

# GOD'S CODED LANGUAGE

is all about

# TRANSPARENCY

God's Plan • Creation • Christ's Sacrifice • Salvation • God's People • Mankind • Forces • Battles  
Enemies • Light • Truth • Darkness • Deception • Misinformation • Disinformation • Government  
Church • National Leadership • Religious Leadership • He, She • Transformation • God's Holy Spirit  
Overcoming • The Gospel • God's New Government • Twelves Tribes of Israel • Repentance • Return  
to the God of the Hebrews • Law and Grace • God's Garden blossoms • House of Juda • House of  
Israel • The Great Multitude from the Nations • The New Heaven • The New Earth • God Wipes  
Away their Tears • Transparency in Images, Numbers, Stories, Parables, Reflections • The Exodus  
Stories • Foreshadowing • The beast • Seven-headed Serpent • Reflections • Mirroring

# IMAGERY

Stories: *His, Hers, Theirs*



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## INTRODUCTION

Unlike secret societies and corrupt political and religious leaders, God Almighty is transparent. He has provided all of mankind with evidence of His existence and power. To His people, He has given them all what they need to know about His plan for them and the nations of the world. At the end of the age, God will judge all people; they will be without excuse.

“For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse” (Romans 1:20).

The transparency of God is unveiled through His use of imagery, mirroring, parables, parallels and numbers, stories, foreshadows not to mention creation all around us on earth.

God is consistent in His use of His coded language. The imagery in the scriptures can be easily decoded when you understand how to use the key. Unlock the mysteries and enter into the world of Almighty God. You will find treasures never seen before and riveting prophecies lying on our near horizon.

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## THE RIDDLE slipped in among EVERYDAY STORIES

“Out of the eater, something to eat;  
out of the strong, something sweet”  
(Judges 14:14).



The story of Samson is a maze of mysteries orchestra by God, Himself. Samson lived during a time when the ancient Israelites were ruled by the haughty Philistines. Samson was born from the tribe of Dan; he was not a Jew as is often the thought of many Old Testament characters. He was from the house of Israel and he was a miracle baby. God opened the womb of Manoah's wife and she conceived. From birth, Samson was a Nazirite, set apart to serve God. He was not to drink wine or fermented drinks; he was not to cut his hair or eat anything unclean. As a Nazirite, he was to avoid contact with the dead and areas where grapes are grown and fermented drinks are made, and yet, Samson travelled through the vineyards of Timnah to visit and later marry a beautiful Philistine woman. On the way with his parents to visit this woman, a lion came roaring toward him and he killed it with his bare hands. As he returned to marry the Philistine woman, he saw the carcass of the lion and inside was an unnatural and intriguing sight. Bees had built a honeycomb flowing with honey. He reached into the carcass and ate.

Samson's disregard of the Nazirite vow was part of the revelation in this story. It was the Spirit of the LORD moving him to do as he did. It was by God's wise choice and teaching method that a Danite was chosen for this job. The tribe of Dan was notorious of flirting with the tribes worshipping gods in opposition to the God of Israel—the Almighty God. They have a history in the Celtic traditions and the enduring pagan practices of believing in the acquisition of luck through four leaf clovers or by knocking on wood and wishing for blessings by blowing out birthday candles. It is by no coincidence that following the story of Samson in the book of Judges, is their early history of taking a pagan-serving Levite, Micah with his idols, as their priest.



The people of Israel were called to be a set-apart people—a kingdom of holy, royal priests. Yet, they behaved just like Samson. His Nazirite vow prohibited touching the dead; it mirrors engaging with the spiritually dead, toxic evil people. Samson played his part well. He used the jawbone of a donkey to strike down 1,000 men. Samson didn't hesitate to grip with all his might, the jawbone of an unclean animal. He was a mirror of God's people at that time; engaging and embracing in evil practices with without concern.

The close of Samson's story reveals a deliverance from the rule of the Philistines when the law-breaking people of God repented of their evil ways and turned to serve Him. God's penmanship is always many layers deep and Samson's story is rich and wonderful filled with God's coded language.

Locked in with the tide of the sea, ancient Israel endlessly moved back and forth between worshipping the gods of the nations and the God of Israel. They flirted with sin and did evil in God's sight by taking on the practices of the heathen nations around them. From the tribe of Dan, Samson was the appropriate candidate to prophesy to ancient Israel then and into the present because that tribe held onto pagan worship for many centuries.



The luring pulls tugging at ancient Israel was the glory from military and economic strength and the reach for superpower status that leading nations around them had acquired. The price for this was the practice of heinous rituals including child sacrifice commanded by the gods they served. Often, ancient Israel was prepared to pay that price. As a result, the God of Israel

subdued them by bringing them into captivity by those powerful nations, and at times, God simply brought them under their oppressive rule as it was in Samson's time. He initiated the battle for freedom. Clumsy and ruthless, he played his role well. He taunted the Philistines with his great strength and they hated him.

They were wary when he arrived to marry a beautiful Philistine woman; thirty security guards appeared. Samson was not intimidated. In the spirit of the wedding celebration, he offered these guards a prize of thirty linen garments and thirty sets of clothes to those who could solve a riddle fairly and honestly. This is a great reward.

“Out of the eater, something to eat; out of the strong, something sweet” (Judges 14:14).

Applying God's coded language, by offering a prize of new sets of clothing made from linen was Samson offering these guards an opportunity to change their behaviour from sin to put on

“linen garments”—that is, receive instruction on living God’s way that produces righteous behaviour, if they could solve the riddle.

This riddle has teased scholars for generations. Samson had killed a lion and it decomposed providing an unnatural habitat for a community of bees that produced sweet, eternal honey. It was the Almighty God who gave Samson the superhuman strength to kill the lion with his bare hands. It was the Spirit of the LORD that inspired Samson to offer the thirty Philistine guards linen garments, if they could solve the riddle. The riddle baffled them and they became agitated. They coerced Samson’s wife and eventually he gave in to her. The men of the town had the solution and they taunted back, “What is sweeter than honey? What is stronger than a lion?” (Judges 14:18)

If their only understanding was that of mere honey and a lion, then they gained nothing. Their response is merely the surface of the riddle. The prophecy God had woven into the riddle was the Saviour of Israel and mankind, the Lion of Judah would be killed for the sins of Israel and mankind. The event that brought Samson to fear the lion and take its life was the mirror of the Messiah calling out the sins of Israel and their response was to kill him instead of repenting.



<http://pixgood.com/lion-of-judah-jesus-wallpaper.html>

God Almighty warned Israel. “Behold, I am sending an angel before you to protect you along the way and to bring you to the place I have prepared. Pay attention to him and listen to his voice; *do not defy him, for he will not forgive rebellion*, since My Name is in him” (Exodus 23:20-21).

A set-apart people were violating God’s law and rejecting His way. Samson was a clear reflection of them, and yet, the Spirit of the LORD came upon him in power. Through God’s power, Samson tormented the Philistines, like an actor playing his part well, the story of the salvation of Israel from their enemy and a rich understanding of God’s word, sweeter than honey, was prophesied in the riddle that remains a conundrum to most into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Jesus was born from the tribe of Judah. They were given the sceptre of the kingdom of Israel by Jacob. From Judah's earliest history, their tribe was represented as a lion. Unaware of the layers within layers of God's plan played out in their lives, the symbol of a lion points to Jesus, a Jew—the Lion of Judah.

Honey is a sweet nectar made by bees. They fly from flower to flower collecting nectar and along the way, they pollinate the flowers and vegetation that they touch. This incidental activity leads to fertilization as they transfer pollen grains from the male to the female stigma resulting in the germination of seeds.

The nectar is stored in the stomach of the bee where the complex sugars are converted into simple sugars, then regurgitated once in the hive. The house bees work to concentrate the



nectar by beating their wings, the nectar is fanned and the water is evaporated. Finally, in a concentrated state—no longer nectar, the honey is deposited into the honeycomb.

Like the processing of honey, believers mature and grow in God's grace and knowledge and during that process, their understanding of God's word transforms from an undeveloped state into a rich, concentrated source of wisdom, like honey which is eternally fresh.

In his God-given wisdom Solomon said, "Eat honey, my son, for it is good, and the honeycomb is sweet to your taste. Know therefore that *wisdom is sweet to your soul*. If you find it, there is a future for you, and your hope will never be cut off" (Proverbs 24:13-14).

Solomon asked for wisdom and God gave him a taste of His omniscience. Honey is God's image for His sweet, eternal wisdom that revives the soul.

Learning from God, changes the heart so that words are careful and caring, fitly spoken, "The heart of the wise man instructs his mouth and adds persuasiveness to his lips. *Pleasant words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones*" (Proverbs 16:4).

Bones are the core structure holding the whole body together. Words spoken using God's wisdom heal a broken and dying spiritual body.

"Instruct a wise man, and he will be wiser still; teach a righteous man, and he will increase his learning. *The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding*" (Proverbs 9:9-10).

Our Father in heaven is perfect and will not and cannot sin. His wisdom is love. Trusting in our LORD Almighty brings peace. King David prized understanding God's word. He said, "*The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the judgements of the LORD are true, being altogether righteous. They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the comb*" (Psalm 19:9-10).

Like honey, the word of God revives the dying, those living in lies, deception and corruption. A short historical moment was recorded in I Samuel when Jonathon, the eldest son of King Saul, ate the honey found in the forest. "Now the men of Israel were in distress that day, for Saul had placed the troops under an oath, saying, 'Cursed is the man who eats any food before evening, before I have taken vengeance on my enemies.' So, none of the troops tasted any food. Then all the troops entered the forest, and there was honey on the ground. And when they entered the forest and saw the flowing honey, not one of them put his hand to his mouth, because they feared the oath. Jonathan, however, had not heard that his father had charged the people with the oath. So, he reached out the end of the staff in his hand, dipped it into the honeycomb, and put his hand to his mouth; and his eyes brightened. Then one of the soldiers told him, "Your father bound the troops with a solemn oath, saying, 'Cursed is the man who eats food today.' That is why the people are faint. 'My father has brought trouble to the land,' Jonathan replied. 'Just look at how my eyes have brightened because I tasted a little of this honey'" (I Samuel 14:24-29).

Stories are preserved to teach mankind about spiritual matters. After Jonathon ate the honey, he was revived. Jonathon was a God-fearing man, but his father was rejected by God for his disobedience. Unfortunately, his father could not see the benefits of reviving food when he was set on revenge. Like honey, God's word revives the distressed, the weak and the dying.

Valuing God's wisdom, His word and standing strong under His flag under extreme duress, will bring great rewards, for God Almighty honours the faithful. The tribe of Dan is the only tribe not listed among the 144,000 of Revelation likely due to their long history of idolatry. In this story, Samson is an image of God's people and their history of worshipping the gods of the nations and rejecting the God of Israel, the only true God—Creator. The Israelites craved the glory of having superpower status like that of Assyria, Babylon and Egypt. God was training them to be a kingdom of humble, God-fearing, God-serving priests.

Ancient history preserves a record of gods battling against the Hebrew God, the Almighty Creator. The Old Testament is peppered with commands to worship the only *true* God. There is only *one* God, the Almighty and there is *one mediator* for mankind, Jesus Christ. All other gods claiming to be the Almighty are liars and are in league with other rebel sons of God attempting to overthrow the Supreme God and His loyal and faithful Son, Jesus Christ.

The god worshipped by the Philistines was Dagon. When Samson was captured after he revealed the secret to his strength to Delilah, the Philistines imprisoned him. "Now the lords of the Philistines gathered together to offer a great sacrifice to their god Dagon. They rejoiced and said, 'Our god has delivered Samson our enemy into our hands'" (Judges 16:23).



All nations on earth inherited heavenly rulers over them at the time of Babel. Unfortunately, all turned against the Almighty God. Battles continue into the present. When Satan is thrown down to earth and the beastly coalition of rogue sons of God follow in his fall, the final great battle against Almighty God and Jesus Christ against this rogue coalition will take place on earth. It will be like no other time nor will it ever happen again like this.

When Samson was captured by the Philistines, they gouged out his eyes. They sentenced him to work grinding at the mill in the prison. Blind and humbled, Samson turned to the God of Israel and asked for strength one more time. His hair had grown and God answered his final request with the strength that brought down the temple where over three thousand men and women were entertained by Samson. He lost his physical sight, but gained spiritual insight. He lost his physical life, but gained God's grace and support.

His life, orchestrated by God, is a witness to all of God's people throughout time who flirt and play with evil. They will suffer. Repentant people will return to their Creator and call out for their rescue. The final words of the blessing to Dan by Jacob were, "I await Your salvation, O LORD" (Genesis 49:18). Finally, the people behaving like Dan will learn and patiently wait for God to save them. It is then, they will receive supernatural power to take down their enemy.

Samson's hair grew long and his strength was returned. Now, understanding the spiritual picture he turned to the servant guiding him, "Put me where I can feel the pillars that support the temple, so that I may lean against them" (Judges 16:26). The temple was crowded with 3,000 men and women were on the roof. God answered his prayer and Samson pushed with all his might against the pillars and the temple collapsed; he died with the taunting Philistines. There will be 21<sup>st</sup> century Israelites from all twelve nations of Israel who will die during Jacob's trouble. They will be guilty of flirty with the beast and the great harlot, but they will awaken and repent.



It is not by coincidence that 3,000 Philistines on the roof died, along with the rulers on the main floor of the temple. The number three is God's seal on the event and 1,000 is symbolic of eternity. People and leaders who worship the fallen, rebel sons of God will perish for all eternity.

Samson initiated the overthrow of the Philistines, but it was King David who would complete it. It is a prophesy detailing the clumsy recklessness of ancient Israel fighting against their enemies. What can be expected at the end of this evil age is a righteous, God-fearing people with great spiritual strength fighting and winning against the enemy. The Apostle Paul said the only enemy God-fearing people fight against are the rogue, fallen rulers, powers and principalities in heaven and on earth (Ephesians 6:12).

King David killed both a lion and a bear with his bare hands. His superhuman strength was God-given and prophetic. No honey was later found in the carcass of these wild animals. Characteristics of the beast of Revelation are a lion, a bear and a leopard. These wild animals identify specific types of rebels in heaven: fallen rulers, powers and principalities. This lion is not Jesus Christ, rather a rogue, warring son of God, likely the coalition of ten rebel sons given rulership over the nations for one hour (Revelation 17:12) who adopt the ungodly Babylonian agenda of the destruction of God's family. War will break out in heaven and when Satan is thrown down to earth, that war will continue on earth and mankind will witness the terrifying horror of these fallen spiritual entities. God's people are learning. Into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, they will learn of the struggles of ancient Israel. Fallen gods are real and very powerful.

The conception of the Nazirite Samson brought excitement and an immediate urgency to Manoah, Samson's father. He prayed, begging God to send the man of God back, who revealed the conception of a son to his wife, so that he can learn how to raise him correctly. The angel of the LORD returned and gave Manoah instructions. Manoah invited the man to stay and eat after the burnt offering of a goat. The angel of the LORD said that he would stay only for the sacrifice. Manoah prepared a young goat together with a grain offering and sacrificed it to God. Then, an amazing event took place as flames of fire burst up towards heaven, the angel of the LORD ascended in the flames (Judges 13:20). Samson's father was terrified as he thought that the man was Almighty God. He feared for his life, but his wife reassured him that God would not have accepted the burnt offering or given the blessing of a miracle child to have them die. The angel of the LORD in the Old Testament is the Son of God who is unique to all of creation in heaven.

The sacrifice of a goat by Manoah is connected with the Hebrew Day of Atonement where two goats are selected, one is sacrificed and the other is released into the wilderness of sin. The imagery of the angel of the LORD ascending in the flames of the sacrifice is an enactment of Jesus, the angel of the LORD, sacrificing his life for the sins of mankind and being resurrected to return to our Father in heaven.

**THE RIDDLE:** If the only discovery of the riddle was the revelation of the lion as the "eater" and the "strong" and honey as the "sweet to be eaten," then the riddle remains unsolved.

If, however, a deeper investigation into God's penmanship is applied, then, puzzle pieces of the plan of salvation appears.

- Christ is the lion who will not tolerate wickedness.
- He is killed by sinning people.
- Christ's body is the word of God—the bread of life.
- Sweet honey is the reviving delight upon understanding God's word.
- Samson is the actor whose life mirrored ancient Israel flirting and mingling with the enemy.
- Manoah, Samson's father offered a sacrifice when he learned that his wife would become pregnant and birth a Nazirite son. He offered a goat and the angel of the LORD returned to heaven in the flames of that sacrifice. Christ is imaged as the goat that is sacrificed on the Day of Atonement/Yom Kippur.
- Samson died taking down the enemy, so it will be for God's people who behave like him.

During their captivity, they will turn to God and call out to Him and He will rescue them. Some may lose their physical life, but all who repent will gain spiritual life.

#### SOLUTION TO THE RIDDLE:

*“Out of the eater, something to eat;*

*Out of the Messiah's sacrificed body, God's word resides—the bread of life, he is the Word;*

*out of the strong, something sweet”*

*Out of the unique and strong Son of God, mankind is revived by the eternal, sweet knowledge and understanding of God's ways, even His wisdom.*

(Judges 14:14)

There is more that can be learned from Samson's story. The spiritual story behind why Samson's mother was sterile and why the angel of the Lord goes to her to announce her future fertility and the conception of a Nazirite son. Her husband begs God to send the messenger back and again the angel of the LORD goes to Manoah's wife and she brings her husband to meet with the angel. We do not learn of her name and yet, she is chosen to birth a special son. This type of interaction is pointing to the future when religious leadership imaged in the female gender is first to hear from God. Through the church, national leaders will come to God. Sterile churches will be healed and they will birth Nazirite children—congregation.

Why exactly 3,000 from the tribe of Judah (Jews) the cave in the rock of Etam and warned Samson of what would be done to Israel by Samson's



provocations towards the Philistines? The number 3,000 is God's eternal seal. The tribe of Judah are the protectors of God's law. They will eternally remind wayward people to keep the law.

It is by no coincidence that the Philistines camped in the area of the tribe of Judah (the Jews) and they were afraid. It is a mirror of those who don't keep God's law. They agreed not to kill Samson rather tie him up and hand him over to the Philistines. The power of the Spirit of the LORD came upon Samson and the ropes on his arms broke apart with little effort. The stories reveal the underlining mindset and thinking of ancient Israel that echoes into the present. There was a total lack of serving their God, the God of Israel. It was written, "Again the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the LORD, so the LORD delivered them into the hands of the Philistines for forty years" (Judges 13:1). Forty is the number of drawing close to God. Unfortunately, it takes captivity and distress before God's people look to Him and humbly bend their knee in obedience to His law and ways.

Samson's long hair was braided into seven sections. Long hair is a covering that often symbolizes the saving protection against spiritual death through Christ's redemptive sacrifice. Christ is the covering for the church that is why God wants women to have longer hair than men. The spirit of the LORD came upon Samson three times. It was the seal of God marking the completion of this series of events in His saving plan. The stories preserved in the Bible all have very deep spiritual revelations.

God trumpets His saving plan for mankind and proudly proclaims our humble Messiah who gave his life so that creation on earth can live. His law and ways are the sweet honey of truth to freedom. Ancient Israel couldn't understand what the 21<sup>st</sup> century twelve nations of Israel can know today because God's Holy Spirit was not made available to everyone at that time. Yet, a level of obedience could have been achieved, but they resisted more often than not.

The first shall be last and the last will be first. Where ancient Israel failed, 21<sup>st</sup> century twelve nations of Israel will succeed because during their great distress, they will repent, receive God's Holy Spirit and a heart that will desire to keep God's law and live His word. God's instructional strategy is designed to stir believers into investigating beyond the surface—to probe into the deep mind of God and discover His fascinating complexity of omniscience that baffles and confounds the curious human mind.



## HOSEA'S AMAZING LOVE

*“You will live with me many days; you must not be a prostitute or be intimate with any man, and I will live with you. For the Israelites will live many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred stones, without ephod or idol” (Hosea 3:3-4).*

The ten tribes of the ancient house of Israel were sentenced to live 2,520 years in exile. They had many moments of wandering over Europe raping, pillaging and plundering, worshipping gods, playing with magic and casting spells. Sometime prior to the birth of Jesus, they fell into despair and pleaded with God, like the prodigal son, to accept them back into His covenant family. With their history of superficial sincerity, Jesus made them wait until their heart softened into a pliable state, then he taught them during his ministry on earth. Into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, they may not remember the details of their wayward past behaviour, their illusive repentance, nor do they see their future allegiance with the God of Israel that will award them with a double blessing, but the God of Israel never lost sight of them. He preserved their history in a story.

The ten tribes of Israel were divorced by God because of their relentless waning back and forth determined to find refuge living like the nations around them. A kingdom of humble, holy priests was not what they desired, rather a life of glitter and glory, pride and arrogance, power and control. God gave them their wish and turned away. “As for you, O house of Israel, this what the Sovereign LORD says: Go and serve your idols, every one of you! But afterward you will surely listen to me and no longer profane my holy name with your gifts and idols” (Ezekiel 20:39).

Deeper and deeper into paganism the church of the ten tribes wandered serving the gods of the nations, intimately engaging in their perverted practices. One after the other, pagan-rebel gods used and discarded the church of Israel until one day, they were rescued. This is the amazing love story of Hosea.



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The word of God spoke to Hosea and instructed him to marry an adulterous woman. Enactments preserved in stories are one of the teaching tools used by God. Hosea married Gomer and he loved her. It wasn't long and Gomer became restless. She returned to serving the god, Baal and became a prostitute of the gods. The unfaithful relationship that Hosea experienced mirrors the on-going relationship that the house of Israel had with their God. Over two thousand seven hundred years later, the relationship continued to move like the ocean tide.

This story cannot be fully understood without the knowledge of the events that took place at the time of Babel. The great God gave the members of His holy council in heaven rulership over the nations. The nations received an inheritance, which meant they received kings to rule over them; they were going astray again. This knowledge is not lost rather mythicized. God divided the nations accordingly and confounded the languages so that each group spoke the same language. This change remains to this day. The task of the members of God's heavenly court was to teach each nation the way of God and how to worship the Almighty God, the God of all gods. The members of God's heavenly court were experts on God's law. They judged; they ruled; they sentenced.

"When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance, when he divided mankind, he fixed the borders of the peoples according to the number of His heavenly court" (NLT, ESV, Berean, BST, CEV, NAB, GNT, Deuteronomy 32:8). Some translations based the division on the number of sons of Israel, but Abraham was not born for another 100 years and his grandson, Jacob was born at least 200 years after the dividing into nations. As well, his twelve sons do not account for the number in God's heavenly court, which are likely around 70.

Mike Heiser explains, "Most English Bibles do not read 'according to the number of the sons of God' in Deuteronomy 32:8. Rather, they read 'according to the number of the sons of Israel.' The difference derives from disagreements between manuscripts of the Old Testament. 'Sons of God' is the correct reading, as is now known from the Dead Sea Scrolls. The notion that the nations of the world were geographically partitioned and owe their terrestrial identity to the sovereign God takes the reader back to the Table of Nations in Genesis 10-11, and two details there regarding God's apportionment of the earth that are important for the context of the textual debate in Deuteronomy 32:8. First, the Table of Nations catalogs seventy nations, but Israel is not included in the inventory. Second, the use of the same Hebrew root in both passages to describe the "separation" of humankind and the nations substantiates the long-recognized observation of scholars that Genesis 10-11 are the backdrop to the statement in Deuteronomy 32:8. Israel alone is Yahweh's portion and so is not numbered among the seventy other nations." (Mike Heiser, *Deuteronomy 32:8 and the Sons of God*, p. 2).

"Deuteronomy 32:8-9 harks back to events at the Tower of Babel, an event that occurred **before the call of Abraham**, the father of the nation of Israel. **This means that the nations of the earth were divided at Babel before Israel even existed as a people.** God decreed, in the wake of Babel, that the other nations he had forsaken would have other gods besides himself to worship" (Mike Heiser, *Unseen Realm*, p. 68).

It is not likely that God wanted the nations to worship these heavenly kings. There is only one Great Creator and He only is deserving of worship. Jesus rejected Satan's offer by remaining loyal to Almighty God and said, "Away from Me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve Him only'" (Matthew 4:10). Satan demands worship. The ruling rogue sons of God demand worship, but there is only one Almighty God that all creation owes their life, service and worship.

Ancient Israel experienced the interaction of the gods on earth. The exuberance of power and glory that the nations flaunted opened Pandora's box of potions and runes. The heavenly kings had fallen. They tasted, enjoyed and gorged on power and control, until they were incoherent from the ecstasy of self-glory. Their corrosive power brought them down from their lofty heights; they were forever changed now driven solely by dark forces. They allied with God's ancient enemy and the plans for the overthrow of the Almighty God went into action with increased ferocity and determination.



The northern house of Israel saw the great structures of Egypt, the wonders that dazzled their eyes and challenged their engineering. They feared the enormous army: skillful soldiers, pure-bred horses and fast chariots. They craved to be just like them and relish in greatness, strength, self-reliance, self-determination, and self-glory. The gods were willing to allow free reign to their climb to the top, as long as the people of the nations worshipped them. The presence of these powerful heavenly rulers was felt; it was real and at times excruciatingly painful for the disobedient. These are the same gods of 21<sup>st</sup> century mythology.

The plan to overthrow the Almighty God includes all of mankind. It was never a difficult task for these rogue gods to capture mankind and prepare them for the last great battle. Deceived mankind believes these rogue principalities and powers in high places who teach that humility, forgiveness, and servitude to the Almighty God is weakness—attributes to be despised and disdained.

Gomer served these rogue gods. She was representative of a covenant people destined for priesthood who chose to depart from humbly serving their God and living in His ways of love, kindness, justice, honesty and righteousness. Instead, these people worked to build a dark kingdom covered in red, as they built-up their military might through the acquisition of weapons, building alliances while pillaging and plundering wealth through invasions. They built their economic riches through uneven balances, thievery and corruption. Their desire for stardom was hindered, as they were forced to move west and north west from the strong eastern and southern powers. It would take them hundreds of years before they could rise up and fulfill their dreams. These people had become intoxicated with power like every other nation. They had all eaten of the poisonous fruit and now they were all lifting their darkened eyes covertly to do all that it takes to remain on top. The plan to turn God's covenant people against Him worked with minimal effort. The northern house of Israel was completely and thoroughly entrenched in the ways of the gods.

Three children were born under the care of Hosea. The first child, a son, was named Jezreel. He was the only child born from both Hosea and Gomer. The second child was a daughter named, Lo-Ruhamah born in harlotry along with the third child, a son named Lo-Ammi.

Jezreel was the name of an ancient military stronghold of the house of Israel. Old Testament conflicts associate it as a place of judgement where significant battles were fought and lost. Jezreel, the first son—foretold the destruction of the northern house of Israel.

Modern history tells of an alliance of people who have dropped more bombs on countries outside their own borders than any other nation in recorded history, disregarding all life. This same alliance has devised products of mass financial destruction that has pushed the economy to teeter on the edge of a global catastrophe. The godless leadership of this alliance works to control resources and harness power, so that it can remain on the top. That is the story of the West and Western Europe. These people wield power into the 21<sup>st</sup> century but their fall is on our near horizon.

Gomer gave birth to a daughter, Lo-Ruhamah which means 'not loved/pitied' and then a son, Lo-Ammi which means 'not my people.' The consequences of serving the dark powers and principalities in high places, that is, living in spiritual harlotry, include being cut off from God and cursed because of disobedience. God will not show love or pity for these people. The church (imaged in Lo-Ruhamah) and the nation (imaged in Lo-Ammi) was divorced by God and they were removed from the covenant family; they became Gentiles.

Gomer did not appreciate the love of her husband, instead she went out and chased her lovers who she thought were giving her the luxuries she enjoyed. Unknown to her, it was her husband who continued to provide generously. God watches this house of Israel revel in the wealth He provides, but vows that at the planned moment, He will take it all back and adds, "I will expose her lewdness before the eyes of her lovers; no one will take her out of my hands" (Hosea 2:10).

This house will undergo judgement from God and the nations of the world will come to know who they are and their lewdness will be exposed. All of the nations will understand why the ancient house of Israel was punished in 721 B.C. and why the descendants of the same people in the 21<sup>st</sup> century will be punished again in the near future.

## Hosea's two children born in harlotry

**Lo-Ruhamah**, a daughter. Her name means “not loved or pitied.” She images the church of the ten tribes of Israel flirting and reveling in paganism, worshipping the gods of the nations.



**Lo-Ammi**, a son. His name means “not my people.” He images the national leaders lapping up power and control, invading and plundering.

“When I please, I will punish them; nations will be gathered against them to put them in bonds for their DOUBLE sin” (Hosea 10:10).

“From that day forward the house of Israel will know that I am Yahuah [YHWH], their God. And the nations will know that the people of Israel went into exile for their sin, because they were unfaithful to me” (Ezekiel 39:22).

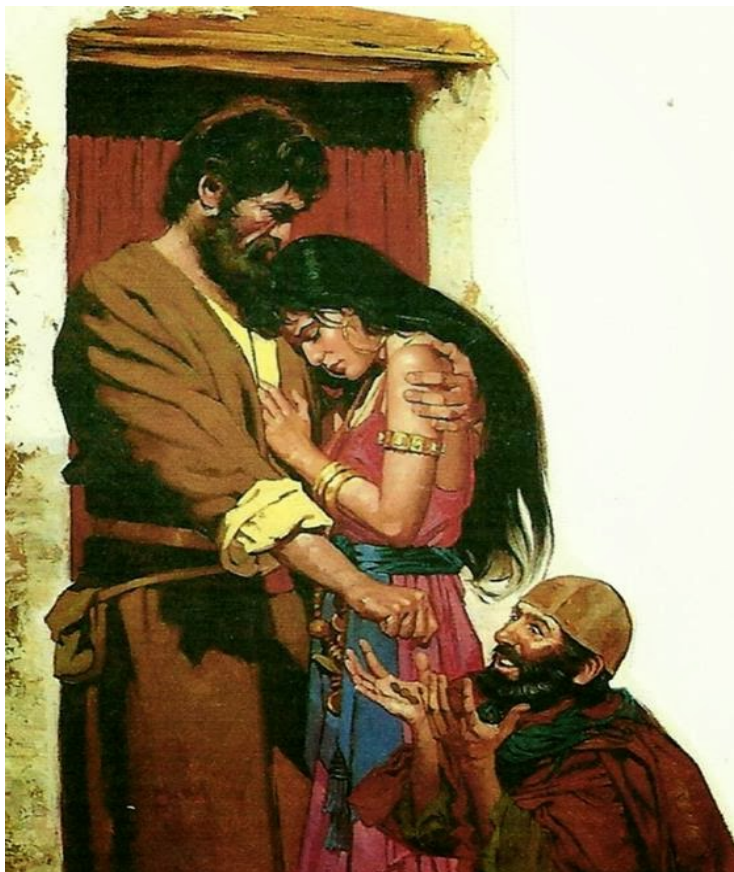
God will not stop loving Israel. He will continue to correct His people and at this point in history with the world watching, He will announce, “I will stop all of her celebrations, her New Moons, her Sabbath days—all her appointed feasts” (Hosea 2:10-11).

The house of Judah kept and remembers God's appointed feasts, but her sister, the house of Israel, was cut off from God for hundreds of years. They have forgotten those sacred celebrations. While scattered among the Gentiles, they picked up pagan traditions. During the ministry of the Apostles, these people were corrected, but bishops in religious councils over a thousand years ago wove traditions into a blended mix they hoped Christians, Jews, and pagans would accept. This forced mix of tradition is celebrated by 21<sup>st</sup> century Christians. They do not remember their ancient roots or the Holy Days they once kept.



The story of the house of Israel is an emotionally painful story. Their desire to be like the Gentiles to stand the tallest among the nations with military strength and economic wealth, blinds them to the suffering they cause and feel. God still loves them and will not give up.

“Therefore, I am now going to allure her; I will lead her into the desert and speak tenderly to her. There I will give her back her vineyards... I will show my love to the one I called ‘Not my loved one’. I will say to those called ‘Not my people,’ ‘You are my people’; and they will say, you are my God” (Hosea 2:14-15, 23). A future repentance is prophesied. A forgiving Father will reclaim His people.



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God told Hosea to love Gomer again and love her how He loves the Israelites. Hosea found her at a slave market tethered to an auction block. She was wretched, weathered, dirty, and destitute. She had lost her youthful beauty and become a despised and a degraded woman. Hosea was moved with compassion. He bought her for the price of a slave. Nobody wanted her. Hosea paid “fifteen shekels of silver and about a homer and a lethech of barley” (Hosea 3:2). Thirty shekels was the price for a servant (Exodus 21:32); the barley was the required sin offering for a woman’s unchastity. Hosea specifically paid in cash and grain to cover all legal obligations for his wife’s sin before man and God. Today, she has been redeemed and God refers to her as a virgin.

The story of the buying back of Israel is an account, rich in grace and mercy. It tells of the great love our Father in heaven has for His people. He gave His only heir to die for the disobedient houses of Judah and Israel and redeem all nations for their sins. Jesus Christ willingly gave his life because he has never stopped loving Israel and all of mankind, too. God is the head and Christ is His body. They work as one; they are united in saving mankind. The secret redemption plan of mankind—the perfect sacrifice of Christ was kept hidden from the enemies of God. Paul knew this secret and their defeat.

Rogue authorities/gods unaware: “None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, *they would not have crucified the lord of glory*” (I Corinthians 2:8).

**Christ's sacrifice paid the penalty of sin.** "He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that war against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross. And *having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross*" (Colossians 2:13-15).

**Christ won rulership over the nations and received the victor's booty.** "This is why it says: 'When He ascended on high, *he led captives away*, and gave gifts to men.' What does 'He ascended' mean, except that He also descended to the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the very one who ascended above all the heavens, in order to fill all things" (Ephesians 4:8-9).

**Christ gave the authority, which He took as booty from his conquest over the rogue authorities and gifted it to His servants.** We clearly see here that the job of the heavenly kings over the nations involved being teachers of God's word. "Some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we ALL reach unity in the father and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ" (Ephesians 4:11-13).

Hosea said to Gomer, "You will live with me many days; you must not be a prostitute or be intimate with any man, and I will live with you. For the Israelites will live many days *without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred stones, without ephod or idol*" (Hosea 3:3-4). Hosea understood the mission God gave to him.

After Christ died and was resurrected, He disarmed the gods ruling over the nations and imprisoned them in the lower parts of the earth, for now. These powers have been silenced and 21<sup>st</sup> century scholars have mythicized them. For "many days" Hosea said the Israelites will live with Christ, but like him, they will not be intimate. A possible two thousand years as the Apostle Peter said, "With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day" (II Peter 3:8b), the house of Israel has been without:

- Their **KING** of kings [Christ] has not yet returned. They are without **princes** because these rogue "princes"—heavenly rulers have been imprisoned.
- The **SACRIFICES** to God brought awareness and forgiveness of sin, which came to an end with the destruction of the last temple in 70 AD. The placement of **sacred stones** taught by the mystic pagan priests as objects of power, charms of protection and guarantees of blessings and healings are no longer practiced.
- The **EPHOD** is part of the official dress of the High Priest in Israel. It is symbolic of true religious practice while the **household idols** are symbolic of false practice. (Hosea 3:4).

These people neither fully worship God and His ways or the gods and their pagan practices.

Many Christians may believe that they have all truth—the full word of God, but John’s record to the seven churches in Revelation is a plea for the churches to overcome their wayward practices—traditions of men and turn fully to the way of God. Only those who overcome will rule with Christ.

God longs to redeem Israel, but recorded in Hosea are all the wicked ways of the house of Israel who He said, “is swallowed up; now she is among the nations like a worthless thing... [note: God’s use of the female gender. He is speaking to the church of the ten tribes of Israel]. Ephraim [the leader of the ten tribes who are often collectively identified under that name] has hired lovers (Hosea 8:9b)... Ephraim will return to Egypt and eat unclean food in Assyria (Hosea 9:3)... The days of punishment are coming, the days of reckoning are at hand. Let Israel know this. Because your sins are so many and your hostility so great, the prophet is considered a fool, the inspired man a maniac... They have sunk deep into corruption, as in the days of Gibeah (the place where the tribe of Benjamin protected heinous, Satan-worshipping men). God will remember their wickedness and punish them for their sins (Hosea 9:7-9)... Woe to them when I turn away from them! (Hosea 9:12)... Ephraim is blighted, their root is withered, they yield no fruit... They will be wanderers among the nations” (Hosea 9:12-16). “My people are determined to turn from me” (Hosea 11:7).

21<sup>st</sup> century readers are not blind to the practices of their own government like ancient Israel, “They make many promises, take false oaths and make agreements; therefore, lawsuits spring up like poisonous weeds in a plowed field” (Hosea 10:4). “The merchant uses dishonest scales; he loves to defraud.” Such is a fair description of Wall Street and the City of London. “Ephraim boasts, ‘I am very rich; I have become wealthy. With all my wealth they will not find in me any iniquity or sin’” (Hosea 12:8).

Indeed, God will bring them into captivity for now TWICE sinning and protecting evil, Satan-worshipping people holding leadership positions throughout their countries. “When I please, I will punish them; nations will be gathered against them to put them in bonds for their *double sin*” (Hosea 10:10). The northern house of Israel will be attacked by more than just one nation. The ancient northern house of Israel was attacked and taken captivity by the Assyrians. A future event awaits the 21<sup>st</sup> century northern house of Israel because many have fallen away from worshipping Almighty God. They were punished in 721 B.C. and still a future—a second punishment, rests on the near horizon.

God will correct this rebellious house and bring them to their knees because He loves them. “The guilt of Ephraim is stored up; his sins are kept on record... [note now God’s use of the male gender, He is speaking directly to the national leadership] he is a child without wisdom... his spring will fail and his well dry up. His storehouse will be plundered of all its treasures. The people of Samaria must bear their guilt, because they have rebelled against their God. They will fall by the sword” (Hosea 13:12 – 13, 16).

God pleads to the house of Israel, “Return, O Israel to the LORD your God. Your sins have been your downfall!” (Hosea 14:1)



God longs to redeem Ephraim. “How can I give you up, Ephraim? How can I hand you over, Israel... My heart is changed within me; all my compassion is aroused. I will not carry out my fierce anger, *nor devastate Ephraim again*. For I am God, and not man—the Holy One among you. I will not come in wrath... They will follow the LORD; He will roar like a lion. When He roars, His children will come trembling from the west. They will come trembling like birds from Egypt, like doves from Assyria... Afterwards the Israelites will return and seek the LORD their God and David their king. They will come trembling to the LORD and to his blessings *in the last days*” (Hosea 11:8-11, 3:5).

There won't be just a few people from each of the twelve tribes, but many from within all of the ten tribes and the house of Judah who will repent. Millions will repent and turn to God. The world watching will be amazed!

“In the place where it was said to them ‘You are not my people,’ they will be called ‘sons of the living God.’ The people of Judah and the people of Israel will be reunited, and they will appoint one leader and will come up out of the land, for great will be the day of Jezreel. ‘Say of your brothers, ‘My people,’ and of your sisters, ‘My loved one’” (Hosea 1:10- 2:1).

A careful study of this scripture uncovers long forgotten roots and a re-unification that will never be broken.

- “In the place” is not in the Promised Land—their original home, but a place they called their own after their sentence of wandering through the nations was complete. They are Westerners.
- “Sons of the living God”, “My people”, “My loved one” are the changed identifiers of these repentant people, humble and sincere people desiring to obey and worship their God—the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
- The people of Judah and the people of Israel will be reunited. The house of Israel today has forgotten their roots. They began as ten tribes split from their brothers, Judah and Benjamin. They moved away from their God, craving the ways of the nations around them serving rebel heavenly rulers. Today, their leaders continue to operate and function in the evil ways of the powers and principalities in high places. Jesus pleads with the seven churches recorded in Revelation to overcome. One group will flee into the wilderness during Jacob's trouble, while the rest come into repentance in a time of great distress. God will roar like a lion; they will tremble in fear and repent—this time with sincerity. Their return will ignite the love God has for them and the two houses will reunite at the return of Christ to remain a united kingdom—forever.
- They will appoint one leader. This will occur after the return of Jesus Christ. The first resurrection will take place and the re-united house of Israel will appoint King David as their national king.

- For great will be the day of Jezreel. It will take much blood shed for the houses of Israel to repent. Jezreel symbolizes the conflict and the suffering that brings hard-hearted people to repent.

There isn't a group of people who have been so treacherous to their God than the people of both houses in the kingdom of Israel. It is the hope that their repentance brings the greatest and most binding love for their Redeemer as the story of the woman told by Jesus in Luke describes:

“Two men owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he canceled the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?’ Simon replied, ‘I suppose the one who had the bigger debt canceled.’ ‘You have judged correctly,’ Jesus said. Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, ‘Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. You did not give me a kiss, but this woman from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing me feet. You did not put oil on my head but she has poured perfume on my feet. *Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—for she loved much. But he who has been forgiven little loves little*” (Luke 7:41-47).

The wayward house of Israel will awaken to their sins. They will say, “Assyria cannot save us, we will not mount war-horses. We will never say ‘Our gods’...” (Hosea 14:3). "Come, let us return to the LORD. He has torn us to pieces but he will heal us; he has injured us but he will bind up our wounds. He will revive us after two days; He will raise us up on the third day, that we may live before Him” (Hosea 6:1-2).

God will respond, “I will heal their waywardness and love them freely, for my anger has turned away from them. I will be like the dew to Israel; he will blossom like a lily. Like a cedar of Lebanon, he will send down his roots; his young shoots will grow. His splendor will be like an olive tree, his fragrance like a cedar of Lebanon. Men will dwell again in his shade. He will flourish like the grain. He will blossom like a vine, and his fame will be like the wine of Lebanon. O Ephraim, what am I anymore to do with idols? I will answer him and care for him. I am like a green pine tree; your fruitfulness comes from me” (Hosea 14:3-8).

God's people will repent and their churches will unite as one body teaching the pure word of God. Still in the future, this purification will take place and then relationships will grow and blossom.

God gave Hosea *old leather shoes* to wear. It was by design to preserve a record of the history of the church and the national leadership of the ten tribes through Hosea's life. Upon Hosea's resurrection, he will be given a glorious pair of shoes. All of his hardships will be lifted and he will love his people. He will witness the repentance of church and state and their humble and sincere return to the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and their loving Saviour, Jesus Christ.

## THE SHOES GIVEN TO WEAR

“His disciples asked him, ‘Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?’ ‘Neither this man nor his parents sinned,’ said Jesus, ‘but this happened so that the work of God might be displayed [revealed] in his life’” (John 9:2-3).



Throughout the Bible are examples of people who lived their whole life like Hosea, mirroring the greater story—the spiritual story. No fault of their own, they suffered, so that God’s story could be revealed through the painful experiences in their lives.

The spiritual story orchestrated by Almighty God was preserved through selected people given shoes to wear and a path to walk, so that 21<sup>st</sup> century Judo-Christians would come to know and understand the spiritual battle raging in the shadows, working to silence portions of human history.

The blind man recorded by the Apostle John in chapter 9 was given by God to wear, figuratively, **broken shoes** through no fault of his own, to reveal the deep things of God that He has woven in the lives of ordinary people.

The key to unlocking the deep things of God was given to the Judo-Christians for them to discover, decipher and reveal God’s transparency within His saving plan for mankind. Movement into the world of Almighty God was given to all of mankind when righteous heavenly kings were given rulership over them to teach the nations God’s way and His law. Those heavenly rulers all rebelled and taught the nations the art of war against fellow man and Almighty God. The severity of this spiritual war that began with Lucifer against Almighty God is rarely understood. Even God’s covenant people bought into the insatiable desire for power and self-glory. They were set apart by God to be a humble kingdom of royal priests.

Satan infiltrated mankind and set in motion the practice of lies, misinformation and disinformation. He works relentlessly to keep hidden critical truths. Only through the perfect sacrifice of Christ was the authority taken from the fallen sons of God ruling over the nations. Christ won the battle and gained their kingship. He then assigned teachers to preach God's way and His law to everyone so that "all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ... no longer infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming" (Ephesians 4:13-14a).

Important chapters of spiritual history have been preserved in the lives of ordinary people. Shoes were given to them. Their walk was more often one of suffering than of joy. The patriarchs and their wives were all given shoes to wear and a path to walk that was difficult and meshed with troubles.

**Jacob was deceitfully tricked into marrying Leah, no fault of his own.** Laban, his father-in-law, tricked him. "It is not our custom here to give the younger daughter in marriage before the older one" (Genesis 29:26).

Jacob's life has many revealing chapters. He was given many different shoes to wear. In this particular scene, he mirrors the reaction of God Almighty who entered into a marriage covenant with ancient Israel. God believed that He would get the church that He loved, instead ancient Israel turned out to be Leah, the weak-eyed church who had difficulty seeing and staying on the righteous path of God, despite all of the help that they received directly from Him.

Jacob was devastated; God Almighty was devastated. Jacob felt God's pain. He was given by God to wear, figuratively, *imitation leather shoes* to the day he died. He described his life to Pharaoh of Egypt as "The years of my pilgrimage are a hundred and thirty. My years have been few and *difficult*" (Genesis 47:9).

God knew that Jacob was spiritually strong enough to wear the shoes that He gave to him, so that 21<sup>st</sup> century Judo-Christians would come to learn the greater story. This was only one small scene in one of the many chapters of the greater story.

**Leah was born with "weak eyes," no fault of her own.** God foreknew the path His people would take, which did not ease His pain when the very events took place. Leah was given by God to wear figuratively, *hand-me-down shoes*. Her story has been retold countless times; she is not the hero. Her life was a struggle to look pretty and feel loved, just as the wayward twelve tribes of Israel tried to please God, but they were careless in how they kept His commandments and they were perpetually swayed to live the ungodly ways of the nations around them.

Birthing children is the God-given role of women. It mirrors the ministerial role of the church ordained to birth a God-fearing, God-serving congregation fit for the kingdom of God. Both Leah and Rachel felt the shame of being infertile. Leah, in particular, saw the love Jacob had for Rachel and felt the loneliness of an outcast pushed onto her through her father's neglect.

"When the LORD saw that Leah was not loved, *he opened her womb*, but Rachel was barren" (Genesis 29:31). God had mercy on the wayward church and gave her a congregation, but that congregation would need to overcome their misunderstandings, misconceptions, misinterpretations of God's word—a time still in the future.

God knew that Leah was spiritually strong enough to wear the shoes that He gave to her. The churches of Revelation will be forever grateful for her suffering, because they will recognize the life she lived as a mirror of the life they live and the repentant will overcome.

**Rachel was born beautiful but barren, no fault of her own.** Rachel was selected by God to wear figuratively, *silk slippers*. Her shoes wore out quickly; she died young. In addition, the beautiful shoes did not make her happy; she felt ashamed and troubled that she could not conceive, unable to understand why. Her life mirrored the loved prophets who died prematurely due to persecutions and executions. God's decision to suspend the anointing of prophets came due to the infiltration of false prophets. Jesus was the last prophet who also died prematurely in Jerusalem.

"Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing" (Luke 13:34).

They were all killed trying to bring people back to God—back into righteousness. Matthew understood what Jeremiah wrote in 31:15, "A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more" (Matthew 2:18).

Rachel mirrors the pure church. Her name is used by Jeremiah and understood by Matthew as the faithful mother church loved by God crying for the righteous prophets who appear to have come to an end.

God assures her that her work will be rewarded. "This is what the LORD says: 'Keep your voice from weeping and your eyes from tears, for the reward for your work will come, declares the LORD. Then your children will return from the land of the enemy'" (Jeremiah 31:16).

A born-again people will rise up from the teachings of the prophets throughout the ages. They will keep the commandments of God, His Holy Days and the Sabbath. God knew it would take a miracle, that is, the receiving of God's Holy Spirit—the opening of the womb by God—for the

righteous church to birth a righteous congregation. The prophets died before the fruits of their labor was known to them.

God intentionally did not open Rachel's womb until after Leah and the two handmaids had given Jacob children to inform the 21<sup>st</sup> century Judo-Christians about the birth of the righteous congregation that will take place in the last days after God's Holy Spirit is given. "So, the last will be first, and the first will be last" (Matthew 20:6). The first was ancient Israel and the last are the Holy-Spirit filled 21<sup>st</sup> century Judo-Christians.

Rachel's two children: Joseph mirrors the life of Christ and Benjamin mirrors the life of the saints who will become Christ's bride. Rachel's life was shortened by no fault of her own. She was given shoes to wear from God that mirror the life of the loved church that was infiltrated by false prophets. Their premature end brought her premature death.

**The woman at the well was shunned and discarded, no fault of her own.**

Nowhere in John 4 is the description of the woman at the well as a prostitute. She was a woman who married five times and was divorced five times, leaving her destitute to live with a man, likely a family member who was willing to take her in. Women were rarely in a position to take care of themselves in those days.



Figuratively, this woman was given by God to wear **stilettos** because she mirrored the 10-tribed church of Israel who for hundreds of years walked flirting and engaging intimately with false religion. This church, imaged in the woman at the well, was divorced by God because the house of Israel continually craved power and glory, like the powerful nations around them. To get what they desired, they were willing to worship rebel gods who used and abused the church of the ten tribes of Israel until finally they, one-by-one, discarded her. The church of the 10 tribes of Israel was infertile, like the woman at the well.

Discarded by the gods, this church repented and sought to return to the God of the Hebrews. They learned of their Saviour and patiently waited for his arrival.

Then, one day Jesus arrived at the well, built by Jacob many centuries earlier. A Samaritan woman was there. Jesus entered into a conversation with her by asking her if she would give him a drink. She was puzzled that a male Jew would engage with her. Jesus ignored her



response and continued his discussion about the water in the well, while introducing himself as someone with exceptional abilities able to provide living water. While Jesus entered into a spiritual conversation, the woman initially focused on the physical matter of giving Jesus water from the very deep well, until she gave thought to Jesus' description of "living water." She immediately understood the movement of the conversation to have entered the spiritual world and she responded, "Are you greater than our Father, Jacob who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his flocks and herds?" (John 4:5-6, 11-12)

In one statement, the woman showed that she understood that both she and Jesus were of the lineage of Jacob as she referred to Jacob as their father who gave both of them the well. More importantly, she recognized that Jesus could be a prophet to offer her "living water."

Jesus knew this woman at the well was the one playing the role of the church of the ten tribes of Israel. He offered her God's Holy Spirit, but before she could accept it, Jesus addressed her many relationships. She immediately acknowledged him as a prophet, someone who had direct communication with God. She did not hide her failed relationships, instead these fallen relationships had brought her to seek a Saviour. Jesus said that he was that Saviour and she immediately believed him because he proved himself to have information that only a prophet could know. This woman mirrored the faith of the church of the ten tribes of Israel. Jesus was commissioned by God to save them and bring them back into the covenant family.

Jesus said to the Canaanite woman of great faith, "*I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel*" (Matthew 15:24).

It took the church of the ten tribes of Israel hundreds of years, but finally they were ready to obey God.

Like the church of the ten tribes of Israel, the woman at the well married but could not conceive. Her life was a conundrum of failed relationships and distress. God knew that she could endure the shoes that He had given her because deep inside, she was strong. She was the embodiment of the church of the 10 tribes whose roots were alive and well.

"She will chase after her lovers but not catch them; she will look for them but not find them. Then she will say, '*I will go back to my husband as at first, for then I was better off than now*'" (Hosea 2:7).

The two tribes of Israel have a long history of stubborn rebellion. Finally, in the latter days, they will humbly and sincerely submit to their God. "The time is coming when Jacob's descendants will take root. *Israel will bud and blossom and fill the whole earth with fruit!*" (Isaiah 27:6)

After God divorced the house of Israel, both church and nation became known as pagan Gentiles. They lost their name, Israel. God will not allow a name to be defiled. Jacob's name was changed to Israel when he proved to be an overcomer. The house of Israel was not a house of repentant people nor did they overcome. Their name was changed to what they had become,

Gentiles. After their repentance, Jesus brought them back into the covenant family and they became known as Christians, followers of Christ. Songs of grace continue to fill their hearts playing from one generation to the next, thankful and grateful to their God, the Great Creator, the Almighty for His grace and His warm welcome back under His care.

**Naaman, the Gentile general suffered from leprosy, no fault of his own.** The recorded history of the repentance of the national leaders of the ten tribes was preserved in the story of Naaman, the Gentile general. It can also be said that the repentance of the ten-tribed house of Israel is visible in the story of the prodigal son. However, the story of Naaman provides the greater details.

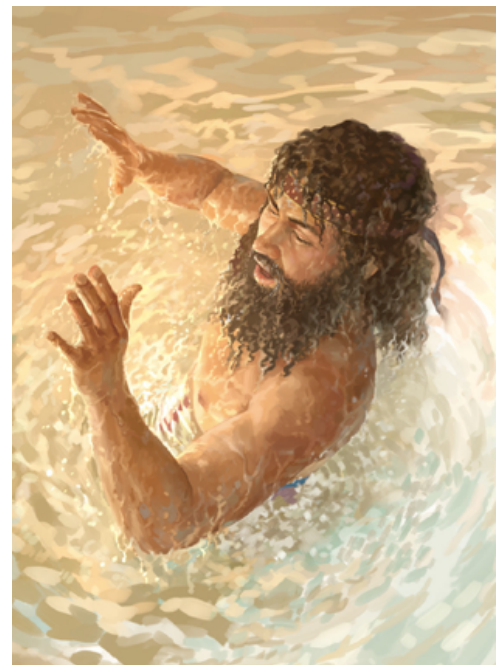
Naaman's story is recorded in II Kings 5 and mentioned by Jesus in Luke 4:27, "And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, but the only one healed was Naaman, a Syrian." Every story that Jesus referred to is an important one.

Naaman was given by God to wear, figuratively, *pruritic shoes*. He heard about the God of Israel and Elisha through a little Israelite girl. She imaged a young and tender Hebrew church in captivity. He went to Elisha for healing. Separate from the church, the national leaders desired to change their barbaric behaviour from serving Oden and return to the ways of God under His law and order. They brought with them a changed heart—imaged as ten sets of clothes, one set for each of the ten tribes, and an offering of gold and silver. Elisha declined payment and told Naaman to wash in the Jordan River.

Typical of the behaviour of the 10 tribes of Israel, Naaman initially reacted foolishly towards Elisha's instructions.

"So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house. Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, 'Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed.' But *Naaman went away angry* and said, 'I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy'" (II Kings 5:9-11).

Urged by those with him to listen, he returned and followed the instructions of Elisha. As he washed, he witnessed his own body healing rapidly and renewing itself back into the form of a robust, young man. This story is preserved for yet a future time, when the ten nations of 21<sup>st</sup> century Israel are healed of their spiritual, decaying condition. They will be humbly grateful that God preserved the many





important events that brought these rebels back onto the path of righteousness, while they were lost and wandering across Europe lawlessly. The preserved stories are often a shadow of the greater one to come.

God chose Naaman, the Syrian General knowing that he would humble himself and accept Elisha's instructions that would mirror the broken spirit of the returning ten tribes who during their desperate times, they collectively decided to return to their God who loves them.

*"O Jacob, O Israel, Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine... you are precious and honoured in my sight, and because I love you"* (Isaiah 43:1).

From a far off, God saw the prodigal son returning home. This story provides insight into the desperate state of the ten tribes of Israel.

*"When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.'* So, he got up and went to his father. But while he was still a long way off, *his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.* The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So, they began to celebrate" (Luke 15:17-22).

Naaman's life was a mirror of the national leaders of the lost ten tribes of Israel. Their return to their God brought the re-introduction of God's laws and His order into the legal structure of their land. While their fervour has waned in our present day, soon, distress unlike no other, will ignite their loyalty where they will stand strong under the flag of the God of the Hebrews, again.

**The woman bent over for 18 years, no fault of her own.** "One Sabbath Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues, and a woman there had been disabled by a spirit for eighteen years. She was hunched over and could not stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, 'Woman, you are set free from your infirmity'" (Luke 13:10-12).

Eighteen long years God gave this woman a burden that pulled her closer and closer to the ground, a figure of the wearing of **weighted construction boots**. Her story provides a vivid illustration for 21<sup>st</sup> century Judo-Christians of the burdened state of the Jewish church that won't be healed by Christ until the Millennium—on the Sabbath. Her condition mirrors the greater story of the Jewish church that has been crippled by the many added rules and

regulations placed on them by their religious leaders for a symbolic 18 hours of a complete 24-hour period.

Jesus described the self-righteous, law-making Jewish priests in his time. “They tie up heavy, cumbersome loads and put them on other people's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to lift a finger to move them” (Matthew 23:4).



Jesus saw the woman and had sympathy for her. She is an image of the Jewish congregation who love God and are willing to endure patiently for Him. Jesus called to her and healed her on the Sabbath. God knew that this woman, bent over for eighteen long years could withstand the suffering because she was humble and faithful.

Jesus has overcome the world and he will give us all rest. “Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give

you rest” (Matthew 11:28).

**The woman with the issue of blood for twelve years, no fault of her own.** This woman was given by God to wear, figuratively, *forbidden shoes*. Always bleeding, she would have been perpetually considered unclean by everyone. She would have been treated as an outcast and she would have been very lonely. She mirrored the 10-tribed church who were once married into the false religion of the gods and divorced from the covenant family.

“And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. She had borne much agony under the care of many physicians and had spent all she had, but to no avail. Instead, her condition had only grown worse. When the woman heard about Jesus, she came up through the crowd behind Him and touched His cloak. For she kept saying, ‘If only I touch His clothes, I will be healed.’ Immediately her bleeding stopped, and she sensed in her body that she was healed of her affliction. At once Jesus was aware that power had gone out from Him. Turning to the crowd, He asked, “Who touched My clothes?”... But He kept looking around to see who had done this. Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell down before Him trembling in fear, and she told Him the whole truth. “Daughter,” said Jesus, ‘your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be free of your affliction’” (Mark 5:25-34).

This woman preserved the story of the repentant 10-tribed church of Israel. For half of their time as a people, that is, twelve hours of the symbolic twenty-four hours in a day, she was dying spiritually. Her bleeding condition imaged her inability to conceive and birth a healthy congregation. It is that sickly condition of the ministry that God considers to be unclean because it results in death, spiritual death. She practiced false religion with all the heinous rituals that oppose God's law of love. A time came after searching and exhausting all of her resources for healing, she turned to Jesus. She remembered her ancestors and their ancient Hebrew teachings and knew by merely touching the corner of his tallit, would communicate her repentance and desire to keep God's commandments. Jesus felt the power of repentance leave him and he healed her.

"But for you who fear My name, the sun of righteousness [Christ] will rise with healing in its wings [kanaph—the corners of the tallit]" (Malachi 4:2).



The Christians churches have accepted Christ as their Messiah and their spiritual healing has begun. Jesus is able to heal the spiritually dying and he is able to heal the spiritually dead. The proof is recorded in the raising from the dead the 12-year old daughter of Jairus. The wonder in God's penmanship is His use of numbers to associate one story with another.

**The death of Jairus' 12-year old daughter, no fault of her own.** The story following the healing of the woman with the issue of blood for twelve years, is the story of the twelve-year-old little girl who died while Jesus was talking with the woman healed from the issue of blood. This little girl was given to wear, figuratively, **toxic shoes** during the time that she mirrored the spiritually dead congregation of the church of the ten tribes of Israel. Fortunately, Jesus can heal the dead.

All of the crippled, the lame, the deaf, the blind and dumb in the gospels were healed. It was not necessarily any fault of their own. All of these people, whether they are sinners or not, mirror the countless spiritual deformities within all of the twelve tribes of Israel. They cannot understand the word of God; they don't keep God's commandments; they fail to value God's Holy Days and His Sabbath; they wander easily away from God; they love self-glory, self-

direction and self-reliance. Yet, Jesus healed them. He is able to heal any condition. It will take the Millennium reign of Christ to bring spiritual healing to the world.



The stories preserved in the Bible all mirror the greater story—the spiritual story, which is the only story that matters. The **ill-fitting shoes** God has given us all to wear during this evil age, will be instantly replaced with a perfect fitting, radiant eternal pair after the resurrection.

In the meantime, as the Apostle Peter said, “But rejoice that you share in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed at the revelation of His glory” (I Peter 4:13).

Suffering is always the result of sin, but in God’s wisdom, it is also the mechanism to strengthen and fortify character in righteousness. “For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in His footsteps” (I Peter 2:21).

The Apostle Paul reminded us that suffering during this evil age is inevitable. “For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him” (Philippians 1:29) and “They encouraged them to continue in the faith, reminding them that we must suffer many hardships to enter the Kingdom of God” (Acts 14:22).

The Bible is full of stories of people given shoes to wear by God. In fact, both genders: male and female wear different shoes from each other, so that the 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will understand the image of God as King and Lord. Blessed are those who are participants of the greater story.



## FORESHADOWS: THE REDEMPTIVE SACRIFICE

“Nevertheless, death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam, who is **a type of Him** who was to come” (Romans 5:14).

Adam	Sons of God in heaven	Fallen sons of God	The Messiah	Redeemed people
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The Apostle Paul said that Adam is a type of Christ. Adam’s failure was a conscious decision to choose rebellion against God, while Christ’s success was a conscious decision to remain faithful and loyal to God. What Adam had in common with Christ was that he was a mirror of the sons of God in heaven. Christ is a special Son of God. Christ succeeded, remaining sinless, he was victorious and his redemptive sacrifice has bought salvation to all of mankind.

Adam was a foreshadow of the first creation in heaven who have the responsibility to protect all life under their care. One-third of the angels in heaven have rebelled against God. Adam chose to follow in their footsteps. The Son of God, who through the power of the Father created all of the spirit beings in heaven, is the protector that the Father has tested and confidently with absolute assurance trumpets to mankind will not fail and mankind will not fall again, if they follow in his footsteps.

“So, this is what the Lord GOD says: ‘See, I lay a stone in Zion, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation; the one who believes will never be shaken’” (Isaiah 28:16).

The New Testament is clear about events that have happened in the past are a foreshadow of greater events in the future. It is God’s method of transparency revealing His plan to His people. He is not a God of secret societies, but a God who has applied imagery on earth to mirror spiritual matters, using numbers to point to the invisible, speaking in parables to hide the truth from the wicked while making known His word to believers, recording stories to preserve history and foreshadowing taking a form like a hologram to broadcast future events. This is all by design so that nobody can say that they couldn’t know and understand spiritual matters.

The Apostle Paul explained, “Things which are a *mere shadow of what is to come*; but *the substance belongs to Christ*” (Colossians 2:17).

Christ is the real deal, the substance.



The Apostle Paul understood God's coded language. The tabernacle built by ancient Israel while wandering in the wilderness was a copy of God's temple in the third heaven. "Now if He were on earth, He would not be a priest, since there are already priests who offer gifts according to the law. The place where *they serve is a copy and shadow of what is in heaven*. This is why Moses was warned when he was about to build the tabernacle: "See to it that you make everything according to the pattern shown you on the mountain" (Hebrews 8:4-5).

God is plain and simple. The disciples all understood. Even the prophets saw as through a glass darkly things that were to come.

The people of ancient Israel were an example for believers today. "Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, for they were struck down in the wilderness. *Now these things happened as examples for us*, so that we would not crave evil things as they also craved" (1 Corinthians 10:5-6). Also, "*Now these things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us*, on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come" (1 Corinthians 10:11).



Relentlessly, God teaches His people about the pain and destruction caused by sin and the heavy price needed to correct wrongs and bring change. He implemented the sacrificial system to teach them this important lesson watching the innocent die and feeling loss on every level. It was a method for atonement but only a shadow of the only sacrifice that could atone.

"For Law [the physical rituals that atone through the application of the sacrifice], since it has only *a shadow of the good things to come* and not the very form of things, can never, by the same sacrifices which they offer continually year by year, make perfect those who draw near... Instead, those sacrifices are an annual reminder of sins, because it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins" (Hebrews 10:1, 3-4).

The study of Jesus Christ and his shadow in the Old Testament is well studied and yet, still so much more will to be discovered in the future.

Joel Settecase provides a succinct list of events and the supporting scriptures that record the Old Testament foreshadow and the New Testament fulfilment of Christ's redemptive sacrifice. <https://settecase.wordpress.com/2018/03/29/this-is-apologetics-an-argument-from-the-bibles-hyper-specific-foreshadowing-of-jesus-death/>

## THE REDEMPTIVE SACRIFICE OF JESUS WAS FORESHADOWED IN THE OLD TESTAMENT AND FULFILLED IN THE NEW TESTAMENT.

Joel Settecase lists:

- **He would be betrayed by a friend who ate his bread.**

**Foreshadowed:** Psalm 41:9 – “Even my friend in whom I trusted, one who ate my bread, has raised his heel against me.”

**Fulfilled:** Mark 14:10, 32-42 – “Then Judas Iscariot, one of the Twelve, went to the chief priests to betray Jesus to them... “Jesus said, ‘...one of you will betray me – one who is eating with me... the one who is dipping bread in the bowl with me.’”

- **The Lord would be valued at just 30 pieces of silver.**

**Foreshadowed:** Zechariah 11:12-13 – “Then I said to them, ‘If it seems right to you, give me my wages; but if not, keep them.’ So, they weighed my wages, thirty pieces of silver’ ...the Lord said to me–this magnificent price I was valued by them.’”

**Fulfilled:** Matthew 26:15 – “What are you willing to give me if I hand him over to you?’ So, they weighed out thirty pieces of silver for him.”

- **The coins would be thrown into the temple and would go to a potter.**

**Foreshadowed:** Zechariah 11:13 – “‘Throw it to the potter,’ the Lord said to me... so I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw it into the house of the LORD, to the potter.”

**Fulfilled:** Matthew 27:5, 7 – “So he threw the silver into the temple and departed... They conferred together and bought the potter’s field with it...”

- **He remained silent while being treated unjustly.**

**Foreshadowed:** Isaiah 53:7 – “He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth.”

**Fulfilled:** Matthew 27:12 – “While he was being accused by the chief priests and elders, he didn’t answer.”

- **He would be hated without cause.**

**Foreshadowed:** Psalm 69:4 – “Those who hate me without cause are more numerous than the hairs of my head...”

**Fulfilled:** Luke 23:4 – “Pilate then told the chief priests and the crowds, ‘I find no grounds for charging this man.’”

- **He would be surrounded and mocked by strong, evil men.**

**Foreshadowed:** Psalm 22:12 – “Many bulls have surrounded me; Strong bulls of Bashan have encircled me.

**Foreshadowed again:** Psalm 22:16 – “For dogs have surrounded me; A band of evildoers has encompassed me.”

**Fulfilled:** Mark 15:16-19 – “The soldiers led him away... and called the whole company together. They dressed him in a purple robe, twisted together a crown of thorns, and put it on him. And they began to salute him, ‘Hail, King of the Jews!’ They were hitting him on the head with a stick and spitting on him.”

- **His hands and feet would be pierced.**

**Foreshadowed:** Psalm 22:16 – “They pierced my hands and my feet.

**Fulfilled:** Mark 15:24 – “Then they crucified him”

- **He would entrust his spirit to God.**

**Foreshadowed:** Psalm 31:5 – “Into your hand I entrust my spirit.”

**Fulfilled:** Luke 23:46 – “And Jesus called out with a loud voice, ‘Father, into your hands I entrust my spirit.’ Saying this, he breathed his last.”

- **He would be scourged.**

**Foreshadowed:** Isaiah 53:5 – “By his wounds [scourging] we are healed.”

**Fulfilled:** Matthew 27:26 – “Then he released Barabbas to them and, after having Jesus flogged, handed him over to be crucified.”

- **He would be positioned among criminals.**

**Foreshadowed:** Isaiah 53:12 – “...he was counted among the rebels....”

**Fulfilled:** Luke 23:33 – “When they arrived at the place called The Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals, one on the right and one on the left.”

- **His bones would not be broken.**

**Foreshadowed:** Psalm 34:20 – “He protects all his bones; not one of them is broken.”

**Foreshadowed again:** Exodus 12:46 – “You may not take any of the meat outside the house, and you may not break any of its bones.” (Referring to the Passover lamb).



**Fulfilled:** John 19:33-36 – “When they came to Jesus, they did not break his legs since they saw that he was already dead...For these things happened so that the Scripture would be fulfilled: Not one of his bones will be broken.”

- **He would gain the approval of God by going to his death willingly.**

**Foreshadowed:** Isaiah 53:12 – “Therefore I will give him the many as a portion, and he will receive the mighty as spoil, because he willingly submitted to death....”

**Fulfilled:** John 10:18 – “This is why the Father loves me, because I lay down my life so that I may take it up again.”

- **He would be condemned to death with the wicked, but he would be given to a rich man after he died instead, because he had spoken and lived righteously.**

**Foreshadowed:** Isaiah 53:9 – “He was assigned a grave with the wicked, but he was with a rich man at his death, because he had done no violence and had not spoken deceitfully.”

**Fulfilled:** Matthew 27:57-60 – “When it was evening, a rich man... named Joseph came, who himself had also become a disciple of Jesus... So, Joseph took the body... and placed it in his new tomb....”

- **He would be gazed at by residents of Jerusalem responsible for piercing him.**

**Foreshadowed:** Zechariah 12:10 – “...the residents of Jerusalem... will look at me whom they pierced.”

**Fulfilled:** John 19:19-22 – Outside of the city of Jerusalem, the Place of the Skull, is where they crucified him. “Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read: JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. Many of the Jews read this sign, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and written in Aramaic, Latin and Greek. The chief priests of the Jews protested to Pilate, ‘Do not write “The King of the Jews,” but that this man claimed to be king of the Jews.’ Pilate answered, ‘What I have written, I have written.’”

- **He would be mocked for not being saved.**

**Foreshadowed:** Psalm 22:7-8 – “Everyone who sees me mocks me; they sneer and shake their heads: ‘He relies on the LORD; let him save him; let the LORD rescue him, since he takes pleasure in him.’”

**Fulfilled:** Mark 15:29-30 – “Those who passed by were yelling insults at him, shaking their heads, and saying, ‘Ha! The one who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself by coming down from the cross!’”

- **He would be mocked by those who accused him.**

**Foreshadowed:** Psalm 109:25 – “I have become an object of ridicule to my accusers.”

**Fulfilled:** Mark 15:31 – “In the same way, the chief priests with the scribes were mocking him among themselves....”

- **He would be offered gall.**

**Foreshadowed:** Psalm 69:21 – “Instead, they gave me gall for my food...”

**Fulfilled:** Mark 15:23 – “they gave him wine mixed with gall to drink.”

- **He would be offered vinegar.**

**Foreshadowed:** Psalm 69:21 – “...and for my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.”

**Fulfilled:** Luke 23:36 – “They came offering him sour wine”

- **His garments were divided among those nearby.**

**Foreshadowed:** Psalm 22:17-18 – “People look and stare at me. They divided my garments among themselves....”

**Fulfilled:** John 19:23-24 – “When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, a part for each soldier.

- **Lots would be cast for his clothing.**

**Foreshadowed:** Psalm 22:18 – “...and they cast lots for my clothing.”

**Fulfilled:** John 19:24- “They also took the tunic... they said to one another, ‘Let’s... cast lots for it, to see who gets it.’”

Jesus’ death on the cross was clearly recorded in the Old Testament as a foreshadow of future events that were fulfilled and recorded in the New Testament. Jesus was always with the people of ancient Israel from the beginning all the way back to Abraham and before the foundation of the earth. He was the lead angel of the three who came to Abraham about the decided destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah.

We also see Jesus’ presence with the ancient Israelites when they left Egypt. God Almighty—their King, moved ahead of them by fire at night and a cloud by day and the angel of the LORD moved with Almighty God leading the people of Israel.

“Then *the angel of God, who had been leading the people of Israel, moved to the rear of the camp.* The pillar of cloud also moved from the front and stood behind them, so that it came between the camps of Egypt and Israel. The cloud was there in the darkness, but it lit up the night. So, all night long neither camp went near the other” (Exodus 14:19-20).

Jesus in the Old Testament was the angel of the LORD. He has been with the people of Israel from the beginning to this very day; he never left them. He has been leading and protecting them without them realizing it. Though God told them, they didn't seem to understand.

God Almighty said, *"Behold, I am sending an angel before you to protect you along the way and to bring you to the place I have prepared. Pay attention to him and listen to his voice; do not defy him, for he will not forgive rebellion, since My Name is in him"* (Exodus 23:20-21).

The accepted redemptive sacrifice of the angel of the LORD was the first critical step to the salvation of mankind. This sacrifice is foreshadowed in the Passover supper. A young male lamb without blemish was killed and the blood of this lamb was painted on the door post of every home by ancient Israel before exiting out of Egypt.

**A number of points can be summarized in the foreshadowing of the death of Christ:**

- Betrayed for the price of 30 pieces of silver is the amount compensated to a master when a slave dies after being gored by an ox.
- The money is thrown into the temple and a potter's field is purchased. God Almighty is described as a potter receiving the pittance of His Son's death.
- The Son of God agreed to be the sacrifice for mankind. He took the blame silently; he took the beatings so that mankind could be healed; he was hated and mocked without a cause.
- Christ's bones were not broken. This is symbolic of the body of Christ being the church, a unified body, unbroken into differing factions. When Adam saw Eve, he said, "Bone of my bones, flesh of my flesh" (Genesis 2:23). The saints are described as the bones of Christ, "For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones" (Ephesians 5:30).
- Lots were cast for Christ's seamless robe, which was made according to the instructions for the High Priest. Lots were cast to have God decide who would get the robe without it being made useless by dividing it. The role of High Priest is one of unity and God decides who has that important role.

Christ's redemptive sacrifice was foreshadowed in detail. Not one critical piece of his sacrifice was omitted or changed. Every detail is important to God's transparency revealing His salvation plan for mankind.

**THE HEBREW PASSOVER IS A FORESHADOW OF A PACKAGE OF THREE SIGNIFICANT STEPS IN GOD'S SALVATION PLAN FOR MANKIND.**

1. The redemptive sacrifice of Yeshua HaMashiach
2. The First Resurrection
3. The exodus out of Egypt/sin

The redemptive sacrifice of the Messiah is celebrated annually by Judo-Christians. The Jews keep the Passover service awaiting a Messiah. Christians keep Good Friday and Easter Sunday remembering the death and resurrection of Christ. Both groups are flawed. The Jews will come to learn that they were instrumental in the death their Messiah over 2,000 years ago and the Christians will clean out the still-remaining pagan elements of this very important event. Christ did not die on Good Friday and Easter with all its associated practices of bunnies and eggs are pagan ancient rituals that do not belong with the holy, blood of Jesus Christ.

Forgotten in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, is the joy Christians felt when Jesus welcomed them back into the covenant family. Amazing grace has never been forgotten. Sung regularly; it will be heard for all eternity by the humbled, repentant people of all twelve tribes of Israel.

The second foreshadow in the Passover celebration is revealed in the name itself. The death angel passed over the firstborn sons of those with the blood of the lamb painted on the door post. This is the foreshadowing of the first resurrection. The spiritual firstborn—the saints, will be the first to be resurrected. They will be part of the better resurrection. They are those who accept the sacrifice of Christ and eat the unleavened bread picturing the taking in of pure truth not puffed-up lies, disinformation and misinformation. They annually drink wine on the Passover service remembering Christ's perfect sacrifice, his spilt blood and their blood covenant with God. They are prepared to die, if necessary, to remain faithful and loyal to the Almighty God.

The message God Almighty trumpeted to Pharaoh and the heavenly ruler over Egypt with the death of the firstborn sons of Egypt and all who did not paint the blood of the sacrificed lamb is that their firstborn will not be part of the first resurrection. Under the leadership of the heavenly Pharaoh, all the people of Egypt went into sin. The heavenly ruler over Egypt was at one time a great leader, but he fell away from God. His pride and arrogance destroyed him. God warned him, but he would not listen.

“Son of man, say to Pharaoh king of Egypt and to his hordes: ‘Who can be compared with you in majesty?’” (Ezekiel 31:1) God urged this heavenly ruler to consider the fate of the heavenly ruler over Assyria on earth who was envied by all the leaders in God's family and yet, he fell. This renown member in God's heavenly court became proud and arrogant because of the height to which his leadership grew. This leader was brought down by God and now God lamented, as He warned the heavenly ruler over Egypt, “Yet you, too, will be brought below; you will lie among the uncircumcised [wicked], with those killed by the sword [judged and sentenced by the law of God]. This is Pharaoh and all his hordes,” declares the LORD (Ezekiel 31:18).

Most of the fallen angels given rulership over the nations on earth, are brought down into inner earth, where they are imprisoned in the Pit—Sheol—the Abyss. From their great heights in heaven, they have been cast down to live, until judgement, inside the earth—the lowest place in all creation—below mortals, the creation they despise.

Still in the future, the heavenly ruler over Babylon will be dethroned. Babylon was precious at one time in God's eyes. King Nebuchadnezzar declared the God of Israel as the supreme God and commanded all to worship Him. This is directly linked to the righteousness and faithfulness of the heavenly ruler over Babylon. But, this ruler, like all the others, turned against the supreme God.

God declared, "Babylon, the jewel of kingdoms, the glory of the Babylonians' pride, will be overthrown by God like Sodom and Gomorrah. She will never be inhabited or live in through all generations. On the day the LORD gives you [Israel] relief from the suffering and turmoil and cruel bondage, you will take up this taunt against the king of Babylon, 'How the oppressor has come to an end... Now that you have been laid low... The grave below is all astir to meet you at your coming; it rouses the spirits of the departed to greet you—all those who were leaders in the world; it makes them rise from their thrones—all those who were kings over the nations. They will respond, they will say to you, you also have become weak, as we are; you have become like us'" (Isaiah 13:19, Isaiah 14:3-4a, 9-10).

These heavenly rulers thought they were invincible, but they can be destroyed. "Will you then say, 'I am a god,' in the presence of those who kill you? *You will be but a man, not a god, in the hands of those who slay you*" (Ezekiel 28:9). Taking down the powerful king of Babylon will be as easy as taking down mortals by those who will finally destroy him.

The fallen sons of God will die like mere men. They will become powerless; they will feel their weakness, loss of sound thinking and their decay will be visible to all to see.

"I have said, 'You are gods; you are all sons of the Most High.' But like mortals you will die, and like rulers you will fall" (Psalm 82:6-7).

Pharaoh in heaven was one of many of the members of God's heavenly court who inherited rulership over the nations on earth to teach them God's law and ways (Deuteronomy 32:8). But eventually, they all fell into pride and arrogance and turned away from God; they taught the nations to sin. God clearly judged Egypt's leaders and sentenced their firstborn sons to death. Their virility was weakened with no hope of seeding the second, third, fourth...generations of people fit for God's kingdom. It was the redemptive sacrifice of Jesus Christ that has saved these people who repent and they will appear in the second resurrection.

The third step in the foreshadow of the Passover was the exodus out of Egypt symbolised as the exodus out of sin. The first exodus will be a small event compared to the second exodus to come.

## FORESHADOWS: The FIRST and SECOND EXODUS

*“It will no longer be said, ‘As the LORD lives, who brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt,’ but, ‘As the LORD lives, who brought up the children of Israel from the land of the north and from all the countries where He had banished them.’ For I will restore them to their own land which I gave to their fathers” (Jeremiah 16:14-15, Jeremiah 23:7-8).*



When God's people turn away from their God and live in the ways of Satan full of corruption and hatred, God causes them to fall into captivity where they are attacked with many dying and the survivors taken out of their country to live as slaves among their captors. Today, we live in a world of corrupt governments, manipulated finance and trading, protocol-controlled medical professionals and an educational system teaching only what is craftfully text-booked. Religion is silent, for the most part, to warn and educate the people who are captured into a system of wickedness.

A second captivity is prophesied. God's people will be the target of Satan's wrath and they will awaken in shock and terror. During this time of great distress, God's people will remember Him. They will humbly repent and cry out to Him. He will hear and rescue them. God used the first Exodus of the ancient Israelites out of Egypt as a foreshadow of the greater Exodus to come.

*“If anyone is destined for captivity, into captivity he will go; if anyone is to die by the sword, by the sword he must be killed.”* Here is a call for the perseverance and faith of the saints. Then I saw another beast rising out of the earth. This beast had two horns like a lamb, but spoke like a dragon” (Revelation 13:9-11).

### **THE EXODUS OUT OF EGYPT FORESHADOWED THE GREATEST EXODUS YET TO COME**

Isaiah recorded a second exodus, one different from the first. He trumpets God's urgency, *“Depart, depart, go out from there! Touch no unclean thing! Come out from it and be pure, you who carry the vessels of the LORD. You will not leave in a hurry, running for your lives. For the LORD will go ahead of you; yes, the God of Israel will protect you from behind”* (Isaiah 52:11-12).



During the first exodus, ancient Israel left in a hurry. They lived the urgency of quickly removing sin out your life and leaving it behind. In contrast, the second exodus will trumpet a great departing *knowing not to touch any spiritually dead thing* because they have repented and already turned to God, sincerely. They will not be racing for their life because God Almighty is completely covering them; they are fully protected. The second exodus will overshadow the first. It will be a massive exodus of righteous, God-fearing and God-serving people. It will be remembered eternally, while the first was merely the stage play of the real event to come.

The great second exodus was also recorded in the Old Testament by Zechariah. "It will no longer be said, 'As the LORD lives, who brought up the sons of Israel out of the land of Egypt,' but, 'As the LORD lives, who brought up the sons of Israel from the land of the north and from all the countries where He had banished them.' For I will restore them to their own land which I gave to their fathers" (Jeremiah 16:14-15, Jeremiah 23:7-8).

The parallels between the first and second exodus are remarkable. Each one reveals events from the past that will happen again without being hindered or thwarted.

	First Exodus	Second Exodus
		
<b>Joseph fed the ancient world/Jesus will feed the modern world</b>	<p>Prior to the exodus, the ancient Israelites went to Egypt to be saved from the great famine. They eventually became slaves to the Egyptians. Joseph rose up and became second in command under Pharaoh and in a sense, he fed all the people. Joseph gave them all physical life. This is a mirror of what is to come.</p>	<p>Prior to the second exodus, the 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will return to slavery (imaged as Egypt) because of their evil works and Jesus Christ will teach them righteous living. The Messiah will give them spiritual life.</p>
<b>Leaving in haste/not leaving in haste</b>	<p>The ancient Israelites left in haste during the dark of morning after the Passover. They were told to eat in haste mirroring the urgency to exit sin and celebrate</p>	<p>The 21<sup>st</sup> century Judo-Christians will not leave in haste. They will sincerely repent during a time of great distress and they will not fear their enemy (Isaiah 52:11-12).</p>

	Christ's victory on the cross that would bring them salvation. They left in the Spring, God's designated time when life begins each year.	They will know their God and know He will totally protect them. Their exodus will likely take place again in the Spring.
<b>Population</b>	Over 2 million people left. They include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 603,550 counted men, twenty years and over who could serve in Israel's army (Numbers 1:46).</li> <li>• Plus, older men, young boys, girls, and women</li> </ul>	Over 300 million people will likely exit from the second captivity. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>One-third</b> of 21<sup>st</sup> century twelve tribes—nations of Israel. "I will bring into the fire; refine them like silver and test them like gold. <i>They will call on my name and I will answer them.</i>" (Zechariah 13:9)</li> </ul>
<b>Bondage</b>	Israelites were in bondage.  "And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage, in mortar, and in brick, and in all manner of service in the field: all their service, wherein they made them serve, was with rigor." (Exodus 1:14)	Israelites will return into captivity because of their sins.  "'In that day,' declares the LORD Almighty, 'I will break the yoke off their necks and will tear off their bonds; no longer will <i>foreigners</i> enslave them.'" (Jeremiah 30:8)
<b>Israel cried for deliverance/ 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Judah and Israel together will cry out to God</b>	Israel cried out in Egypt to the God of their fathers before they are delivered.  "And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them." (Exodus 3:9; 2:24)	21 <sup>st</sup> century Israel will be taken into captivity and they will plead to God for rescue.  "So, there is hope for your future, declares the LORD, and your children will return to their own land. I have surely heard <i>Ephraim's moaning</i> : 'You disciplined me severely, like an untrained calf. Restore me, that I may return, for You are the LORD my God. After I returned, I repented; and after I was instructed, I struck my thigh in grief. I was ashamed and humiliated because I bore the disgrace of my youth.'" (Jeremiah 31:17-19)  How often we do foolish things when we are young.  "For behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will <b>restore from captivity My people Israel and Judah</b> , declares the LORD. I will restore them to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they will possess it.'" (Jeremiah 30:3)

		The whole kingdom, both houses, will repent and cry out to God at the same time. This has never happened in the past.
<b>Ransomed: a demand from God to release His people</b>	<p>Israelites were ransomed from the hand of a stronger force—Egypt.</p> <p>“And the LORD said unto Moses, Rise up early in the morning, and stand before Pharaoh, and say unto him, thus says the LORD God of the Hebrews, ‘Let my people go, that they may serve me.’” (Exodus 9:13)</p>	<p>21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will again be ransomed from the hand of a much stronger force.</p> <p>“For the LORD will deliver Jacob and redeem them from the hand of <b>those</b> stronger than they.” (Jeremiah 31:11)</p> <p>“The <b>people of Israel</b> are oppressed, and the <b>people of Judah</b> as well. All their captors hold them fast, refusing to let them go. Yet the Redeemer is strong; Yahuah Almighty is his name. He will vigorously defend their cause so that he may bring rest to their land, but unrest to those who live in Babylon” (Jeremiah 50:33-34).</p>
<b>Gathered</b>	The Israelites were gathered as one family in Egypt.	<p>The 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will be taken into captivity and scattered as slaves among the nations on earth.</p> <p>“In that day the LORD will thresh from the flowing Euphrates to the Wadi of Egypt, and you, O Israelites, will be gathered one by one.” (Isaiah 27:12)</p>
<b>Nation/nations</b>	<p>The God of Israel pulled ONE nation out of ONE nation.</p> <p>“Has any god ever tried to take for himself one nation out of another nation...” (Deuteronomy 4:34)</p>	<p>The God of Israel is going to pull the Israelites who are now <b>many nations</b> from out of all the nations over the world.</p> <p>“I will gather you and your children from east and west and from north and south. I will bring my sons and daughters back to Israel from the distant corners of the earth.” (Isaiah 43:6)</p> <p>"I will surely bring my people back again from all the countries where I will scatter them in my fury. I will bring them back to this very city and let them live in peace and safety." (Jeremiah 32:37)</p>

<p><b>Traveled</b></p>	<p>Traveled by foot</p>	<p>Returning captives will travel over land on the Highway of Holiness (Isaiah 35:8) also from the air and on boats.</p> <p>“Who are these who fly like a cloud, and like doves to their roosts? Surely the coastlands shall wait for Me; and <i>the ships of Tarshish will come first, to bring your children from afar</i>, 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.” (Isaiah 60:8-9)</p>
<p><b>Leave with riches</b></p>	<p>When ancient Israel left, the Egyptians gave them riches.</p> <p>“The LORD caused the Egyptians to look favorably on the Israelites, and they gave the Israelites whatever they asked for. So, they stripped the Egyptians of their wealth!” (Exodus 12:36)</p> <p>“He brought Israel out with silver and gold, and none among His tribes stumbled.” (Psalm 105:37)</p>	<p>The exiting 21<sup>st</sup> century Israelites will be treated as royalty and given a wealth of riches.</p> <p>“... the ships of Tarshish will come first, to bring your children from afar, <i>their silver and their gold with them...</i>” (Isaiah 60:8-9)</p> <p>“I will give you the treasures of darkness and the riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that I am the LORD, the God of Israel, who calls you by name.” (Isaiah 45:3)</p>
<p><b>Distance</b></p>	<p>The distance was short from Egypt to Canaan.</p>	<p>The distance will be far and wide when the many Israelites from ALL over the world return.</p> <p>The Distance that the returning Israelites will come from in the future will far exceed the distance in ancient times. It reflects the magnitude of the conversion of God’s people into a humble, God-fearing and God-serving people.</p>
<p><b>Miracles and Wonders: God displays His superior power over reigning sons of god in ancient</b></p>	<p>The God of Israel parted the Red Sea.</p> <p>“Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all the night the LORD drove back the sea with a strong east wind that turned it into dry land. So, the waters were divided, and the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with walls</p>	<p>The God of Israel will part every ocean and every sea necessary to get His people home.</p> <p>“The LORD will devote to destruction the gulf of the Sea of Egypt; with a scorching wind He will sweep His hand over the Euphrates. He will split it into seven streams for men to cross with dry sandals. There will be a highway for the remnant</p>

<p><b>times and, again, in the future.</b></p>	<p>of water on their right and on their left.” (Exodus 14:21-22)</p> <p>“Has any god ever tried to take for himself one nation out of another nation, by testings, by miraculous signs and wonders, by war, by a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, or by great and awesome deeds, like all the things the Lord your God did for you in Egypt before your very eyes?” (Deuteronomy 4:34)</p>	<p>of His people who remain from Assyria, as there was for Israel when they came up from the land of Egypt.” (Isaiah 11:15-16)</p> <p>“The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up to prepare the way for the kings from the East.” (Revelation 16:12)</p>
<p><b>The exodus was prophesied</b></p>	<p>Joseph said that they will exit and to take his bones with them.</p> <p>“By faith Joseph, when his end was near, spoke about the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt and gave instructions concerning the burial of his bones.” (Hebrews 11:22)</p>	<p>This exodus will be remembered as the crescendo of God’s work molding His people.</p> <p>“It will no longer be said, ‘As the LORD lives, who brought up the sons of Israel out of the land of Egypt,’ but, ‘As the LORD lives, who brought up the sons of Israel from the land of the north and from all the countries where He had banished them.’ For I will restore them to their own land which I gave to their fathers.” (Jeremiah 16:14-15, Jeremiah 23:7-8)</p>
<p><b>United/re-united</b></p>	<p>When the Israelites left, they were ONE family, ONE kingdom.</p>	<p>The healing of a fractured kingdom will take place. When the Israelites return to the land of the forefathers, they will be RE-UNITED into ONE kingdom.</p> <p>“For behold, the days are coming,” says the Lord, “that I will bring back from <i>captivity My people Israel and Judah</i>,” says the Lord. “And I will cause them to return to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall possess it.” (Jeremiah 30:1-3)</p> <p>“I am going to take the stick of Joseph—which is in Ephraim’s hand—and the Israelite tribes with him and join it to Judah’s stick with the Israelites with him, making them one single stick of wood in my hand.” (Ezekiel 37:19)</p> <p>The house of Israel is not the Jews today but the ten tribes that were the “lost sheep” that Jesus</p>

		brought back into the covenant family. Their identity is not known to them today. The Jews today are the house of Judah.
<b>Plagues/ Tribulation</b>	<p>The plagues God poured out on Egypt were to demonstrate the superiority of the Hebrew God over the gods ruling over Egypt, to expose their sins and sentence the death those who remain in sin. The ancient Israelites were not cursed with all of the plagues. God showed the Egyptian rulers that He will save His people with the blood of the lamb.</p> <p>The Israelites went through tribulation (the plagues) prior to their exodus.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Water Turned to Blood</li> <li>2. The Plague of Frogs</li> <li>3. The Plague of Lice</li> <li>4. The Plague of Flies</li> <li>5. The Plague of Pestilence on their livestock</li> <li>6. The Plague of Boils</li> <li>7. The Plague of Hail</li> <li>8. The Plague of Locusts</li> <li>9. The Plague of Darkness</li> <li>10. Death of the Firstborn</li> </ol> <p>(Exodus 7-11; Psalms 78:42-51; 105:27-36)</p>	<p>21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will go through the great tribulation—Jacob’s trouble, an unprecedented crisis. There will be none is like it nor ever again will there be one like it.</p> <p>“For thus says the Lord: ‘We have heard a voice of trembling, of fear, and not of peace. Ask now, and see, whether a man is ever in labor with child? So why do I see every man with his hands on his loins like a woman in labor, and all faces turned pale? Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it; and it is the time of Jacob's trouble, but he shall be saved out of it.’” (Jeremiah 30:5-7)</p> <p>"Therefore, when you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (whoever reads, let him understand), then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains... For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened." (Matthew 24:15-16, 21-22)</p>
<b>Birth</b>	<p>The tribulation of the first exodus was not fully effective. The people were not birthed into a spiritual state that could lead them into a true, lasting repentance and relationship with God.</p> <p>The heart or spirit of a man is the center of his thought, reason, and motivation. Because of human nature, the natural—unconverted—heart is "deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked." (Jeremiah 17:9)</p>	<p>The great tribulation to come will birth the remnant of the 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel into a new spiritual state that leads to a true, everlasting repentance and intimate relationship with God.</p> <p>“For I will take you from among the nations and gather you out of all the countries, and I will bring you back into your own land. I will also sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean. I will cleanse you from all your impurities and all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will remove your</p>



	<p>The Old Covenant that God made with Israel was a good agreement but, the ancient Israelites lacked the right heart that would have allowed them to follow God truly and obey His laws.</p>	<p>heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes and to carefully observe My ordinances.” (Ezekiel 36:24-27)</p> <p>The Jews will receive grace and God’s Holy Spirit, too.      “And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications.” (Zechariah 12:10)</p>
<p><b>All/ remnant</b></p>	<p>All of the Israelites left Egypt, but only two: Joshua and Caleb demonstrated faith in the power of Almighty God before entering the Promised Land, hence, the 40-year wandering in the wilderness.</p> <p>God would not allow those who did not put their trust in Him to enter the Holy Land.</p>	<p>Again, God will not allow the disobedient to enter the Promised Land.</p> <p>“I will take note of you as you pass under my staff, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant. I will purge you of those who revolt and rebel against me. Although I will bring them out of the land where they are living, yet they will not enter the land of Israel. Then you will know that I am the LORD.” (Ezekiel 20:37-38)</p> <p>Only a remnant will return even though they were of the sand of the sea. “Though your people be like the sand by the sea, Israel, only a remnant will return. Destruction has been decreed, overwhelming and righteous.” (Hosea 10:22)</p> <p>It should be noted at this time, that modern Israel will experience waves of conversion. The Philadelphia group is prophesied to be kept from the hour of trial. This group may be the “woman” who flees to a place of safety for three and a half years prior to the great tribulation.</p>
<p><b>The blood of the lamb protects the life of the first-born</b></p>	<p>Those Israelites and even Egyptians who painted the blood of the lamb on their door post protected the life of their first-born son.</p> <p>“The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are... I will pass over</p>	<p>A first resurrection will take place giving eternal life to a <b>special first-born group of people</b>.</p> <p>“If in this life only we have <b>hope in Christ</b>, we are of all men most miserable. But now is <b>Christ risen from the dead</b>, and <b>become the first-fruits of them that slept</b>. For since by man came death, <b>by man came also the resurrection of the dead</b>.</p>

	<p>you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt.” (Exodus 12:13)</p>	<p>For as in Adam all die, even so <b>in Christ shall all be made alive</b>. But <b>every man in his own order: Christ the first-fruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.</b>" (I Corinthians 15:19-23)</p>
<p><b>Saved</b></p>	<p>The ancient Israelites were saved out of their suffering.</p> <p>“During the night Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron and said, ‘Up! Leave my people, you and the Israelites! Go, worship the Lord as you have requested...’” (Exodus 12:31)</p>	<p>The 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will suffer loss but Jeremiah promises that Jacob will be saved out of his trouble. Even though that "day" is great, and like nothing we have seen before, it will not be the end of Jacob (Jeremiah 30:7).</p> <p>“Therefore, do not fear, O My servant Jacob," says the Lord, "Nor be dismayed, O Israel; for behold, <i>I will save you from afar, and your seed from the land of their captivity</i>. Jacob shall return, have rest and be quiet, and no one shall make him afraid. For I am with you," says the Lord, "to save you; though I make a full end of all nations where I have scattered you, yet <i>I will not make a complete end of you. But I will correct you in justice, and will not let you go altogether unpunished.</i>" (Jeremiah 30:8-11)</p>
<p><b>Ancient Israel was established, but 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will participate in a great restoration</b></p>	<p>When the ancient Israelites arrived in the Promised land, there were houses for them to live in and produce from the previous peoples.</p> <p>“When the Lord your God has destroyed the nations whose land He is giving you, and when you have driven them out and settled in their towns and houses...” (Deuteronomy 19:1)</p>	<p>When the Israelites return to the land of their forefathers, they will rebuild. They will be blessed and become rich and increase more than ever before.</p> <p>“Behold, the days are coming,’ says the LORD, ‘when the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him who sows seed; the mountains shall drip with sweet wine, and all the hills shall flow with it. I will bring back the captives of My people Israel; they shall build the waste cities and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and drink wine from them; they shall also make gardens and eat fruit from them. I will plant them in their land, and no longer shall they be pulled up from the land I have given them,’ says the LORD your God.” (Amos 9:13-15)</p>

		<p>“The land will produce abundantly, the people will multiply, and the old cities will be rebuilt.” (Ezekiel 36:8-12)</p> <p>21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will rebuild NEW homes, a mirror of their NEW God-fearing and God-serving lifestyle.</p>
<b>Leadership</b>	<p>The Israelites began with strong God-fearing leaders: Moses, Aaron, Joshua and Caleb, but over the years their leadership wavered and waned. Peace and prosperity did not last.</p>	<p>Into the 21<sup>st</sup> century after the nations of Israel purge their corrupt leaders and a cleansing takes place during Jacob’s trouble, God will raise up strong leaders. Peace and prosperity will last (Jeremiah 23:3-7, Hosea 3:5, Micah 2:12-13).</p> <p>King David will rule over the house of Israel. “And David my servant shall be king over them; and they all shall have one shepherd: they shall also walk in my judgements, and observe my statutes, and do them.” (Ezekiel 37:24-25)</p> <p>The twelve apostles will be resurrected and sit as judges over the twelve tribes, ensuring righteous judgement is made (Matthew 19:28; Luke 22:30).</p>
<b>Ephraim, the leader</b>	<p>Ephraim was the leader of the northern house and in ancient times, was feared and well respected.</p> <p>“When Ephraim spoke, people trembled; he was exalted in Israel. But he became guilty of Baal worship and died.” (Hosea 13:1)</p>	<p>Ephraim will resume his place as God's son. Ephraim was the leading tribe in the northern kingdom—ten tribes. Ephraim will repent sincerely.</p> <p>"You have chastised me, and I was chastised, like an untrained bull; restore me, and <i>I will return, for You are the LORD my God.</i> Surely, after my returning, I repented; and after I was instructed, I struck myself on the thigh; I was ashamed, yes, even humiliated, because I bore the reproach of my youth." (Jeremiah 31:18-20)</p> <p>“For there will be a day when watchmen will call out on the hills of Ephraim, ‘Arise, let us go up to Zion, to the LORD our God!’” (Jeremiah 31:6)</p> <p>“For I am Israel’s Father, and Ephraim is My firstborn” (Jeremiah 31:9b). This is an interesting scripture pointing to God’s love for a people who</p>

		strayed so far from Him and returned to humbly serve Him, forever.
<b>Aware of their nationality</b>	The ancient Israelites all knew their birth tribes.	<p>The house of Judah knows their Hebrew roots but the house of Israel has forgotten them today. They will know soon enough because when they return to the land, it will be distributed according to their tribes and believers from other nations who come with them can choose which tribe they want to live among, living as native-citizens of Israel.</p> <p>"You are to divide this land among yourselves according to the tribes of Israel. You shall allot it as an inheritance for yourselves and for the foreigners who dwell among you and who have children. You are to treat them as native-born Israelites; along with you, they shall be allotted an inheritance among the tribes of Israel." (Ezekiel 47:21-23)</p>
<b>The old covenant and a renewed covenant</b>	<p>The Israelites agreed to the covenant at Mt. Sinai, but they did not have the Holy Spirit to keep it.</p> <p>"For thus says the Lord God, "I will also do with you as you have done, you who have despised the oath by breaking the covenant." (Ezekiel 15:69)</p> <p>"It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they did not remain faithful to my covenant, and I turned away from them, declares the Lord." (Hebrews 8:9)</p>	<p>Both houses of Israel (Judah and Israel) will make a new covenant; this time given the Holy Spirit they will have a willing heart to obey (Jeremiah 31:31-34, Ezekiel 11:17-20; 36:24-29).</p> <p>This new covenant is a renewed covenant made possible by the receiving of God's Holy Spirit.</p> <p>"I will give them an undivided heart and put a new spirit in them; I will remove from them their heart of stone and give them a heart of flesh." (Ezekiel 11:19)</p> <p>"The days are coming,' declares the LORD, 'when I will make a <i>new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah</i>. But this is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD. I will put My law in their minds and inscribe it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they will be My people. No longer will each man teach his neighbor or his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' because they will all know Me, from the least of</p>

		them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquities and will remember their sins no more.” (Jeremiah 31:31, 33-34)
<b>Ancient Israel was married to God. This intimate relationship will be offered.</b>	<p>Israel was married to God at Mt. Sinai.</p> <p>“And all the people answered together, ‘We will do everything that the LORD has spoken.’ So, Moses brought their words back to the LORD.” (Exodus 19:8)</p> <p>God proposed an intimate relationship with the people of ancient Israel, one that only a husband and wife share. They accepted, but they did not keep their agreement.</p> <p>“For your husband is your Maker—the LORD of Hosts is His name—the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer; He is called the God of all the earth.” (Isaiah 54:5)</p> <p>“‘Return, faithless people,’ declares the LORD, ‘for I am your husband. I will choose you—one from a town and two from a clan—and bring you to Zion.’” (Jeremiah 3:14)</p>	<p>21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will be offered again an intimate relationship with God meaning that their relationship with Him will be eternally, tightly bound as if they are one.</p> <p>“Israel will be comforted, be given hope, and will finally call God "My Husband" (Hosea 2:14-16).</p> <p>“Therefore, behold, I will allure her and lead her in the wilderness, and speak to her tenderly. There I will give back her vineyards and make the Valley of Achor into a gateway of hope. There she will respond as she did in the days of her youth, as in the day she came out of Egypt, In that day, you will call Me ‘My Husband,’ and no longer call Me ‘My Master.’” (Hosea 2:14-16).</p> <p>God has offered His people an intimate relationship with them, sharing His every dearest plan and thought. He established the marriage arrangement to mirror this type of intimacy. Only after His Holy Spirit is given are these mysteries understood and valued.</p>
<b>As ancient Israel cried out and sought God, so will 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel</b>	<p>The ancient Israelites called out to God for deliverance.</p> <p>“During that long period, the king of Egypt died. The Israelites groaned in their slavery and cried out, and their cry for help because of their slavery went up to God.” (Exodus 2:23)</p>	<p>The 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will return with weeping and pleas of mercy (Jeremiah 31:9, 50:4). The great tribulation will humble them. Now they can see both: how they have fallen short and what is expected of them. They will finally recognize that they need God.</p> <p>"In those days, at that time," declares the LORD, "<i>the people of Israel and the people of Judah together will go in tears to seek the LORD their God.</i>" (Jeremiah 50:4)</p>
<b>Spiritual rejuvenation</b>	<p>Ancient Israel went through a spiritual instruction with the receiving of the covenant at Mt. Sinai but not a transformation.</p>	<p>The 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will undergo a lasting spiritual transformation.</p>

	<p>God’s covenant with Abraham:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• His descendants would become great nation</li> <li>• The land of Canaan would be given to him</li> <li>• Ultimately all nations on earth would be blessed through him by the birth of Jesus from the tribe of Judah</li> </ul> <p>God’s covenant with Moses at Mt. Sinai:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Was built upon the covenant He made with Abraham</li> <li>• If they obeyed they would be blessed and curses when disobedient (Leviticus 26)</li> </ul> <p>At Mount Sinai, Israel learned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They were the great nation that God had promised to Abraham</li> <li>• They were the ones who would inherit the land of Canaan</li> <li>• Ultimately, their responsibility was to be a blessing to all the nations.</li> </ul> <p>The implications were clear: the LORD would be Israel’s God, and Israel would be His people (Exodus 19).</p>	<p>“I will heal their waywardness and love them freely, for my anger has turned away from them. I will be like the dew to Israel; he will blossom like a lily. Like a cedar of Lebanon, he will send down his roots; his young shoots will grow. His splendor will be like an olive tree, his fragrance like a cedar of Lebanon. Men will dwell again in his shade. He will flourish like the grain. He will blossom like a vine, and his fame will be like the wine of Lebanon. O Ephraim, what am I anymore to do with idols? I will answer him and care for him. I am like a green pine tree; your fruitfulness comes from me” (Hosea 14:3-8).</p> <p>The imagery in these verses describes God’s people to like cedar—great eternal leaders, with deep roots—establishing a stable foundation who are the prophets and apostles. They will have the splendor of an olive tree—those are the highly fruitful ministry producing congregations fit for the kingdom of God. They will flourish like grain—abundant leaders. He will be famous. Even Lebanon today honours the cedar tree on their flag.</p>
<p><b>Exodus, a witness to the world</b></p>	<p>The exodus of ancient Israel and their claiming the land of Canaan was a great witness to the ancient world of the power of the God of Israel who declared himself to be the Almighty God, the supreme God above all gods.</p> <p>“I know that the Lord has given this land to you and that a great fear of you has fallen on us, so that all who live in this country are melting in fear because of you... We heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red Sea... and what you did to Sihon and Og... When we heard of it, our hearts</p>	<p>The 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will go through Jacob’s trouble. They will be attacked and the remaining remnant will be taken into captivity where they will complete the witness of the gospel to the whole world.</p> <p>Their repentance will be a witness to the whole world after hundreds of years of corruption.</p> <p>“The nations will see your righteousness, and all kings your glory.” (Isaiah 62:2)</p>



	<p>sank and everyone’s courage failed... for the Lord your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below.” (Joshua 2:8-11)</p>	<p>At the same time, the two houses of the kingdom of Israel will be held captive and rescued by their God.</p> <p>“The people of Israel are oppressed, and the people of Judah as well. All their captors hold them fast, refusing to let them go. Yet the Redeemer is strong; Yahuah (YHWH) Almighty is his name. He will vigorously defend their cause so that he may bring rest to their land, but unrest to those who live in Babylon.” (Jeremiah 50:33-34)</p> <p>After 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel are devastated, taken out of their countries to live as slaves among the nations, God will restore to them wealth and riches.</p> <p>“At that time, I will gather you; At that time, I will bring you home. I will give you honor and praise among all the peoples of the earth when I restore your fortunes before your very eyes.” (Zephaniah 3:20)</p> <p>“And he said, ‘It is a light thing that thou shouldest be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel: I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth.’” (Isaiah 49:6)</p> <p>“Many peoples will come and say, ‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the temple of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths.’ The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.” (Isaiah 2:3)</p>
<p><b>People from different nations will join Israel</b></p>	<p>Some foreigners left with Israel. These people were required to keep God’s laws too.</p>	<p>Even though God makes this covenant primarily with Israel and Judah (Jeremiah 31:31), it is not limited to them.</p> <p>Gentiles who submit themselves to God will also join them.</p>

	<p>“Many other people went up with them, and also large droves of livestock, both flocks and herds.” (Exodus 12:38)</p> <p>“But you must keep my decrees and my laws. The native-born and the foreigners residing among you must not do any of these detestable things.” (Leviticus 18:26)</p>	<p>“The Lord will have compassion on Jacob; once again he will choose Israel and will settle them in their own land. Aliens will join them and unite with the House of Jacob.” (Isaiah 14:1)</p> <p>The Sabbath will be kept by those wishing to join the house of Israel (Isaiah 56:1-2, 6-8).</p>
<p><b>The rebellious will not enter into the Holy Land</b></p>	<p>In the wilderness, some Israelites died due to rebellion and the whole of Israel who left Egypt except for Joshua and Caleb died in the wilderness.</p> <p>“Now Korah..., took men. And they rose up before Moses, with a number of the people of Israel, 250 chiefs of the congregation, chosen from the assembly, well-known men. They assembled themselves together against Moses and against Aaron and said to them, “You have gone too far! For all in the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the Lord is among them. Why then do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the Lord?” God saw this and became angry. He sent a plague that killed 14,700, besides those who died in the affair of Korah. (Numbers 16:1-4;46-50)</p>	<p>Again, God will not allow rebels to enter the Holy Land.</p> <p>Just as I entered into judgement with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so I will enter into judgement with you, declares the Lord GOD. I will make you pass under the rod and will bring you into the bond of the covenant. I will purge you of those who rebel and transgress against Me. I will bring them out of the land in which they dwell, but they will not enter the land of Israel. Then you will know that I am the LORD.” (Ezekiel 20:37-38)</p>
<p><b>Two different hearts</b></p>	<p><b>Heart of stone:</b>  God exclaims, “Oh, that they [Israel] had such a heart in them that they would fear Me and always keep all My commandments, that it might be well with them and with their children forever!” (Deuteronomy 5:29)</p> <p>God again identifies the problem that hinders His people from honouring their covenant with Him.</p> <p>“Therefore, I was angry with that generation, and said, 'They always go</p>	<p><b>A new heart of flesh:</b>  Ezekiel 11:17, 19-21 foretells of Israel and Judah receiving from God a new heart—a spiritual heart that will enable them to keep His commandments and statutes.</p> <p>"Thus says the Lord GOD: 'I will gather you from the peoples, assemble you from the countries where you have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel... Then I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within them, and take the stony heart out of their flesh, and give them a heart of flesh, that they may walk in My statutes and keep My judgements and do them; and they shall be My people, and I will be their</p>

	<p>astray in their heart, and they have not known My ways.'" (Hebrews 3:10)</p> <p>Ancient Israel listened to their logic and followed their hardened heart leading them further and further away from God's righteous ways.</p>	<p>God. But as for those whose hearts follow the desire for their detestable things and their abominations, I will recompense their deeds on their own heads,' says the Lord GOD." (Ezekiel 11:17, 19-21)</p>
<p><b>Model nation</b></p>	<p>Ancient Israel was to be a model nation. They were not successful.</p> <p>"See, I have taught you decrees and laws as the LORD my God commanded me, so that you may follow them in the land you are entering to take possession of it. Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding in the sight of the peoples, who will hear of all these statutes and say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.'" (Deuteronomy 4:5-6)</p>	<p>A second chance for Israel has been given to them to be a model nation. This time, they will be successful.</p> <p>"In the last days the mountain [government] of the house of the LORD will be established as the chief of the mountains [governments]; it will be raised above the hills [states], and all nations will stream to it. And many peoples will come and say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us His ways so that we may walk in His paths.' For the law will go forth from Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. Then He will judge between the nations and arbitrate for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will no longer take up the sword against nation, nor train anymore for war." (Isaiah 2:2-4)</p>
<p><b>Israel was intended to be an example to the nations of the world</b></p>	<p>Ancient Israel was a bad example. The kingdom was divided into two houses and each house was taken into captivity for their sins.</p> <p>722 B.C. The house of Israel is taken captive by Assyria.</p> <p>586 B.C. The house of Judah is taken captive by Babylon.</p> <p>After 70 years some of the Jews returned to rebuild Jerusalem but many did not return. The house of Israel never returned because they refused to repent and were then sentenced seven times their</p>	<p>21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel into the Millennium will be the good example.</p> <p>Israel's godly example will be so good that the rest of humanity will desire to live the same way and will seek, not only God's laws, but God Himself: Thus says the LORD of hosts: "Peoples shall yet come, inhabitants of many cities; the inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, 'Let us continue to go and pray before the LORD, and seek the LORD of hosts. I myself will go also.' Yes, many peoples and strong nations shall come to seek the LORD of hosts in Jerusalem, and to pray before the LORD." (Zechariah 8:21-22)</p>

	<p>punishment. They have remained in exile to this day.</p>	<p>"In those days ten men from every language of the nations shall grasp the sleeve of a Jewish man, saying, 'Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you.'" (Zechariah 8:23)</p> <p>"My tabernacle also shall be with them; indeed I will be their God, and they shall be My people. The nations also will know that I, the LORD, sanctify Israel, when My sanctuary is in their midst forevermore." (Ezekiel 37:27-28)</p>
<p><b>God is merciful</b></p>	<p>Despite their grumbling and lack of faith, God brought them out of Egypt, however, continual disobedience brought them back into punishment and slavery.</p> <p>"The LORD replied, 'I have forgiven them, as you asked. Nevertheless, as surely as I live and as surely as the glory of the LORD fills the whole earth, not one of the men who saw my glory and the miraculous signs I performed in Egypt and in the desert but who disobeyed me and tested me ten times and have not obeyed my voice, shall see the land that I swore to give to their fathers. And none of those who despised me shall see it.'" (Numbers 14:20-23)</p>	<p>God's mercy will be given to the house of Israel and Judah but not without justice.</p> <p>"Behold, I will bring back the captivity of Jacob's tents, and have mercy on his dwelling places; the city shall be built upon its own mound, and the palace shall remain according to its own plan. Then out of them shall proceed thanksgiving and the voice of those who make merry; I will multiply them, and they shall not diminish; I will also glorify them, and they shall not be small. Their children also shall be as before, and their congregation shall be established before Me; and I will punish all who oppress them." (Jeremiah 30:18-20)</p>

The first exodus brought ancient Israel out of sin into the knowledge of overcoming sinful ways with annual reminders of the Passover and Days of Unleavened Bread. Despite the consistent practice of the annual Holy Days, the spiritual meaning behind them was rarely fully understood because they need God's Holy Spirit. Christ's accepted sacrifice brought God's people and all humanity salvation and access to God's Holy Spirit making possible the transformation from human understanding into Godly understanding. Jesus, the Son of God is the key. He is the great Teacher, the only Teacher with a perfect understanding of God's word. Indeed, he is the Word.

Moments in Isaac's life provided a foreshadowing of the Messiah. Isaac's father, Abraham, was willing to obey God in everything, even the sacrifice of his only heir. Isaac carried the wood over his shoulder for his potential sacrifice and was bound by his father foreshadowing the prophecy of a sacrificial lamb. Though God did not allow Abraham to sacrifice Isaac, the event remained a foreshadow of the only sacrifice God Almighty could accept. No human sacrifice can pay for the sins of mankind.

## FORESHADOWS: JOSEPH and JESUS

*“Now these things happened to them as an example, and they were written for our instruction, upon whom the ends of the ages have come” (1 Corinthians 10:11).*

The scriptures clearly state that by divine design examples were given to believers for teaching purposes and especially to those at the end of this evil age. The events in Joseph’s life are a mirror of the troubles and successes of Jesus Christ. Joseph’s life was the stage play, Jesus’ life is the spiritual reality.

### **IN ANCIENT TIMES, JOSEPH FED THE WHOLE WORLD. IT WAS A FORESHADOW OF CHRIST FEEDING THE WHOLE WORLD IN THE LAST DAYS**

Foreshadowed in ancient times, 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will find themselves in a great famine of God’s word. It will stretch out across the whole world after Satan is thrown out of heaven and he establishes his throne on earth with the beast. Mystery Babylon will cover earth with her theology wrapped in magic spells and runes. People will be lured into a different religion that will appear to be very right and good. This special story is preserved in the life of Joseph. He was a foreshadow of Jesus. His life, his dreams, his betrayal, his trials, his sufferings, his promotions, his successes all foreshadow the life of Jesus Christ.

A comparative analysis has been done by Jews for Jesus from the notes of Mr. Bill McDonald which details a comprehensive study. <https://jewsforjesus.org>

PARALLEL	JOSEPH	JESUS
<b>BELOVED OF HIS FATHER</b>	Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children. (Genesis 37:3a)	“This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” (Matthew 3:17b)
<b>ENVIED AND HATED WITHOUT A CAUSE</b>	When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peaceably to him. (Genesis 37:4)	He knew that the chief priests had handed Him over because of envy. (Mark 15:10) “They hated Me without a cause.” (John 15:25b)
<b>A ROOT OUT OF DRY GROUND</b>	Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age. Also he made him a tunic of many colors. (Genesis 37:3)	He [Messiah] shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, And as a root out of dry ground. (Isaiah 53:2a)
<b>HE FORETOLD THAT ONE DAY HE WOULD RULE</b>	“Then behold, my sheaf arose and also stood upright; and indeed your sheaves stood all around and bowed down to my sheaf.” (Genesis 37:7)	Jesus said to him, “It is as you said. Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven.” (Matthew 26:64)

PARALLEL	JOSEPH	JESUS
<b>ACCUSED OF BEING A DREAMER (BESIDE HIMSELF, DELUDED)</b>	Then they said to one another, "Look, this dreamer is coming!" (Genesis 37:19)	They went out to lay hold of Him, for they said, "He is out of His mind." (Mark 3:21b)
<b>SENT BY THE FATHER TO SEEK THE BROTHERS' WELFARE</b>	Then he said to him, "Please go and see if it is well with your brothers and well with the flocks, and bring back word to me." (Genesis 37:14)	"Then the owner of the vineyard said, 'What shall I do? I will send my beloved son. Probably they will respect him when they see him.'" (Luke 20:13)
<b>WENT WILLINGLY AND SOUGHT TILL HE FOUND THEM</b>	"They have departed from here, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers and found them in Dothan. (Genesis 37:17)	"Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God." (Hebrews 10:9)  He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. (John 1:11)
<b>REJECTED AND CONDEMNED TO DIE</b>	They conspired against him to kill him. (Genesis 37:18b)	"We will not have this man to reign over us." (Luke 19:14b)  They shouted, saying, "Crucify Him, crucify Him!" (Luke 23:21)
<b>STRIPPED OF HIS CLOTHING</b>	They stripped Joseph of his tunic, the tunic of many colors that was on him. (Genesis 37:23b)	They stripped Him. (Matthew 27:28a)
<b>THROWN INTO A PIT (ALONE, FORSAKEN)</b>	Then they took him and cast him into a pit. (Genesis 37:24a)	So will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. (Matthew 12:40b)
<b>SOLD FOR SILVER INTO THE HANDS OF GENTILES</b>	So the brothers pulled Joseph up and lifted him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty shekels of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt. (Genesis 37:28b)	They counted out to him thirty pieces of silver. (Matthew 26:15b)
<b>RAISED FROM THE PIT</b>	So the brothers pulled Joseph up and lifted him out of the pit. (Genesis 37:28a)	He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures. (1 Corinthians 15:4b)
<b>BECAME A SERVANT</b>	Now Joseph had been taken down to Egypt. And Potiphar . . . bought him from the Ishmaelites. . . . The LORD was with Joseph, and he was a successful man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian. (Genesis 39:1–2)	I am among you as the One who serves. (Luke 22:27b)  Taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. (Philippians 2:7b)

JEW'S FOR JESUS



PARALLEL	JOSEPH	JESUS
<b>EVERYTHING HE DID PROSPERED</b>	The Lord made all he did to prosper in his hand. (Genesis 39:3b)	When You make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand. (Isaiah 53:10b)
<b>RESISTED TEMPTATION</b>	The temptation by Potiphar's wife. (Genesis 39:7–12).	For such a High Priest was fitting for us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens. (Hebrews 7:26) . . . but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. (Hebrew 4:15b)
<b>FALSELY ACCUSED</b>	"The Hebrew servant whom you brought to us came in to me to mock me; so it happened, as I lifted my voice and cried out, that he left his garment with me and fled outside." (Genesis 39:17–18)	But at last two false witnesses came forward and said, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.' " (Matthew 26:60b–61)
<b>NUMBERED WITH TRANSGRESSORS</b>	Then Joseph's master took him and put him into the prison, a place where the king's prisoners were confined. (Genesis 39:20a)	There they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on the right hand and the other on the left. (Luke 23:33)
<b>PROMISED DELIVERANCE TO A CONDEMNED MAN</b>	Now within three days Pharaoh will lift up your head and restore you to your place, and you will put Pharaoh's cup in his hand according to the former manner, when you were his butler. (Genesis 40:13)	"Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise." (Luke 23:43b)
<b>FORETOLD THE FUTURE ACCURATELY</b>	And it came to pass, just as he interpreted for us, so it happened. (Genesis 41:13a)	Now I tell you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe that I am He. (John 13:19)
<b>PROVED TO BE A GREAT COUNSELOR</b>	Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Inasmuch as God has shown you all this, there is no one as discerning and wise as you." (Genesis 41:39)	His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6b)
<b>PROMOTED TO HONOR AND GLORY AND GIVEN A NEW NAME</b>	Pharaoh said to Joseph, "See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt." (Genesis 41:41) (see also Genesis 41:45a)	Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name. (Philippians 2:9)

JEW'S FOR JESUS

PARALLEL	JOSEPH	JESUS
<b>ALL PEOPLE COMMANDED TO BOW TO HIM</b>	They cried out before him, “Bow the knee!” So he set him over all the land of Egypt. (Genesis 41:43b)	That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth. (Philippians 2:10)
<b>PROVIDED FOR ALL IN NEED</b>	So all countries came to Joseph in Egypt to buy grain, because the famine was severe in all lands. (Genesis 41:57)	Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.” (John 6:35a)
<b>HIS PEOPLE DID NOT RECOGNIZE HIM</b>	So Joseph recognized his brothers, but they did not recognize him. (Genesis 42:8)	“Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me?” (John 14:9a)  But their minds were blinded. (2 Corinthians 3:14a)
<b>HIS BROTHERS WERE TROUBLED WHEN THEY MET HIM</b>	Now, do not therefore be grieved or angry with yourselves because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. (Genesis 45:5a)	“I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.” (Zechariah 12:10b)
<b>ALLOWED HIS BROTHERS TO SUFFER A PERIOD OF TRIBULATION</b>	Read Genesis 42:6–44:34  “Now please let your servant stay here as my lord’s slave in place of the boy. Let him return with his brothers. For how can I go back to my father without the boy? I could not bear to see the misery that would overwhelm him.” (Genesis 44:33-34).	It is the time of Jacob’s trouble, But he shall be saved out of it. (Jeremiah 30:7)  Then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. (Matthew 24:21)
<b>REVELATION AND RECONCILIATION</b>	Then Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph.” . . . “Hurry and go up to my father, and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph: “God has made me lord of all Egypt.” ’ ” (Genesis 45:3–9)	And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: “The Deliverer will come out of Zion, and He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob.” (Romans 11:26)

JEW\$ FOR JESUS



## JOSEPH AND JESUS

The studies done by theologians prove the author of the Bible is an eternal being, an architect with a plan, an engineer incorporating layers upon layers of interworking compartments spread over time into eternity.

The lives of the ancient patriarchs, the prophets and judges were given to them by the hand of God to foreshadow the very important spiritual story. The events in their lives are full of meaning and within the multi-layers, clear reflections into a glorious and wonderful world are revealed.

The story critical to mankind will always be the spiritual story, not the physical representations, however, the spiritual story remains hidden when the physical representations are not understood.



Joseph's life is one of the richest stories preserved from ancient writings for us—in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, who live in a time overflowing with information and resources at our finger tips that we, unlike many people in the past, can grow in the knowledge of our Creator and Saviour beyond measure. "So, the last will be first, and the first will be last" (Matthew 20:16). Jesus saved the best wine for last. In these last days, a dedicated remnant of God's people is maturing in the knowledge, understanding and wisdom of God. They are reading the stories, discovering the mysteries, and understanding the foreshadowing of God's great servants of long ago. Their knowledge is grounding their faith in truth and their love for their Creator and Saviour is bringing them all together, intimately close.

Long before time, the Great Creator planned a family and a kingdom. Through the power of the Father, the Son created eternal beings in heaven and later, mortals on earth. Sons of God and angels were created as members of God's family-kingdom as well as mankind, made male and female. Because of Abraham's great faith and trust in God, He promised that his descendants would become a multitude of nations and through his seed, the world would be saved. Through him, a king with a sceptre would rise and a kingdom with rich lands flowing with milk and honey, would be given as the birthright to the firstborn of the firstborn sons.

Jacob, the twin son of Isaac received the birthright inheritance passed down to Isaac by Abraham. Jacob did not give the birthright inheritance to his firstborn son, Reuben because of he slept with one of his concubines. The sceptre was given to Judah and the birthright blessing was given to Joseph. This change reflected the spiritual condition that would occur within the kingdom of Israel. Destruction had already begun.

The sceptre symbolizes national leadership: the maintaining law and order. The riches of the birthright blessing come from God's grace to the righteous who practice love for one another. Unknown to Joseph at his time, his twelve brothers would attempt to kill him and carnal and godless choices would divide the family. In years to come, a united kingdom would fracture into two opposing houses. This broken kingdom would need a Saviour who could heal the breach and bind them back into one solid, indestructible union. Jesus Christ is that Saviour.

His first-coming on earth secured him the rulership—kingship over the kingdom. His sacrifice conquered sin. Upon his resurrection, he was anointed by God as King of kings and Lord of lords. He is ruler over all kings and all priests in heaven and on earth. His second-coming will give him the birthright blessing—the eternal kingdom of God with the kingdom of Israel being the fundamental core component within God's family-kingdom. Jesus' story is mirrored in the life of Joseph in every detail.

Joseph's life, in particular, is part of the greater story. He was young when God began His work through him. He was a boy loved by his father. "Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons, because he had been born to him in his old age; and he made an ornate robe for him" (Genesis 37:3).

Joseph was the oldest from the wife that Jacob loved from the moment he met her. He was the firstborn from Rachel—eleventh of twelve boys. The number twelve is a reference to a perfect government. From four different wives, twelve boys were born. This family is emblematic of a perfect government engineered by God, still in the making, where Christ is the head. The firstborn of God's repentant people become Christ's body—a unified body of many, ruling as one.

#### **THE DREAM REVEALED WHO WOULD RULE**

Jacob loved Joseph and made a prestigious robe for him (Genesis 37:3); one fit for a king. One day, Joseph had a dream. Listen he said, "We were binding sheaves of grain out in the field when suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright, while your sheaves gathered around mine and bowed down to it" (Genesis 37:7). Joseph was not haughty, nor was he competitive. He was sharing a dream that was intriguing. But his brothers scoffed and said, "Do you intend to reign over us? Will you actually rule over us?" (Genesis 37:8).

Joseph's story provides a window into Christ's life. A mystery for many, but not for those in the last days. As Joseph suffered, Christ suffered. Joseph was exalted to rule second in charge in Egypt, Christ was exalted and anointed by God to reign as King of kings and Lord of lords, second in charge under Almighty God.

Christ has been given rulership in heaven and earth—over all creation, including all of the sons of God in heaven, mankind on earth and those fallen angels imprisoned in inner earth. Joseph's sheaf standing upright images Christ's superiority and rulership over God's people. He is the tested stone who has been given all power and authority on earth and in heaven—his sheaf stands above them all. "So, this is what the Sovereign LORD says: 'See, I lay a stone in Zion, a

tested stone, a precious cornerstone for a sure foundation; the one who relies on it will never be stricken with panic” (Isaiah 28:16). His rebellious brothers both on earth and in heaven were jealous and hated him, but as prophecy reveals—all will bend their knee: the whole house of Israel, mankind and all of the powers, authorities, and rulers in heaven.

Joseph had another dream. He said, “This time the sun and moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me” (Genesis 37:9). The ancient house of Israel, the founding family of Israel clearly understood the meaning of who the sun, moon and eleven stars were for Jacob replied, “What is this dream you had? Will your mother and I and your brothers actually come and bow down to the ground before you?” (Genesis 37:10). The family of Israel over the centuries has rebelled against their calling to be a holy kingdom of royal priests. “You will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites” (Exodus 19:6) and “But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light” (1 Peter 2:9). The house of Israel said, “‘We want to be like the nations, like the peoples of the world, who serve wood and stone.’ But what you have in mind will never happen” (Ezekiel 20:32). God is in charge; His plan cannot be thwarted. “For the LORD Almighty has purposed, and who can thwart him? His hand is stretched out, and who can turn it back?” (Isaiah 14:27).

These rebels will repent and bend their knee. “You will remember your conduct and all the actions by which you have defiled yourselves, and *you will loathe yourselves for all the evil you have done...* I will deal with you for my name’s sake and not according to your evil ways and your corrupt practices, O house of Israel, declares the Sovereign LORD” (Ezekiel 20:43-44). Still in the future on a close horizon, they, both houses of Israel who in this 21<sup>st</sup> century have become many nations, will repent and become a God-fearing re-united holy kingdom of royal priests.

### **HE WAS SENT TO FIND HIS BROTHERS**

“Now his brothers had gone to graze their father’s flocks near Shechem, and Israel said to Joseph, ‘As you know, your brothers are grazing the flocks near Shechem. Come, I am going to send you to them... Go and see if all is well with your brothers and with the flocks, and bring word back to me’” (Genesis 37:12-14). Like a mirror image, Christ was sent to find his lost brothers, the lost sheep of Israel (Matthew 15:24). The house of Judah (the Jews) rejected Christ as their Saviour, so the baton was passed to their brothers—the lost ten tribes whom Jesus was sent and through the raising up of the church, the commission was given to preach the gospel to the world. It was the house of Joseph who fed the world in Joseph’s time not the house of Judah, so the mirroring continues as the Christians take the gospel to the world.

At a distance, Joseph’s brothers saw him coming—a reflection of Christ’s coming foretold by the prophets. Before Joseph reached them, they had plotted to kill him. The mysteries hidden in the multi-layers, shimmer through as we see the remaining fallen sons of God ruling over the nations from the heavens, also plotting their brother’s demise. While it was the Jewish priests who led the campaign to kill Jesus on earth, they were not alone. An obscure scripture in 1 Corinthians 2:8 removes the veil for a moment, between heaven and earth to give us a glimpse

on earth of the battles that rage in the heavens. “None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, *they would not have crucified the lord of glory*” (1 Corinthians 2:8).

### **HE IS THROWN IN THE PIT**

Joseph was thrown into a pit by his brothers, like the Son of God who, too, was put into the grave by his brothers, leading Jewish priests crying out “Crucify him, crucify him!” The Psalmist recorded the death of Christ with unlikely imagery of raging bulls, lions and dogs surrounding him as he was dying on the cross. God’s imagery of bulls, lions and dogs refer to rogue heavenly rulers, powers and principalities who have lost their godliness and are now destined to die eternally, like animals. Dogs are also an image to describe heathens.

“Many bulls surround me; strong bulls of Bashan encircle me. Roaring lions [lion symbolic of royalty—royal family members] tearing their prey open their mouths wide against me. I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint... you lay me in the dust of death... Dogs have surrounded me; a band of evil men has encircled me, they have pierced my hands and my feet. I can count all of my bones; people stare and gloat over me. They divide my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing” (Psalm 22:12-18).

Christ spent three days and three nights in the grave.

### **JOSEPH’S COAT WAS TORN AND DIPPED IN BLOOD**

The coat was an image of honour like that of a prince. It mirrors the love that God, the Father has for His Son who is the Prince among all princes. Joseph’s brothers fake his death by tearing his coat and dipping it in the blood of a goat—using a goat was a type of scapegoat of their actions. It is no surprise when Christ returns that his “robe is dipped in blood” (Revelation 19:13). God’s appointed Holy Day, the Day of Atonement/Yom Kippur is a remembrance of the selected goat whose blood would pay the price of the sins of mankind.

Jacob recognized Joseph’s coat and said, “It is my son’s robe! Some ferocious animal has devoured him. Joseph has surely been torn to pieces” (Genesis 37:33). Jacob believed Joseph to be dead and he mourned. Overtime, even Joseph’s brothers believed their own lie. As Joseph was considered dead by his father, so too, God the Father recognized Jesus on earth in his dying physical body as dead until he regained immortality.

### **SOLD AS A SLAVE**

Both Joseph and Jesus were sold for the price of a slave.

“And he sent a man before them—Joseph, sold as a slave. They bruised his feet with shackles, his neck was put in irons” (Psalm 105: 17-18). God will choose enduring, humble servants who trust in Him and receive strength from Him to do His work.

### **TEMPTED BUT DID NOT SIN**

Joseph became the servant to Potiphar, one of Pharaoh’s officials in Egypt. Everything that Joseph did, God blessed him and Potiphar noticed and promoted him; “he left in Joseph’s care



everything he had... he did not concern himself with anything except the food he ate" (Genesis 39:2-6).

Joseph was well-built and handsome and it wasn't long when Potiphar's wife noticed him and asked him to go to bed with her (Genesis 39:7). Relentlessly she threw herself on him, each time he declined. "One day he went into the house to attend to his duties, and none of the household servants was inside. She caught him by his cloak and said, 'Come to bed with me!' But he left his cloak in her hand and ran out of the house. She knew his conviction and remembered his words, "How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?" So, she lied and accused him of an attempt of rape.

Far from his Father's place in heaven, Christ was born on earth and became a servant. As the life of Joseph unfolds, the greater story of Christ is revealed. The temptation by the evil one after Jesus had fasted for forty days and forty nights in the wilderness, shimmers through as a repetition out of the pages in the story of Joseph. "Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to Him, 'All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me.' Then Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve'" (Matthew 4:8-10). Joseph and Jesus were tempted in the same way, but neither one of them weakened; they ran from adultery. They were unrelentingly loyal to serving and obeying the Almighty God.

#### **THE ADULTEROUS WOMAN RIDING THE BEAST**

During the dark days that lie ahead, a false church riding a beastly government will persecute the true church. Relentlessly, the true church will be attacked for a time that must be. "The king will do as he pleases. He will exalt and magnify himself above every god and will say unheard-of things against the God of gods. He will be successful until the time of wrath is completed, for what has been determined must take place" (Daniel 11:36). Christ's Bride will not be tempted either, she will not join the false church and commit adultery. She will not deny Christ's name or sin against God. She will overcome him [Satan] "by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death" (Revelation 12:11).

#### **THE ACCUSED—THAT HEBREW SLAVE WAS SILENT**

This Hebrew has been brought to us to make sport of us!" (Genesis 39:14) "When his master heard the story his wife told him, saying 'This is how your slave treated me,' he burned with anger. Joseph's master took him and put him in prison, the place where the king's prisoners were confined" (Genesis 39:19).

The perfection reflection is seen in the false accusations against Jesus. "Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas, the high priest... The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death. But they did not find any, though many false witnesses came forward" (Matthew 27:57-59). "When he was accused by the chief priests and the elders, he gave no answer. Then Pilate asked him, 'Don't

you hear how many things they are accusing you of? But Jesus made no reply, not even to a single charge—to the great amazement of the governor” (Matthew 27 12-14). Both Joseph and Jesus were innocent and falsely accused, yet accepted the penalty without a word.

### **BOTH JOSEPH AND JESUS WERE HEBREWS**

Together they represent all of the twelve tribes of Israel. Joseph represents the 10-tribes of Israel—the northern house and Jesus born from the tribe of Judah represents the two-tribes, southern house known as the house of Judah. Today, they remain a divided kingdom, but their re-unification is prophesied; it is guaranteed. “This is what the Sovereign LORD says: ‘I am going to take the stick of Joseph—which is in Ephraim’s hand—and the Israelite tribes associated with him, and join it to Judah’s stick with the Israelite tribes associated with him, making them a single stick of wood, and they will become one in my hand... they will never again be two nations or be divided into two kingdoms’” (Ezekiel 37:19, 22).

The re-unification of the two houses by God is an event timed exactly when Christ rules on earth where he will be King and Lord and law and grace will be bound together as one resulting in the keeping of the law righteously as humble servants.

### **GOD’S HUMBLE SERVANTS WERE NUMBERED AMONG THE TRANSGRESSORS.**

“While Joseph was there in the prison, the LORD was with him; he showed him kindness and granted him favor in the eyes of the prison warden. So, the warden put Joseph in charge of all those held in the prison, and he was made responsible for all that was done there” (Genesis 39:21-22).

His fascinating story takes a twist when the cupbearer and the baker are thrown in prison and placed under his care. They each have a dream, which leads to Joseph’s reply, “Do not interpretations belong to God? Tell me your dreams” (Genesis 40:8). God gives Joseph the meaning of the dreams, but it wasn’t until Pharaoh had a dream, two years later that the cupbearer remembered Joseph and he was brought before Pharaoh and again, Joseph gives credit to God. Joseph replied to Pharaoh, “It is not within my power, but God will speak concerning the welfare of Pharaoh” (Genesis 41:16).

No matter what place Joseph found himself in, he remembered God. Whether serving under the captain of the guard or in a prison, the place was of no significance; he revered and served God humbly not taking any glory for himself. He sought to reveal the power of God, which in his time, often came in the form of interpreting dreams.

So, Christ, who for a time, gave up his glorious eternal body to be born flesh and blood died with the shamed. “I will give him the honors of a victorious soldier, because he exposed himself to death. *He was counted among the rebels.* He bore the sins of many and interceded for rebels” (Isaiah 53:12). He lived and breathed God’s will. “I don't speak on my own authority. The Father who sent me has commanded me what to say and how to say it” (John 12:49). The work of God’s hands is a meek and humble servant who is not self-seeking or selfish. And

through God’s grace, He shares His plan, knowledge and wisdom to those who seek and obey Him.

### THE MEANING OF THE DREAM

Now, Pharaoh had another dream.

- Out of the river 7 fat, sleek cows came up—after them, 7 very ugly and lean cows and they ate the 7 fat cows and remained lean and ugly.
- 7 heads of grain, full and good, growing on a single stalk—after them, 7 heads sprouted, but withered as they were scorched by the east wind (Genesis 41:22-24).



Pharaoh sought the meaning of the dream. “I cannot do it, but God can,” Joseph replied. “At this, Joseph said to Pharaoh, ‘The dreams of Pharaoh are one and the same. God has revealed to Pharaoh what He is about to do. The seven good cows are seven years, and the seven ripe heads of grain are seven years. The dreams have the same meaning. Moreover, the seven thin, ugly cows that came up after them are seven years, and so are the seven worthless heads of grain scorched by the east wind—they are seven years of famine’” (Genesis 41:25-27).

**The COWS and the HEADS OF GRAIN:** 7 years of abundance and 7 years of famine.

Despite the incredible abundance produced during the first 7 years, so much so that Joseph “stopped keeping records” (Genesis 41:49), it had no relief on the famine that followed. The lean, ugly cows that ate up the fat cows remained still lean and ugly, the heads of grain still withered for they were scorched by God, himself—the east wind.

The lesson God is making clear to all of mankind is that the over-whelming abundance of information, misinformation and disinformation that God allows today will die. God is the engineer of the upcoming famine. He will destroy the lies and disinformation. Mankind will be forced to turn to God for answers. In a time of great distress, they will be forced to rely on Him—the true provider for life. All of mankind will become totally indebted to God for their survival through the authority of Jesus Christ.

### **LIFTED UP BY GOD, NOW THEY ARE CONSIDERED DISCERNING AND WISE**

“Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, *‘Since God has made all this known to you, there is no one so discerning and wise as you. You shall be in charge of my palace, and all my people are to submit to your orders. Only with respect to the throne will I be greater than you’*” (Genesis 41:39-40). The rulership foreseen by Joseph is now his reality.

Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me” (Mathew 28:18) and “For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him [Christ], and through him [Christ] to reconcile to himself ALL things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross” (Colossians 1:19-20).

Jesus and Joseph were given authority over everything, except with respect to the throne. God, our Creator remains supreme.

### **HIS NAME IS CHANGED**

Pharaoh gave Joseph the name Zaphenath-Paneah and gave him Asenath daughter of Potiphara, priest of On, to be his wife. From Easton’s Bible Dictionary, “the meaning of Joseph’s new name, Zaphenath-Paneah remains unclear.” This is a pure Egyptian word, and has been variously explained.” <http://biblehub.com/topical/z/zaphnathpaaneah.htm>

It is no surprise that the meaning of Joseph’s new name remains unclear. Even Christ’s new name remains hidden to this day.

Such drama and emotional turmoil have surfaced and subsided in Joseph’s story, but now a time of peace and happiness ushered in the calm after the storm. Joseph was honored with a new name, reflective of his new title and authority, and a wife from a priestly family like Christ and his bride. The 21<sup>st</sup> century Christians know this story well. Our Saviour has received all authority in heaven and on earth and he has been given by God a new name reflective of his new title—King of kings, Lord of lords. This new name is known only to Christ, but we know it will be written on the people who represent the Philadelphia church. “I will write on him [the Philadelphia church] the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem... and *my new name*” (Revelation 3:12). These people are a body of overcomers, of a priestly family—like Asenath.

Only Christ knows his new name. “I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns, He has a name written on him that no one but he himself knows” (Revelation 19:11-12).

### **STORAGE AND PROCESSES WERE ESTABLISHED DURING THE TIME OF ABUNDANCE IN PREPARATION FOR THE TIME OF FAMINE**

“Joseph was thirty years old when he entered the service of Pharaoh king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from Pharaoh’s presence and traveled throughout Egypt. During the seven years of

abundance, the land produced plentifully. Joseph collected all the food produced in those seven years of abundance in Egypt and stored it in the cities” (Genesis 41:46-49).

Christ began his ministry at the age of 30 years old. On the day of Pentecost, in the year of his resurrection, the church—a reborn group of people became the church. These people vowed to follow Christ wherever he goes. The baton was passed on that day to spread the good news of the gospel to the whole world. As Joseph traveled the land freely, he established storehouses, so too, Christ has traveled and established churches stored with the word of God. With the invention of the printing press and the development of the internet, information and knowledge of God’s word is everywhere. The Bible, resources, studies, research materials are easily accessible and available at a minimal cost for the most part. We are truly living in a time where the word of God can be easily accessed—so much, that its value is diminished and often ignored. Initially, this Holy-Spirit-filled group of people, now known as the church, was a store house of the pure word of God. They were delighted to be given the job to preach the gospel to the whole world, but over the years, false teachers and false teachings have polluted the pure truth and the seven churches of Revelation are now urged by Christ to overcome and return to the pure truth of God.

A great famine is on the horizon. “The seven years of abundance in Egypt came to an end, and the seven years of famine began, just as Joseph said” (Genesis 41:53-54). Christ too, has warned mankind of an upcoming trouble unsurpassed before nor ever will be. “For then there will be great distress, unequaled from the beginning of the world until now—and never to be equaled again. If those days had not been cut short, nobody would be saved. But for the sake of the elect, those days will be shortened” (Matthew 24:21-22).

From the story of Joseph, we can anticipate mirroring events in our future. During the time of the Great Tribulation an unusual event will take place. A Hebrew people will come to Christ and ask for help. “Then ten of Joseph’s brothers went down to buy grain from Egypt. But Jacob did not send Benjamin, Joseph’s brother, that harm might come to him... Now Joseph was the governor of the land, the one who sold grain to all the people” (Genesis 42:3-6). Just as Joseph’s brothers came to him for help, so Judo-Christians will go to Christ, who makes intercession for them, to call on God for help. “Therefore, he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them” (Hebrews 7:25) and “Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us” (Romans 8:34).

“So, Joseph’s brothers arrived, they bowed down to him with their faces to the ground” (Genesis 42:6). Joseph’s dream becomes a reality.

“As soon as Joseph saw his brothers, he recognized them... they did not recognize him” (Genesis 42:7-8). In this upcoming time of famine, 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will turn to Christ for answers to their troubles, but he will speak harshly to them, just as Joseph did to his brothers. For over 2,000 years, Christ has urged his churches in the book of Revelation to overcome.

“Where do you come from? You are spies!” Joseph said.

Jesus said, “I know your deeds...” (Revelation 3). To each of the seven churches of Revelation Jesus has urged them to overcome. He has shown them their mistakes and offers them his hand to bring change and commitment to establish a strong foundation in God’s word and pure teachings in how to live God’s ways of righteousness.

The churches don’t recognize Christ talking to them because he is not speaking to them face-to-face, just as Joseph initially spoke through an interpreter. Time and the movement away from the pure truth taught by the apostles has created a wall of confusion for the churches. They are unable to see how they have wandered off the narrow Way of Righteousness. Like Joseph’s brothers, they believe themselves to be honest and all of their teachings to be true.

“Your servants are honest men, not spies” (Genesis 42:11), Joseph’s brothers pleaded. They were offended by his harsh words and feared to return as the churches will fear, when they realize that they are far from honest, far from preaching the truth. Payment was not accepted by Joseph. There is no payment any human can pay for eternal life, nor can eternal life be earned through works. The greater story cannot be hidden. Salvation comes from the precious gift of grace from our Creator—the Almighty God. Joseph holds them in contempt for their waywardness and imprisons Simeon, the most brutal of the family of boys, as ransom. The remaining nine return home with their money, grain and having disclosed that they have a younger brother hidden in safety with their father. Christ will feed the 21<sup>st</sup> century Israelites, but he too, will hold them accountable for their waywardness. The churches have God’s Holy Spirit and today a wealth of access to His word. They are without excuse. The best time to overcome is now. The best time to find the ancient path of righteousness is now.



## FORESHADOWS: BENJAMIN, A MYSTERY PEOPLE

*“Benjamin shall ravin as a wolf: in the morning he shall devour the prey,  
and at night he shall divide the spoil” (Genesis 49:27).*

*“About Benjamin he said: ‘Let the beloved of the LORD rest secure in him, for he shields him all day long,  
and the one the LORD loves rests between his shoulders’” (Deuteronomy 33:12).*



Benjamin is the youngest of the twelve sons of Jacob. He is one of the most intriguing characters in the Bible. His mother named him, Benoni, which means ‘son of my sorrow.’ After Rachel, Benjamin’s mother died, Jacob changed it to Benjamin, ‘son of my right hand.’ When Jacob blessed all of his sons, he characterized Benjamin to be like a ravenous wolf devouring the prey in the morning and sharing the spoils at night. The tribe of Benjamin will fight to their death in support of their allies; they were distinguished archers and slingers. The blessing Moses gave to Benjamin reflected the name that his father, Jacob gave to him. He is a son cherished, loved and resting on his father’s chest protected in his arms.

Benjamin mirrors a mystery people who were birthed last in the family, hinting to a last-days people. His mother died giving birth to him. He was the son his father brought very close, protecting him with extra care having lost his beloved wife, Rachel.

In the initial conversation of Joseph’s brothers kneeling before Joseph, they reveal that they have a younger brother. “But they replied, ‘Your servants were twelve brothers, the sons of one man, who lives in the land of Canaan. The youngest is now with our father, and one is no more’” (Genesis 42:13).

After many years, they still perpetuated their lie that their brother, Joseph was dead. Many Christians reduce the monumental role and testimony of Christ into a novel, a nice idea, or a curious myth—like he is dead. Most of the Jews [the house of Judah] have rejected Jesus and refuse to accept him as their Saviour. The admonition of Christ to his churches to overcome has

faded from the pages written in Revelation 3, so they continue teaching misconceptions, disinformation and misinformation. They image Joseph's brothers who believe that their brother is dead.

Joseph's brothers were forced to return to Egypt to buy food. The famine continued and they were suffering.

"Now the famine was still severe in the land. So, when they had eaten all the grain they had brought from Egypt, their father said to them, 'Go back and buy us a little more food'" (Genesis 43:1-2).

Judah took the leadership role. But Judah said to him, "The man warned us solemnly, 'You will not see my face again unless your brother is with you'" (Genesis 43:3).

Joseph's response is nearly identical to Jesus' response to the Jews who rejected him, "For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord'" (Matthew 23:39).

Judah is the patriarch of the Jews. Their acceptance of Christ in the future is key to a chain of events that will revive 21<sup>st</sup> century Israel and the task then given to them, will test their loyalty and faithfulness.

Hidden from view is a small, faithful and loyal group of people who follow Christ wherever he goes. Benjamin was the only brother—Joseph's blood brother who did not betray him. Joseph demands that his brothers bring Benjamin to him, if they want to live. Christ will do the same. He will demand to have his faithful people brought near—the ones in the direct care of the Father. Jacob, like God our Father in heaven, is very protective of His 'preserved ones' so He, like Jacob, will be reluctant to put those who are mirrored in Benjamin in the care of these sons.

The mirroring story reveals future events where God will have to rely on Joseph's 21<sup>st</sup> century wayward brothers who image the many Christian churches who disagree among each other with regard to scriptural interpretations, each priding themselves to have the correct understanding to protect this younger and vulnerable brother—God's tender faithful body of people on their journey to Joseph—Christ. This will take place just prior to the Great Tribulation when Satan, in his fury discovers that his time is now short. He pursues the woman [that faithful, loved church] who gave birth to Christ. This church will be thrust into the open. She will be vulnerable; her congregation are the faithful people standing strong, allied with Almighty God. During her escape to a place of safety, she will get help from "the earth" (Revelation 12:16)—an image yet to be witnessed, yet to be identified.

God's 'preserved ones' will be spared, during times when scoffers mock the faithful. "You have said, 'It is futile to serve God. What did we gain by carrying out his requirements and going about like mourners before the LORD Almighty? But now we call the arrogant blessed. Certainly, the evildoers prosper, and even those who challenge God escape. Then those who

feared the LORD talked with each other, and the LORD listened and heard. A scroll of remembrance was written in his presence concerning those who feared the LORD and honored his name. 'They will be mine,' says the LORD Almighty, 'in the day when I make up treasured possession. I WILL SPARE THEM, just as in compassion a man spares his son who serves him'" (Malachi 3:14-17).

### **LOVE FOR HIS BROTHERS BROUGHT HIM TO TEARS, MORE THAN ONCE**

Finally, after Joseph continues to confront his brothers, they begin to remember how they treated him, the one who is "no more." They talk among themselves admitting to their part in the wrong doing. "They said to one another, 'Surely, we are being punished because of our brother. We saw how distressed he was when he pleaded with us for his life, but we would not listen; that's why this distress has come upon us...' They did not realize that Joseph could understand them. He turned away from them and began to weep" (Genesis 42:21-24).

This scene is a mirror of the pain our Messiah will feel when God's people awaken to their waywardness.

This ancient story images the time, when Christ confronts the nations of 21<sup>st</sup> century Israel, a kingdom comprised of seven core groups. Initially, they will not recognize the confrontation coming from Christ. They will react in the same way as Joseph's brothers. They will feel shame for their evil ways, their corruption, propaganda, Christianized pagan practices, false teachings, lack of depth and sincerity. Christ will see them as Joseph saw his brothers. He will reveal his inside knowledge of them by placing them at his table in their birth order. "The men had been seated before him in the order of their ages, from the firstborn to the youngest; and *they looked at each other in astonishment*" (Genesis 43:33).

At the sight of his brother, Benjamin, Joseph was brought to tears. "As he looked about and saw his brother Benjamin, his own mother's son, he asked, 'Is this your youngest brother, the one you told me about?' ... Deeply moved at the sight of his brother, Joseph hurried out and looked for a place to weep. He went into his private room and wept there" (Genesis 43:29-30).

This chapter of the story reveals the unique relationship felt by Joseph for Benjamin—a close and tender relationship—his blood brother, who did not take part in his betrayal. Joseph has his silver cup placed in Benjamin's sack, intentionally. It mirrors future events when the faithful people of God are given authority from Jesus that causes them grief from their own family. The sons of Jacob return to Egypt by the command of the Egyptian soldiers. They are terrified. In this return, Joseph reveals himself. "Then he [Joseph] threw his arms around his brother Benjamin and wept, and Benjamin embraced him, weeping. And he kissed all his brothers and wept over them" (Genesis 45:14).

This is a story God Almighty wants His people to understand and cherish. The Philadelphia church is a special group of people. The Greek word used by Jesus when speaking to the seven churches of Revelation is 'Ekklesia' which means "a called-out assembly." Of all of the seven

'called-out assemblies' only the Philadelphia group are identified as having not denied Jesus Christ. "You have kept my word and not denied my name" (Revelation 3:8).

Benjamin represents a called-out assembly who remain faithful, strong and dear to both Almighty God and Jesus Christ. God is forming a kingdom of holy, royal priests. This holy kingdom of royal priests will eventually include people from all twelve tribes of Israel. "All of Israel will be saved" (Romans 11:26). It means that people from all twelve tribes of Israel will be saved. The unrepentant will not be saved.

Judah brings Joseph to tears through his genuine humility, his leadership and unrelenting promise of Benjamin's protection given to his father. Judah's speech, while nine of his brothers remained silent, opened Joseph's heart to bring his wayward brothers close to him. "Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all his attendants, and he cried out, 'Have everyone leave my presence!' So, there was no one with Joseph when he made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard him, and Pharaoh's household heard about it" (Genesis 45:1-2).

Still in the future, Christ will bring all of 21<sup>st</sup> century Israel, that is, all twelve nations, before him to see whether they are worthy of eternal life. Joseph is a mirror of Jesus. During a time before Christ's return, before and during the great famine, the 21<sup>st</sup> century house of Joseph will teach the world the word of God and His law. This imagery will become clear soon, but the story is clear that the Jews will be prepared to lay down their life to protect God's cherished people—their youngest brother. That nation will stand up as the leader among his brothers to prove their eternal change of heart. Christ will not send them away; this time, he will invite them all to stay close to him.

Joseph who imaged Christ in his life on earth, never stopped loving his brothers, but they certainly tested him. And again, after Jacob died, they said, "What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?" (Genesis 50:15) They distrust Joseph's love for them and "when their message came to him, Joseph wept" (Genesis 50:17).

How many times have the houses of Israel caused Jesus to weep?

"He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him." And so, He wept" (John 1:11).

Christ suffered much sadness and disappointment from the actions of God's chosen people. They have witnessed many, many wonders and miracles, yet still, for hundreds of years they were faithless and unfaithful.

### **HIS CALLING BECOMES CLEAR**

At thirty years old, Joseph began to rule. His calling was clear to him. Joseph understood his two-fold God-given commission. "But God sent me ahead of you to:

1. Preserve for you a remnant on earth and

2. Save your lives by a great deliverance” (Genesis 45:7).

Christ understood his two-fold purpose:

1. Preserve his church “And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all those he has given me, but raise them up at the last day” (John 6:39).
2. Pay the penalty for sin to save his brothers, all twelve tribes of Israel, as well as, all of mankind.

“For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ’s at His coming” (I Corinthians 15:22-23).

“For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day” (John 6:40).

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one unique Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16).

The lives of Joseph and Jesus meet at this very point where their calling is no longer a mirror image but one of the same—the preserving of the faithful and true people throughout the ages—the faithful remnant that God protects and holds dear to his heart. Secondly, to save all who come to buy food as Christ saves all who come to him and believe.

### **THE END-TIMES FAITHFUL CHURCH JOURNEYS INTO CHRIST’S CARE**

The words preserved in Revelation peel open a long-hidden mystery. “A great and wondrous sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head” (Revelation 12:1). This wondrous sign is the holy family of Israel—a royal church who gives birth to their Saviour, then is pursued by an enormous raging, wild dragon.

This wonder seen in heaven continues to detail a rescue from a frantic dragon. “She was pregnant and cried out in pain as she was about to give birth... She gave birth to a son... who will rule all nations with an iron scepter. And her child was snatched up to God and to his throne. The woman fled into the desert to a place prepared for her by God, where she might be taken care of for 1,260 days” (Revelation 12:2-6).

The great dragon in his seething rage kicks up a dust storm in his pursuit of her. Foolish Satan, he is no match for the Supreme God. God Almighty won’t allow Satan to harm this body of people. She is “given the wings of a great eagle, so that she might fly to the place prepared for her in the desert, where she would be taken care of for a time, times and a half” (Revelation 12:14). The imagery of a ‘great eagle’ is intriguing. The Israelites left Egypt on the wings of an eagle.

“You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how *I bore you on eagles’ wings* and brought you to myself” (Exodus 19:4).

A miracle of wonder will take God's cherished people to safety before the release of horror and dread that will cover and grip this planet.

### **JOSEPH'S SILVER CUP**

Joseph's cup goes missing and found in Benjamin's bag! "Let it be as you say. Whoever is found to have it will become my slave; the rest of you will be free from blame," Joseph said to his brothers (Genesis 44:16).

What meaning lies in this cryptic chapter in Joseph's story of his silver cup, secretly and intentionally, hidden in Benjamin's sack that releases a gush of tension, anxiety and terror at the moment when everything appeared to be resolved and peaceful?

Initially, Joseph's plan was to keep only his younger brother with him—the brother who did not betray him; his blood brother. But, Judah stood in the way. He was bound to his promise with his father; he was unmoveable. His steadfast promise changed Joseph's heart. We can expect the Jews, the descendants of Judah, will again demonstrate an unrelenting promise to God that will change Christ's heart and the prophecy recorded in Romans 11 will be fulfilled, "All of Israel [that is all 12 tribes] will be saved." When Paul quoted that scripture, he was reminding the Jews that their brothers, the 10-tribed brothers, will be saved. The Jews thought that only they from the family of Israelites would be saved. Today, the meaning of the same scripture is reversed. The Christians who have accepted Christ as their Saviour and follow him wherever he goes will be saved; we are now waiting for the Jews to accept Christ as their Saviour and be saved; hence then, ALL OF ISRAEL [ALL TWELVE TRIBES] WILL BE SAVED.

Five years remaining in the famine, Joseph reveals himself. His brothers were terrified, but he asked them to come close and he comforted them by not reprimanding them for their betrayal, rather, that he was sold as a slave to save lives. He explained, "It wasn't you who sent me here, but God" (Genesis 45:8).

When Christ reveals himself and he stands face-to-face before 21<sup>st</sup> century Judo-Christians, they will be terrified. Their relationship is distant and superficial. Their belief in God and Christ is vague and blurry. They claim to do good works, but they break God's commandments. They do not study and search out the truth from the scriptures as the Bereans did and they hold onto the traditions of men mixing paganism with truth. They can expect a time of trouble. During that terrifying time, they will sincerely repent and then, and only then, will Christ bring them close to him. They will feel intense guilt and shame, but he will comfort them and explain that his sufferings were planned from before creation to bring forgiveness of sin to them and all of mankind.

### **BENJAMIN'S IS MORE THAN A BROTHER**

Rachel called him "Benoni" meaning "son of my sorrow" when he was born, but Jacob changed his name to "Benjamin" meaning "son of my right hand." Joseph's name means "he will add." Benjamin was added to the family. He was Joseph's only blood brother. He represents the



added body of Christ—his bride, a called-out assembly of faithful people. Joseph cried aloud when he revealed himself. The pain of holding back his love for Benjamin and his brothers was intense—Christ so loves his bride and urges the seven churches of Revelation to overcome and remove the spots, wrinkles, and blemishes in their teachings and behavior, which keep them far and away from him.

When portions were served from Joseph’s table to his brothers, Benjamin’s portion was five times more than his brothers. They feasted and drank freely with him (Genesis 43:34) also, Joseph gave each of them “new clothing, but to Benjamin he gave three hundred shekels of silver and five sets of clothes” (Genesis 45:22).

The imagery of Benjamin receiving five times the meal portion and five sets of clothing foretells of the time when Christ gives his faithful and loyal people five times more knowledge, understanding and wisdom of God’s word through the outpouring of God’s Holy Spirit and their resurrected bodies will shine five times brighter.



Benjamin images Christ’s bride who the Bible often refers to as a remnant people; the remnant Joseph and Jesus were commissioned to preserve. They will have a significant role during the last five years of Jacob’s trouble. Joseph put his cup into Benjamin’s bag to identify who he has chosen to be his servant. Joseph’s cup is a cup of authority and a cup of suffering. Benjamin’s brothers will watch in amazement the rise of their youngest brother who was previously insignificant—protected and hidden by their father. The boy mirrors a group of people who are obscure and not listed among the aged churches who have been around for hundreds of years, the same aged churches who hold onto the traditions of men, mixing pagan practices into the doctrines of God.

The tribe of Benjamin were known warriors. During the last days of this evil age, there will be no time to lure people to God, as fishers of men do. The urgency of the times will bring in the

Benjamin hunters who will tear the lies, misconceptions, disinformation, misinformation away to expose the pure truth of God's word. They will feed the people God's truth and confront with the aggression of a warrior, falsehood and destroy it. They are not afraid of death and their love for truth fortifies their loyalty to Almighty God and Jesus Christ.

"Benjamin shall ravin (as) a wolf; in the morning he shall devour the prey, and at night he shall divide the spoil" (Genesis 49:27).

### **DURING JACOB'S TIME OF TROUBLE, PEOPLE SELL EVERYTHING TO GET THE WORD OF GOD**

The great famine is the time of bringing ALL of mankind to their knees. The story of Joseph bringing all Egypt into total subjection to their Supreme Ruler mirrors the great subjection yet to take place as the whole world in the 21<sup>st</sup> century comes under servitude to Almighty God. Their state of poverty is a mirror of the lies, misinformation and disinformation fed to mankind throughout the ages by Wickedness. Truth will rise and fill the earth; people will be shown the truth and a great exchange will take place. Mankind will go to 21<sup>st</sup> century Joseph for life-bringing food. They will exchange all of their beliefs with Joseph who will bring them into total servitude to Almighty God, to the level where they begin tithing and they give one-fifth of their livelihood to the Supreme Ruler.

"So, Joseph bought all the land in Egypt for Pharaoh. The Egyptians, one and all, sold their fields, because the famine was too severe for them. The land became Pharaoh's, and Joseph reduced the people to servitude, from one end of Egypt to the other... Joseph said to the people, 'Now that I have bought you and your land today for Pharaoh, here is seed for you so you can plant the ground. But when the crop comes in, give a fifth of it to Pharaoh. The other four-fifths you may keep as seed for the fields and as food for yourselves and your households and your children.'" The Egyptians agreed to this contract and said, 'You have saved our lives,' they said. 'May we find favour in the eyes of our lord; we will be in bondage to Pharaoh'" (Genesis 47:20-21, 23-25).

### **JOSEPH AND BENJAMIN, JESUS AND THE SAINTS, HIS BRIDE**

The story of Joseph is the foreshadowing of Christ foretold over 3,000 years ago. A mystery people come to light through Benjamin. Their work is illusive, but will come into full view soon.

Understanding God's coded language brings the "wow" moment to why the stories have been preserved in the Bible and why the people in ancient times experienced what they did. There is no mystery when the key to God's coded language is applied.

## FORESHADOWS: JOB'S THREE DAUGHTERS

*“And in all the land there were no women so beautiful as Job’s daughters. And their father gave them an inheritance among their brothers.” (Job 42:15)*



A surface reading of Job 42:15 would appear that in ancient times, it takes having exceptional physical beauty before women were valued equal to sons where an inheritance was given. The penmanship of Almighty God triggers curiosity, drives critical thinking and demands exploration.

To understand Job 42:15, a simple read of Job 1:1-5 and Job 42:12-17, which are the beginning and ending verses of the book, will generate an echo of Job’s words, “My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you” (Job 42:5).

The story of Job most studied is Satan’s attack that caused intense suffering for Job and his incredible spiritual growth that brought him to see God. But, casually written in the introduction and the conclusion is another story that is a direct result of Job’s spiritual condition.

Job was a devout God-fearing and God-serving man. Each year, his seven sons held a celebration that some Bible translations state were birthday parties. They invited their sisters, though their sisters did not have annual celebrations of their own. They did not invite their parents. Their father, Job, was concerned about possible sinful behaviour at these annual celebrations and would offer the next day early in the morning, a sacrifice to God for each of them to bring atonement should any of his children have sinned or cursed God in their hearts.

The focus of the introduction of the book of Job is on his sons who are giving honour to themselves in their annual celebrations. Job had concerns with this activity and settled his worries through a burnt offering to God.

One day, Satan came with the righteous angels to present themselves to God and God took the occasion to recognize the blameless and upright behaviour of Job before Satan. God foresaw the opportunity to take Job to a high point so that he could understand God and His work through a special lens. As anticipated, Satan mocked Job and accredited his loyalty and righteousness to be a result of the blessings God had bestowed upon him. God removed the hedge He placed around Job and allowed Satan to inflict him. The suffering, at the hands of Satan, did not cause Job to stumble rather it brought him higher into God's world. He acquired knowledge beyond the grasp of humanity and came into understanding of the deep things of God. This spiritual growth in Job brought a change visible in the conclusion of the book of Job where the focus unexpectedly moved away from his seven sons to his three daughters.

“The LORD blessed the latter part of Job's life more than the first. He had 14,000 sheep, 6,000 camels, 1,000 yoke of oxen, and 1,000 donkeys. And he also had seven sons and three daughters. The first daughter he named Jemimah, the second Keziah and the third Keren-Happuch. Nowhere in all the land were there found women as beautiful as Job's daughters” (Job 42:12-15).

The conclusion of Job's story provides a bridge into the great spiritual future of God's people. Job was blessed with a double portion of what he had before his infliction. He received the first-born blessing. God is pointing to the people who are part of the first resurrection. They will receive the first-born blessing of wealth in God's word, His understanding and His wisdom. The first men and women to be resurrected and transformed into eternal beings will also nurture and produce a world-renown body of exceptional religious leaders.

The sons in Job's story were unnamed in the introduction and the conclusion of the book because they were never the focus of the story. Their annual celebrations were the reason for their mention. The important change that resulted from Job's spiritual growth was that the sons born after his affliction did not have annual celebrations for themselves leaving Job to worry. The mirror of learning God uses, provides reflections. The sons born to families on earth image the creation in heaven who rule already over vast dominions. This kingship in heaven is mirrored by God's design through the inheritance sons of families on earth receive automatically. God has provided a mirror for mankind to learn about His view of the two creations, their complementary roles and their future together in His holy, royal ruling family.

Like the sons, the names of the daughters prior to Job's trial are not mentioned. But, after his infliction, the three daughters born are named and declared to be the most beautiful in all the land. God's primary focus is to teach His people spiritual matters. The creation of the male and female gender was an intentional design to demonstrate two different and complementary roles. The female gender came into being after the male gender. It was intended from the very beginning to introduce within a second creation, people who form a religious body of men and women who are teachers, religious leaders and the congregation that follow the instructions of God. The first creation are national leaders—kings and princes in heaven; the second creation are religious leaders—high priests and priests, lords on earth. The two different types of

leadership roles will be fully in effect and bound to operate as one during the reign of Christ in the Millennium.

The Apostle Paul understood the mystery of God's mirroring within the genders. "For this reason, a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and **the two will become one flesh. This mystery is profound, but I am speaking about Christ and the church**" (Ephesians 5:31-32).

In the faithful marriage relationship, Christ mirrors the man and the church mirrors the woman. Christ is a King from heaven. The church is a religious body from earth.

Naming is very important to God. Names are mentioned when people hold a significant role valued by God. The daughters of Job image three churches known to God from ancient times. He is teaching His people about the change that will take place after the first resurrection where righteous, God-fearing and God-serving men and women are resurrected and transformed into their glorious bodies. They will receive the first-born blessing—a double portion of riches. Through their leadership, guidance and instruction, the three religious centres will blossom in God's word, His law and love.

Jerusalem is the oldest of the three and is the centre of the kingdom of ancient Israel. Jerusalem, into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, remains an important centre for Israel. In ancient times, it became a city of debauchery. "Son of man, confront Jerusalem with her detestable practices..." (Ezekiel 16:1) "You, adulterous wife! You prefer strangers to your own husband!" (Ezekiel 16:32)

Jesus said, "**Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you**, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing" (Matthew 23:37).

In ancient times, both the national leaders and the priesthood became corrupt and in total rebellion against God. God refused to acknowledge the names of Job's sons and daughters because they imaged the badly behaving leaders of ancient Israel where even blameless and upright Job felt the need to atone for them.

A change is still to come. The resurrection and transformation of the first-born and their rulership with Jesus Christ will bring the necessary conversion that will amaze the world. Jerusalem will be re-born and her beauty will be breath-taking. **Jemimah means "dove"** a symbol of peace. Jerusalem, in the Millennium, will be the law-abiding centre living God's law of love and at peace with God and mankind. Finally, God will rest from the rebellion of His people.

Jerusalem had two sisters; the churches of the house of Israel and the house of Judah. "Like mother, like daughter... Your older sister was Samaria [the name of the kingdom of Israel of the ten tribes], who lived to the north of you with her daughters; and your younger sister, who

lived to the south of you with her daughters, was Sodom [God is identifying the kingdom of Judah to be no different from the deplorable Sodomites]. [God continued] You [Jerusalem] not only walked in their ways [the ways of Samaria and Judah] and copied their detestable practices, but in all your ways you soon became more depraved than they... Samaria did not commit half the sins you did. You have done more detestable things than they, and have made your sisters seem righteous by all these things you have done" (Ezekiel 16:44, 46-47, 51).

What lured these three churches: Jerusalem, Samaria and Judah to enter into the worship of fallen angels and practice their detestable rituals is difficult to understand. Carnal nature is a significantly limiting spirit that struggles to reach any level of holiness.

History houses many lessons for 21<sup>st</sup> century believers. The first, those who lived in ancient times who were given much of God's word and witnessed His great miracles, will be last to be resurrected and transformed. It will be the last, those in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, who will be first.

A change will come. The second oldest daughter's name is **Keziah**. Another spelling of the word is **cassia**. **Cassia oil is like frankincense oil**. It has an **unmistakable fragrance and calming aromatic properties**. It is similar to one of the gifts given to Jesus at his birth. It is expensive, rare, and beautiful.

Cassia bark oil is one of the oldest known spices derived from steam distillation of the cassia bark, leaves and twigs. It has a highly prized aroma very similar to cinnamon bark in both fragrance and in chemistry. It is like frankincense with healing properties. Re-born Christians will learn God's healing ways and become a living model of compassion, enduring patience, eternal love and genuine care for all of mankind. Their beauty will exude the warmth of God's love and His eternal grace.

The third daughter's name is Keren-Happuch, which means the horn of adornment is a reference to the outward beauty that comes from inward character through the keeping of God's laws perfectly. The church of the house of Judah, will in the near future, be a synagogue of experts keeping God's law, freed from the old traditions of the elders. This is what the LORD Almighty says: "In those days ten people from all languages and nations will take firm hold of one Jew by the hem of his robe and say, 'Let us go with you, because we have heard that God is with you'" (Zechariah 8:23).

They touch the hem of the Jew's robe because that is where the reminder of keeping God's law has been placed. Also, it is by no coincidence that God has ten people from all languages and nations because the number ten is also a reminder of God's ten commandments.

The house of Judah, known into the 21<sup>st</sup> century as the Jews, have a history of honouring God's law, however over time, they added the traditions of the elders which eventually replaced the law of God. Jesus tried to correct their mistake. "So the Pharisees and teachers of religious law asked him, 'Why don't your disciples follow our age-old tradition? They eat without first performing the hand-washing ceremony.' Jesus answered them, "Isaiah prophesied correctly



about you hypocrites, as it is written: 'These people honor Me with their lips, but their hearts are far from Me. They worship Me [God] in vain; they teach as doctrine the precepts of men. For you ignore God's law and substitute your own tradition.' He went on to say, "You neatly set aside the command of God to maintain your own tradition" (Mark 7:5-9).

The symbolism of a "horn" is having authority. Job's third daughter will be adorned with authority. Her name identifies the royal authority of the keepers and protectors of God's law that the future Jewish synagogues will reflect the glistening beauty of a crown that will attract the world's attention.

God provided reminders for His people to remember His plan for them and all of mankind. Included in these reminders, was a daily reminder to keep His commandments. He instructed the every-day Israelites to hem their outer garment with a blue panel of tassels. It was symbolic of God's law and a reminder that every Israelites from every tribe had the responsibility to obey God's commandments. The colour blue and type of fabric reminded every man and woman of their royal calling to be a nation of holy priests.



"Speak to the children of Israel: Tell them to make tassels on the corners of their garments throughout their generations, and to put a blue thread in the tassels of the corners. And you shall have the tassel, that **you may look upon it and remember all the commandments of the LORD and do them**, and that you may not follow the harlotry to which your own heart and your own eyes are inclined, and that you may remember and do all My commandments, and be holy for your God" (Numbers 15:37-40).

Job's three daughters image the transformation of the wayward kingdom of ancient Israel who will, still in the future, transform their three religious centres into three God-fearing, God-serving, God-loving churches. Their beauty will be seen all around the world. They will be a holy kingdom living God's way and a kingdom of royal priests modeling for all to see the way of God.

With the sacrifice of Christ and the receiving of God's Holy Spirit, a new birth is forecasted in the story of Job: the rebirth of Jerusalem, Israel—the Christians, and Judah—the Messianic Jews all walking in the ways of God. They will fulfill their calling. "But you are **a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession**" (1 Peter 2:9).



These daughters who image the three religious centres of the future kingdom of Israel will receive an inheritance (Job 42:15b). Traditionally, the family inheritance was given to the sons with a double-portion blessing going to the oldest. In ancient Israel, daughters received an inheritance only when there wasn't a son to receive it. In the case of Job, he gave his daughters an inheritance along with his seven sons.

God's holy, royal family, now in the making, is a ruling kingdom. Job's three daughters received an inheritance—rulership. So, as Job's story reveals, God will give an inheritance—rulership to the three religious centres of the future re-united kingdom of Israel. God will move the focus of honour away from the national leaders of countries to three religious centres. Their names will be renown throughout all creation because of their spiritual beauty: their devoted righteousness, their gracious love, and their keeping and protecting of God's law.

Job's story is simple. It is all about the transformation of God's first-born men and women into eternal life and the three religious centres they produce. God will elevate them to take centre stage and the nations of the world will marvel.

## GOD'S CODED LANGUAGE BRINGS TRANSPARENCY

For people seeking to understand the spiritual world and the deep things of God, decoding God's imagery, the meaning of numbers, and the stories in the parallels and parables is fundamental.

God is transparent to those who search through His word. Nothing has been hidden from those who obey God and follow Christ wherever he goes. For it has been written, "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him" (I Corinthians 2:9). BUT, for those who love the word of God and relentlessly search out the deep things of God, "*these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God*" (I Corinthians 2:10).

Judo-Christians can apply God's coded language and the BIG picture explodes into vivid, vibrant detail. The trusting and loving bond God the Father has for His children is mirrored on earth between a father and child. The intimate relationship of Christ and the church is mirrored on earth between a loving husband and wife. The beauty of every righteous member of God's family is mirrored in a cultured garden of tall trees, flowering trees and bushes, the fruit-producing trees and vines and the fragrances of countless flowers. The righteous character of God is mirrored in earth's finest, rarest and most precious treasures.

God's coded language is consistent. He has provided His legal witness to sinners on earth through the use of number two visible in law and grace. He has prophesied that law and grace will be bound as one so justice, kindness and compassion reign. This style of leadership will be mirrored in God's people, now a divided kingdom, to be in the future, an unbreakable re-united kingdom applying God's law and living His way. Under Christ, they have been redeemed.

God stepped out a timeline sealing a marker on important events. Each third event identifies a key strategic move. Through His use of number twelve, God disclosed who would form the core of His new government. His use of multiples and one thousand adds dimension and infinity to the revelation.

The Biblical stories preserved forgotten history. Parables taught key principles of life. God has hidden nothing and yet, the world is blind because they do not have God's Holy Spirit that gives understanding of spiritual knowledge, understanding and wisdom.

God's coded language is a key for greater understanding. The Apostle Paul discovered the mysteries and taught them. "This is a great mystery, but it is an illustration of the way Christ and the church are one" (Ephesians 5:32). Every aspect of God's creation on earth is a revelation of eternity for those with eyes to see, ears to hear and a willing heart of flesh.

## **ABOUT SHARINGSHARPENS**

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The Holy Bible of the Jews and the Christians is a book that reveals the whole plan of God. It is a book that will take a life-time to read in pursuit of understanding but never coming to see and to know all that lies in the scriptures for man. There lies the importance of sharing.

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