

Divine Principle
Bible Study
101

The Purpose of the Messiah

Messiah is the Hebrew word for Anointed One

Messiah  King

Messianic Expectation  Savior (King)

Jesus Christ  Messiah

Jesus is the Second Adam

So it is written: "The first man Adam became a living being"; the last Adam, a life-giving spirit.

1 Corinthians 15:45

Adam = Original King

- Adam was meant to be King, the first ancestor of God's lineage.
- Together with Eve as his Queen, they would have established God's royal, holy lineage on the earth.



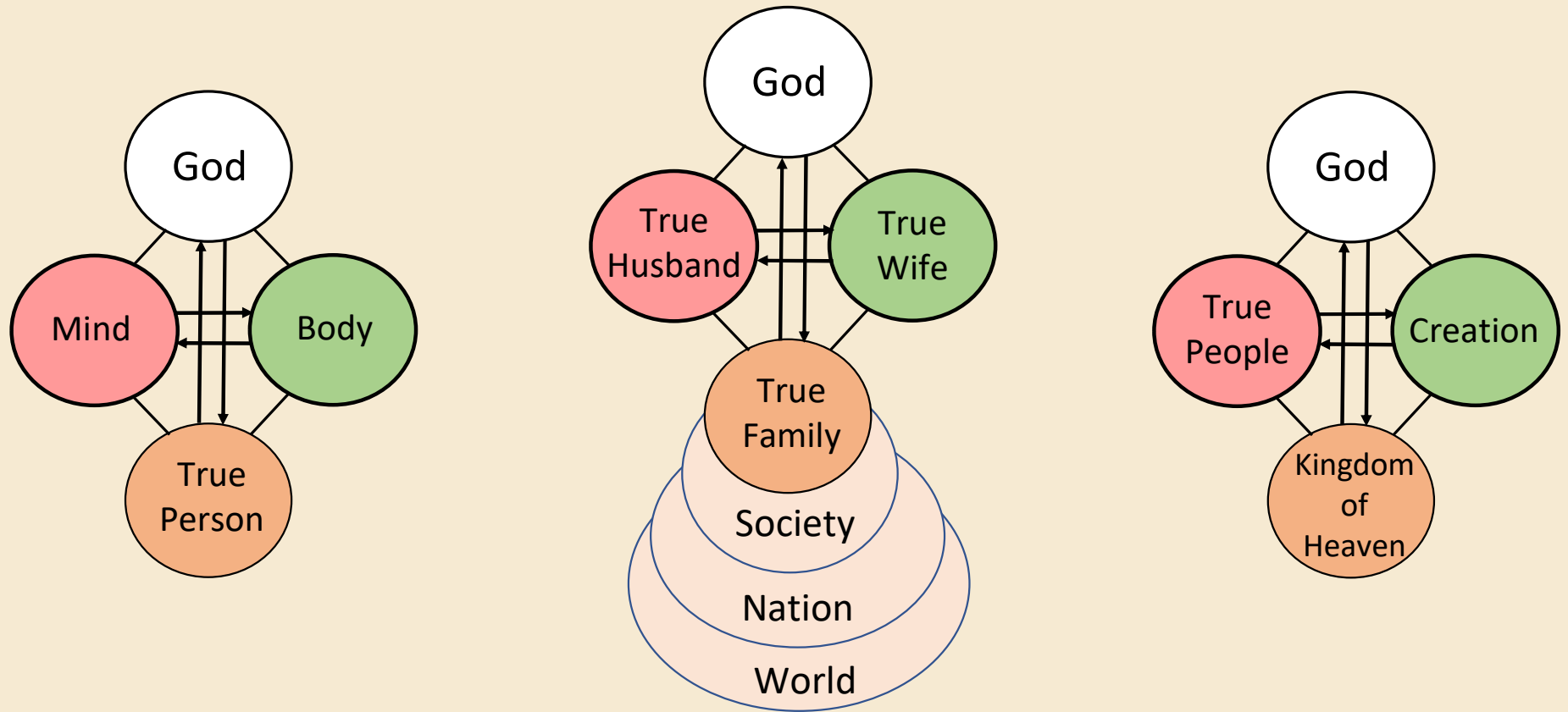
The Fulfillment of the Three Blessings is the Beginning of God's Kingdom

God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

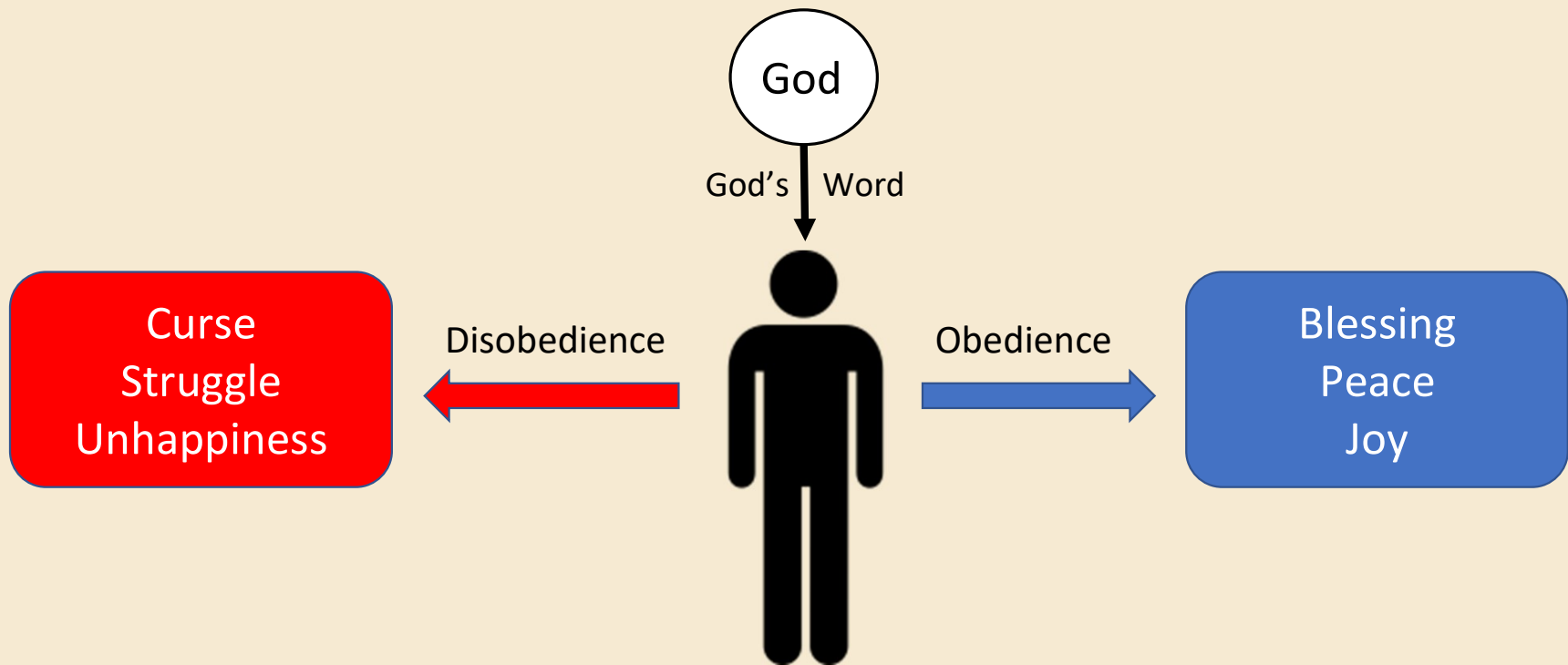
Genesis 1:28



God's Ideal of Creation – 3 Blessings



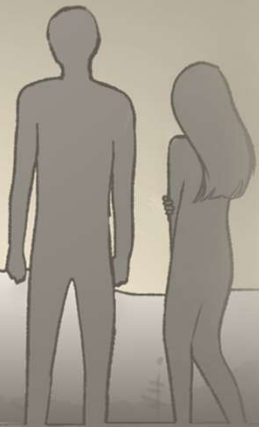
God's Blessing and Man's Portion of Responsibility



God Lost His Kingdom Due to the Fall

Genesis 3:23-24

- Due to the Fall, Satan became ruler and false king of this world
- Human beings inherited Satan's fallen lineage
- God is a being of absolute love and truth – He cannot allow it to stand



The First Messianic Prophecy

*And I will put enmity
between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and hers;
he will crush your head,
and you will strike his heel. Genesis 3:15*

God Sent Jesus to Establish His Kingdom

From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." Matthew 4:17

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people. Matthew 4:23



God Sent Jesus to Establish His Kingdom

Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God... Mark 1:14

And he said unto them, I must preach the kingdom of God to other cities also: for therefore am I sent.

Luke 4:43



Jesus Instructed Us to Pray for the Kingdom on Earth

This, then, is how you should pray:

*“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth
as it is in heaven.”* Matthew 6:9-10

The Kingdom Was Meant to Unfold in Israel

And what one nation on the earth is like Your people Israel, whom God went to redeem for Himself as a people and to make a name for Himself, and to do a great thing for You and awesome things for Your land, before Your people whom You have redeemed for Yourself from Egypt, from nations and their gods? "For You have established for Yourself Your people Israel as Your own people forever, and You, O LORD, have become their God." 2 Samuel 7:23-24

The Israelites were Waiting For Their King

*See, a king will reign in righteousness and
rulers will rule with justice. Isaiah 32:1*



Why did the Kingdom not come at the time of Jesus?

- Israel was destroyed in 70 A.D.
- After the crucifixion, Jesus' disciples were scattered
- Many did not believe in Jesus as the Christ because they did not see the promised kingdom



Pattern of “Blessing” or “Curse” in the Old Testament

- God expected the Israelites to maintain faith in the laws, decrees, and commandments.
- If they did so, God would have made sure that Israel realized a blessed destiny as the central nation of the world.

Blessings for Obedience

If you fully obey the LORD your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations on earth. All these blessings will come on you and accompany you if you obey the LORD your God:

You will be blessed in the city and blessed in the country.

The fruit of your womb will be blessed, and the crops of your land and the young of your livestock—the calves of your herds and the lambs of your flocks.

Your basket and your kneading trough will be blessed.

You will be blessed when you come in and blessed when you go out.

Deuteronomy 28:1-6

Curses for Disobedience

However, if you do not obey the LORD your God and do not carefully follow all his commands and decrees I am giving you today, all these curses will come on you and overtake you:

You will be cursed in the city and cursed in the country.

Your basket and your kneading trough will be cursed.

The fruit of your womb will be cursed, and the crops of your land, and the calves of your herds and the lambs of your flocks.

You will be cursed when you come in and cursed when you go out.

Deuteronomy 28:15-19

God's Desire Was For Israel to be Blessed Through Obedience

This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live.

Deuteronomy 30:19



Why God Rebuked Israel

All the nations will ask: “Why has the LORD done this to this land? Why this fierce, burning anger?”

And the answer will be: “It is because this people abandoned the covenant of the LORD, the God of their ancestors, the covenant he made with them when he brought them out of Egypt.”

Deuteronomy 29:24-25

God Never Desires For His Children to Suffer

Say to them, “As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, people of Israel?” Ezekiel 33:11



God Did Not Interfere with Israel's Portion of Responsibility

*Now you dwellers in Jerusalem and people of Judah,
judge between me and my vineyard.*

*What more could have been done for my vineyard
than I have done for it?*

*When I looked for good grapes,
why did it yield only bad? Isaiah 5:3-4*

Israel Must Choose Between Good and Evil

*And though the LORD has sent all his servants the prophets to you **again and again**, you have **not listened** or paid any attention. They said, “Turn now, each of you, from your evil ways and your evil practices, and **you can stay in the land the LORD gave to you** and your ancestors for ever and ever. Do not follow other gods to serve and worship them; do not arouse my anger with what your hands have made. Then I will not harm you.”*

*“But you did not listen to me,” declares the LORD, “and you have aroused my anger with what your hands have made, and **you have brought harm to yourselves.**” Jeremiah 25:4-7*



God Endowed His Children with Free Will and Responsibility

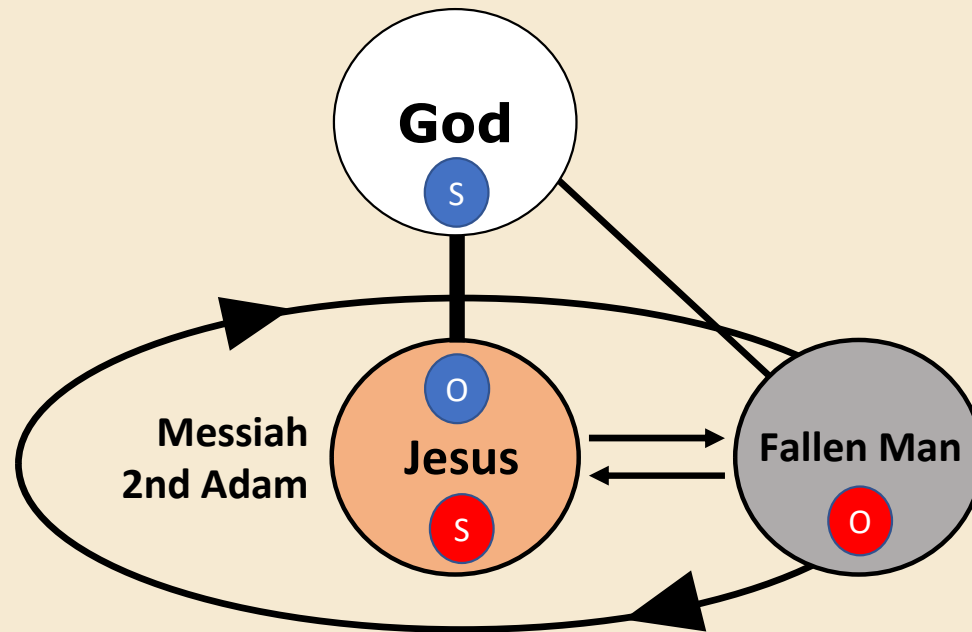
- As explained in “God’s ideal of Creation”, God desires for His children to fulfill their portion of responsibility so that we can inherit the creative nature of God.
- By participating in our own creation, human beings would stand in a unique position to govern the rest of creation.



The Fulfillment of God's Will in the Time of Jesus

- To send the Messiah is God's portion of responsibility (95%)
- Belief in the Messiah is the human portion of responsibility (5%)

God's Plan to Restore Fallen Man through the Messiah

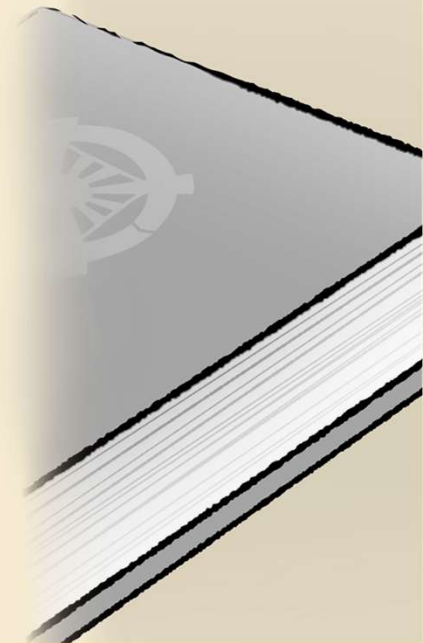


Dual Prophecies in the Old Testament

To cope with the contingency of human responsibility, God gave two kinds of prophecy concerning the accomplishment of His Will through Jesus.

One kind foretold that Jesus would die due to the disbelief of the people. Another kind foretold that the people would believe in and honor Jesus as the Messiah and help him to accomplish God's Will in glory.

Exposition of the Divine Principle p. 120



Prophecies of Suffering

Old Testament

Isaiah 50:6, Isaiah 53, Psalm 22, Psalm 118:22, Zechariah 11:7-14

New Testament

Matthew 16:23, Luke 9:30-31, Luke 24:25-26, John 19:30

Prophecies of Glory

Old Testament

Isaiah 2:4-11, Isaiah 60, Isaiah 61, Ezekiel 34:11-16,
Ezekiel 37:15-28

New Testament

Matthew 4:17, Matthew 6:9-10, Matthew 10:5-7, Mark
1:38, Luke 4:43

Elijah Will Return Before the Messiah Appears

I will send the prophet Elijah to you before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes.

Malachi 4:5

John the Baptist = “Elijah”

*And he will go...in the spirit and power of
Elijah... to make ready a people prepared
for the Lord. Luke 1:17*



John the
Baptist

=

“Second
Coming of
Elijah”

=

Same
mission as
Elijah

John the Baptist: Greatest Religious Leader in Israel

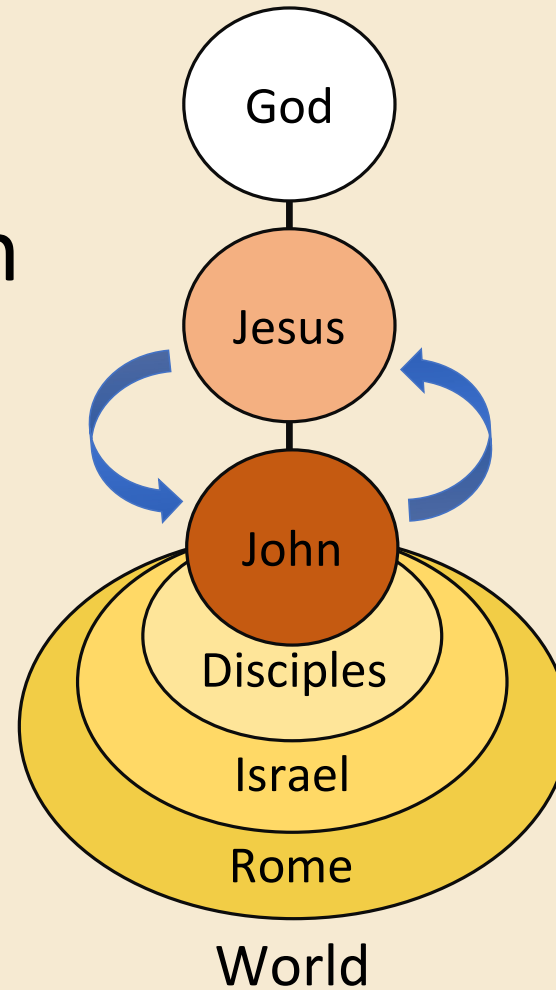
The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. Luke 3:15

[King] Herod feared John and protected him, knowing him to be a righteous and holy man. Mark 6:20

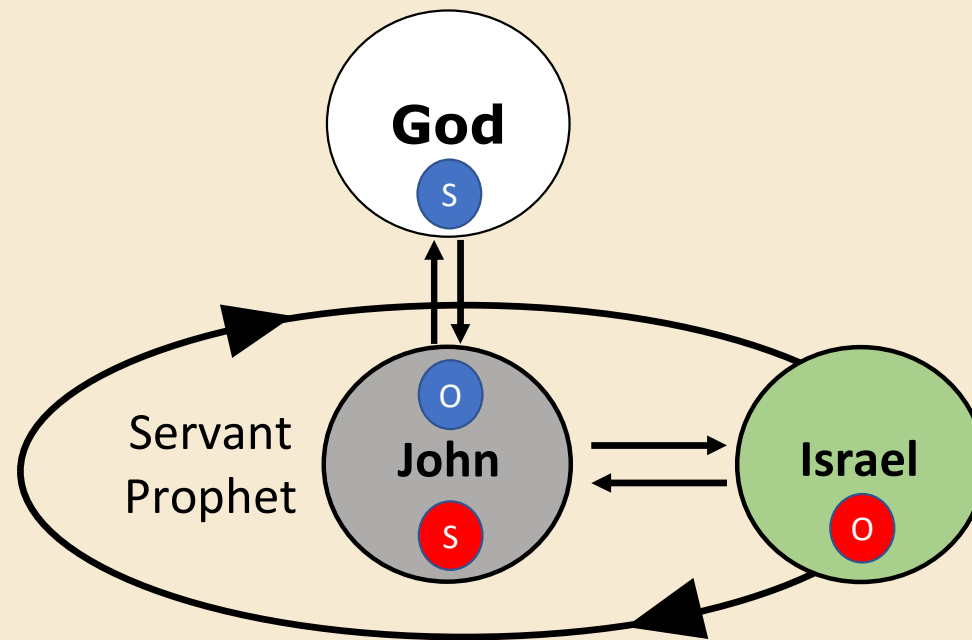
John's Destiny was to Bear Witness to Jesus as the Messiah

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. John 1:6-7

God's Plan for Worldwide Restoration through Jesus



The Relationship between John and the People of Israel





How John Was Viewed By His Contemporaries

1. Born to a prominent family (Father was high priest Zechariah)
2. Miraculous birth
3. Exemplary life
4. People thought John might be the Messiah
5. Respected by priests and Levites



How Jesus Was Viewed By His Contemporaries

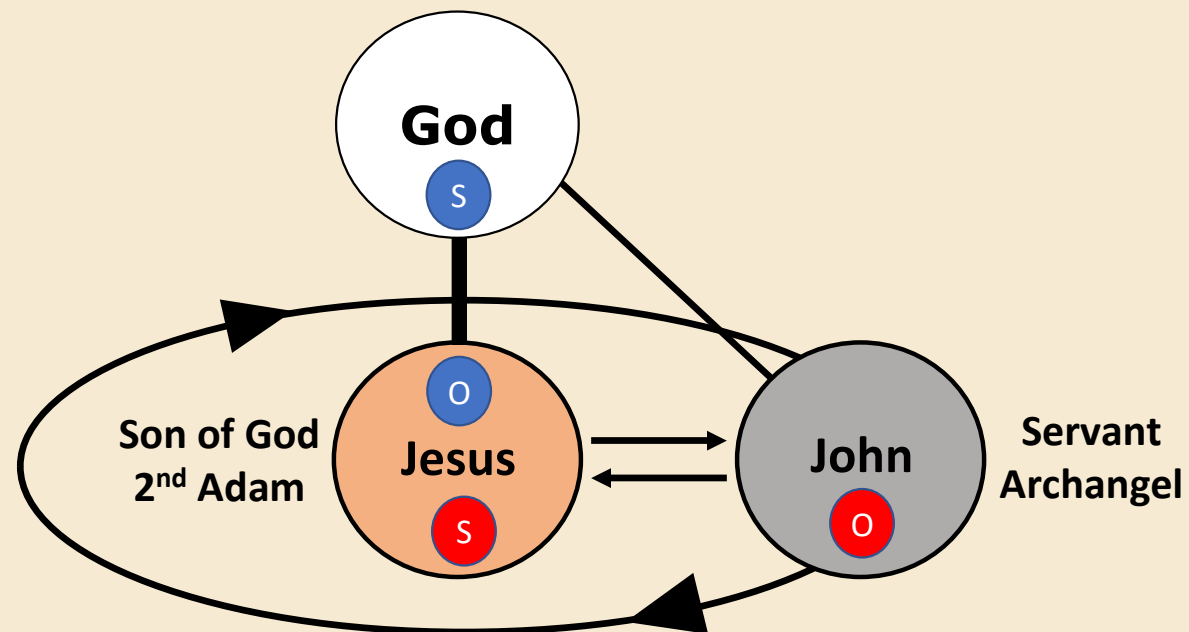
1. Came from a poor, lowly family (born in Nazareth)
2. Illegitimate
3. Made extraordinary claims
4. Called blasphemous
5. Questionable associates

Jesus Proclaimed John to be the Returned Elijah

“And if you are willing to accept it, he [John] is the Elijah who was to come.”
Matthew 11:14

*“Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him...” Then the
disciples understood he was talking to them about John the Baptist.*
Matthew 17:14

The Relationship between Jesus and John the Baptist



John Initially Testified to Jesus as the Messiah

Then John gave this testimony: "I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. And I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.' I have seen and I testify that this is God's Chosen One." John 1:32-34

John Doubted Jesus

When John heard in prison what Christ was doing, he sent his disciples to ask him, "Are you the one who was to come or should we expect someone else?"

Matthew 11:2-3



John Failed to Unite with Jesus

Jesus and his disciples went into the Judean countryside and baptized ... John also was baptizing ... John's disciples ... came to John and said to him, "Rabbi... the one you testified about, ... everyone is going to him."

To this John replied, "He must become greater, I must become less." John 3:22-30



John Denied His Mission as “Elijah”

They asked him, “Are you Elijah?”

He said, “I am not.” Matthew 11:2-3



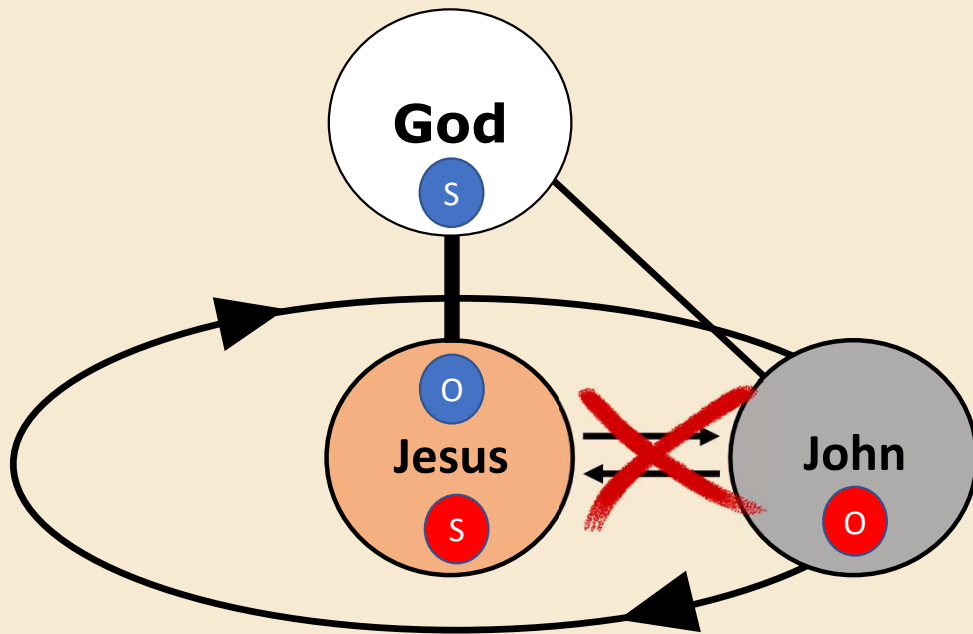
Jesus' Response to John's Doubt and Denial

“Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.” Matthew 11:11

John Lost God's Blessing

*“Go back and report to John what you hear and see...
Blessed is the man who does not fall away on account
of me.”* Matthew 11:4-6

John the Baptist and the 4 Fallen Natures

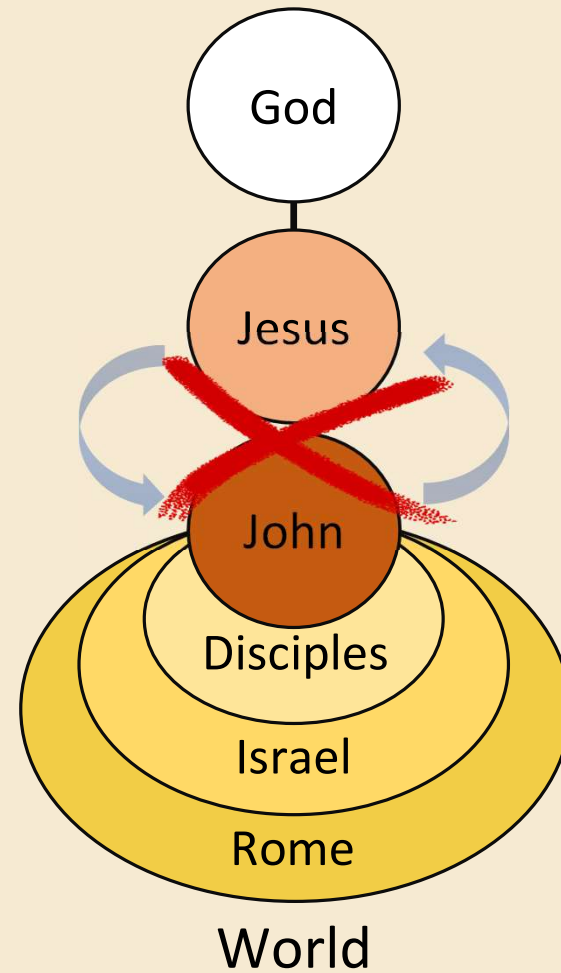


1. Failure to see from God's viewpoint
2. Leaving one's proper position
3. Reversal of dominion
4. Multiplication of evil

The Impact of John's Failure

Because of John's failure to unite with Jesus, Jewish leaders were not able to recognize him as the Messiah.

God's Plan to Establish His Kingdom Centering on Jesus Was Blocked



Jesus Was Opposed By Israel's Leaders

- Political and religious hierarchy were threatened by him.
- Jesus was only able to gather people of low social status.



The Path of Blessing Was for Israel to Accept Jesus

Then they asked him, "What must we do to do the works God requires?"

Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent." John 6:28-29



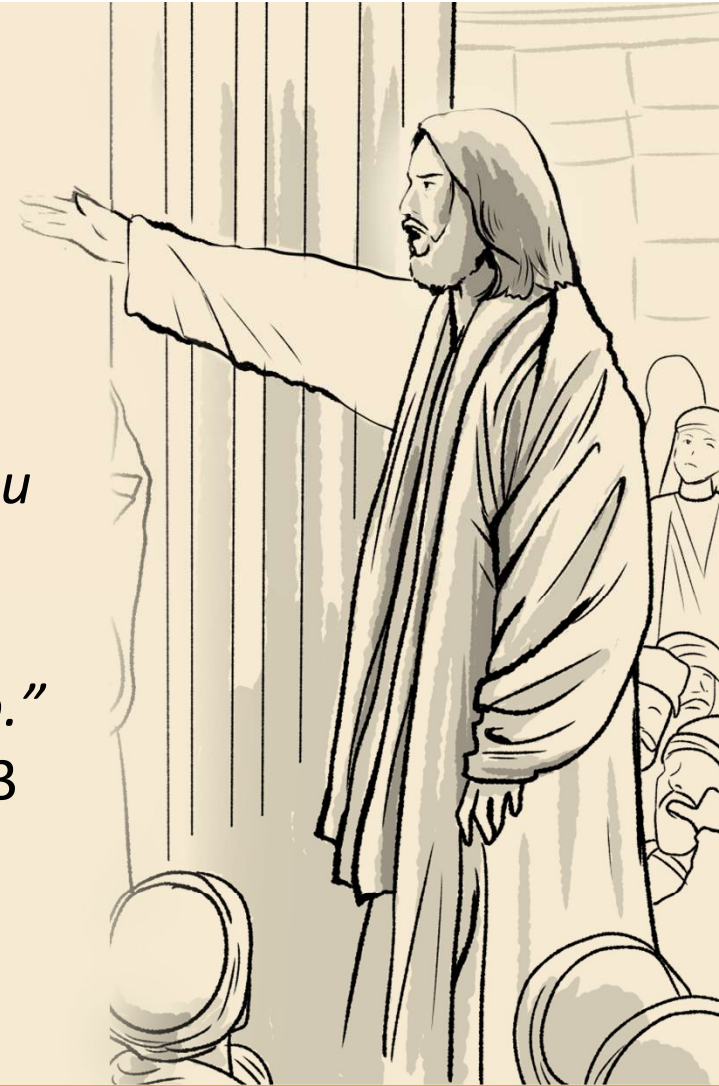
Jesus Wanted the Israelites to Believe and Follow Him

“You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life.” John 5:39-40

Jesus Was Angered by the Jewish Leaders' Rejection

“Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You shut the door of the kingdom of heaven in people's faces. You yourselves do not enter, nor will you let those enter who are trying to.”

Matthew 23:13



Jesus Was Sorrowful Over Rebellious Jerusalem

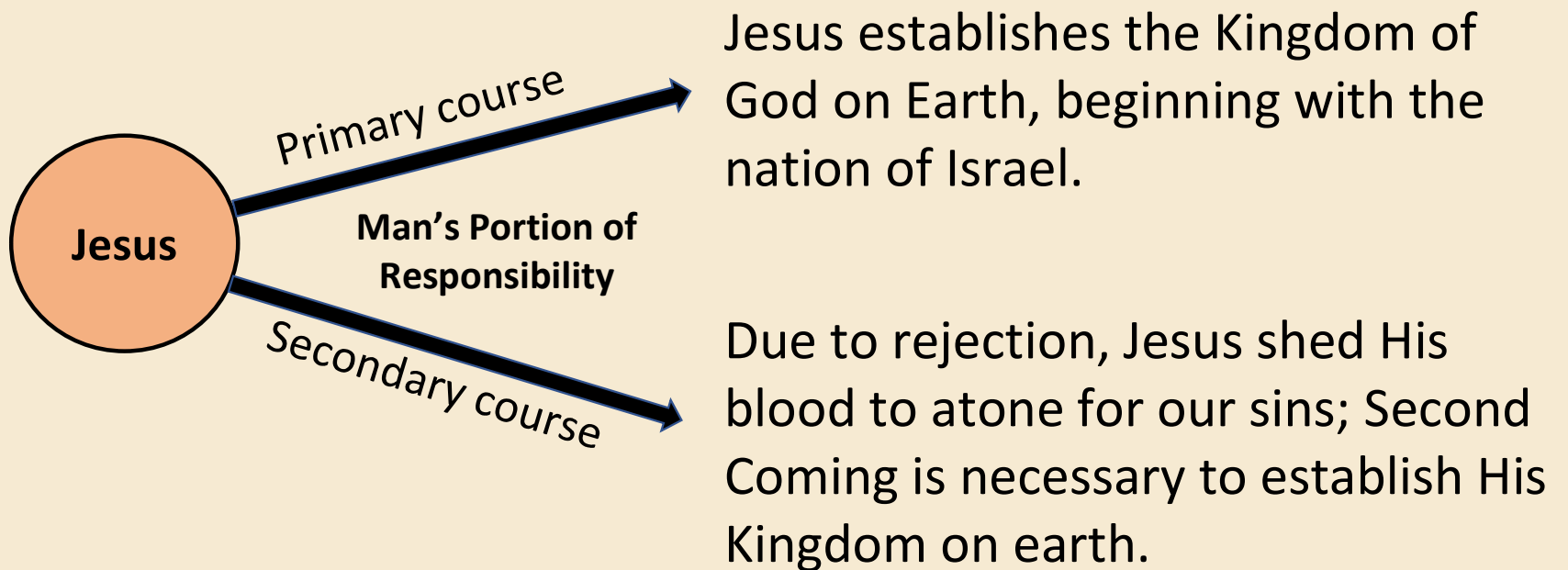
As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it and said, “If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes. The days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side. They will dash you to the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognize the time of God’s coming to you.” Luke 19:41-44

Jesus' Course Shifted from Primary to Secondary

- God's desire was for Jesus to be accepted and His people Israel to be blessed.
- Due to the Israelites' faithlessness, the primary dispensation of God could not be fulfilled.
- Therefore, the secondary dispensation of the cross became necessary.

From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things. Matthew 16:21

Primary and Secondary Courses



Shift from Primary to Secondary Causes Confusion

But as soon as Jeremiah finished telling all the people everything the LORD had commanded him to say, the priests, the prophets and all the people seized him and said, "You must die! Why do you prophesy in the LORD's name that this house will be like Shiloh and this city will be desolate and deserted?" And all the people crowded around Jeremiah in the house of the LORD.

Jeremiah 26:8-9

Jesus' Disciples Were Confused

The disciples did not understand any of this. Its meaning was hidden from them, and they did not know what he was talking about. Luke 18:34

The Disciples Believed Jesus Would Bring the Kingdom

Jesus' disciples were not clear that the change from primary to secondary dispensation had taken place. Before Jesus ascended to heaven, they asked:

...“Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” Acts 1:6

Jesus Announced the Change in Israel's Destiny

Jesus turned and said to them, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep for yourselves and for your children. For the time will come when you will say, 'Blessed are the childless women, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' Then they will say to the mountains, "Fall on us!" and to the hills, "Cover us!"" Luke 23:28-30



The Way of the Cross was Not God's First Choice

Blood atonement became necessary due to the lack of faith of the Jewish people. God does not find pleasure in sacrifice:

*For I desire mercy, not sacrifice, and
acknowledgement of God rather than burnt offerings.*

Hosea 6:6

Obedience vs. Sacrifice

The soldiers took sheep and cattle from the plunder, the best of what was devoted to God, in order to sacrifice them to the LORD your God at Gilgal.”

But Samuel replied:

“Does the LORD delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the LORD?

*To obey is better than sacrifice,
and to heed is better than the fat of rams.” 1 Samuel 15:21-22*

The Original Plan for John and Jesus

If John the Baptist had been successful in bringing Israel to Jesus, we could have shared in the victory of Christ without the shedding of blood.

Jesus Willingly Gave His Life For Our Sake

*This is how we know what love is:
Jesus Christ laid down his life for us...*
1 John 3:16



He Died for Us, Even Though We Were His Enemies

You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Romans 5:6-11



Why Did Jesus Pray Not to Die?

“My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow... My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken away from me. Yet not as I will, but as You will.” Matthew 26:38-39



Reasons for Gethsemane Prayer

- Concern for God
- Concern for his disciples
- Concern for his nation and all humankind



His Sinless Sacrifice Canceled Our Record of Debt

He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. Colossians 2:14

Jesus Was Victorious Over the Devil and the Power of Death

Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. Hebrews 2:14

Why Does Christ Need to Return?

Although Jesus was completely victorious over Satan, he must return to establish His Kingdom on Earth and in Heaven.

As the victorious Adam, the King of Kings, he will return to establish God's royal lineage on the earth by fulfilling the Three Blessings. We will gain physical as well as spiritual salvation.

In this manner, God can reestablish His authority and dominion of love over the earth.

Christ Will Give the Faithful the Right to Inherit God's Kingdom

Then the King will say to those on His right hand, "Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." Matthew 25:34

Jesus Will Return with Power and Authority!

*Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say:
“Now have come the salvation and the power
and the kingdom of our God,
and the authority of his Christ.”* Revelation 12:10

Thank You Very Much!