of hard work to get there and get all the facts.

Of course, this what we try to do with everything that we do with the Christian Biblical Church of God.

- ***The Truth, the Truth, the Truth!***
- ***Your Word is the Truth!***
- ***We are to live by every Word of God!***

When something comes up we base it on this, getting all the facts. Sometimes you have to question and ask God to help you to discern whether all the truth is being told by those involved in the problem or not. People come in with their side, their bias, whatever it may be. What you need to do is:

- you question
- you think about it

- you ask about it

Then you pierce to the heart of the matter and find out what the difficulty really, really is! Lots of times you’re dealing with a problem, that the source of the problem that you’re looking at, is caused because of another problem unresolved behind it. That takes a lot of discernment and understanding.

When you’re asking questions, remember ***that no question is out of bounds regardless of how embarrassing that it may be to the one you’re asking!*** You’ve got to know the truth!

How are we going to rule in righteousness if we don’t know the truth and have all these things for ourselves that we need to grow in grace and knowledge in. That’s why we are to develop all the aspects in our lives, day-by-day, through our choices so that we can be getting all the facts in various things that we do. Whenever something comes up, ***get all the facts!***

Example: There was a man who wanted to buy an electric go-carts, because he had a hard time getting around. He saw this ad on a local Facebook, and it showed this nice little electric cart that he could use. It said, ‘Six hundred dollars or the best offer.’ That was used.

He wanted to get all the facts about it, and in getting the facts he went online and found out that he could get a brand new one for \$70 more. So, he made the decision to get the new one rather than the old one—or second hand one—and who knows what kind of work it may have needed? Who knows how long it would have lasted?

There’s an example of getting all the facts. On cars today they call it CarFax.com. Today that’s very important, because remember the many cars were caught in all the hurricanes last year. How many of the late model used cars on sale this year are really, really low in price? Could it be that some of those were under water and then restored.

That might be the best you could do, but it might be that it will have more problems in the long run. Who knows? *So, you have to get all the facts!*

4. Always be Open-Minded

Hear all aspects of the situation! This ties right in with getting all the facts, they go hand-in-hand. That always begins with the Truth of God.

Listen to all aspects of it, that way you will be able to understand if they’re really trying to seek God:

- What is the problem here?
- What has caused it?
- How are you going to overcome it?

- What are you going to do to repair it?

Help the other person to do it! With that, remember that every person is going to try and put his best face forward. Even the best liars in the world can sound very convincing.

So, you've got to get all the facts and be open-minded. In being open-minded you're not to be gullible and stupid and just believe everything that is said.

- question it
- analyze it
- think about it
- pray about it

This way you'll be able to help people and keep them from getting themselves in trouble, or help them avoid doing something that isn't right. That way everyone will be happy all the way around.

This also adds into what we covered in part one, the one who comes first and presents his case first, may seem to be the most right. But then with other people involved you have to find out what all the facts are with the other people.

Another very important part: *most liars like to get there first* and then come against the real facts of the case. But it says that the one who comes afterward will test him and prove him.

This is the only way you can make a decision that is not one-sided. Sometimes a person is absolutely wrong. Other times they're absolutely right. But most of the time it's in between. There are degrees of right and degrees of wrong, so you need to be able to have the wisdom and discernment to see that.

(go to the next track)

Number's 3-5 all tie together:

5. Never Render a Judgment Without Hearing the Entire Matter

Just think about all the miscarriages of justice because not all of the facts were given. Since they've been able to have DNA testing, there's a special group that helps those who have been put in prison unjustly, and pays for the DNA analysis in rape cases. Eighteen percent of all men who have been convicted of rape were unjustly and improperly convicted, because it wasn't them. So, with the new DNA procedures they have, they can get all of the facts that were missing previously and sending men to prison unjustly.

Get all the facts; never render a judgment without hearing the entire matter!

Proverbs 18:13: "He who answers a matter

before he hears it, it is folly and shame to him."

An account occurred, 'I know who did it!' and it wasn't him! *You've got to get all the facts!*

Proverbs 14:29: "*He who is slow to wrath is of great understanding, but he who is hasty of spirit exalts folly.*"

Whenever you're in a situation that needs to have judgment and it needs to be right, don't answer anything until you get #s 3-5 all firmly together, which are:

3. Hear all the facts
4. Always be open-minded—hear all the aspects of a situation
5. Never render a judgment without hearing the entire matter

All of three of those together will help a great deal in being able to come to a right conclusion.

6. Never Look Only on Circumstances and Outward Appearances

Some of the most handsome men and most beautiful women turn out to be some of the great pretenders and liars that have ever been.

You never, *never, never* go on the outward appearance. Does God go on the outward appearance? *No! God judges the heart!* That's something we can't do. But what we can do is discuss the matter and go over the facts and reconfirm them until the understanding comes out. That way then you will be able to hear the entire matter.

Example: A family came home from a trip, and they saw that one of the windows of the house was opened, and there were mud-tracks. They thought that someone was here and robbing the house. They tippy-toed around and looked in every room. What happened was, their older son was locked out, and he had to come in and change his clothes because he was out there playing football, was all dirty and tracked mud in. He was not a thief.

So, what you see first may not necessarily be exactly correct. You have to look at all the circumstances and not just to the outward appearance.

Same with counterfeit money. They can make it almost perfect. They're getting better at detecting it. However, too many people take the 'almost perfect' counterfeit money. Now they have counters at the bank that will reject it.

I went into the bank one time and got some money and one of the bills was a counterfeit. I took it back and said, 'This is a counterfeit.' They said,

‘That’s tough!’ *I just got it from you.* ‘No, doesn’t make any difference. We don’t know if you went out and put a counterfeit bill in there and come back to the bank and demand to have an authentic \$20 bill.’

You have to get all the facts, you have to know all the circumstances, and never look to just the outward appearance. Sometimes the outward appearances are deceiving, so you have to be careful with that. That will keep you from making an unrighteous judgment!

7. Discern the Attitudes and Motives of Those Involved

That is if it’s possible! It’s important to understand that when you get into things like this, *the heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked!*

You’ve got to know. Even some of those who may be the nicest looking, may be the best dressed, may be show themselves to be more kind and understanding. *Maybe they’re the ones who are perpetrating the problem!*

The other person is reacting, and lots of times you think the other person is wrong because of the reaction. So, you have to take your time with these and *discern the attitudes and motives of those involved!*

The quality of discernment for these things can come with the Holy Spirit, that we ask God to help us understand and discern what the attitude and motives really are. Think about what the motive might be if it’s going to be the advantage to the one who is bring the accusation.

This is what they do in all family murders: they want to know who has the life insurance policy, who are the beneficiaries of it, when was it taken out, how long ago was it, what were the circumstances of the death and the problems that are involved in it. It’s true that men will be more violent and cause harm, whereas, women tend to poison. So, there you go!

Discern the motives and attitudes of those involved, and then you have to understand how you can solve the difficulty.

8. Never Be a Respector of Persons

God is not a respector of persons. We find that in Rom 2 and also in other places. You can’t be a respector of persons; whether the person is:

- well-known or unknown
- liked or disliked
- loved or unloved
- a friend or an enemy

Exodus 23:2: “You shall not follow a multitude to do evil....” Even though it may be legal in the land.

What are confronted with today that fits that to a tee? *Legalizing ‘pot’! Drugs!* The one who gets involved will say it’s not against the law. That may not be the question. The question may be:

- Is it against God?
- Is it against your body?
- Is it against your health?
- Is it against your mind?

It’s going to be very interesting in Los Angeles with all of the freeways, when they get their winter storms they have a lot of wrecks. Think what it’s going to be like who are pot-smokers. Will that increase the number? *Probably will!*

Verse 2: “You shall not follow a multitude to do evil. Neither shall you testify in a cause in order to side with many so as to pervert judgment.”

Again, ‘pot’ is a good example. ‘Pot’ is illegal, but everybody smokes it. Then, in order to get a push to get it legalized, they have a ‘smoke-in’ in the park—hundreds of thousands of people—and they all start smoking ‘pot.’ They’re directed to all smoke at once and blow the smoke into the air. I remember the news report, here’s all of this ‘pot’ smoke and all of these thousands of people out there. Some will look at that and say, ‘You know, they may have a point. They’re not hurting anybody. They’re just having fun!’

Verse 3: “Neither shall you be partial to a poor man in his cause”—*just because he is poor and downtrodden.*

In some cities what they’re trying to do to get rid of the homeless instead trying to help them, they’re going into where they are—especially if they’re in a park or something—and they’re tearing everything down and even some cities are providing money to go to another city.

Well, they’re making a wrong judgment. What has caused the homelessness? Then you have to start working on each individual, what the problems were and why it came out that way. In South Bay, below San Francisco, the average wage is \$110,700/yr. With that the prices of rent and houses is going up, *up, up!*

They don’t know what to do. Some people who have good jobs cannot make enough money to even rent a room, because a room—a single room—would cost \$1200-1500 a month! Let alone an apartment or house! That’s because with all the high-tech industry there, they are overpaying the

people who are working there. The government is not equalizing the taxes!

My personal opinion is that the big corporations like Amazon, Facebook, Google and those who have power everywhere, there are no government regulations to help throttle them in. Perhaps they should be taxed 75%, because they are creating a lot of the homeless. Prices for places to live are going out of sight! What happens is that ***greed and evil enters in with everything!***

We're going to think about those things when we're ruling the world. How is the economy going to be? What is a job worth?

Leviticus 19:15: "You shall do no unrighteousness in judgment. You shall not respect the person of the poor, nor honor the person of the mighty..."

You can't do that! How can you get around that? *You have to understand what are their fruits, the result of their actions!* Not because they were the son of 'so and so' or that they may have known a person you know, or you've known them for a long time. Maybe they were a drinking buddy or a card-playing buddy. Or they built a house for you or whatever.

You can't respect persons. You have to look at whatever the problem is, see what the problem is and apply the solution to the problem.

9. Never Accept a Gift

Think about that! Some of these things that have been going on with the FBI is that they have been taking reporters out to lunch and to dinner to get information. ***That's not how to do it!*** Then the FBI gets good reporting for the job that they are doing.

Today with all the fake news and with all the lies that are going on, you have to have a lot of discernment and so forth, because everybody is paying everybody off. Sooner or later the corruption is going to be so bad. Never accept a gift, also called ***a bribe!***

Exodus 23:8: "And you shall take no bribe, for the bribe blinds the wise and perverts the words of the righteous." This can come in many, many forms!

Remember McCabe, #2 in the FBI, his wife was running for State Representative or Senate seat in Virginia. Terry McAuliffe, the governor got \$700,000 from the Hillary gang, and that went to McCabe's wife's election campaign. ***But the truth is that was payment to McCabe for not pushing the case against Hillary.***

How deep does it get? Look what it does: it comes in loans, gifts, food, clothing, meals, work or services. Too many people at high levels get themselves into problems because they higher the wrong people, or people come and want to curry their favor, and they give them jobs and things like this.

It doesn't work! Especially if someone is minister! He should not have the brethren waiting on him hand and foot, waiting on his wife hand and foot: mowing their lawn, cleaning their houses and doing all of these things. That has happened.

I remember when I was ordained, there was man who was ordained because he was a contractor and built the home for the local minister in Seattle. Very convenient arrangement!

Bribes, loans—all of those things—always takes away from righteous judgment! We will see that's one of the sins that God talks about that was against the people of Israel. *They were taking bribes! They were rendering unjust judgments!*

Amos 5:11: "Therefore—because of your trampling upon the poor, and because you take tribute of grain from him—though you have built houses of carved stone, you shall not dwell in them; though you have planted desirable vineyards, you shall not drink wine from them, for I know your many transgressions and your many sins. They afflict the just, they take a bribe, and they turn aside the poor in the gate. Therefore, the prudent shall keep silent in that time; for it *is* an evil time" (vs 11-13).

Think of that! So much going on the people don't want to bring it out, don't want to 'rock the boat.' Look what they've done with 'whistleblowers' because of those things.

Verse 14: "Seek good and not evil..." What is good? *That's why you need the Ten Commandments of God!*

"...that you may live; and so the LORD, the God of hosts, shall be with you, as you have spoken. Hate the evil, and love the good..." (vs 14-15). That's exactly what needs to be in relationship ***to judging righteous judgment!***

You can't call evil *good*, and good *evil* like it is in Isa. 5. That's where we are today. They're trying to close down people by enacting laws if they're against the perverted sex habits of those who want to destroy marriage and destroy true love and everything like that. That will get to a point where they'll try to outlaw the Bible.

It "...**blinds the wise and perverts the words of the righteous.**" (Exo. 23:8). Even they are

affected!

10. Always be Totally Fair and Impartial

This means that whatever the judgment is that needs to be made, it needs to be right, righteous, fair and impartial. Even though in the final analysis it's a totally condemnation of evil. You can't give a little 'slap on the wrist' to evil *and say that you have judged righteous judgment!*

This is why you have to do all of the things leading up to it here. Unless you do, you can never be totally fair and impartial.

11. Educate Yourself in God's Laws, Statutes and Judgments

How do we do that? Let's see the qualification that God gave to the king, so that he could judge righteously and lead the people and not take advantage of them. Not ingratiate himself and make himself wealthy and all that sort of thing.

Here's what God says, and notice that this will help us even today if we look at the spiritual aspect on how that applies for us today.

Deuteronomy 17:14: "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,' you shall surely set a king over you, **whom the LORD your God shall choose....**" (vs 14-15).

Not someone by popular... 'He such a great speaker' but he's an empty-headed fool!

"...You shall set a king over **you from among your brethren. You may not set a stranger over you who is not your brother**" (v 15). Why? *Because of the difference in understanding of law!*

Verse 16: "Only he shall not multiply horses to himself... [first sin of Solomon] ...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.' Nor shall he multiply wives to himself... [another great sin of Solomon] ...**so that his heart does not turn away**. Nor shall he greatly multiply silver and gold to himself" (vs 16-17).

Those are all the things he's not to do! Notice what he was to do so that he could be a good king, and that will apply to us so that we can be good kings, priest and administrators.

Verse 18: "And it shall be, when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, **he shall write for himself...** [and study] ...**a copy of this law in a book...**" *He was to make his own Book of the Law!*

His own personal possession. He was to sit down and write it himself!

"...from that which is in the custody of the priests the Levites" (v 18).

How would he do that? *He would go to the tabernacle or the temple and they would have the scrolls there!* He would go into a room and have a new scroll for himself, and start writing all of the first five books that we now have in the Bible! So that he would:

- know them
- understand them
- realize that he had to rule by them

Verse 19: "And it shall be with him, and he shall read it... [meaning *study*] ...**all the days of his life...** [Why?] ...**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** so that his heart may not be lifted up above his brethren, 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" (vs 19-20).

Today that covers a whole lot more, because we're preparing to rule in the Kingdom of God. This is how we are to do it, and educate ourselves with it. God tells the same thing to Joshua:

Joshua 1:6: "Be strong and of good courage, for you shall divide for an inheritance to this people the land, which I swore to their fathers to give it to them."

What are we going to do when the Kingdom of God is here? *We're going to help people resettle in the land!* God is going to tell where they are to go.

Verse 7: "Only be strong and very courageous so that you may observe to do according to all the Law, which My servant Moses commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, so that you may prosper wherever you go. This Book of the Law shall not depart out of your mouth, but you shall meditate therein day and night, so that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it, for then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall have good success. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage. Do not be afraid, neither be dismayed, **for the LORD your God is with you in all places where you go**" (vs 7-9).

That's fantastic! Let's see what else we are to do. All of this is to educate ourselves, develop ourselves to learn—always learn—to grow in grace and knowledge and understanding!

12. In Difficult Cases Seek Counsel

Find someone who knows more about the circumstances or subject, whatever it may be so that you can get right input.

Proverbs 11:14: “Where *there is* no wisdom, the people fall; but in the multitude of wise counselors *there is* safety.” If they’re *dumb* counselors, you’ve got a heap of big problems!

Proverbs 15:22: “Without counsel purposes are frustrated, but in the multitude of counselors they are established.” ***That is if they are wise!***

We don’t know all the problems and difficulties surrounding different thing, and we need input from other! That’s why when doing investigations, they have special people who have specialized in various aspects of technology to be able to figure out what to do.

13. Think of the Long-Term Consequences

Not just what takes place right away! That’s really true concerning abortions. Who thought that 50 years later there would be the murder of 55-million unborn? *Think of that in relationship to the immigration problem!* Same way with the trading problem!

How come that many of the things that we’ve imported have no tariff on them, but the things we exported to those various countries, they had tariffs of 10, 15, 20 percent, sometimes 100% or more. That can’t work out, because the long-term consequences are that we lose jobs, we have lower salaries, our factories close, and the government has to borrow money to pay and keep these people going. Then the whole thing collapses because the people are left with the burden of the debt because there wasn’t sense enough to have proper trading.

That’s what we’ve been involved with for the past year or so.

14. Always Make Your Decisions and Judgments Specific and Clear

Someone says, ‘What am I to do?’ *You do what I tell you.* ‘What did you tell me to do?’ *I don’t know, but you just do what I tell you.*

Write it down: do this, do that, do the other thing. This is what you are to do. Write it down!

- Why do you think that God has given us the Ten Commandments *written*?
- Why do you think we have the Word of God *written*?
 - ✓ *So that we would know!*
 - ✓ *So that everybody can come and read it!*

15. The Element of Timing in Judgment

What happens when it drags on and on and no judgment is given? *Hillary is waiting for the statute of limitations to run out so she will be home free with her hundreds of millions in the Clinton Foundation! Because they haven’t exercised right timing in stopping it!*

Proverbs 13:12: “**Hope deferred makes the heart sick...**” that’s why people get disgusted with those in charge if they don’t know how to make proper judgments and choices and don’t enact them in a timely manner.

Verse 23: “Much food *is* in the tillage of the poor, but there is *that* which *is* destroyed for lack of judgment.” *Slowness in coming to a judgment!*

That’s exactly what it is! Look at what has happened because we have avoided eliminating *Roe vs Wade*. Look at the whole immigration problem!

Ecclesiastes 8:5: “Whoever keeps the commandment shall feel no evil thing; and a wise man’s heart discerns both time and judgment. Because to every purpose there is time and judgment, therefore, the misery of man *is* great” (vs 5-6).

That’s why God has His Holy Days, and that they are timed the way that they are. To show how the plan of God is going to unfold.

- ‘Lord, what are you doing.’ *Read the Bible and obey it and you will understand it!*
- ‘No, I don’t want to do that, but You tell me what you’re doing.’ *No, I’m not going to tell you what I’m doing unless you apply yourself!*

16. Mercy in Judgment

Here’s another great problem! The truth is that ***mercy comes after judgment and repentance!***

That’s a big fault of a lot of the judges today, especially those who are of the lawless philosophy. They will let people go almost scot-free, rather than apply the law! That’s a misplacement of *mercy*.

Mercy is not a replacement for judgment! You don’t come out with mercy first, *you come out with mercy after judgment!* How does that work in our lives? Does God give us mercy? *Yes!* When? *When we understand that we have sinned and we repent!* Then we go and don’t live in sin any longer.

God is not going to give mercy *unless* we have learned our lesson, and *unless* we have repented and *unless* we have set our course to be right.

In all of these cases:

17. You Must be Filled with God's Spirit and have the Mind of Christ

That all comes from God! It doesn't come because of who we are or what we are. Or who our father or mother was, or anything like that. In order to have *righteous judgment* you must have God's Spirit so that you make righteous judgments.

Proverbs 8:14—God's Spirit is personified as a person: "Counsel and sound wisdom *are* mine; I *am* understanding; I have strength." All of this comes from God!

Verse 15: "By me kings reign and princes decree justice. Princes rule by me, and nobles, and all the judges of the earth. I love those who love me..." (vs 15-17).

You've got to love righteousness, truth and God, and the work of God's Spirit!

"...and those who seek me early shall find me. Riches and honor *are* with me; *yea*, enduring riches and righteousness" (v 17-18).

- you're doing what is right
- you're seeking what God is providing
- you're asking God to give you the Holy Spirit so you can do what is right

Verse 19: "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 19-20)—*judgment!*

When we look at ancient Israel, they had 70 elders representing all of the tribes, and they were the ones who also received of the spirit of Moses to help do the judgment that was necessary.

We're told by Paul that with the Spirit that we have, 'we do not have a spirit of fear, but of love, power and a sound mind.' We're to stir that Spirit up!

- to love God even more
- to love God's way even more
- to see the rightness and goodness of God's way

And how we are going to be able to serve the people after we're resurrected in the Kingdom of God, as well as those right now. That's important to understand. This is why God wants us to develop:

- the character of Christ
- the mind of Christ
- the way of thinking
 - ✓ with His laws
 - ✓ with His commandments
 - ✓ with His love

- ✓ with His mercy
- ✓ with His Truth
- ✓ with all of the factors necessary for ***judging righteous judgment***

Proverbs 29:4: The King... [Christ] ...establishes the land by justice..."—*the result of judgment!*

That's exactly what the Kingdom of God is going to be like. This is why we need to learn how to have righteous judgment now in preparation for the coming Kingdom of God and the resurrection to put us in there as spirit beings, sons and daughter of God! ***Judge righteous judgment!***

Scriptural References:

- 1) 1 Corinthians 6:1-4
- 2) Matthew 18:15-17
- 3) Proverbs 2:1-12
- 4) Psalm 1:1-6
- 5) Matthew 23:1-3
- 6) Proverbs 21:3, 15
- 7) Proverbs 20:8
- 8) 2 Chronicles 19:6
- 9) 2 Peter 1:1-4
- 10) Proverbs 18:13
- 11) Proverbs 14:29
- 12) Exodus 23:2-3
- 13) Leviticus 19:15
- 14) Exodus 23:8
- 15) Amos 5:11-15
- 16) Exodus 23:8
- 17) Deuteronomy 17:14-20
- 18) Joshua 1:6-9
- 19) Proverbs 11:14
- 20) Proverbs 15:22
- 21) Proverbs 13:12, 23
- 22) Ecclesiastes 8:5-6
- 23) Proverbs 8:14-20
- 24) Proverbs 29:4

Scriptures quoted, not referenced:

- Revelation 20
- Psalm 150
- Revelation 22
- Romans 2
- Isaiah 5

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The Final Days of the Millennium

(Day 7—FOT)

Those at the end of the thousand years will be warned to take heed, for the major sin will be vanity!

But Satan will face his final judgment by God

Fred R. Coulter—September 30, 2018

Greetings, brethren! Welcome to Day 7 of the Feast of Tabernacles, actually the last day of the Feast. But since, if you compare it to a scale—do me fa so la te—it's not complete until you come back to *do* again. So, you have seven plus one is eight.

The Feast of Tabernacles is going to be one of the greatest times on the face of the earth up to that point. Let's just rehearse a little bit so that we can get everything lined up correctly to understand this day of the Feast.

When Christ returns and the Millennium is set up, before it's set up Satan is bound. He is put into the abyss, locked up with a spiritual chain that will keep him from affecting any people on earth.

Revelation 20:2^[transcriber's correction]: "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).

Here we are at the end of the Feast of Tabernacles, and this is coming up to the fulfilling of the thousand-year period.

"...and after that it is ordained that he be loosed *for* a short time" (v 3). Why is that? *That the whole meaning of the seventh day!* We also know that:

- we're going to be on thrones
- we're going to have judgment given to us
- we're going to be kings and priests
- we're going to reign with Christ a thousand years

Verse 6: "Blessed and Holy is the one who has part **in the first resurrection**..."—when Christ returns on Pentecost! Before everything takes place on the Sea of Glass, we're raised to be with Christ there and then we spend that time from Pentecost until Trumpets understanding everything we're going to do when we come back to the earth and how we're going to run it. We'll start that.

"...But they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years" (v 6).

Rev. 5 shows that ***we are going to reign on the earth!*** Every single misinterpretation and false doctrine concerning the plan of Christ, the plan of God, the salvation for mankind is going to come under great attack again. Even those who supposedly understand some of the Truth are getting way off on these things.

Revelation 5:10: "And did make us unto our God kings and priests; and **we shall reign on the earth.**" *Not up in heaven!* The Seventh Day Adventists (SDA) say, 'We're going to be in heaven, the earth is going to a cinderling hulk for a thousand years, and we're going to pour through the judgment books.' ***False doctrine!***

Everything in the Bible concerning what the Millennium is going to be like:

- peace
- no war
- no one is going to make anyone afraid
- there will be salvation for all

Does that mean that all will want salvation? That may seem like a difficult question, but we have to understand that that may be the case. Why? *Because God is not going to take away independent free moral agency* (IFMA).

That's surrounding all the ***IFs*** that you find in the Bible. All of these things are there. That's why you have to properly search it out, put it together and rightly divide the Word of God so that we come up with the right conclusion, the right understanding of what's going to happen.

Isa. 65 has been applied to the Great White Throne Judgment, which will be true for them as well. Think about the what the world is like when we began. Everything thing is upside down, the earthquakes, wars, everything. What God is going to do is create new heavens and a new earth. The heaven around the earth is all upset, the earth is all a mess.

Isaiah 65:17: "For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth. And the former things will not be remembered, nor come to mind."

It's not going to be like it was before the beginning of the Millennium, and as we get further into the Millennium, people will have no remembrance of what it was like before Christ and

the saints took over the earth.

As we know, ruling for a thousand years, you go down two, three, five hundred years and so forth, everything has been just this way as long as anyone could remember. All children born into this world, everything that's going to be, the way it's run and done, they will think that's the way it always has been. But that won't be the case.

Let's find out what the rest of Isa, 65 tells us, because we have to read into it with other Scriptures for understanding so we can get the complete picture.

Verse 18: "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..." (vs 18-19)—*because of suffering, dying, wars, lying, cheating and stealing the way it is today.*

Satan is bound! He's not there! For us, that's pretty hard to think of a time when Satan is not there. Today he's affecting everything. The closer we get to the return of Christ, the more active he's going to be.

"...nor the voice of crying. There will not be an infant who lives but a few days... [or an infant conceived that will be aborted] ...nor an old man that has not filled his days for the child will die a hundred years old; but the sinner *who is* a hundred years old shall be accursed" (vs 19-20). **How is this going to be?**

Verse 21: "And they will build houses and live *in them*..." We saw that all through the messages for the Feast of Tabernacles.

"...and they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit" (v 21). They'll sit under their vine tree and their fig tree, and their big shade tree, whatever it may be. No one is going to make them afraid. There are going to be no weapons, no killing, no guns. It's going to be an entirely different society.

You would think that with everything laid out that way, people would want that, because down deep inside that's what they desire. But will they really, really want it? Because a strange thing happens—we'll read it in a little bit—at the end of the Millennium when Satan is removed from his prison, there are going to be a whole lot of people who have disagreed with God. God is going to let them loose to gather them together to come to battle against Jerusalem.

How is that going to take place? We'll get this all in proper sequence.

Verse 22: "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." *God's elect is everyone who repents and accepts salvation!*

Verse 24: "'And it shall come to pass... [we'll be there; it will include us] ...before they call, I will answer; and while they are still speaking, I will hear. The wolf and the lamb will feed together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox; and dust *will be* the food of the serpent. They will not hurt nor destroy in all My Holy mountain,' says the LORD" (vs 24-25). *Completely different than today!*

Let's look at v 20, because we have to think this through: "...**but the sinner who is a hundred years old shall be accursed.**" God tells us with this verse that everybody is going to live a hundred years. Everyone is going to be given an opportunity for salvation. All of those who accept salvation, their death will be a very instantaneous thing when their change comes.

Hebrews 9:27: "And inasmuch as it is appointed unto men once to die..."—because they will still have *the law of sin and death* in them, though not as severe as it is today. In Ezek. 36 God says He's going to 'give them a heart of flesh,' not a heart of rebellion. But He's still not going to take away *independent free moral agency*.

That's why it says "...the sinner *who is* a hundred years old shall be accursed." That means that **he has rejected salvation!** That's going to be hard to figure, that there will be those who will reject salvation. But it's all based upon *independent free moral agency!*

Before we get into how God is going to handle sin, let's see what's going to happen to people who live their lives the way that they should. They love God and everything like that. Then we will see what's going to happen to them.

Let's put Deut. 11 in the context of what it will be like during the Millennium. Everybody is going to live in the 'promised land' because the whole world is going to be the 'promised land.' Everyone is going to be given a choice, and God has determined that He's not going to take away *free moral agency* from anyone, because God is no respecter of persons. Let's think about this as we read through it, that we apply it to those who are in the Millennium. We're teaching them:

- the way of God
- the Truth
- what they need to do

They live their lives the way that they should, blessing upon blessing will come upon them, even before they ask about it, it's on its way. Before they pray for something, God is ready to answer it right away. That's going to be quite different from what it is today. That's why those in the first resurrection are ones who are going to be kings and priests, teachers and rulers.

Deuteronomy 11:1: "Therefore, you shall love the LORD your God..." Everything is going to be based on loving God. That's what it was all the way through the Bible, starting out with Adam and Eve.

We're to love God with all our heart, mind, soul and being! We're to love our neighbors as ourselves. Then we're going to have all the saints as rulers, administrators, mayors running cities and towns, and taking care of things the way that they should:

- we will administer all justice
- we will be doing all the teaching

There is set before them!

"...and keep His charge and His statutes and His judgments and His commandments always" (v 1).

- Remember what was said of Abraham?
- Why did the blessing come to Isaac, and later on to Jacob?
- Then down to the children of Israel?

Because Abraham obeyed My voice! That will be the whole mantra of the Millennium:

- **Do you obey the voice of God?**
- **Do you love God?**
- **Do you love your neighbor?**

"...and His judgments and His commandments always" (v 1).

Then Moses talks about bringing them out of Egypt and so forth. We'll talk about how God has set up the Millennium and made everything so that there is no Satan around. You won't have to put up with all of his devious things, all of his lies. You'll just have to put up with your human nature and the human nature of other people.

Verse 7: "But your eyes have seen all the great deeds of the LORD which He did." During the Millennium, won't they see all the great deeds that God has done? The knowledge of God is going to cover the earth as the oceans cover the earth. There's going to be *grace, mercy and forgiveness!*

Verse 8: "Therefore, you shall keep all the

commandments which I command you this day, so that you may be strong and go in and possess the land where you go to possess it." During the Millennium it will be that you will do this so that you may enter into the spiritual Kingdom of God, to be His spirit son or daughter.

Verse 9: "And so that you may prolong *your* days..." Then it won't be prolong your days in the land that God has given you, ***but that you may live forever!*** Quite a difference!

Verse 13: "And it will be, ***if...***" There is that little two-letter word. Everyone is going to be given the choice:

- Are they going to love God?
- Are they going to obey God?
- Are they going to keep His commandments?

"...***if*** you will ***hearken diligently*** to My commandments..." (v 13). We're going to see that that's one of the hardest things for people to do. Because when everything is laid out for people to do, they tend to get bored, centered on self. We will see that that is great sin that's going to take place.

"...which I command you today, to love the LORD your God and to serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul" (v 13).

Verse 16: "***Take heed to yourselves...***" *That's the key word, that's the key focal point.*

Everyone who is living during the Millennium is going to have to take heed to themselves—their thoughts and their attitudes—because everything is going to be there for them. They will become very complacent, and it's going to be like we've seen in the past with those who take everything for granted.

What happens to those who sin? It says in Isa. 65 that the sinner will die accursed at a hundred years. That shows that there's free choice and there is sin. Since God is 'the same yesterday, today and forever,' God is going to handle sin very much the same way. Look at Adam and Eve when they were created. They had everything there; they were right in the Garden of Eden. The whole world is going to become like a Garden of Eden during the Millennium. Everything is going to be peaceful, wonderful, uplifting and fantastic.

- Can people get *bored* with that?
- Can people think they want to do something else?
- ***Yes, indeed! Simply because there's free moral agency!***

Granted, Satan is going to be removed. However, when there is sin, there's still going to be judgment. Just like when Adam and Eve took of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. How long that was from the time they were created, we don't know. But *they decided* that they had all of these things, 'let's try something new. Look, we go by this tree every day and it's really a great looking tree.'

God said not to eat the fruit! Then when something comes along, like the serpent in the case of Adam and Eve, and says, 'Did God really tell you not to eat of the trees of the garden?' Of course, no, just this one. 'This one tree is going to make you *like God*. Don't you want to be like God?' *So, they took it and ate it, and then God gave the judgment!* God gave the first prophecy of the coming Messiah for the forgiveness of their sins.

Likewise, all during the Millennium, Christ will be the sacrifice for the sins of those who **repent!** That's a key word, *repentance!*

Let's see what happened to Adam and Eve after they had the judgment given to them; Genesis 3:23: "Therefore, the LORD God sent him [Adam, and Eve with him] ...out from the Garden of Eden to till the ground from which he had been taken." ***They were removed from the presence of God!***

What are you going to do when there is sin and no repentance? Let's see what God said to Cain, because that's very instructive for us.

Gen. 4—Abel brought an offering unto God from the firstlings of the flock, and it was pleasing offering to God. Why? *Because it was what God commanded!*

Then Cain came along and he's going to make an offering according to his own determination instead of what God has said. That's something we really need to understand. ***How can a man who is made by God***—though made in the image of God with a great many attributes and abilities that all humanity has—***come to God***, Who is perfect and the Creator, and tell Him, 'Look, I've got a better idea and You need to accept it.'

That's what Cain did. God did not have respect to the offering of Cain. Notice what God says to him when he was taken aback that God did not accept his offering. After all, he thought of it, he gave it, he thought it was good.

Genesis 4:7: "If you do well, shall you not be accepted?..." That's what it's going to be all during the Millennium. ***...shall you not be accepted?...*** Will you not be in favor with God and blessed and receive the blessings? *Yes, indeed!*

"...But if you do not do well, sin lies at the door..." (v 7). What's going to happen with sin? *We saw that with Adam and Eve when they sinned, **they were removed from the garden**; they weren't allowed to come back into the garden!* As a matter of fact, the garden stayed there and was guarded by the cherubim until the Flood and then it was destroyed.

"...Its desire *is* for you, but you must rule over it!" (v 7). That's going to be the whole lesson during the Millennium. ***You've got to rule over human nature!*** God is going to give you His Spirit so you can. But what if people choose not to?

As you know, Cain got angry and killed Abel, his brother, because he was jealous. What happened to Cain? Remember that murder is worthy of death! But did God kill Cain? *No, He didn't!* What did God do with Cain? *He removed him to the land of wandering! **Further removed from God!***

So, there we have a two-stage removal, first from the garden. When they were put out of the garden they could come to east gate where God would meet with them. So, they weren't totally cutoff from God. But because of their sin they couldn't live in the Garden of Eden. And because of God's judgment of making their human nature much more intense, called *the law of sin and death*.

So, here's Cain. He sinned and God desires not to carry out the death penalty against him. So, God ***removes him*** even further, *exile!* Now we're going to see this again. It's important to understand that that's probably the principle that's going to happen during the Millennium when some sins and decides not to repent because of IFMA: *independent free moral agency!*

Let's see what happened to the children of Israel. When they sinned and wouldn't repent, God sent Elijah to them. It happened again with the Jews a little later on. Let's see what God says about that.

Let's discuss just little bit about Solomon. Remember how Solomon started out. He was giving conditions that if you love God, keep His commandments and rule over the people the way that you should that God would bless him. Well, he didn't do that. He virtually did everything that God said a king should not do:

- he took to himself many wives
- went down to Egypt
- he oppressed the people

He sinned! So, what did God do?

When Solomon died he had his son Rehoboam take over the kingdom, but split it in half

and sent ten tribes to be with Jeroboam, one of the generals of Solomon who became king over the ten tribes of Israel. God gave to Jeroboam the same proposition: *if you will love Me and keep My commandments, I will give you a dynasty like David!* But Jeroboam didn't do that. He set up the two calves: one in Dan and one in Bethel.

All through the 232-year history of the children of Israel living in the northern part of the kingdom, they never had one righteous king, in spite of sending Elijah and Elisha. ***Not one righteous king!*** They sinned and God gave them many opportunities during that 232 years.

2-Kings 17:7 “Now, it came to pass **because...**” Here is the cause of their going into captivity or exile, or being removed from the land.

“...the children of Israel had sinned against the LORD their God, Who had brought them up out of the land of Egypt, from under the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and had feared other gods” (v 7).

There won't be other gods allowed during the Millennium, so what's going to be the sin? *There will be sins!* What's going to be the major sin? We'll be there to teach them. If they get too far out of line, we say, ‘Whoa! Wait a minute!’ As we learned in Isa. 30, ‘Don't go to the left hand or the right hand, here's the way, walk in it.’ What's going to happen to them when they ***still refuse!*** It's going to be just like this, they're going to have to be removed because of their sin.

Verse 8: “And walked in the statutes of the nations whom the LORD cast out from before the children of Israel, and of the kings of Israel, which the nations had made. Now, the children of Israel **secretly did things...**” (vs 8-9).

We're going to know the secrets! Is God going to let them get away with their secrets for a while? *Of course!*

“...that *were* not right against the LORD their God. And they built high places... [v 10]: And they set up images.... [v 11]: And they burned incense... [v 12]: for they served the idols... [v 13]: And the LORD testified against Israel and against Judah, by all the prophets, *by* all the seers, saying, **‘Turn from your evil ways...**” (vs 9-13).

That's what we will teach when they sin! Turn, or repent! God always honors ***true repentance!*** God is not going to exterminate them, so we're going to see that God is going to exile them. We will be able to understand what they're thinking, so we will know when these things are coming up.

Verse 14: “Nevertheless, they would not hear... [v 15]: ...And *they* rejected His statutes and His covenant, which He made with their fathers, and His warnings that He testified against them. And they went after **vanity, and became vain...**” *That's going to be the sin!* And God sent them into captivity!

Ezek. 14—here the children of Israel were in captivity by the River Kebar. Everyone is going to be living under the Kingdom of God during the Millennium. There aren't going to be any real overt sins. There may be some, and those will be handled and taken care of. **But:**

- How are we going to know when they sin?
- How are we going to know when they refuse to obey?

They will be given the chance to obey, given the choice to repent or not. If not, they will have the choice to be removed forcefully if necessary. Ezek. 14 can give us really good clue as to how we know that they are sinning. They can't have another religion. They can't set up idols.

I don't know if some may make secret of idols of some kind for something, but Satan won't be there. However, will there be things in their minds that will constitute sin? *Yes, indeed!*

Look at Job. Even though he was ‘blameless’ he was still sinning. Why? *Because he wasn't giving God credit for everything that He did!* Job thought that he was as righteous, or more righteous than God. Let's look at those thoughts as we find in:

Ezekiel 14:1: “And some of the elders of Israel came to me and sat before me. And the Word of the LORD came to me, saying, ‘Son of man, these men have set up their idols in their hearts...’” (vs 1-3).

- idolizing your own thoughts
- rebelling against God in your heart and mind
- refusing to keep the commandments of God
- secretly doing things that you think know one knows

That's what they will be doing, but we will know!

“...and put the stumbling block of their iniquity before their faces. Should I at all be inquired of by them?” (v 3).

Here is the judgment, and this will be our judgment against the unrepentant sinners:

Verse 4: “Therefore, speak to them, and say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “Every man of the house of Israel... [or every man living during the Millennium] ...who sets up his idols in his heart, and puts the stumbling block of his iniquity before his face, and comes to the prophet... [we’ll all be teachers, comes to the teacher] ...I the LORD will answer him according to the multitude of his idols, so that I may take the house of Israel in their own heart because they have deserted Me for their idols—all of them”’” (vs 4-5).

Here’s going to be the message, v 6: “Therefore, say to the house of Israel, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “Repent and turn yourselves from your idols, and turn away your faces from all your abominations.”’”

Free moral agency can bring those up secretly, **but we will know!** Won’t they try to affect other people? *Yes, indeed!* So, they will be removed from the community of the people that they are living in.

Speculation: Do you suppose that there would be ‘repentance centers’? If they haven’t committed the unpardonable sin, they are sent there first. Then they are taught the way of God again. We will be able to know their hearts and minds. If they repent, they can come back into the community. ***God always honors repentance!***

We will know if it’s true and sincere or not! ***During the Millennium there isn’t going to be any fooling anybody at anytime anywhere!*** They can come back. Let’s keep that in mind.

- What’s going to happen to the righteous ones?
- How will they enter into the Kingdom of God?

(go to the next track)

Let’s read Isa. 65 again so we can gain a little more understanding of:

- What’s going to happen to a person in his or her lifetime?
- How long will they live? *We’ve already seen that they will live a hundred years!*
- What’s going to happen to those who are righteous?

We can’t break the Scripture that says, ‘It’s given to everyone once to die, and after that the judgment.’ *Their judgment is during their lifetime now, and the final judgment will either be eternal life or exile!* But what’s going to happen to all the righteous people?

Isaiah 65:20: “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...” Everyone is going to live to be a hundred. It says they will die. But how quickly will they be resurrected?

1-Thess. 4—we can get a view of what happens when Christ returns. There are those who are still alive. All the saints so far have been living their lives and dying and being put into the grave awaiting the resurrection. Paul talks about the time when the return of Christ comes, but there will still be some who will be alive. They won’t have time to live out their lives completely. So, here’s what Paul says:

1-Thessalonians 4:14: “For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, in exactly the same way also, those who have fallen asleep in Jesus will God bring with Him.”

That’s because they’re resurrected and meet Christ in the air on the Sea of Glass, so when He returns to the earth He’s going to bring them with Him.

Verse 15: “For this we say to you by *the* Word of *the* Lord, that we who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall in no wise precede those who have fallen asleep.” *That’s how God views the death of a saint!*

Verse 16: “Because the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with *a* shout of command, with *the* voice of an archangel and with *the* trumpet of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first; then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in *the* clouds for *the* meeting with the Lord in *the* air; and so shall we always be with *the* Lord” (vs 16-17).

What’s going to happen? If you were changed from flesh to spirit, is that not an instant death and change? *Yes! Would have to be, because it’s given to everyone once to die!*

It will be so quick that it will appear that there is no death involved. Still, the Scripture has to be fulfilled that everyone is given once to die. But the change will be an instantaneous change and transformation or resurrection without being in the grave. You are changed, raised!

Let’s see what Paul says concerning the Kingdom of God. No one can enter into the *true* Kingdom of God... Now, the Kingdom of God coming on the earth, people will be living in it. But they will not be a *spiritual part* of it. This is what Paul is talking about here, because when Christ

returns and the first resurrection takes place, we will be spirit beings and part of and in the Kingdom of God to rule and reign with Christ.

1-Corinthians 15:49: “And as we have borne the image of the *one* made of dust...” That’s what they will be if they’re still alive when Christ returns; still made of dust.

“...we shall also bear the image of the heavenly *One*” (v 49). There’s got to be that change from flesh to spirit, but it’s got to be so quick that the body is going to be an instant death and an instant change.

Verse 50: “Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit *the* Kingdom of God...”

So, the flesh and blood has got to be changed, and that change has got to be likened unto an instantaneous death. Of course, that will be different than being raised out of the grave, but in either case the change has to be, because 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, but we shall all be changed” (vs 50-51).

At this point, Paul did not understand how long it was going to be until the return of Christ. So, he thought he would still be alive, and most of the brethren.

Verse 52: “In an instant, in *the* twinkling of an eye, **at the last trumpet...**”

The only place where there are shown to be in Scripture a sequence of trumpets is in Rev. 8 forward through all seven of the trumps and the resurrection takes place **at the seventh trump, which is the last trumpet!**

“...for *the* trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruptibility...” (vs 52-53)—whether you’re dead in the grave, or whether you’re alive, you’re still corruptible in the flesh. So, you “...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.’” (vs 53-54).

Will that not be for all of those during the Millennium? Think about this, I’ve often thought this... Speculation: those who are alive in the flesh

will be changed instantaneously when they have lived a hundred years and they are ready for the Kingdom.

Picture this: we’re all here for the Feast of Tabernacles and there will be churches everywhere. No synagogues! No cathedrals! No mosques for Muslims! No temples for Buddhists or Hindus! *All to God in churches everywhere in the world!*

I don’t know how it’s going to take place, but since the first resurrection is going to take place on Pentecost, would that not also be the day when we all come to observe Pentecost. Everyone who is ready to enter the Kingdom of God because they’ve been faithful and love God and kept His commandments? Lived the way that they should, growing in grace and knowledge and ready to enter the Kingdom of God as spirit beings?

When Pentecost comes around and we have 100-year-olds who have lived their lives the way they should be, we’re going to have a ‘going out’ and ‘coming in’ party, a celebration, a rejoicing. Everyone is going to see this. Could it be like the vision of the Transfiguration on the mount where Jesus took Peter, James and John with Him and was transfigured in a vision before them? Could this not be a type of what’s going to happen to those who are faithful all during the Millennium? And they are changed from flesh to spirit and enter into the Kingdom of God on that day? *That will be a wonderful and tremendous thing—won’t it? Yes, indeed! It’s going to be a great inspiration for everyone!*

That’s how it appears that it will probably be. I don’t know of any other way to look at it from the vantage point of what we have today.

Let’s talk about the sinners. What about those who sin and are exiled? and they don’t repent? Back to the ‘repentance centers’: the first exile will be just removal from the community to come to repentance and to be restored, like we find that happened in 1-Cor. with the man who sinned and it showed how he came back in 2-Cor. Welcomed back, forgiven, understand what he or she needs to do and we move on.

- What happens if, after a set period of time in the local ‘repentance center’ they refuse to repent?
- What are you going to do with them? *It says that the sinner is going to die accursed (Isa. 65)!*
- Where will the sinners be?

Down toward the end of the Millennium there are going to be more people rejecting salvation (Rev. 20). Let's analyze these verses and see if we can understand what it's telling us with the wicked, and what's going to happen to them. Remember that those who commit the unpardonable sin God has decreed must die *twice*! So, here we are a thousand years with this going on. Those who don't repent have to be removed somewhere that's far away, and there they will die accursed, cutoff from God!

- Where will that be?
- Will that be set up right at the beginning of the Millennium?
- Who knows when it will be set up?

Revelation 20:7: "Now, when the thousand years have been completed... [it ends with the seventh day] ...Satan shall be loosed out of his prison.... [Why?] ...and he shall go out to deceive the nations..." (vs 7-8).

- Can that be *all* the nations?
- Why is he sent out to deceive those of the nations unless those who refuse to repent are exiled from the different nations to a certain place on the earth?

Because they refused to repent and go God's way!

"...that *are* in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog..." (v 8).

We find that in Ezek. 38 & 39 that Gog and Magog are the last ones to enter in under the rule of the Millennium with the saints and Christ. But it says there that *'they shall know that I am the Lord their God.'*

Let's think about this and analyze it. Is this talking about *the people* of Gog and Magog? *or* A *geographical territory* within Gog and Magog separated out on the side of Gog and Magog?

If it's the people, then God is a respecter of persons and had deemed that He has created them and will never give them a chance for repentance or salvation. If that is so, then that contradicts everything that God has said.

- In the Bible, does it talk about Israel as *the people*? *Yes!*
- Does it also talk about Israel as *the geographical land*? *Yes!*

Therefore, we can conclude with a good amount of certainty that this part of Gog and Magog is for the unrepentant sinners; *not the people* of Gog and Magog. *It's just designating a geographical area!* That's why it says "...the nations..." because there may be people from every nation on earth who reject

salvation. There's still IFMA, there's still moral agency. They can still have idols in their mind and think that they're just as good or better than the rest of the people. If they're sent out there:

- How many are going to be there?
- How long will they be there?

It says, 'the sinner will die at 100, *accursed!* Some may die sooner, just because of their sins. Out there in this exile, *for the rejecters of God, the rejecters of salvation*, they will be there. They'll setup their own little whatever they have. It may grow over time, because everyone who is an unrepentant sinner—if they don't repent when they go to the 'repentance center that's close at hand and refuse to change—then there's no alternative but to *remove them from the presence of the people who are living God's way!*

When we come to the end of the Millennium look at what this says, this is something:

"...Gog and Magog, of whom **the number is as the sand of the sea...**" (v 8).

That's a lot of people! That's why we need to heed everything that we are learning about being diligent, loving God and staying faithful. Look at what has happened even within the Church that we know of in our time. Have there been those who have refused to repent and go back into the world? *Yes!*

But during the Millennium they can't be turned loose on society, *they must be removed!* Let them go live their lives over in the geographical area of Gog and Magog, and let them live out their lives and let the sinners bury the sinners.

When Satan is loosed on those who are still alive out there, "...of whom **the number is as the sand of the sea...**"

I've often thought about what it's going to be when Satan gets out that prison. That's means the demons are there with him, and they will go, too; wherever Satan goes the demons go. Will Satan still be able to perform miracles to deceive them? *Yes!* Do you suppose that he might even say:

You know, I'm really the true God. This One down in Jerusalem put me in this place of restraint, in prison, and I'm finally able to get out of it, and I've come to you because we have an opportunity.

If we arm, if we get all ready, because these people down here don't believe in war. So, it will be an easy war for us. All we have to do is go down and take

Jerusalem. If we go down there and take Jerusalem, we will rule the world, and you won't have to put up with all of these other people who say that they are the sons and daughter's of God.

We can do this together! We'll be mighty!
We'll be powerful! Look at the things that I can do. Now, let's make us some weapons!

Right back to war!

"...to gather them together for war" (v 8). You don't start a war unless you make some weapons. You don't start a war unless you feel that you can win. With everything being so peaceful on earth—the way it will be at that time—they will think that this is 'easy pickings'! Just like Gog and Magog did at the beginning of the Millennium.

They thought that coming up against Israel would be 'easy pickings.' *They lost!* Is that why God will choose a part of Gog and Magog as a geographical territory for the people who rebel to be exiled during the Millennium? They have to live out their lives in rebellion. *Could very well be!*

Verse 9: "Then *I saw* them go up upon the breadth of the earth and encircle the camp of the saints..." Will this be during a time of the keeping of the Feast of Tabernacles?

If we get them there in Jerusalem, then we can control the whole world from there.

That's what they will think!

"...and the beloved city..." (v 9). Why did God have them do this? *Because all the wicked who are in exile in Gog and Magog, when the Millennium comes to an end, have to be completely, totally removed!* That is Satan's mission, to bring them all down **thinking** that they can capture Jerusalem!

"...and **fire came down from God out of heaven and consumed them**" (v 9). *They all died!* This is their first death! They will be resurrected for the *second death!*

God's Word is true! Everyone who commits the unpardonable sin will die twice, called **the second death!** There's no resurrection out of that! That is it!

Another aspect of this day, which is important for us to understand, **is also the day of Satan's judgment and final sentencing, and the beginning of his final punishment!**

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*; and they, *Satan and the demons*, shall be tormented day and night into the ages of eternity."

Tormented is interesting. You read of that in the Gospels. There are many occasions where Jesus would come to cast out demons, and the demons would say, 'Oh, I know You! You are Jesus the Son of God!' And Jesus would command them to be still! Or they would say, 'I know You, have You come to torment us before the time?' *Because they're going to be tormented with Satan the devil, too!*

- Never does it say that they will die!
- Never does it say that God is going to transform them into human beings and then throw them into the Lake of Fire and burn them up!

There are some who preach that! That's not true!

The torment continues forever! The first torment will be in Lake of Fire, and then after the 100-year period, that Lake of Fire is going to consume the whole earth and prepare it for the new heaven and the new earth.

- Where will they go then?
- What's going to happen to the demons then?

Let's see! Jude tells us quite a bit, because it also documents the evil that Satan has brought against the Churches down through history. It pinpoints the ones who are responsible for it. Not only the men who give themselves over to Satan the devil, but also the angels that did not 'keep their first estate.'

Let's get the whole picture, because Satan is still active today, and when the Feast of Tabernacles and the Last Great Day are over, we're headed back into the world, and guess what's still out there? *Everything concerning the world!* We've got to understand how that came about, and we've got to understand how we can stand against all of it.

Let's take this down as something very important for us to learn, remember and keep in mind. *We're still living a world where Satan the devil rules!* We've got to fight against him and war against him with the Spirit of God and the Word of God.

Jude 3: "Beloved, when personally exerting all *my* diligence to write to you concerning the common salvation, I was compelled to write to you, exhorting *you* to fervently fight for the faith, which once for all *time* has been delivered to the saints. **For certain men have stealthily crept in...** [and

they're still trying to do it] ...those who long ago have been written about, condemning *them* to **this judgment**.... [the Lake of Fire] ...*They are* ungodly men who are perverting the grace of our God, *turning it* into licentiousness, and are personally denying the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ" (vs 3-4).

Now let's see where Jude goes with this, and see the power that is behind us, which will end up with the final judgment of Satan and the demons.

Verse 5: "But I myself want to remind you, though you once understood this, that the Lord, after saving a people out of *the* land of Egypt, the second time destroyed those who did not believe. And the angels who did not keep their own original domain..." (vs 5-6).

They were on the earth first, and that's why the earth in Gen. 1 is covered with water. Because of the flood and their sin!

"...but deserted their habitation..." (v 6). They rebelled! They tried to overthrow the throne of God in heaven above with Satan the devil who said, 'I will become like the Most High.' That's why he's going to be tormented forever! And the demons are going to be tormented forever, ***because of their rebellion directly against God, in the face of God directly!***

"...He is holding in eternal bonds under darkness unto the judgment of *the* Great Day" (v 6). We just read in Rev. 20.

Then Jude talks about Sodom and Gomorrah, and then about Michael arguing with Satan the devil concerning the body of Moses. Just think what Satan would have done if he could have gotten that body of Moses and encased in a honey casket we could all look at, and he could say, 'There's the body of Moses!'

Verse 11: "Woe to them! 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, ***feasting in person together with you; fearlessly they are feeding themselves. They are clouds without water, being driven by the winds; trees of late autumn, without any fruit, uprooted, twice dead***" (vs 11-12). *Those are the human beings who go into the Lake of Fire!* We'll cover that tomorrow on the Last Great Day.

Verse 13: "Raging waves of *the* sea, casting up like foam their own *ignominious* shame; wandering stars... [rebellious angels] ...***for whom***

has been reserved the blackest darkness forever!"

That's why Satan is going to be tormented forever, and all of the demons. Some people have speculated—and may be true—that there may be a black hole out there in the universe and that's where they are going. Once something is in the black hole, it never gets out. But what will that be forever for all who are in the Kingdom of God and the Family of God? *That you can never rebel against God*, and even though you're sons and daughters of God, ***you can never be greater than the One Who created you!***

That goes all the way back to the book of Job and the whole problem with Job. See how the whole Bible comes together in a great and wonderful picture. This is something for us to know. A warning for us as well, so we can understand this part of God's plan.

We're going to be serving in the Millennium with Jesus Christ and all the saints for a thousand years. When it's over, this cataclysmic end is going to come, and Satan and the demons will be bound. First tormented in the Lake of Fire. Then after the 100-year period the fire is going to consume everything on the earth and Satan and the demons are all going to be put in the "...**blackest darkness forever!**" All of the wicked will be nothing but just unknown ashes on the earth!

Come back tomorrow for *the eighth day!* Isn't it interesting that the greatest day is only called *the eighth day* (Lev. 23).

Scriptural References:

- 1) Revelation 20:2-3, 6
- 2) Revelation 5:10
- 3) Isaiah 65:17-22, 24-25, 20
- 4) Hebrews 9:27
- 5) Deuteronomy 11:1, 7-9, 13, 16
- 6) Genesis 3:23
- 7) Genesis 4:7
- 8) 2 Kings 17:7-18
- 9) Ezekiel 14:1-6
- 10) Isaiah 65:20
- 11) 1 Thessalonians 4:14-17
- 12) 1 Corinthians 15:49-54
- 13) Revelation 20:7-10
- 14) Jude 3-6, 11-13

Scriptures quoted, not referenced:

- Ezekiel 36; 33; 39
- Leviticus 23

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The Last Great Day

The Final Judgment of God

Fred R. Coulter—October 1, 2018

Greetings, brethren! Welcome to The Last Great Day, *the great day* of the Feast! When we read of it in Lev. 23, we have no idea as to what it means, because it's only called *the eighth day*!

Remember that Leviticus is the beginning of the Holy Days. In explaining them all in order. The Passover actually was portrayed in Gen. 15 and the exodus, the promise that they would be taken out of Egypt.

The promise of the Messiah goes all the way back to Gen. 3:15, and goes all the way forward to the end of the plan of God. That's why Jesus said that He's 'Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the Ending, the First and the Last.' He's taking care of the first, everything in between and the last.

Here we are on the eighth day, the last. Let's see that this is one the greatest, most awesome, fantastic, unbelievable days in the plan of God. Here's something always important to remember: ***Moses never gave a single law of his own initiative! They all came from God!***

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).

Of course they were to offer the offerings and so forth; v 36: "...It is a solemn assembly...."

Verse 36: "Seven days you shall offer an offering made by fire to the LORD. **On the eighth day...**"

Let's go back in time to when this was given. What was the meaning of it? They had the meaning of the Passover right; that God passed over and spared the firstborn of the children of Israel.

They had the meaning of Unleavened Bread, that commemorating leaving Egypt, and crossing the Red Sea was the seventh day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

Then they had the meaning of Pentecost, because Pentecost was the day in which the Ten Commandments were given, and the other instructions after that, to Moses.

After that they had very little understanding! So, when we come down to this time, let's understand that ***it could not have been completely understood until the book of Revelation was completed!***

That means that of all the apostles—go backward from John—all the way back to the beginning, the understanding of these days were clouded, shrouded, no definition, no meaning was given. So, on this eighth day:

"...shall be a Holy convocation to you.... [that's today] ...And you shall offer an offering made by fire..." (v 36). Today we don't do it by fire, we do it by what we have in our monetary system as it is today.

"...to the LORD. It *is* a solemn assembly. And you shall do no servile work *therein*" (v 36). Then God summarizes everything here in the next few verses.

Verse 37: "These *are* the Feasts of the LORD which you shall proclaim to be Holy convocations to offer an offering made by fire to the LORD, a burnt offering and a grain offering, a sacrifice, and drink offerings, everything on its day." *All of those are describing the things that are offered at the temple.*

Verse 38: "**Besides the Sabbaths of the LORD...** [every Holy Day is called a Sabbath] ...and besides your gifts, and besides all your vows, and besides all your freewill offerings which you give to the LORD."

So, this doesn't tell us very much about what it means. We know that the children of Israel were told that they should keep the Sabbath, because they were slaves in Egypt. And that they should keep the Feast of Tabernacles because of the temporary dwellings.

But it takes the New Testament to understand the meaning of it. So, before we get into that, we'll take up an offering. ***Remember that it is to God!*** Remember that we try and do everything to use all the funds:

- to help the brethren
- to produce the things that we need to produce
- to do the websites
- to do the booklets and books that we produce
- to help people to understand the Truth

All of that, everything, ***comes from God!***

(pause for the offering)

We do not know exactly when the term or phrase *The Last Great Day* came to be known to

describe this day. But we find in John 7 that it was written by John as The Last Great Day of the Feast, and it was the pouring of the water ceremony around the altar of God. It encompassed the last day, the seventh day, of the Feast of Tabernacles, *and the eighth day.*

Let's read what it says, and then we'll ask some questions that will help give us understanding of what this day means.

John 7:37: "Now, in the last day, the great day of the Feast, Jesus stood and called out, saying, 'If **anyone** thirsts... [because they were pouring out the water] ...let him come to Me and drink.'" What did He say about eating His flesh and drinking His blood?

Water is a type of the Holy Spirit; v 38: "The one who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water." That means *motivated by the Spirit of God from the innermost part of your being!* That comes from God!

Verse 39: "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."

Now let's look at some things, because it says *anyone* and *the one who believes*. As strange as it may seem, think about how many people know how to quote John 3:16. How many people trust in John 3:16, but really don't have a clue as to what it means?

John 3:16: "For God so loved the world..." That goes back to the beginning of man to the end of the age, and beyond that, *and beyond that!* When this age closes there's a thousand years, and when that closes there's the second resurrection, which fits into The Last Great Day.

"...that He gave His only begotten Son, so that **everyone who believes in Him may** not perish, but **may** have everlasting life" (v 16). *It's conditional!*

When did Jesus come in the history of time as we know it? *Well, there were people who lived 4,000 years before Jesus, and never heard of His name.* Is God not going to give them an opportunity?

An atheist could read this and say, 'Okay, what about all of those who lived and died before Jesus came? How are they going to have an opportunity? What about all of those who die in unfortunate accidents, wars—everything like that—and it says *everyone who believes?*

Even further, let's see something else concerning what Jesus said. Remember what God

wants with us when we come to the Laodiceans. He says to either 'be hot or cold.' Why does God want them cold with no understanding, if He's going to give them eternal life? How is that going to work?

I want you to understand as we read, Matthew 13:14: "And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah, which says, 'In hearing you shall hear, and in no way understand; and *in* seeing you shall see, and in no way perceive.'" **Why didn't God give them understanding?**

Verse 15: "For the heart of this people has grown fat..." **Why has it grown fat?** *Because they will not obey God! They do not want to understand the Word of God!*

"...and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed... [Satan is there to help them close] ...lest they should see with their eyes, and should hear with their ears, and should understand with their hearts, and should be converted, and I should heal them" (v 15). *Think on that!*

God says that He wants them all converted (John 3:16). It says here in Matt. 13:15 that He doesn't want them converted.

- How is it going to be that anyone at anytime in history who believes in Jesus...?
- How are they going to believe Him if they haven't heard?
- How are they going to understand it if they lived their lives and died?
- How is it going to be for all of those infants and children who have been killed and slaughtered beginning with abortion down through history?

Notice what Jesus says to those who are His. All the understanding that we have, brethren, **comes from God!** We cannot—no human being can—understand the Scriptures of God and the plan of God, and the meaning of the Holy Days, ***unless it has to be revealed spiritually!*** God has to take away the blindness, and the blindness is not removed, or beginning to be removed, until we begin to keep the commandments of God.

As you all know, what's the big one that does it? It's interesting that the #4 refers to Christ and His crucifixion, and the #4 refers to the Sabbath commandment of the ten. Tie those two together and begin keeping the Sabbath the way God wants it to be kept, and begin yielding yourselves to God and repent and be baptized and receive the Holy Spirit, ***then*** you will begin to understand.

Verse 16: "But blessed *are* your eyes,

because they see; and your ears, because they hear. For truly I say to you, many prophets and righteous *men* have desired to see what you see, and have not seen; and to hear what you hear, and have not heard” (vs 16-17). *Isn't that an amazing thing?*

- How do you know about Christ?
- Is it because you're a good person? *No!*

That's why we have to repent, because we're not 'good' by nature. We may be able to do some good things, but think about all the evil things that we have done, and also the evil that's in the mind, because that's the whole point of conversion, ***the conversion of the mind and the heart!***

Matthew 11:24: “But I tell you, it shall be more tolerable for *the* land of Sodom in *the* day of judgment than for you.”

We'll talk about the day of judgment, because it's coming. But remember, for the Church: ***now is judgment upon the house of God!*** And if the righteous are saved with difficulty, where will the ungodly and sinner be? *Good question!*

Verse 25: “At that time Jesus answered and said, ‘I praise You, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and intelligent, and have revealed them to babes.’”

Remember how we started: *A speck of dust and the end result is the son or daughter of God!* The intelligent and wise don't know. As a matter of fact, those who are wise and intelligent—***because they reject God***—are fools (Rom. 1).

Verse 26: “Yes, Father, for it was well pleasing in Your sight *to do* this. All things were delivered to Me by My Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father; neither does anyone know the Father except the Son, and **the one to whom the Son personally chooses to reveal Him**” (vs 26-27).

Let's understand something very important in our lives: ***We have nothing we didn't receive and every human being lives and moves in God!*** God made and created us, but ***Christ has personally revealed the Father*** to those who repent and come to Him.

- think about all the knowledge that has been added from the time of the apostles until now
- think about all the things that we understand concerning the book of Revelation
- think about all the things that God has given to us
- think about the time that God has given to us:

- ✓ to learn
- ✓ to change
- ✓ to grow
- ✓ to overcome

- think about how we need to be:
 - ✓ diligently doing that
 - ✓ diligently following God
 - ✓ enthusiastically loving God
 - ✓ keeping His commandments
 - ✓ doing what is right

That's what's pleasing to God!

Let's look at the wise and intelligent, the ones that God appointed to be priests, Levites and elders of the community, that is the seniors or elders in the community, not elders in the sense of ministers.

John 12:37: “Although He had done so many miracles in their presence, they did not believe in Him, so that the word of Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled who said, ‘Lord, who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of *the* Lord been revealed?’ For this *very* reason they could not believe because again Isaiah said, ‘He has blinded their eyes and hardened their hearts so that they would not see with *their* eyes and understand with *their* hearts, and be converted, and I would heal them’” (vs 37-40).

How is God going to give eternal life to anyone who believes if He cuts them off from believing? And they live and die, or they've never had an opportunity to understand? They lived in an age when none of these things took place.

Verse 42: “But even so, many among the rulers believed in Him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess *Him*, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue... [*political; wrong thinking*] ...for they loved the glory of men more than the glory of God. Then Jesus called out and said, ‘The one who believes in Me does not believe in Me, but in **Him Who sent Me**’” (vs 42-44)—*the Father!*

Verse 45: “And the one who sees Me sees Him Who sent Me. I have come *as* a light into the world so that everyone who believes in Me may not remain in darkness. But if anyone hears My words and does not believe, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world, but to save the world. The one who rejects Me and does not receive My words has one who judges him; the Word, which I have spoken, that shall judge him in **the last day**” (vs 45-48).

There again, “...the last day...” and The Last Great Day connect together. Has God given us more understanding about the Holy Days than the

Apostle Paul? *Think about that!* The one who wrote 14 Epistles for the New Testament and the one who was responsible for 40% of the New Testament when you count the book of Acts and the book of Luke.

Do we? *Not because of who we are, but because of what God has given and revealed to us in the way of understanding!* We only understand these things with the Spirit of God. One of the keys is to look at the whole overall picture. At different times there were different things that were understood.

Another hard thing to understand is, especially with Paul, he was grieving that he wanted his own countrymen to believe, but they didn't. He said, 'God cut them off the olive tree.' As Paul said, 'The root bears the tree, not the tree the root.'

What God did was to fulfill the plan that he prophesied of, and took the Gentiles who are called *a wild olive tree*, and cut the branches off and grafted them into the good olive tree, so that they likewise could participate in the plan of God. Up to that time they had no part of it in this way.

Romans 11:25—concerning the Gentiles: "For I do not wish you to be ignorant of this mystery, brethren, in order that you may not be wise in your own conceits: that a partial hardening of the heart has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in; and **so all Israel shall be saved...**" (vs 25-26). How can all Israel be saved?

Paul knew that, but he didn't know how, and he didn't know when. He just quotes a Scripture.

"...according as it is written: 'Out of Sion shall come the Deliverer, and He shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob. for this *is* My covenant, which I will make with them when I have taken away their sins.' On the one hand, concerning the Gospel, *they are* enemies for your sakes; but on the other hand, concerning the election, *they are* beloved for the fathers' sakes" (vs 26-28)—*showing that even though God blinded them, He's never cut off Israel totally!*

Verse 29: "Because the gifts and the calling of God **are never revoked**. For just as you once did not believe God, but have now been shown mercy through their unbelief, in the same way also, they have not believed at this time in order that through the mercy shown to you, they also may have mercy shown to them" (vs 29-31). **When?**

Verse 32: "For God has given them all over to unbelief in order that He might show mercy to all." **But when?** *Paul did not know!* He just knew that it would be! Now we know that it will be, and we also know *when!*

Verse 33: "O the depth of the riches of both the wisdom and the knowledge of God! How unfathomable are His judgments and unsearchable are His ways! For who did know the mind of the Lord, or who became His counselor? Or who first gave to Him, and it shall be recompensed to him again? For from Him, and through Him, and unto Him are all things; to Him be the glory into the ages of eternity. Amen" (vs 33-36).

So, Paul said that it's going to happen, but I don't know when! That's a fantastic thing! Look at how many people that were once attending with us:

- Where are they?
- Did they 'hold fast' to the knowledge?
- What happened to them?
- Where are they going?
- What is going to take place?

Let's see what's going to happen on this *The Last Great Day!* It is what you might say is the least of all, it's mentioned *the eighth day* several times. It's called *The Last Great Day* by Jesus (John 7). But what does it mean? *That answer that is given by keeping the day!* When we put the Scriptures together, rightly divide the Word of God, and understand what the Scriptures say.

John 5—this is quite a statement, and think on this. This day helps answer the question: *when?* Many people think they know about the resurrection, the first coming of Christ; *that's true!* But notice what Jesus says:

John 5:24: "Truly, truly I say to you, the one who hears My Word, and believes Him..." you have to hear:

- His Word
- His message
- His Truth
- Everything that He taught

Remember, Jesus said, 'The words that I speak to you, they are spirit and they are life!' Then with the Spirit of God that He gives us, we can understand the Truth of God. Can't be any other way. This is part of the mystery of God, the secret of God. It's a 'glory to God to hide something, and it's honor to the king to uncover it.' *That's what we're doing here!*

"...hears My Word, and **believes Him...**" (v 24)—the Father, because every word that Jesus spoke was what the Father commanded. Jesus didn't bring anything of Himself. He said so right here:

Verse 30: "I have no power to do anything of Myself..." Think of that with Him saying that as the very 'only Begotten Son of God the Father.'

Think about how helpless, compared to that, we are! That's why we have to believe in the Father.

Verse 24: "...**believes** Him Who sent Me, has everlasting life..." This belief means:

- to hear
- to obey
- to love

"...and does not come into judgment; for he has passed from death into life" (v 24). If you have the Holy Spirit of God, you have passed from the second death into eternal life. It's given to all men and women once to die, because of the sin of Adam and Eve, which then genetically is passed on to every one of us.

Verse 25: "Truly, truly I say to you..."—speaking to the scribes and Pharisees and those who were in charge at the temple. He's right there at the temple.

"...*the* hour is coming, and now is, when the dead... [already in the ground] ...shall hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear shall live" (v 25).

- He doesn't tell us *when*!
- He doesn't tell us *who*!
- He doesn't tell us *how*!

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 authority to execute judgment because **He is the Son of man**. Do not wonder at this, for *the* hour is coming in which **all who are in the graves shall hear His voice** and shall come forth: those who have practiced good unto a resurrection of life... [the first resurrection to eternal life] ...and those who have practiced evil unto a resurrection of judgment" (vs 26-29). That's what this Last Great Day pictures.

If you lived a life where you didn't know Christ, and you lived and died, what are you going to be judged on? *The judgment is going to come in two phases:*

1. those who have not sinned a sin unto death
2. those who have committed the unpardonable sin

When will those not in the first resurrection be raised from the dead? *That's not answered until John wrote the book of Revelation!*

Rev. 20:5 is a parenthetical statement. We know that Paul tells us in 1-Cor. 15 that all of those who are Christ's, which through the vision of transfiguration Jesus showed that it's going to also be the patriarchs and the prophets: Moses, all the

patriarchs, Elijah, all the prophets standing at the right and left hand of God in the vision of the Transfiguration on the mountain with Peter, James and John, and they saw that.

Revelation 20:5: "(But the rest of the dead... [who are not in the first resurrection] ...did not live again until the thousand years were completed.)...." *That's when it's going to take place!*

- **Who?**
- How is that going to be?
- What is God going to do with that?
- How is God going to complete His Word?

Matthew 12:30: "The one who is not with Me is against Me..." There's another category where He says that 'those who are not against us are on our part' (Luke 9). So, you have two categories there.

"...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; that shall not be forgiven to men**" (vs 30-31).

Why? *Because that's an incorrigible rejection of God the Father!* He's the One Who gives the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit comes in two parts:

1. the begetting for eternal life from the Father
2. the Spirit of Christ to bring us the mind of Christ

The two together complete the Spirit of God within us to convert our mind and heart! If that is rejected, and God is forced to withdraw His Spirit from that person, *that is the unpardonable sin!*

Verse 32: "And whoever speaks a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit... [coming from God the Father] ...it shall not be forgiven him, **neither in this age nor in the coming age**"—to understand about the rest of the dead!

We're living in an age that is coming to a completion. Then the thousand year reign begins and all of those who died up to that point—who have not committed the unpardonable sin—let's see what happens.

"...but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this age nor in the coming age" (v 32).

Let's understand something very important. God didn't give the Holy Spirit to people in general until the beginning of the Church in 30 A.D. at the temple on the Day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit came.

“...neither in this age nor in the coming age” (v 32). *There are two ages that are coming:*

1. the Millennium

But there are only going to be so many that are going to live over into that age!

2. The Last Great Day

That comes after the Millennium!

We really need to understand how all of this is going to be. Some people may ask if that's going to include all the Gentiles.

Verse 38: “Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered, saying, ‘Master, we desire to see a sign from You.’ And He answered *and* said to them, ‘A wicked and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, but no sign shall be given to it except the sign of Jonah the prophet. 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 shall stand up...*” (vs 38-41).

- What about Nineveh?
- Why did He use Jonah?

Because Jonah came and preached them, ‘Repent because God is going to destroy you.’ They repented! It held off the judgment of God for 120 years!

Verse 41: “***The men of Nineveh shall stand up...***” What did Jesus say? *All who are in the grave shall hear My voice and come out! Stand up here means stand up in a resurrection!*

“...stand up in the judgment with this generation and shall condemn it, because they repented at the proclamation of Jonah; and behold, a greater than Jonah *is* here... [come forward a little further]: ...*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” (vs 41-42).

- What's going to happen when the rest of the dead are raised?
- How is that going to be?

There are two classes of those who are going to be raised. Those who have not committed the unpardonable sin, *every sin except that will be forgiven in the coming age!* Let's look at the coming age. After Satan has his judgment and is cast into the Lake of Fire, then later into ‘the blackest darkness forever.’

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... [raised back to life] ...small and great, standing before God; and *the* books were opened...” (vs 11-12).

‘Yes, you did not commit the unpardonable sin. You now have life.’ And we'll see what kind of life in just a little bit.

“...and another book was opened, which is *the Book of Life...*” (v 12). So, this is saying that now they have a chance for salvation, anyone—though he died previously and was buried and is now resurrected—who believes in Him shall not perish but receive everlasting life.

So the timing goes way beyond the instance in which the words were given. That's how God works things in many cases.

“...And the dead were judged out of the things written in the books, according to their works” (v 12).

The wages of sin—any sin—is death. So, if they're judged out of what they did in their first life—even though they didn't commit the unpardonable sin—they still would have to be executed because they had not kept the Word of God the way that it should be.

What goes on here? *We'll see this in just a few minutes* and let's see what God is going to do, because this is absolutely fantastic!

(go to the next track)

Brethren, let's understand something really, really important. What a great and marvelous thing that it is that God has granted this understanding. Not because of who we are, or what we are, or where we have come from, because Jesus said, ‘The Father reveals these things to babes.’

Always remember not to get lifted up in anything that we do, or what we believe, or that we become carnal and start comparing ourselves among ourselves and other people. What we need to do is keep our relationship with God the Father and Jesus Christ all the time. And realize that what an awesome, awesome plan God has that He has hidden it in plain sight—in His Bible, His Word—and the vast majority of people have absolutely not a clue as to what God is doing, even those in the Christianity of this world.

I want you to think about this for a minute. Let's just take the current generation in which we live. There are about 7.5-billion people in the world. How many know why they were born? On a percentage basis you couldn't even calculate it. It is so few! That fulfills another prophecy: ***many are called but few are chosen!***

- Few are chosen because *few repent!*
- Few are chosen because *few endure to the end!*

Here we are on The Last Great Day and God has opened up the vastness of the understanding of His awesome plan to His people. The Jews who came back from the Holocaust look upon Ezek. 37 as an allegory of those who came out of the Holocaust and returned to the Holy Land. They read this and say that it's an allegory for that. But it's way beyond that.

Men cannot understand without the Spirit of God! The Spirit of God *must reveal* these things. It's up to us to retain these things so that those who come after us will learn as well. Quite an amazing thing that God has done! I want you to think about it. ***Every single one of us have a part in carrying out the plan of God, especially attaining to the first resurrection!***

We're going to read about the second resurrection. Notice the difference between this and 1-Cor. 15; quite a difference.

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." *If you have bones, that means that people have died!*

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.... [they've been dead for a long time] ...And He said to me, 'Son of man, can these bones live?' And I answered, 'O Lord GOD, You know'" (vs 2-3).

They show on the History Channel where people are examining the skulls and looking at the legs and ribs, figuring out how this person died. Why is the head shaped in that way? All of that sort of thing.

Verse 4: "Again He said to me, 'Prophecy 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).

Here's a perfect example of stating in the Bible *first what you're going to do, and then do it!*

Verse 6: "And I will lay sinews on you, and will bring up **flesh** on you..."—*not spirit!* What does this tell us? *A second life in the flesh!* Why? *We'll see in just a minute!*

"...and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live. **And you shall know that I am the LORD**" (v 6).

In other words, previously they may have heard of Him, *but they didn't know Him!* That's why we, in our conversion experience, are to come to *know* God the Father and Jesus Christ:

- through prayer
- through study
- through living
- through overcoming

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... [just standing there watching it] ...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).

Just like it was with Adam when God created him! God had to breathe into Adam's nostrils the breath of life! Same thing here, *only this is a **second** time!*

Verse 9: "And He said to me, 'Prophecy to the wind, prophecy, 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.'"'"

For what purpose? ***We saw in Rev. 20 for the purpose of attaining salvation!*** They never had the opportunity in their first life! Quite an amazing thing that God would do this.

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."

It says in Rev. 20 that the dead, when they came up, there were so many there was no room for them. I wonder how many billions of people that's going to be? When you measure that against the universe. The trillions and trillions of things out there in the universe, regardless of how many it may be, and the final plan and everything of God being carried out, after they receive conversion, is going to be awesome indeed!

Of course, he's wondering, what is this? Look at all these people! They're alive! They were the dry bones a little bit ago. So, he's probably wondering, 'Who are they?' So, God tells him:

Verse 11: "And He said to me, 'Son of man, **these bones are the whole house of Israel....**'" What did Paul say? *All Israel shall be saved!* Fantastic! Here it is right before our eyes!

"...Behold, they say... [they have consciousness] ...'Our bones *are* dried and our hope

is lost; we ourselves are completely cut off.” (v 11)—*because of their sins!* But they didn’t commit the unpardonable sin, nor did they have an opportunity for salvation, because Christ did not come. Either all of Israel before His first coming and all of those who were never called at His second coming.

As we saw with the Ninevites and the Queen of the South that the Gentiles are going to experience the same thing because Jesus said that ***they will rise up with this generation and condemn it!*** But all of that will be forgotten.

Verse 12: “Therefore, prophesy and say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up out of your graves...”’” The bones out there on the ground weren’t in the grave, were they? *No, they weren’t!*

This was done to show Ezekiel exactly what God was going to do.

“...and will bring you into the land of Israel. And **you shall know that I am the LORD** when I have opened your graves, O My people, and have brought you up out of your graves” (vs 12-13). *They were dead! They were in their graves!* Likewise with all of the Gentiles.

Think of that! Think of all the people that’s going to be. That’s way beyond anything we can imagine! But you talk about a wonderful master plan that God has. He saves the greatest until the last, and He hides it in His Word and doesn’t tell anybody about it! Yet:

- He had Ezekiel write this amount of it
- He Matthew write what he wrote about it
- He had Paul write what he wrote about it
- He had all the apostles write what they wrote about it

Yet, they couldn’t understand it until the Apostle John, the last living apostle. Yes, when he canonized the New Testament, the other old apostles of Andrew, Mark, Timothy, Philip and Bartholomew who were there with John. They finished the New Testament.

Think how this has been given to us in this age, to where we can comprehend this as never before. Not because of our own ability, but because of the Word of God, the Spirit of God, the Truth of God. Our responsibility is to rightly divide the Word of God so that we can see the whole picture. *Here it is!*

Verse 13: “And **you shall know that I am the LORD** 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, 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,’ says the LORD” (vs 13-14).

- think about what that’s going to be like
- think about what it’s going to be like with all those innocent children:
 - ✓ aborted
 - ✓ killed early
 - ✓ died of sickness
 - ✓ died of disease
 - ✓ plagues
 - ✓ famine
- Think about what it’s going to be like for all those resurrected who were destroyed through the Flood.

God says that *all* who have not committed the unpardonable sin will receive forgiveness. When they receive forgiveness, then the judgment to eternal life starts for them, and they are going to live a hundred years. Just like we found in Isa. 65 for those during the Millennium.

- Can anyone ever say that God is not fair?
- Can anyone ever say that God is not loving?
 - ✓ *To undo every death!*
 - ✓ *To give them life!*
 - ✓ *To give them an opportunity for salvation!*

What a thing that is going to be!

Brethren, all of those who came into the Kingdom of God to receive eternal life during the Millennium, and those of us who are in the first resurrection, are going to be the ones:

- who will teach them
- who will help them
- who will show them the way

There are going to be some people that have a lot of stuff to repent of! They’ll all be forgiven. Whether they will accept salvation or not is another story.

Rev. 20 shows what God is going to do with the incorrigible wicked. It says that those who have sinned are going to be raised to a life of condemnation and judgment. What’s going to happen to them? *God says in His Word, and shows that it is absolutely true, that those who commit the unpardonable sin have to die twice!* Their final judgment will be all together, because Satan has already been bound and removed.

All those who come up in the second resurrection who have not committed the unpardonable sin are not going to have to lead another life under Satan the devil. Don’t you think

once is enough? *God thinks so!* Now they will have all that wiped away. A fresh start! Their names will be entered into the Book of Life when they repent and are baptized and receive the Holy Spirit, because God says that He's going to put His Spirit into them.

What about all the incorrigible wicked? Revelation 20:13: "And the sea gave up the dead *that were* in it..." We don't know how many that is. You look at some of these programs today on NatGeo where they have drained the water away and in harbors are all these sunken ships. How many died!

"...and death and *the* grave gave up the dead *that were* in them; and they were judged individually, according to their works" (v 13).

The first part of the second resurrection is for those who didn't commit the unpardonable sin. That's what Matt. 12 is telling us about. They will be forgiven in the age that is coming.

But those who do commit the unpardonable sin will not be forgiven in that age, and here is the end of that age, when all the incorrigible wicked are raised together.

Verse 14: "And death and *the* grave were cast into the Lake of Fire...."

Sidebar: the *King James* says that 'death and hell were cast into the Lake of Fire.' Well, if hell is ever-burning, how can an ever-burning hell be cast into a Lake of Fire? *The word is 'hades' meaning grave!* That's why!

"...This is the second death" (v 14). If you died twice, what has to happen? *You have to live twice!* Except like those in the case like Lazarus and those who were raised back to physical life after Jesus ascended to heaven at Jerusalem.

Verse 15: "And if anyone was not found written in the Book of Life, he was cast into the Lake of Fire."

What happens when you're cast into the Lake of Fire? *You are burned up!* In this case, no more record of you. That's *God's final judgment!*

When that happens, as we have read in 1-Pet. 3, the whole earth is going to be consumed, because this Lake of Fire is going to consume the whole earth *to prepare it for the new heaven and the new earth.*

Here is the great phase of God's plan: No more human beings, all spirit beings! Let's see into eternity and what it's going to be like.

Revelation 21:1: "Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away, and there was no more sea."

Why do we need the sea or the ocean? *Because we're human beings, and in order to modify the temperature on the earth!* As spirit beings the temperature will not affect us, so we don't need it.

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. And I heard a great voice from heaven say, 'Behold, the tabernacle of God...'" (vs 2-3). That's what the Feast of Tabernacles is all about: *to dwell with God!*

"...is with men..."—*men and women made perfect; sons and daughters of God; spirit beings with spirit bodies and spirit minds!* What's that going to be like?

"...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). We can come to God *personally! directly! individually, one-to-one!* Think about what that's going to be like!

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.'.... [no longer here] ...And He Who sits on the throne said, 'Behold, I make all things new.'...." (vs 4-5). Have to be made new for all the spirit beings! *All things!*

You talk about a great and a fantastic work! I can hardly wait until they get this new James Webb telescope up there in space and take their pictures, and just focus in a dark place in the universe. Like they did when the Hubble first went up there. They got pictures of stars out in the universe they could see because they were so far away. It blew their minds! Think about what this going to be, because God's new heaven and new earth is going to be so fantastic! So unbelievable!

Verse 5: "And He Who sits on the throne said... [proclamation from God] ...'Behold, I make all things new.' Then He said to me 'Write...'"

God wants it written down; He doesn't want guesswork for anybody. That's why we have the Word of God.

"...for these words are true and faithful..." (v 5). No lie in any of God's Word. There are some thing in there that men have changed. But they can't change the Word of God 'en touto' No, they can sort of nibble around the fringe to satisfy their own denominational nonsense.

Why would they do that if it's Truth? Why would they not want to spend their time seeking out the Truth of God, instead of trying to justify what they believe? Why not believe what God has given

to us? So, *they're written down as a witness for the whole world!* It's Truth to the people of God to give us hope!

Verse 6: "And He said to me, 'It is done. 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.'" What is that going to be like? *I don't know what's that going to be like! A continuous addition of the Holy Spirit down through time?*

Verse 7: "The one who overcomes..." That's why we have all the difficulties we have today.

We sit around and wonder why we have this and that, and pity-party me! *No!* Every one of those things are trials for us to overcome. So, we take them all to God and say to Christ, 'This burden is greater than me, help me to bear it, and You said, *take your burden because it's light and easy.* Help us to do that so that we can come to this place.'

"...shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be My son. But *the* cowardly, and unbelieving, and abominable, and murderers, and fornicators, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone; which is the second death" (vs 7-8).

No one is going to sneak in who shouldn't be there. No spies! No fakes!

Verse 9: "And one of the seven angels that had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying, 'Come here, *and* I will show you the Bride, the Lamb's wife.'" He's going to show where the Bride will be in New Jerusalem. That's for the Bride.

Verse 10: "And he carried me away in *the* Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, Holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, having the glory of God..." (vs 10-11).

What's that going to be like? All of us there in the city of New Jerusalem. We're all assemble and here it is. Now is the time that God the Father is sending your permanent living place in New Jerusalem. There's a place in that city where your new name is registered. That is your eternal abode. You will come and go as you do the work of God, from that place.

"...And her radiance *was* like a most precious stone, as crystal-clear *as* jasper stone. And *the* city also had a great and high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels; and inscribed on *the* gates were *the* names of the twelve tribes of

the children of Israel" (vs 11-12).

All the gates are laid out the way that the tribes were centered around the tabernacle. Type and antitype.

Verse 14: "And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and written on them *were the* names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb." Forever we're going to remember eternal life came because of Jesus Christ, and the 12 apostles that He chose! That's fantastic!

Verse 16: "And the city lies foursquare, for its length is as long as its breadth. And he measured the city with the rod, twelve thousand furlongs; the length and the breadth and the height of it are equal. And he measured its wall, one hundred *and* forty-four cubits; *the* angel's measure *was according to* a man's.... [a cubic is 18 inches] ...And the structure of its wall was jasper; and the city *was* pure gold, like pure glass. And the foundations of the wall of the city *were* adorned with every precious stone..." (vs 16-19).

Then he lists all the precious stones one after the other. What a beautiful thing that is going be! Beauty, color, radiance, eternal life, happiness and joy! No pain, no suffering, no disappointments, no lying, no cheating; none of this! And all on the great mission to complete God's plan into the universe, which is greater than what we're even reading here! What we're reading here is kind of like 'a drop in the bucket.'

Verse 21: "And the twelve gates *were* twelve pearls; each of the gates respectively was a single pearl; and the street of the city *was* pure gold, as transparent *as* glass." *I can't fathom that!*

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... [doesn't say that they won't be there, but it doesn't need it] ...that they should shine in it; because the glory of God enlightens it, and the Light of it *is* the Lamb" (vs 22-23).

We're going to have continuous spiritual renewal, continuously *forever!* What is that going to be like?

- that's why we're called
- that's why we're here
- this is why we do what we do

This is why down through the centuries—regardless of what happened, regardless of the circumstances: trial, loss of life, loss of head or the killing and slaying because we were hated by the establishments of this world and hated by Satan the devil—he can never overcome us because of the

resurrection! *And this is what God is going to give us!*

Verse 24: "And the nations that are saved shall walk in its light; and the kings of the earth shall bring their glory and honor into it.... [that's what we'll be doing] ...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.... [then He gives another promise]: ...And **nothing that defiles...** [no more sin] ...**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" (vs 24-27).

Can you imagine living there? having that kind of life?

Rev. 22 finishes off the Bible. It's interesting that the Bible starts with the Tree of Life, and it ends with the Tree of Life. *I'm the First and the Last, the Beginning and the Ending, Alpha and Omega!*

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. *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."

Continuous healing for those learning, growing and overcoming. The word here is 'therapeuon' meaning *for the maintenance, the maintaining of the spiritual qualities that God has given to us!* That we never lose them! That we live forever! This is the guarantee of it:

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..." (vs 3-4).

What's it going to be like to see the face of God? Remember, He told Moses that he could live on His face and live. 'Get over here in a little corner and I'll show you My backside, but you can't look on My face.' Here is:

"...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... [How long will this be?]: ...**they shall reign into the ages of eternity**" (vs 4-5).

On and on and on in joy, happiness, love, work, truth, building, making, helping to make the universe. We won't need big telescopes to look out there to try and see and wonder what that is out

there. We'll know!

Verse 6: "And he said to me, 'These words *are* faithful and true... [God cannot lie!] ...and *the* Lord God of the Holy prophets sent His angel to show His servants the things that must shortly come to pass.'" In God's time plan is *shortly!*

Verse 7: "Behold, I am coming quickly. Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book." *That's the whole Bible!* This book of Revelation and every aspect of everything in the whole of the Bible within the book of Revelation. So, it applies to the book and the whole Bible!

Verse 8: "Now I, John, *was* the one who saw and heard these things...." Peter said, 'What about this one over here, Lord?' Jesus said, 'What is it to you? What if I desire that he remain alive until he sees Me coming?' *He did in vision!*

"...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!* 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.'" (vs 8-9). *That's what we're going to do!*

Verse 10: "And he said to me, 'Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book because the time is near.'" *He didn't seal it!*

But God has to open our eyes to it, because our eyes may not see it unless we have the Spirit of God and rightly divide the Word of God to understand how it's going to be!

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. 'And behold, **I am coming quickly; and My reward is with Me, to render to each one according as his work shall be.** I am Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last. **Blessed are those who keep His commandments...**" (vs 11-14).

- Protestants out there, what on earth are you going to do with this verse?
- Do you think with your Sunday-keeping that you're ever going to enter into the Kingdom of God?

Think about that!

"...that they may have the right to eat of the Tree of Life, and may enter by the gates into the city. But excluded... [left out] ...are dogs, and sorcerers, and fornicators, and murderers, and

idolaters, and everyone who loves and devises a lie.” (v 14). Think about that:

- truth forever
- love forever
- hope forever
- spiritual life forever

Into the ages of eternity!

This is what God is working with us, for us, holding out to us, showing us and teaching us. This is why this day is *The Last Great Day!*

Verse 16: “I, Jesus, sent My angel to testify these things to you in the churches...” All the churches; we’re to know and understand. The world won’t know! The world won’t understand! But when it comes down to the time that it gets here, they will have understanding. But now it’s for the churches only. It’s very interesting that He didn’t say *church*.

“...‘I am the root and the offspring of David, the bright and morning star.’ And the Spirit and the bride say, ‘Come.’.... [that Spirit is Christ] ...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...** [not only Revelation, but the whole Bible] ...**that if anyone adds to these things, God shall add to him the plagues that are written in this book**” (vs 16-18).

It might do well for everyone to re-read those on occasion.

Verse 19: “And if anyone takes away from the words of *the* book of this prophecy, **God shall take away his part from *the* Book of Life...**”

All those out there who are handling the Word of God better be careful. You need the Truth, *the Truth, the Truth!* Not anything of man, *but all of God!*

“...and from the Holy City, and from the things that are written in this book. He Who testifies these things says, ‘Surely, I am coming quickly.’ Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you all. Amen” (vs 19-21).

There we have the meaning of The Last Great Day! The grand finale of the awesome plan of God, which began with Adam and Eve, and all the rest of us *from a speck of dust to a son of God!* What promises and blessings!

I’m glad you came to the Feast, and ***I hope you go home inspired and uplifted, and to serve God in a more dedicated and loving way than ever before!***

Scriptural References:

- 1) Leviticus 23:33-34, 36
- 2) John 7:37-39
- 3) John 3:16
- 4) Matthew 13:14-17
- 5) Matthew 11:24-27
- 6) John 12:37-40, 42-48
- 7) Romans 11:25-36
- 8) John 5:24, 30, 24-29
- 9) Revelation 20:5
- 10) Matthew 12:30-32, 38-42
- 11) Revelation 20:11-12
- 12) Ezekiel 37:1-14
- 13) Revelation 20:13-15
- 14) Revelation 21:1-12, 14, 16-27
- 15) Revelation 22:1-21

Scriptures quoted, not referenced:

- Genesis 15; 3:15
- Romans 1
- 1 Corinthians 15
- Luke 9
- 1 Peter 3

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Malaysia

WDT 00009
Semenyih,
43507 Selangor, Malaysia

La Verdad de Dios

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