

GOD'S CODED LANGUAGE

Is All About **TRANSPARENCY**



PART 2

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PROLOGUE

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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PRECIOUS STONES

“The foundations of the city walls were adorned with every kind of precious stone: The first foundation was jasper, the second sapphire, the third chalcedony, the fourth emerald, the fifth sardonyx, the sixth carnelian, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, and the twelfth amethyst. And the twelve gates were twelve pearls, with each gate consisting of a single pearl. The main street of the city was pure gold, as clear as glass”

(Revelation 21:19-21).

The imagery God uses is not flippant, but precisely exact. Stones and objects on earth that are designated precious are carefully categorized that way because they are exceptionally rare, beautiful and hold qualities that surpass the ordinary. They are lasting, robust and enduring. This is the message God is trumpeting when He uses precious stones and objects in His language. He is mirroring rare people who endure extreme hardship to remain faithful and loyal. These people are precious to God.



God’s eternal kingdom is being engineered to be robust. His royal, ruling family members are being polished and perfected. This kingdom is hidden and few find it in this evil age, but those who recognize it, will sell everything to own the property upon which it is found, so that all contents on that property are indisputably theirs.

The evil rulers during this evil age cannot see God’s kingdom in the making. They strut in pride and arrogance thinking earth belongs to them, but cloaked by God, His kingdom of wonder and magnificence is forming.

HIDDEN TREASURE

The treasures of God's kingdom can be found, but it will take searching and exploring. Jesus revealed the price that few are willing to pay.

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field" (Matthew 13:44).

Giving up everything made it financially possible for him to own the field with the treasure.

God uses the word "land" as the place where He and the righteous reside. It is the safest place for creation on earth to live and is the place that mirrors growth and fruit development bringing in abundant harvests.

The imagery of hidden treasure is a story of an explorer, a scholar or a researcher combing the world for information, searching for answers to mysteries and marvelling at the wonders found. Then one day, a scholar finds something that is immediately recognized as extremely valuable. It is hidden truth—God's word. The scholar gives up everything to buy the field, the place among the living—spiritual living. The scholar recognizes the value of the find and is determined to fully explore it. He gives up studying everything else to devote his full attention to understanding God's word.

There is an exchange attached to obtaining the word of God. Christ said to the Laodicea church, "I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see" (Revelation 3:18).

The exchange does not involve money. Isaiah recorded God's plea to His people. "Come, all of you who thirst, come to the waters; and you without money, come, buy, and eat! Come, buy wine and milk, without money and without cost!" (Isaiah 55:1)

Christ urges believers to exchange falsehood with truth. The price is your complete devotion to learning God's word and living it. Trading insignificant information associated with the cares of this world with God's priceless knowledge is the find of great value. Acquisition of God's word leads to the transformation like the insignificant grain of sand that irritates the oyster and through layers of the nacre substance, a lustrous rare pearl is formed.

PEARLS

Jesus said, "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls. When he found one very precious pearl, he went away and sold all he had and bought it" (Matthew 13:45-46).

Pearls are classed as gemstones because they are rare. In particular, their soft, luster is especially aesthetic.

God is transforming His people who are living in an evil world of corruption, hatred, cruelty, theft and lies imaged as the environment of the sea—the haven for Wickedness. Yet, despite the harsh conditions, through irritations of the trials and testings, something miraculous occurs—a love for God’s way replaces bad behaviour and a new, glossy covering forms. This transformation is the process of overcoming and building an intimate relationship with God made possible, through Jesus Christ—our Saviour.

The merchant in the parable of Matthew 13 is in the business of exchange. This merchant was a counsellor like a priest or minister who values change, hence the search for pearls—that is, a better thinking that leads to better choices. Then, the merchant finds God’s Holy Spirit, which raises the level of thought and reason, leading to wise decisions and actions. The merchant is being transformed into a priceless servant of God.

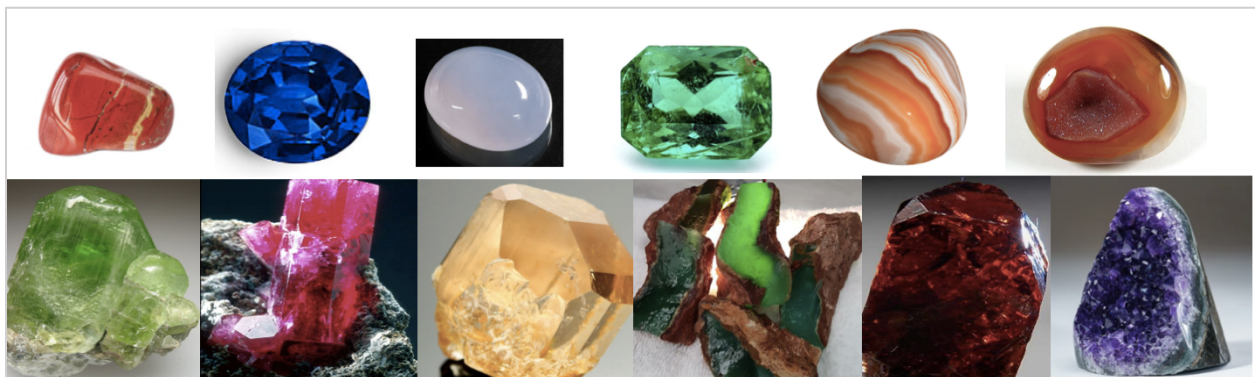
A rare pearl is the imagery of the few on earth who overcome and develop an intimate relationship with God. So, few find the path. "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the way that leads to life, and only a few find it" (Matthew 7:13-14).

The New Jerusalem coming down from heaven has twelve gates, each gate is comprised of a rare and priceless pearl. "The twelve gates were twelve pearls, each gate made of a single pearl" (Revelation 21:21).

God uses again His coded language to identify the members who are imaged as twelve pearl gates. The New Jerusalem is a construct of exceptional leaders. The tabernacle in the wilderness in ancient times was a mirror of the New Jerusalem. Every piece of the construction mirrors the future, glorious New Jerusalem.

The garments of the high priest are a prophecy of the character of the leaders in God’s eternal kingdom. The ephod worn by the high priest is comprised of twelve stones, each representing the twelve tribes of Israel.

TWELVE STONES



These gemstones mirror the twelve tribes who will establish and fortify God’s kingdom of holy, royal priests, still in the making. He foresees the work of His hands and He is pleased.

“There are to be 12 stones, one for each of the names of the sons of Israel, each engraved like a seal with the name of one of the 12 tribes... Whenever Aaron enters the Holy Place, he will bear the names of the sons of Israel over his heart on the breast-piece of decision as a continuing memorial before the LORD” (Exodus 28:29).

God foreknows the repentance of His people, both houses: Judah and Israel, at the same time—together, will return to Him, fully and sincerely.

“In those days and in that time, declares the LORD, *the people of Israel and the people of Judah shall come together, weeping as they come, and they shall seek the LORD their God*” (Jeremiah 50:4).

A reunited kingdom of Israel will seed God’s word and His way across the planet and indeed, the gospel about God’s royal, holy kingdom will go out to all the world and they will look to the God of Israel and turn to Him understanding that He is their Creator and their eternal Father.

GOD’S NEW JERUSALEM—precious stones, metals and wonders

The description of God’s New Jerusalem foretells the countless great, rare and yet, humble leaders that will mature into the fullness of Christ, at the hand of the Great Potter.

“The wall was made of jasper, and the city itself of pure gold, as pure as glass. The foundations of the city walls were adorned with every kind of precious stone: The first foundation was jasper, the second sapphire, the third chalcedony, the fourth emerald, the fifth sardonyx, the sixth carnelian, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, and the twelfth amethyst. And the twelve gates were twelve pearls, with each gate consisting of a single pearl. The main street of the city was pure gold, as clear as glass” (Revelation 21:18-21).

The Great Creator of mankind is King and the holy High Priest—our LORD. He is long-suffering and eagerly desires the repentance of mankind so that he extend them grace. A group of people will come before His judgement seat. Those who repent, He will give them a white stone.

THE WHITE STONE

During the time of Jesus on earth, a white stone was given to an accused. The judge would hear the case and award a white stone to those proven to be innocent or awarded grace. A black stone signified guilt with no room for grace. To have been handed a white stone, the accused could walk away free of condemnation.

There is an image of a group of people recorded in Revelation 2 who “live—where Satan has his throne.” Biblical scholars scour the planet trying to identify that location, but it is illusive because it is simply not one geographical location, but rather places peppered over the planet—places where falsehood, deception and lies are birthed and published.

Common places of thought, research, studies and teaching all take place in today's universities and colleges as well as specialized institutions. From there, information is generated, beliefs are published, and theological changes are debated and canonized. Through this core body, information is dispersed and great libraries are founded.

In Revelation, Jesus spoke to a group of people characteristic of the city of Pergamum. He warned them about the dangers of massaging truth for gain or carelessly accepting unproven information. Joshua Mark from Worldhistory.org provides insight into the development of the great city of Pergamum.

He states, "The Attalid Dynasty (281-133 BCE) of Pergamon (in Asia Minor, modern-day Turkey) came from humble origins and, to establish themselves as rulers of note, patronized the arts and letters. Eumenes II, especially, held literature and learning in high regard and built the library as an annex to his Temple of Athena on the acropolis of Pergamon. At its height, the library is said to have held 200,000 books, mostly written on parchment. The demand by visiting scholars for writing material encouraged parchment production in the city and Pergamon became the leading supplier of the material during the Roman Period, so much so that the English word *parchment* comes from the Latin *pergamenum* referencing Pergamon."¹

Ancient-origins.net adds more background to this significant city. "Pergamum's library was the center for all things cultural. It came to be known as one of the most important libraries in the ancient world and was second only to the Library of Alexandria. According to the ancient chronicler Pliny the Elder, the Library of Pergamum became so famous that it was considered to be in "keen competition" with the Library of Alexandria. Both attempted to amass the most complete collection of texts, and they developed rival schools of thought and criticism. In fact, legend has it that Egypt's Ptolemaic dynasty halted shipments of papyrus to Pergamum in hope of slowing the library's growth."²

A love for learning is a prized gift, but when studies, by leading researchers, draw students away from God, then, they become instruments of deception working for Wickedness. The theology of Evolution is an example as well as the Christianization of pagan holidays. All of the Christian bishops who participated in the Council of Nicaea and the Council of Laodicea to formalize changes different to the practices of Jesus, who is the same yesterday, today and forever, will be brought into judgement and will have to account for their actions.

Jesus said to this group of people in his time on earth that when he returns, he will stand before them with a sharp, double-edged sword. He will confront them on their teachings by judging their word against the word of God. The sword is consistently imaged in the Bible as God's

¹Mark, Joshua J.. "Library of Pergamon." *World History Encyclopedia*, 14 September, 2022. https://www.worldhistory.org/Library_of_Pergamon/. Accessed April 10, 2022.

²Parkes, Veronica. "The Library of Pergamum: A Contender for the Greatest Library of the Ancient World." *Ancient Origins*, Updated 24 Feb 2017. <https://www.ancient-origins.net/ancient-places-asia/library-pergamum-contender-greatest-library-ancient-world-007601>. Accessed 10, 2022.

word. The sword that Jesus will hold before them will be sharp, uncompromised double-edged truth. He will address every view and every angle strictly from the lens of Almighty God.

Jesus said, "You have people there who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to entice the Israelites to sin by eating food sacrificed to idols and committing sexual immorality" (Revelation 2:14).

The teaching of Balaam is an expanded view of creation to include the worship of the gods of the nations, as if these gods were entitled. Eating their food is symbolic of believing and behaving like the unholy nations. This is an act of rebellion against Almighty God, the God of Israel.

The Pergamum-like people love digging deep to find information; that is their strength. They are relentless. As in ancient times and into the present, this group of people don't always find the pure word, rather only portions of it. Often, they rely too much on their own intellect. They need to lean on Christ for clarity. Christ is coming to purge falsehood, misconceptions, misunderstandings and disinformation from everywhere on earth.

Jesus added, "You also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans" (Revelation 2:15).

The teaching of the Nicolaitans is the belief and establishment of a hierarchical structure within an organization. Matthew recorded, "Don't let anyone call you 'Rabbi,' for you have only one Teacher, and all of you are equal as brothers and sisters" (Matthew 23:8).

The Apostle Paul taught that all members are valued equally. "God has combined the members of the body and has given greater honor to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have *equal* concern for each other" (I Corinthians 12:25).

God's construction is not a pyramid, but a cube with layers and layers of strength placed one above the other forming an unbreakable unit. Each layer is valued equally and critical to the overall strength of the structure.

Into the 21st century, Pergamum-like groups exist in every country worldwide. They are known as experts and highly respected sources of information. Many do not advocate for creation or direct the people to worship God. Many have devised their own formula for the salvation of mankind, which excludes the sacrifice of Jesus. Jesus urges these people to overcome and for those who awaken, repent and stand up for God's word, His truth and His grace. God will take away their shame by giving them a new name—a name that reflects their win against lies, misinformation, and disinformation. That new name will be written on a white stone, which they will hold up high with eternal gratitude for God's grace of their acquittal.

Stones are symbols of long-lasting and robust objects. These people will be rewarded with "hidden manna." God knows their passion for discovery and He will reward them with

knowledge that is rare, often unseen—deep things that cannot be discovered without God's direct guidance. They will venture into eternal wonders and the energy from discovery will draw them intimately close to Him. They will marvel at God's intellect, complexity and composition. They will wonder and never be satisfied for they will discover His never-ending greatness.

For those who overcome within the Pergamum-like group of people, they have a riveting future of exploration, discovery and wonder that they will share with all creation for all eternity.

All overcomers will be transformed and glorified. “Having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal” (Revelation 21:11). All overcomers will image the strength and hardness of stones. They will not waver in God’s truth and His law. They will be living examples of righteousness. Their loyalty to God will not break; their faithfulness will not wane.

“Rid yourselves, therefore, of all malice, deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander. Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good. As you come to Him, the living stone, rejected by men but chosen and precious in God’s sight, you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in Scripture: ‘See, I lay in Zion a stone, a chosen and precious cornerstone; and the one who believes in Him will never be put to shame’” (I Peter 2:1-6).

The qualities God is molding in believers is a glorious package of love, which is patient and kind.

“It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails” (I Corinthians 13:4-7).

The living stones of God will remain for all eternity the foundation and great pillars of God’s holy, royal, ruling God-family kingdom.

THE CONCEPT OF ONE

“But for us, there is one God, the Father, by whom all things were created, and for whom we live. And there is one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things were created, and through whom we live”
(1 Corinthians 8:6).

God the Father and His Son are both Gods of the God family, of which the Father is the head. Their relationship is established by their placement in the God family. They work in total unity; they move as one and live in complete peace, unbroken or divided—perfect unity.



The Apostle Paul taught Christians to “Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is *one body* and *one spirit*—just as you were called to *one hope* when you were called—*one Lord [Jesus Christ]*, *one faith*, *one baptism*; *one God and Father of all*, who is over all and through all and in all” (Ephesians 4:16).

Creating this level of unity is the work of God’s hands. Bringing mankind into repentance and submission with a willing spirit and a heart of flesh that comes from God’s Holy Spirit flowing out from God, the Father through His Son, Jesus Christ. God’s hands go to work like a potter forming a magnificent and glorious piece of art. God’s work will be done when the fullness of

creation on earth is in total harmony with God's laws and His way of love. Then, billions upon billions from creation in both heaven and on earth will be one body under one government embracing one theology; all living as one, but are many—countless individuals.

God the Father has a purpose for everyone. "And we know that God works all things together for the good of those who love Him, who are called according to His purpose. For those God foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren. And those He predestined, He also called; those He called, He also justified; those He justified, He also glorified" (Romans 8:28-30).

Wayward ancient Israel will be resurrected and stand among their repentant and God-fearing 21st century descendants, in amazement. "For when he sees his children, the work of My hands among him, they will honor My name, they will sanctify the Holy One of Jacob, and they will stand in awe of the God of Israel. Then the wayward in spirit will come to understanding, and those who grumble will accept instruction" (Isaiah 29:23-24).

All things will come together as ONE when God has finished His work.

- **There is only ONE Almighty God.**

"Before Me no god was formed, and after Me none will come. I, yes, I am the LORD, and there is no Savior but Me. I alone decreed and saved and proclaimed—I, and not some foreign god among you. So, you are My witnesses," declares the LORD, "that I am God" (Isaiah 43:10b, 11-12).

Almighty God is clear. Before Him, there was no God, nor will a being like Him ever come into existence. He only can save. He only can bestow power for another to save, forgive sins and to heal spiritually. The Almighty God is ONE being.

- **There is only ONE Saviour, Jesus Christ.**

The Son of God was given power from the Father to create everything in heaven and on earth.

"For in Him all things were created, things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities. All things were created through Him and for Him" (Colossians 1:16).

"As obedient children, do not conform to the passions of your former ignorance. But just as He who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do, for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy." Since you call on a Father who judges each one's work impartially, conduct yourselves in reverent fear during your stay as foreigners. For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life you inherited from your forefathers, but with the *precious blood of Christ, a Lamb*

without blemish or spot. He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you” (I Peter 1:14-20).

The Father, the Almighty God sent His Son to be the Saviour. Mankind has only *one* Saviour, Jesus Christ. He purchased mankind with his blood.

“And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent His Son to be the Savior of the world. If anyone confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God” (I John 4:14-15).

- **There is only ONE mediator for mankind.**

“For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus” (I Timothy 2:4-5).

The Antichrist to come will claim to be the mediator of mankind. He will claim to be mankind’s saviour and equal to Almighty God Himself. He will claim to be one in all.

“Then the king [the little horn/the Antichrist] will do as he pleases and will exalt and magnify himself above every god, and he will speak monstrous things against the God of gods. He will be successful until the time of wrath is completed, for what has been decreed must be accomplished. He will show no regard for the gods of his fathers, nor for the one desired by women, nor for any other god, because *he will magnify himself above them all*” (Daniel 11:36-37).

- **There is only ONE church comprised of many people.**

“And He is the head of the body, the church; He is the beginning and firstborn from among the dead, so that in all things He may have pre-eminence” (Colossians 1:18).

“For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many are one body, and each member belongs to one another” (Romans 12:4-5).

- **There is only ONE Bride**

“Let us rejoice and be glad and give Him the glory. For the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His bride has made herself ready” (Revelation 19:7).

- **There is only ONE theology—the word of God.**

Jesus, the Son of God is the personified word of God. He is the expert teacher on all things God. He is the same yesterday, today and forever. He spoke only the words of the Father; he is the only Teacher for mankind to follow.

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God” (John 1:1).

“And do not call anyone on earth your father, for you have one Father, who is in heaven. Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one Instructor, the Christ” (Matthew 23:9-10).

“And it was He who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for works of ministry and to build up the body of Christ, until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God, as we mature to the full measure of the stature of Christ. Then we will no longer be infants, tossed about by the waves and carried around by every wind of teaching and by the clever cunning of men in their deceitful scheming” (Ephesians 4:11-14).

Today, there are many churches all teaching different interpretations of scripture. This will continue until the millennial reign of Jesus Christ. Jesus is the ONE Teacher who can and will correct and bring the ministry and congregation onto ONE path to our Father in heaven.

- **There is only ONE law and ONE government, which is simplified in the ten commandments.**

“Teacher, which commandment is the greatest in the Law?”

Jesus declared, “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments” (Matthew 22:36-40).

- **There will be ONE reunited kingdom of Israel.**

While God’s people are a fractured kingdom today, they will re-unite into ONE kingdom. It is symbolic of binding law and grace forming ONE authoritative body. The house of Judah and the house of Israel each represent law and grace. The Jews will come to accept grace and the house of Israel, the Christians, will keep the law. Law and grace will never be separated once bound under the millennial rule of Jesus Christ, so, the reunited kingdom of Israel will never fracture again.

“I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains of Israel, and one king will rule over all of them. Then they will no longer be two nations and will *never again be divided into two kingdoms*... My servant David will be king over them, and there will be one shepherd for all of them. They will follow My ordinances and keep and observe My statutes” (Ezekiel 37:22, 24).

- **There will always only be ONE body—a unified body of righteous and obedient members of God’s family.**

“The body is a unit, though it is composed of many parts. And although its parts are many, they all form one body. So, it is with Christ” (I Corinthians 12:12).

ONE means UNITY in thought, belief, and walk. The God family will comprise of the Father, the Son and his bride with many, many siblings.

“Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters” (NIV Hebrews 2:11).

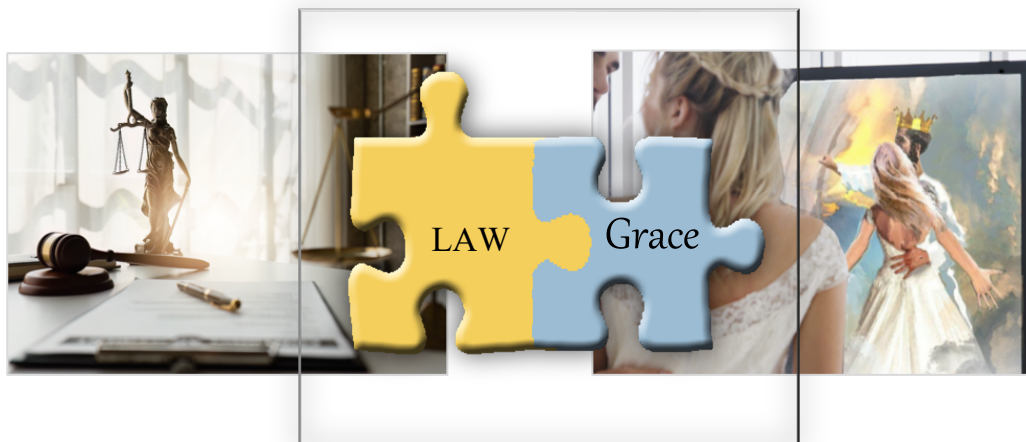
Everyone in the God family will be reflecting the image of the Father, the Almighty God in everything they do.

DUALITY BY DESIGN

“But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses”

(Matthew 18:16).

Duality was designed by God. It is a revelation disclosing God’s legal system comprised of His law that is married to grace, which has the ability to separate lies and deception from information, obtain understanding and exercise wisdom. This duality will ensure judgement and sentencing is fair, just, and right.



GOD KNOWS EVERYTHING

Our Creator God, our Father in heaven is brilliant both in appearance and intellectually. His God abilities will forever amaze and dazzle His creation. His knowledge, His wisdom, His understanding and power to command and creation obeys, baffles the feeble mind of man. God creates and foresees. With a complete view, He strategizes to maximize His success for the creation in heaven and on earth. Together with the Son, they detailed every step along the way. Though many angels and all of mankind have fallen, God’s arm is not short; His creation is not out of His control. He foreknew the outcome before the beginning—every detail of it, and it remains an unbroken plan that will fully come to pass.

God spoke directly and through His prophets to ancient Israel. Through the preserved word of God, today He speaks urgently to His people. “Remember the former things long past, for I am God, and there is no other; I am God and there is no one like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things which have not been done, saying, ‘My *purpose* will be established, and I will accomplish all My good pleasure’” (Isaiah 46:9-10).

GOD CHOSE A PEOPLE

At the time after the flood, when God divided the people on earth into different groups because they were returning to the wicked ways of the people who were destroyed in the great flood, He gave them heavenly rulers to guide them back onto the path of righteousness. He chose to participate in this project and He gave Himself rulership over the descendants of Jacob. He became their King and they became His subjects. Each separate group on earth received their own land, language, and a heavenly ruler (Deuteronomy 32:8-9).

God specifically chose a people to be a kingdom of priests: holy and royal (Exodus 19:6, I Peter 2:9). That was God's purpose from the beginning. The duality here is: holy and royal. They are adjectives describing two core roles in God's government: national and religious leadership. That is the image of God; He is dual; He is King and Lord.

God's purpose is to teach creation in heaven and on earth that His eternal kingdom will be a marriage of law and grace, national and religious leadership bound together as *one* ruling entity of equal importance. This body is both *holy*, that is, set apart from other religions and *royal*, that is, part of God's ruling monarchy.

On a side point, this opens a door to the thought that there exists created life who are not royal members of God's family residing in heaven. The "beasts of the field" and the "birds of the air" may be part of a non-royal creation. All of mankind was created in God's image, that is, to be members of His holy, royal, ruling family.

God is a benevolent King giving opportunities to His creation to develop into wise leaders. Unfortunately, relatively shortly after the heavenly rulers of God's holy court in heaven received their inheritance, that is, rulership over the nations, they rebelled against Him. He foreknew the rebellion, but the pain on the day it all began, was no less intense. Ezekiel recorded God's deep feelings of hurt during that rebellion. He "filled the deep springs with mourning... and clothed Lebanon (His holy court/headquarters) with gloom" (Ezekiel 31:15).

KINGDOM OF ISRAEL: TWO GREAT LEADERS

God's pain was not limited to the fallen angels in heaven, but His people added a heavy weight that He also foreknew. The twelve sons of Jacob were blessed before their father, Israel, died. Jacob gave the family sceptre to *Judah* and the firstborn birthright blessings to *Joseph*. The lesson of duality here is the reflection of the Messiah in Judah through the family line of King David and the Messiah in Joseph as Lord and steward of God's eternal kingdom.

DUALITY IN JOSHUA AND CALEB

Duality is peppered in the ancient stories of the Old Testament. God's people are without excuse. Moses sent twelve, one from each of the tribes of Israel, to spy out the promised land. They returned and ten gave an evil report while Joshua and Caleb had faith in God that they could overtake the giants, trusting in the power of the God of Israel. Two out of the twelve gave a witness of faith and truth.

Caleb was from the tribe of Judah. From Judah, Jesus was born. From Judah, the Messiah became king; the sceptre has already been given to him. Joshua's and Caleb's faith in overcoming the giants is of itself a duality. The giants in the Promised Land are a mirror of the gigantic barriers that exist today. Ungodly, wealthy, and powerful people have taken hold of leadership positions in all countries on earth. Overthrowing these dark rebels can only be achieved when righteous leaders call out to God for help. Their faith and trust in Him, believing that He will go out ahead of them as He did for ancient Israel and weaken these dark forces so God's people can destroy them.

Joshua was from the tribe of Ephraim, son of Joseph. Joshua led all of the twelve tribes into the Promised Land. He mirrors the great work of God's people today, to bring many people into repentance, baptism, and a rebirth into maturity spiritually.

Caleb mirrors the faith of salvation through Christ; Joshua mirrors the faith in bringing many people into glory.

NATIONAL AND RELIGIOUS LEADERSHIP

Righteous leadership is a marriage of religious knowledge, understanding, and wisdom and national leadership where God's law is enacted. The experts of righteousness marry law and order with love and grace. That is the image of God.

KINGDOM OF ISRAEL: THE FRACTURE INTO TWO HOUSES

God's plan was for His people to be living examples of righteousness; they proved to be a stubborn and difficult people. Their kingdom fractured because the national leaders disobeyed God. The kingdom of Israel divided into two houses: the house of Israel and the house of Judah over three thousand years ago.

The separation was caused by Solomon who breached God's law. God divided the kingdom and gave Solomon's son a remnant of the kingdom; he ruled over only two tribes. Ten tribes broke away and established their own king. Two houses formed: the house of Judah and the house of Israel. The fracture triggered hundreds of years of suffering because law and order were not married to love and grace.

The small house of Judah kept closer to God's law while the large house of Israel entered into hundreds of years of lawlessness, following the ways of the nations around them. The pendulum moved accordingly as the two houses became self-determined and self-reliant. The house of Israel continued to rebel and eventually they were divorced from the covenant family and lived for many years in disorder, like Barbarians. The house of Judah moved in the opposite direction swinging into self-righteousness by adding hundreds of rules and regulations to God's laws. They added so many that God's law was violated. All of their effort was channeled to earn salvation through their own effort.

The lesson of duality is the chaos created when a separation occurs from God's law and His theology. In this case, self-righteousness and unrighteousness reared up. God's law and His

theology bound together can heal and bring people back into balance, back onto God's straight and narrow path of righteousness.

God's people, Israel are living examples of the chaos and unhappiness that occurs when God's law and His theology are not applied to work together as one. God foreknew the fracture of the kingdom would occur. It is the witness He will use to prove His point during the millennial reign of Jesus Christ. God foreknew the choices His people would make. The choices were used by God to turn lemons into lemonade. They needed to feel the pain of rejecting Him and His ways. They needed to feel the curses of disobedience and turn for help. God was teaching them and He is teaching believers today the importance of binding His law with His theology of love, compassion, and grace.

LAW AND GRACE

The historical journeys of the two houses are a witness of the importance of binding God's law with His theology. The two cannot be separated and bring happiness and goodness for all. The house of Judah embraced the law; they were the protectors of the oracles of God. The house of Israel, more commonly referred to as the ten tribes, begged for relief from the heavy taxes imposed upon them during the reign of King Solomon and his son, Rehoboam.

Two thousand years later, they were offered relief in the form of grace from Jesus, the Messiah. They were amazed that he would consider them, after all, they were the outcasts of the family. They recognized his power to heal and when invited back into the covenant family, they cherished it and praised the God of Israel for His grace that He extended to them. They wrote songs delighting in the amazing gift of grace. Their transformation began and they became known as Christians. Craving to know God's word, they carefully preserved the letters of the apostles and all of the books of the Old Testament. They translated them and bound them into *one* book.

To this day, grace is the driving force of the Christian churches. The lesson of duality here is: law without grace is like discipline without love, winter without summer, order without choice. Law and grace were intended to be bound and harmonized into one legal system.

Though the two houses of God's people remain fractured into the 21st century, God has promised to reunite them at Christ's return. Under the righteous rulership and priesthood of Jesus Christ, the fractured will be healed and made one, again. Jesus Christ will restore all things.

THE RESTORATION

- God's people will be reunited back into one kingdom never to fracture again.
- Law and grace will be bound into one legal system. The law will come out of Zion [heaven] and the word will come out of Jerusalem [earth].
- A marriage between a King from heaven and a Queen from earth will bind the realm in heaven and on earth together into the united, holy, royal kingdom of God.

- Righteous national and religious leadership will be bound into one. God Almighty reigns supreme. Jesus Christ will rule over God's kingdom under Him, and sit on the right hand of God with his bride, both reigning as a united body of national and religious leaders.

This lesson of duality is an exact mirror of God's people. They will desire and value their calling as a holy kingdom of royal priests during the reign of Jesus Christ. The great honour of serving in the temple of God will be cherished and highly prized. From all the nations of earth, people will come and serve God as His priests.

"You [Christ] are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. You have made them to be a kingdom of priests to serve our God and they will reign on earth" (Revelation 5:9-10). It was foreknown by God. It is His purpose and it will be accomplished.

TWO CREATIONS: ONE IN HEAVEN AND ONE ON EARTH

Planned from the beginning were two creations. The angels—sons of God, were created before time. With their first breath, they knew God and they had the fundamentals to know right from wrong. Before time, the angels built vast dominions and many became proud, arrogant, and powerful, eroding love for Almighty God into a raging jealousy.

At the time determined by Almighty God, the Son created again through the power of the Father. Together, they worked to create mankind, a second company of members who are destined to become part of the God family.

Mankind was created on the sixth day after their home was transformed back into order and beauty. The man was created first and the woman from out of the man. Both members of God's family kingdom.

Intentional to the overall plan of God, man would be created before the woman to image the first creation in heaven (created first) and the woman to image the second creation on earth (created second). She would come into life through the man. It is the image of the church coming into spiritual life through Jesus Christ. Another witness would take place, teaching creation in heaven and on earth that they complement each other. Each creation was designed to fulfill a different essential role for the peaceful operation of God's family kingdom. This is best achieved through the pairing of the skills of the two into one.

Christ and his bride will be the perfect example of the principle of duality working as one. It was planned before creation that this mystery would be revealed. The Apostle Paul understood it and said, "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).

The profound mystery is the knowledge that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, will marry the church—a body of men and women—the saints and their relationship will be intimate. He will share the administration of God's kingdom with the church. Their relationship will be identical to that of a loving husband and wife. He will be the king and she will be the queen, working in everything as one. She will be raised up from nothing to the highest level that creation on earth and in heaven can reach. The top three in God's kingdom will be Almighty God as Supreme, His Son second and third will be Christ's wife—the faithful church. What is so profound is Christ's love for his church that he would give sin-laden men and women such a great honour of forgiveness and rulership with him.

King David caught a glimpse of this great calling when he asked, "What is man that you are mindful of him?" (Psalm 4:8)

God's plan for the men and women on earth has always been a desire to honour them with positions of great importance. It is a profound mystery, suppressed by Satan, to keep mankind from knowing their so, very great calling. It is a profound mystery that Almighty God would honour once sin-laden people to the greatest positions of responsibility for all eternity.

A new office will be filled by Christ's wife establishing the ruling order of three. It is by design that the number three is used as the seal of Almighty God confirming His approval on events that culminate and finalize His plans to form eternal structures.

THE NUMBER 3

“For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth”
(Matthew 12:40).

Jonah’s burial-like state in the belly of the fish, was both a witness by God’s use of the number two, through His emphasis of days and nights and the divine seal of God, using number three. God’s official seal of three days and nights was the confirmation that Christ’s burial in the earth was part of His divine plan. The number three is peppered heavily throughout the Bible; it simply cannot be ignored.



3 days and 3 nights in the grave



3 temptations, 3 evil spirits, 3 woes, 3 times, 3 days, on the third day

3 harvests

CHRIST TEMPTED BY SATAN

For forty years, the ancient Israelites wandered in the wilderness learning from God, but they failed to realize what Jesus successfully achieved during his forty days in the desert. Christ was tempted by Satan with three different scenarios.

1. THE FIRST TEMPTATION

Satan tempted Jesus to satisfy his hunger from his forty-day fast by challenging him to use his superhuman powers and turn stones into bread (Matthew 4:1).

Jesus responded by quoting the latter part of Deuteronomy 8:3. “Yes, *he humbled you by letting you go hungry and then feeding you with manna*, a food previously unknown to you and your ancestors. *He did it to teach you that people do not live by bread alone; rather, we live by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD*” (Deuteronomy 8:3).

The ancient people of Israel, while wandering through the wilderness were humbled by going hungry (Deuteronomy 8:3), so God could teach them what Jesus understood. There are two types of food: earthly and heavenly. One is temporary; the other is eternal. The ancient

Israelites were fed by God, while they journeyed through the wilderness with food from heaven—manna. The heavenly food was daily spiritual teachings. Satan was unable to tempt Jesus to change his priority. Through his forty-day fast, Jesus became a powerhouse of eternal strength. Spiritual food had strengthened him far above any possibility of a fall while physically weak.

Satan entraps people into a world of ignorance and deceit. They are blue-pilled in a physical world of earthly knowledge and temporary pursuits void of their Creator and the life-exciting knowledge of God's word.

The first temptation: earthly food or heavenly food. Ancient Israel failed to understand the value of spiritual knowledge, understanding and wisdom. They kept falling back into this earthly world focusing on temporal living. Jesus never left his spiritual focus, a most important task given to him.

2. THE SECOND TEMPTATION

Satan took Jesus to the highest point of the temple and challenged him to jump. Satan knows the scriptures and he quoted Psalm 91, which vows if you make God Almighty your dwelling place, giving your allegiance to the Great God, then no harm will come to you.

“For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone... ‘Because he loves me,’ says the LORD, ‘I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name. He will call upon me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him. With long life will I satisfy him and show him my salvation’” (Psalm 91:11-16).

This is a wonderful promise from God, our Creator and Father in heaven.

In 21st century language, Satan was saying, “Go on! If you are loved by the Great God, show me—show everyone—prove to us that God loves you!”

Jesus replied by quoting Deuteronomy 6:16, “Do not test the LORD your God as you tested Him at Massah.”

This quote referenced the rebellious behavior of the Israelites coming out of Egypt. Despite all of the miracles God Almighty performed for them, they still disbelieved and distrusted Him, perpetually putting Him to the test. Their hearts were hard, rebellious, and defiant. God concluded, “For forty years I was angry with that generation; I said, ‘They are a people whose hearts go astray, and they have not known my ways.’ So, I declared an oath in my anger, ‘They shall never enter my rest’” (Psalm 95:10-11).

In 21st century language, Jesus replied, “I trust in my Father in heaven and I have no need to question Him. God is faithful.”

The second temptation: trust in yourself or trust in God. The ancient Israelites could not let go and put their complete trust in God. It was difficult for them as it is for Christians today. Jesus put his life in the hands of God, without question—fully and completely.

3. THE THIRD TEMPTATION

The devil took Jesus to the highest mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. “All this I will give you, if you will bow down and worship me” (Matthew 4:9). This temptation was by far the most tempting. With all of Jesus’ heart, he wanted to rescue mankind from the stranglehold of the devil.

Jesus replied, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the LORD your God, and serve him only’” (Matthew 4:10).

In 21st century language, Jesus said, “I worship only my Father in heaven, the Creator God. I trust in His plan and His timing. I will wait for Him.”

The third temptation: Rulership through Satan or rulership through God Almighty. The great promise of the rebel gods ruling over the nations was self-glory, self-reliance, self-determination. The ancient Israelites looked at the wealth and glory of Egypt; they wanted to be like the nations around them and revel like them, in the glory of carnal greatness.

God wanted a humble people, a non-self-serving people *before* rulership could be offered. That would take time and a carefully designed, strategic plan. Jesus was aware that God had a plan from the beginning. While every detail is not shared with him, he has no reason to question God. “But about that *day or hour no one knows*, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but *only the Father*” (Matthew 24:36).

VICTORY OVER THREE DEMANDS

During the Great Tribulation, a people are seen standing beside a sea of glass mixed with fire. They are victorious over three demands by the enemy. They did *not*:

1. Worship the beast
2. Bend their knee to His image, or any idols
3. Have his number/name written on their forehead or right hand (Revelation 15:2).

These three demands are the core elements of worship for these fallen rebels:

1. Loyalty and allegiance to those being served
2. Idol worship
3. Living according to the belief and values of the One, being worshipped.

Idols are infused with spells that can be used to call on these rebel gods for help. God warned ancient Israel, “Pay close attention to everything I have said to you. You must not invoke the names of other gods; they must not be heard on your lips” (Exodus 23:13).

To have the name/number marked on the body is the outward binding with that leader to live according to his commands and demands. The number three keeps popping up at every significant marker.

FIRST THREE COMMANDMENTS

The first three of God's ten commandments are:

1. You shall have no other gods before me
2. You shall not make idols
3. You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.

The first three commandments set a divine seal when worshipping God. The victorious saints will remain loyal and faithful in worship and allegiance to Almighty God, their LORD, the Creator. Their prayers will bring them close to Him; He will hear them and rescue them. They will not take His name in vain. They are overcomers, choosing of their own free will, to keep His commandments and live righteously. Despite times of intense opposition and persecution, the overcomers will remain faithful to God when their government, family and friends, even members and the ministry of churches oppose them.

THREE EVIL SPIRITS

The three evil spirits like frogs (Revelation 16:13) that come out of the mouth of the dragon, the beast and false prophet encapsulate what God deems as the central force of Wickedness coming from three beings with three evil spirits.

MARKERS ON A TIMELINE

The number three is also God's seal marked along a timeline. These time markers are expressed as: in three days, after the third day, in the third year, on the third hour, a three-day walk, and three times.

Every story in the Bible that references the number three is an indicator of God's finger. For example:

- Laban was told *on the third day* that Jacob and his wives had fled. God's seal of protection was on Jacob when he secretly left Laban.
- God selected 300 men to fight with Gideon against the Midianites. Three times 100 points to God's hand being involved in the selection of exactly 300 men, which is a very small number when going up against a sea of Midianites and their allies. God was saying that 300 is the full amount necessary; it will showcase His mighty hand in battle.
- Samson was confronted by thirty guards when he arrived at Timnah to celebrate the engagement to his first wife. Three times 10 points to God's seal coupled with His law at work when Samson dealt with the guards.
- For three days the people could not give an answer to Samson's riddle. God's hand keeps His opposition at bay, until He the time of disclosure.

- 3,000 Jews went to Samson to urge him to stop provoking the Philistines. Three times 1,000 points to the Jews having a significant role with Almighty God for all eternity to warn against provocations.
- David, while being chased by King Saul, had three mighty men among his warriors. These three mighty men confirm God's mighty hand supporting David in his battles against those who fought against him.
- Jesus was thirty when he began his ministry. Three times 10 points to God's divine seal on the beginning of Jesus' ministry of God's law and His way.
- Christ went to the cross on the third hour. The third hour is 9:00 am. It points to God's divine marker along the timeline of the salvation plan for mankind.
- The Holy Spirit like rushing winds was given to the reborn church on Pentecost on the third hour. God's timeline is evident with every significant event.
- Noah had three sons: Shem, Ham and Japheth. It is God's divine seal on a new leadership beginning.
- Hannah gave birth to three sons. She was barren and prayed fervently to God for children. God performed a miracle and she gave birth to Samuel, Israel's faithful and loyal judge. He was the first of the three sons. The three sons blessed by God is His seal on her dedication and passion for Him.
- Job had three daughters who were the most beautiful in the land. Job's story is full of intrigue. The beginning of the book of Job tells the story of Job's seven sons celebrating their birthdays each year. The end of the book of Job unveils his three daughters born after his great revelation with God. These daughters are given an inheritance and were showcased above his sons.
- Daniel had three faithful friends: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. God was with Daniel his whole life from freedom to captivity. His three friends were God's divine seal reminding Daniel that His hand of support is with him.
- Recorded in Zechariah, behind the man on the red horse among the Myrtle trees were three horses: one red, one brown, and one white. The three horses behind the man point to God's divine seal of support for the man in front of them.
- Peter denied Christ three times. Judeo-Christians struggle to develop a deep and everlasting relationship with Almighty God and Jesus Christ. Peter denied Christ three times point to his immature relationship with Christ. This is a mirror of a future time, during Jacob's trouble, when Judeo-Christians will have to stand against intense persecution, mockery, ridicule and even death to remain loyal to Almighty God and Jesus Christ. Peter's triple denial is God's divine acknowledgement of his immaturity and the immaturity of Judeo-Christians since then and to come.
- Christ asked Peter three times if he loved him. Each time Christ asked Peter if he loved him, Peter replied acknowledging his friendship with Christ but not the type of love that endures intense persecution. This is the witness scripture to Peter's triple denial. It will happen again.

- Paul asked three times for his “thorn in the flesh” to be removed. God denied healing him. Paul knew that if he wasn’t healed after asking three times, then it is God’s divine and absolute decision that he should be inconvenienced with a physical issue until he dies.
- There are three harvests in the Bible: barley, wheat, and grapes. Each one indicates a different resurrection.
- At the second trumpet in Revelation, Mystery Babylon is attacked by God. This theological body is imaged to have their home base on the sea where ships are used to transport trading merchandise:
 - One-third of the **sea** turns to blood
 - One-third of the **sea creatures** die
 - One-third of the **ships** are destroyed.

The one-third portions are God’s divine seal of His destruction of the abode of Wickedness whose sea is their home. It is the haven of sea monsters and where rebel merchants engage in business traveling in ships freely.

- At the blast of the fifth trumpet, **three woes** begin.

The final three woes are God’s final seal of events that will close out this evil age.

These are only some examples among many, each to be studied separately to discover the rich details of God’s multi-layered plan for mankind. In general, the number three is God’s seal on planned events along the timeline of His grand salvation plan for mankind. Coupled with number three, God uses number seven to place His stamp of the completion of events, judgements, and punishments.

COMPLETION IN SEVEN

*“So, Jacob served seven years for Rachel and they seemed to him but a few days
because of his love for her”
(Genesis 29:20).*

Every number has meaning. Mankind will be without excuse when all of God’s transparency is understood and taught. Creation was finished after seven days. While there is discussion on whether it was created in seven days of earth time, it is clear, that after seven Biblical days, it was complete. No creation has taken place since. The number seven is all about completion.



Jacob was drawn to Rachel the moment he saw her. She was a shepherdess and he, a shepherd. Feeding, caring, and protecting the flock was their job, which they did well. Jacob wanted to marry her, but he had no dowry, so an arrangement was made with Rachel’s father, Laban. He was to work for Laban for seven years.

The end of seven years bought him the woman he loved. It completed the payment he owed. But, to Jacob’s horror, Laban secretly gave him Leah, Rachel’s older sister, which forced Jacob to work, yet another seven years to have Rachel as his wife. His rest was delayed.

The number seven is all about completion within God’s divine plan. Like Jacob, God—King over His people Israel, has had no rest. He is forced to work with priests who are struggling to see His way. God’s rest will come when Christ rules during the Millennium, mirrored in the seventh day of creation.

In seven days, God through His Son, re-formed the earth and created life on it. The use of this number is by divine design. Adam named all the animals, birds, and fish on the same Biblical day he was created and later Eve was formed from his rib. That must have been a long day. Time may not have been measured in earthly hours during creation; it may have been measured at the moment, when God deemed creation as very good.

“God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day” (Genesis 1:31).

On the seventh day, God rested from His work. “Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which He had created and made” (Genesis 2:3).

Was God tired?

“Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. *He will not grow tired or weary*, and his understanding no one can fathom” (Isaiah 40:28).

Why then, did God Almighty who does not tire or grow weary, rest—from what?

The Sabbath is a commanded rest day for God’s people. He created this seventh day of rest to mirror peace, order, and love. He will rest from battling against rebels because on the seventh day, it will be the millennial reign of His Son on earth. Mankind will learn to love and order will be established.

God spoke of the rebel ancient Israelites, “‘And on the seventh day God rested from all his work’ and God vowed, ‘They shall never enter my rest.’ It still remains that some will enter that rest, and those who formerly had the gospel preached to them did not go in, because of their disobedience” (Hebrews 4:4-6).

Upon Christ’s return, the final one-thousand-year millennial rule will begin and mankind will silence their rebellion and learn the way of God. It is the day when God begins His celebration of the repentance of mankind—the day that brings Him rest.

Only Jesus Christ can bring Almighty God rest. “A root will come up from the stump of Jesse...with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth... Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist. In that day the wolf and the lamb will live together; the leopard will lie down with the baby goat. The calf and the yearling will be safe with the lion, and a little child will lead them all... the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea” (Isaiah 11:1,3-6, 9b).

This period in our history will be filling up with peace, joy, and love for one another. Mankind will come to know their loving, long-suffering and gracious Creator God.

The creation of the seventh day rest is God's prophesy of mankind's repentance and their desire to obey Him. However, they are not ready. Much distress will come upon mankind before they repent and turn to Almighty God.

The number seven confirms the full completion of important components of God's plan.

- God's creation on earth was complete in seven days. Mankind made God's family complete. God's family comprises of two creations: one in heaven and one on earth.
- Christ established seven churches to form his body. The seven churches are the complete kingdom of Israel as a functional unit. It includes national and religious leadership, educational institutions, spiritual warriors protecting the kingdom from infiltration, charities, and missionaries to expand the good news as God reveals more of His plans.
- The Jubilee is determined by counting in sevens. "You are also to count off seven sabbaths of years for yourself, seven times seven years, so that you have the time of the seven sabbaths of years, namely, forty-nine years. Then you are to sound the horn far and wide on the tenth day of the seventh month, the Day of Atonement" (Leviticus 25:8). The Jubilee year follows seven blocks of seven years. At the end of seven years, slaves are released. At the end of seven times seven years, everyone is released from the slavery of debt.
- Seven baskets of bread were picked up after Jesus fed the four thousand people who had come from far away. These people were from the redeemed ten tribes of Israel. (Matthew 15:37). The seven baskets represent the spiritual food that would feed the Christian churches, completely nourishing them spiritually until Christ returns.
- God can humble the proud and arrogant. He humbled King Nebuchadnezzar for reducing him to live for seven years as a beast of the field.

"This is the interpretation, O king, and this is the decree that the Most High has issued against my lord the king: You will be driven away from mankind, and your dwelling will be with the beasts of the field. You will feed on grass like an ox and be drenched with the dew of heaven, and *seven times shall pass you by*, until you acknowledge that the Most High rules over the kingdom of mankind and gives it to whom He wishes. As for the command to leave the stump of the tree with its roots, your kingdom will be restored to you as soon as you acknowledge that Heaven rules" (Daniel 4:24-26).

God's judgement and sentencing of King Nebuchadnezzar was the forecast of his eternal destruction if he does not repent and humble himself before the Great, Almighty God. He was reduced to live for seven years as a naked beast of the field eating grass.

- Revelation is the book that details the completion of God's wrath and judgement:
 - The scroll with seven seals (Revelation 5:1) is a complete series of events leading up to God's final outpouring of wrath.
 - Seven kings, five have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come; and when he comes, he must remain a little while (Revelation 17:10) is the completion of evil rulership on earth.

- Seven angels given seven trumpets (Revelation 8:2) is the complete and final warning.
- Seven thunders, though what was said was not recorded, is God speaking out for all to hear His voice pounding out a final warning.
- Seven angels with seven plagues imaged as bowls (Revelation 15:6-7) destroys all of God's enemies:
 - Those who worship the beast.
 - Creatures living in the sea.
 - The watery homes of Wickedness imaged as rivers, turn to blood.
 - The stubborn wicked are scorched by the sun in a fiery purging.
 - The throne of the beast is thrown into darkness.
 - The three evil frogs come out of Satan, the beast and the false prophet.
 - Finally, the declaration, "It is done!"

Seven is the numerical symbol of completion to the fullest. It symbolizes the finality of events and judgements. The creation on earth—the second creation done in seven days was God's statement of the finality of the members added to His God family. The seven churches are the complete body of God's kingdom of priests on earth. The seven baskets are the complete and full amount of spiritual food given to the churches provided directly by Jesus until he returns. The sevens in the book of Revelation will finalize judgement and punishment against the wicked and bring a complete and final end to this evil age.

God sees all—symbolized in the seven eyes. "These seven are the eyes of the LORD which range throughout the earth" (Zechariah 4:10b); He is fully and completely aware of everything done in heaven and on earth.

Like his Father, the Son has seven eyes symbolic of the same ability. "See the stone I have set before Joshua; on *that one stone are seven eyes*. Behold, I will engrave on it an inscription, declares the LORD of Hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of this land in a single day" (Zechariah 3:9).

Jesus Christ is that stone. "Listen, O high priest Joshua and your associates seated before you, who are men symbolic of things to come: I am going to bring my servant, the Branch. See, the stone I have set in front of Joshua!" (Zechariah 3:8-9a)

Joshua, the high priest, is symbolic of what was to come—the Branch, the stone, Jesus Christ who has the ability to see all completely and with full clarity. Jesus Christ is the eyes for Almighty God; he briefs Almighty God regularly on the activities in heaven and on earth.

Jesus Christ is the key person for all of mankind to watch, follow, and serve.

“Then one of the elders said to me, ‘Do not weep! Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed to open the scroll and its seven seals.’ Then I saw a Lamb who appeared to have been slain, standing in the center of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders. The Lamb had seven horns and seven eyes, which represent the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth” (Revelation 5:5-6).

Jesus Christ was described in Revelation 5 as the Lamb because his perfect sacrifice awarded him the right to open the seven seals. He has seven horns meaning he is completely in charge with full authority: King of kings and Lord of lords. He has seven eyes meaning he sees all things. The Spirit of God is all powerful, full in perfection and sees all.

God uses numbers as keys that open doors rarely used to unveil the deep things of God. Number ten is just that.

ORDER IN TEN

“Yet as surely as I live and as surely as the whole earth is filled with the glory of the LORD, not one of the men who have seen My glory and the signs I performed in Egypt and in the wilderness—yet have tested Me and disobeyed Me these ten times—not one will ever see the land that I swore to give their fathers. None of those who have treated Me with contempt will see it”

(Number 14:21-23).

Mankind’s journey out of ignorance into God’s truth and His sanctuary of peace and tranquility is a walk following our Messiah, through a complete series of: growth processes, knowledge building, understanding refinement, and the acquisition of true wisdom. God’s written word is an engineering feat of multidimensional stories crossing over time into limitless space about His creation on earth as mortals, and in heaven, as spiritual beings. God is teaching both creations how to live righteously. He is warning both creations of the consequences of sin. He is the loving parent wanting to save them all.



Through numbers, God folds into His teaching deeper pieces of understanding. The number ten trumpets law and order. The application of law will re-establish order and sentence Wickedness to destruction. God’s sword of truth will destroy the lies and deceptive of rebels. Christ’s humble sacrifice and God’s wonderful grace will redeem a creation lost in darkness.

LAW AND ORDER IN TEN COMMANDMENTS (Exodus 20:1-17) (Deuteronomy 5:6-21)

God established ten commandments as the umbrella for all laws, statutes, and ordinances that preserve order, peace, and love. All of God’s commandments are summarized in ten fundamental rules and summarized in two ways.

Jesus taught, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself” (Matthew 22:37-39).

WARNINGS EXPRESSED IN THE NUMBER TEN

God is long suffering until the number is reached. He has issued His ten commandments, caused ten plagues in ancient Egypt, put up with ancient Israel’s rebellion against Him ten times, and for ten generations warned the people before the great flood. At the end of all of God’s warnings, He has a prophecy of ten cycles culminating in jubilees showcasing His plan of forgiveness and kindness to repentant and law-keeping people.

From Adam to Noah, there were ten generations before the great flood destroyed everyone, except eight people. Mankind would start again with a family whose fatherhead was righteous, blameless, and close to God.

“Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked with God” (Genesis 6:9). Noah lived God’s righteous way. He was described as blameless because he was loyal and faithful to Almighty God. He walked with God building a close relationship. In ten generations, God determined the time of His judgement against all the rebels on earth.

TEN GENERATIONS PASSED BETWEEN THE CREATION OF ADAM AND THE BIRTH OF NOAH (GENESIS 5):

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| 1. Adam | 6. Jared |
| 2. Seth | 7. Enoch |
| 3. Enosh | 8. Methusaleh |
| 4. Kenan | 9. Lamech |
| 5. Mahalalel | 10. Noah. |

TEN RIGHTEOUS MEN WERE NOT FOUND IN THE CITY OF SODOM (GENESIS 18:32)

God respects, values, and protects those who uphold His law. He promised Abraham that He would not destroy Sodom, if ten righteous men could be found there.

Abraham understood God’s word and His commandments. He was sensitive and careful when he asked God, “May the Lord not be angry, but let me speak just once more. What if only ten can be found there?” (Genesis 18:32)

Abraham was asking to save the law-abiding people, but only Lot and those in his household were saved. All of Sodom was lawless, corrupt, and participating in forbidden acts.

ALMIGHTY GOD AGAINST PHAROAH OF EGYPT

God brought upon ancient Egypt ten plagues. These ten plagues taught them that the God of Israel reigns supreme both on a national level as King and on a religious level as Highest Priest.

This is a great mystery to 21st century mankind. The reign of once-revered sons of God given rulership over the nations caused Almighty God to enter into a battle against them. At the time

of Babel, God gave the nations heavenly rulers. Unfortunately, these rulers rebelled against their Creator, the Great God. People fell into confusion. They could no longer distinguish between the Almighty God and the gods ruling over them. Prior to God taking His people out of Egypt, the Almighty God judged and sentenced both the heavenly and mortal rulers over Egypt. Both fully understood God's judgements and sentencing. The Israelites learned who was the Supreme God and it wasn't the Egyptian gods.

THE GOD OF ISRAEL IS KING AND LORD OF ALL CREATION

The staff is a symbol of authority. The first act proving God's supreme authority over the gods ruling over Egypt was the miracle of turning Aaron's staff into a snake. The Egyptian magicians each had a staff. They too, like Aaron, were the instruments of their heavenly gods with authority. They turned their staves into snakes. God proved His supremacy by Aaron's snake swallowing up all of the snakes of the Egyptian magicians (Exodus 7:12). That action was the Supreme God taking power and authority away from the heavenly gods ruling over Egypt. God's first task was to establish before Pharaoh and the people that the God of Israel is supreme.

Following the establishment of who is supreme, Almighty God then cursed the Egyptians with ten plagues. The number ten represents their violation of God's law.

1. **The water of the Nile River** and all water ways were *turned to blood* by God through Aaron's staff. Life in the water died and a stench came out; that is the typical smell of sin. The Egyptian magicians could also turn water to blood representing the ability of the heavenly gods over Egypt to accept blood sacrifices to acknowledge sin, but their gods could not forgive sin or heal them. Only Almighty God was able to cleanse the Nile River.
2. **The plague of frogs** that came out of the Nile River is an image of evil spirits, like those that are prophesied to come out of the dragon, the false prophet and the beast (Revelation 16:13).

The frogs coming out of this very river that Pharaoh claimed to have created, God declared to be a cesspool of wickedness. Recorded in Ezekiel is the Pharaoh in heaven bragging of his own ability to create. God heard Pharaoh's claim and said, "Son of man, set your face against Pharaoh king of Egypt and prophesy against him and against all Egypt. Speak to him and tell him that this is what the Lord GOD says: Behold, I am against you, O Pharaoh king of Egypt, *O great monster* who lies among his rivers, who says, '*The Nile is mine; I made it myself*'" (Ezekiel 29:2-3).

Pharaoh's river is full of evil spirits plaguing him and the heavenly king over Egypt was powerless to take them away (Exodus 8:8).

VERSE 10 OF EXODUS 8

Pharaoh pleaded with Moses to take the frogs away. Moses replied, "It will be as you say, so that you may know *there is no one like the LORD our God*" (Exodus 8:10). And Moses added, "The frogs will leave you and your houses, your officials and your people; they will remain only in the Nile" (Exodus 8:11).

3. A **plague of gnats** covered Egypt like dust. Like sin, it was everywhere on people and animals. The magicians could not produce gnats because only the Almighty God can determine sin. The magicians declared, "This is the finger of God" (Exodus 8:19). Like the writing on the wall, only God Almighty judges.
4. The **plague of disease-carrying flies** was designed by God to show Pharaoh a distinction between the Egyptians and God's people. This distinction will be fully recognizable during the millennial rule of Jesus Christ. They will be a kingdom of priests living righteously. Pharaoh asked Moses to pray for him so that the flies go away. Like Job who prayed for his three friends, righteous people are heard by God.
5. **The death of the Egyptian livestock** brought Pharaoh a clear warning that everything under his rulership would die because he lives in sin and he remains an enemy of Almighty God. Any possible plea for forgiveness through a sacrifice would be impossible without being fully committed to overcoming.
6. **The plague of boils** brought upon all of Egypt kept the magicians from coming before Moses and Aaron. They could not stand. Their suffering was intense; just like sin that brings suffering of all levels of intensity.
7. **The plague of hail** struck all of Egypt except for Goshen. After seven plagues are complete, finally Pharaoh admits, "This time I have sinned. The LORD is in the right, and I and my people are in the wrong" (Exodus 9:26-27).

The magicians had drained their power and Almighty God stood alone thundering to the people on earth, "I will send the full force of my plagues against you and against your officials and your people, *so you may know that there is no one like me in all the earth*" (Exodus 9:14).

The rebel heavenly Pharaoh had declared himself before the people of Egypt to be a Creator, yet, he was powerless to stop the curse of plagues. Only the true Creator, the God of Israel could unveil their many sins, curse them, and lift the curses.

8. The **plague of locusts** resulted because Pharaoh would not humble himself; he returned to sinning. God will bring everyone to their knees to confess their sins. The locusts consumed all of their food. This is symbolic of a spiritual event. Their beliefs and theology were destroyed. God's word is spiritual food. Pharaoh knew their false teachings were destroyed by God's truth and he was forced to admit his sin. "I have sinned against the LORD your God and against you. Now forgive my sin once more and pray to the LORD your God to take this deadly plague away from me" (Exodus 10:16-17).
9. The **heavy darkness over Egypt** for three days was Almighty God, the God of Israel, declaring judgement on the "sun god" Re, who was the heavenly ruler over Egypt. The Almighty God declared him to have: no light, no truth, no righteousness, no life-giving force.

Light shown over the Israelites because they had the Almighty God of Israel shining over them with the pure word of God and His law.

10. The **death of the firstborn Egyptians** without the blood of a lamb brushed on their door post was a direct result of Egypt not having a saviour who could pay for the sins of their people. God hardened Pharaoh's heart to drive His final point home. God Almighty pronounced the death of the firstborn Egyptians, as a clear message to the rebel heavenly rulers that the Egyptian people on earth will not be the first resurrected in God's kingdom. They will not be part of the firstborn. The opportunity was there for them to be part of the first to be transformed into eternal bodies, but the heavenly rulers failed to lead the nations on earth onto the righteous path to God.

Pharaoh let God's people go and God Almighty began His ministry. He provided His ten commandments, His calendar, and His Holy Days.

IT BEGAN WITH THE PERFECT SACRIFICE CHOSEN ON THE TENTH DAY OF THE FIRST MONTH

In ancient times, the people of the world were interacting with their rulers in heaven. It was an everyday occurrence. The confusion was not whether gods existed, but who is the Supreme God.

The second plague where the Nile turned to blood, taught the Egyptians that they do not have a worthy sacrifice, but the Supreme God does. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only, beloved Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

God taught ancient Israel to take a lamb, one for each family, on the tenth day of the first month (Exodus 12:3) to symbolize a new beginning, keeping God's law of love. The blemish-free lamb taught ancient Israel that they have a saviour—a Redeemer.

"This month is the beginning of months for you; it shall be the first month of your year. Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household" (Exodus 12:3).

TEN DAYS BETWEEN CHRIST'S ASCENSION AND PENTECOST

God's saving plan for His people and all people is transparent. Every step along the timeline is revealed in His Holy Days. There are ten days between Christ's ascension and Pentecost. Christ was seen on earth for forty days after his resurrection. Pentecost is fifty days after Christ's resurrection.

God accepted the sacrifice of Jesus, His only Heir. Fifty days later, He gave His Holy Spirit to a reborn body of people who initiated a new beginning of the church. This day marked the beginning where God would give all repentant people His Holy Spirit. Now the essential ingredient for spiritual growth was made possible.

The ten days between Christ's ascension and Pentecost points to a legal process of signing over all people on earth to their new King of kings and Lord of lords.

TEN DAYS BETWEEN ROSH HASHANAH/FEAST OF TRUMPETS AND YOM KIPPUR/DAY OF ATONEMENT—THE TEN DAYS OF AWE

God's Holy Days that have not yet been fulfilled all take place in the Fall. The fulfilled Holy Days are:

1. The Passover Lamb was accepted. Christ's sacrifice paid the price for the sins of mankind; he purchased mankind with his blood.
2. God's second Holy Day is comprised of the seven days of eating unleavened bread. It mirrors the conscious effort of the removal sin in our lives. It acknowledges the difficulty of this task as sin is everywhere. Nearly all foods contain leaven. Information is riddled with lies, misinformation, and disinformation. Jesus was the first of those who will be in the first resurrection. His resurrection is the assurance that the prophesied resurrections will take place.
3. The third day on God's timeline is the Day of Pentecost when God's Holy Spirit was given to the reborn church and will continue to be given to all repentant people.

The unfulfilled Holy Days are:

4. Rosh Hashanah/Feast of Trumpets remembers the day when Christ will return to usher in the long-awaited Jubilee. Together with the resurrected saints and his great army from heaven, Christ will overthrow Satan.
5. The Day of Atonement/Yom Kippur follows this tremendous event. God will gather His people from around the world and pass judgement on the unrepentant people. He will not allow unrepentant rebels to enter the Holy Land.

"Just as I entered into judgment with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so I will enter into judgment with you, declares the Lord GOD. I will make you pass under the rod and will bring you into the bond of the covenant. And 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: 36-38).

6. The Feast of Tabernacles/Feast of Booths/Feast of Ingathering/Sukkot is a period of seven days of living in tents picturing the upcoming millennial reign of Jesus Christ. His reign will be considered temporary, hence the practice of living in tents during this holy-day period. This evil age ends will end. Christ's one-thousand-year reign will finalize the complete period of mortality on earth.
7. The Last Great Day is the final feast day. At the close of this day, the second resurrection will take place, followed by the final Judgment. The unrepentant will not enter into eternal life. The humble overcomers will be transformed into glorious, eternal bodies. Then, it will be time for the old earth and heaven to be destroyed by

fire. A new earth and a new heaven will be created and Jesus Christ will reign forever.

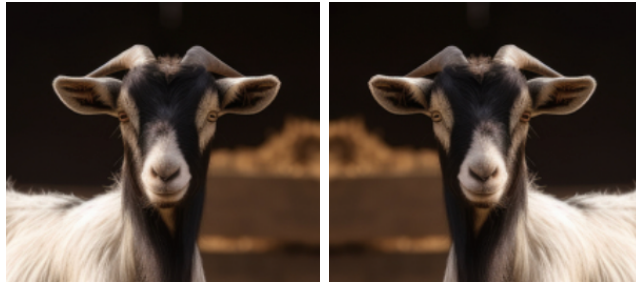
A deeper look into the Day of Atonement/Yom Kippur will unveil mysteries that Biblical scholars have found, but have difficulty understanding.

TENTH DAY OF TISHREI—THE DAY OF ATONEMENT/YOM KIPPUR

On this wonderful day, repentant 21st century nations of Israel will have their sins atoned. God will work first with His people who comprise of twelve nations today.

Regardless of having accepted the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, many Christians are in danger of spiritual stagnation. How can this be said? The ceremony on the Day of Atonement holds all of the answers.

“The LORD said to Moses, ‘The *tenth day* of this seventh month is the Day of Atonement. Hold a sacred assembly and deny yourselves, and present an offering made to the LORD by fire. Do no work on that day, because it is the Day of Atonement, when atonement is made for you before the LORD your God’” (Leviticus 23:26-28a).



Aaron was instructed to take two identical goats. “Present them before the LORD at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting. He is to cast lots for the two goats—one lot for the LORD and sacrifice it for a sin offering. But the goat chosen by lot as the scapegoat shall be presented alive before the LORD to be used for making atonement by sending it into the wilderness as a scapegoat” (Leviticus 16:6-8).

Each young goat images a leader and the role the leader fulfills. The questions are:

- Who are the leaders?
- What role do they fulfill?



God has carefully and methodically established a specific set of processes to atone for His people that will be fulfilled on the official Day of Atonement. These processes comprise of two core components:

1. The sacrifice of a young goat to cover the sins of God's people and all of mankind
2. The release of a live, young goat in the wilderness as a scapegoat to atone for the sins of God's people.

The process of the ceremony is comprised of several very important and unique features, which are key to adding clarity to understanding this unique Holy Day.

Unique features:

- *Two young goats from their herd* are presented before the LORD
 - The two young goats are both without blemish and in this case, they are indistinguishable because it requires the casting of lots in the assignment of the roles. Both young goats qualify for either role.
 - The goats come from *their* herd points to two leaders that come from *their* people.
- Lots were cast giving the LORD Almighty the task of choosing which young goat would be sacrificed and which young goat would be kept alive as the scapegoat.

Casting lots was a common practice in ancient times for calling on God or the gods over the nations to make the decision of an outcome. A clear example of this practice takes place when God chose the tribe of Levi to be His priests. There was a legitimate reason for asking God for clarification on this decision, because God's previous practice was the selection of the firstborn son from all families to enter His priesthood. God commanded each leader from each tribe to provide a rod. Overnight, Aaron's rod was the only one to demonstrate a miraculous change. It "put forth buds, produced blossoms, and bore ripe almonds" (Numbers 23:8). Aaron's lot was clearly God's choice.

SCRIPTURES THAT SUPPORT GOD USING THE CASTING OF LOTS TO AFFIRM HIS DECISION.

Decision from the LORD: "*The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the LORD*" (Proverbs 16:33).

"Then they drew lots, and the lot fell to Matthias; so, he was added to the eleven apostles" (Acts 1:26).

"*Distribute the land by lot, according to your clans. To a larger group give a larger inheritance, and to a smaller group a smaller one. Whatever falls by lot will be theirs. Distribute it according to your ancestral tribes*" (Numbers 33:64).

SCRIPTURES THAT SUPPORT THE CUSTOM OF CASTING LOTS IN THE PRIESTHOOD.

Custom of the priesthood: *“He was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to go into the temple of the Lord and burn incense”* (Luke 1:9).

“These were the Levites, according to their families. They also cast lots, just as their brothers the descendants of Aaron did, in the presence of King David and of Zadok, Ahimelech, and the heads of families of the priests and of the Levites” (I Chronicles 24:30-31).

THE ISRAELITES WERE NOT THE ONLY PEOPLE WHO UTILIZED THE CASTING OF LOTS.

Custom among the people outside of Israel: *“Then the sailors said to each other, ‘Come, let us cast lots to find out who is responsible for this calamity.’ They cast lots and the lot fell on Jonah”* (Jonah 1:7).

It becomes apparent in the story of Jonah that it was not only the ancient Israelites using the lot method to ask their god to make the decision on a matter. The sailors on the boat each worshipped different gods and did the same. *“All of the sailors were afraid and each cried out to his own god”* (Jonah 1:5).

The sailors worshipping different gods suggested that lots be cast to determine who was responsible for the calamity they were experiencing. The lot fell on Jonah.

The casting of lots is an essential practice for the ritual on the Day of Atonement because only Almighty God, the Creator with the legal right as the Owner of all created, can determine the leaders to fulfill the sacred Day of Atonement. The two young goats were both without blemish and equally qualified for the atonement ceremony. The two roles comprise of a sacrifice and an ongoing atonement until the Day of Atonement is fulfilled. The casting of lots represents Almighty God’s direct input in assigning each role to each goat.

THE FIRST YOUNG GOAT

The young goat the LORD chose for Himself would be sacrificed as a sin offering in redemptive payment of the sins of His people, Israel, and all of mankind.

Violations of God’s law results in penalties. The sins of Israel resulted in their death. The legal price for the sins of God’s people would be reconciled by the sacrifice imaged in the young goat God selected for Himself. The LORD God is the ultimate Judge who only can rule on an offense that would satisfy His law; the law He put in place that He also keeps. Satisfying God’s law is the first step to receiving eternal life.

The Son of God was the leader imaged in the first young goat. Jesus Christ died on the cross and his redemptive sacrifice was fulfilled on the Passover.

THE SECOND YOUNG GOAT

The second young goat would be presented *alive before the LORD to be used for making atonement of His people by sending it into the wilderness as a scapegoat*.

Each of the italicized points above will be discussed separately.

ALIVE BEFORE THE LORD

The young goat remains *alive before the LORD*. This young goat is an image of a perfect being—without blemish, a spiritual leader who is alive, well and qualified to atone for the sins of God's people.

USED FOR MAKING ATONEMENT

"Used for making atonement" is the work of Jesus Christ who intercedes for God's people who repent and have accepted his sacrifice as payment of their sins. Jesus Christ is also the image of the second young goat. This explains why Almighty God made the decision through the casting of lots because the priesthood could not distinguish one goat from the other. In fact, both goats image Jesus Christ. Almighty God selected the Son from before creation to be the redemptive sacrifice for mankind. Christ purchased mankind when he paid the price for their sins. They are under his jurisdiction and he alone can intercede for them.

"Because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood. Therefore, he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, *because he always lives to intercede for them*. Such a high priest meets our need—one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens" (Hebrews 7:25-26).

"Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus" (Romans 8:1). The spirit of Jesus Christ knows the heart of the saints. "In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know how we ought to pray, but *the Spirit Himself intercedes for us* with groans too deep for words. And He who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because *the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God*" (Romans 8:26-27).

The spirit of Jesus Christ intercedes for God's people.

The two young goats image Jesus Christ who holds two roles in the salvation of mankind. The making of atonement is the second step to complete the forgiveness process. Those who accept the sacrifice of Christ have completed only the first step. Accepting the redemptive sacrifice, commits these people to the death of their old self. "Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?" (Romans 6:3)

This second step is the ongoing spiritual growth of repentant people to come into the fullness of Christ. They are reborn to grow into spiritual maturity, growing in the knowledge, understanding and wisdom of God.

The Apostle Peter said, “Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. *Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good*” (1 Peter 2:1).

Repentant people begin as babes in Christ who cannot yet distinguish right from wrong. “Anyone who lives on milk, *being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness*. But solid food is for the *mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil*” (Hebrews 5:13-14).

Because the rebirth is a growing process where mistakes and errors are made, making of atonement, that is, the intercession by Jesus Christ is necessary.

Repentant people are required to overcome and reach the whole measure and fullness of Christ. Jesus gave teachers to God’s people to prepare them “for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we 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. Then we will no longer be 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. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ” (Ephesians 4:12-15).

While the Day of Atonement is not fully understood among the Christian community and the rich meanings embedded in the ritual, God has still provided Christians with the essential knowledge of growing into spiritual maturity through the scriptures in the New Testament.

The Day of Atonement will be *fulfilled*, ten days after Jesus Christ returns on the Feast of Trumpets/Rosh Hashanah. It is a unique piece to the grand puzzle. Eventually, all of the Holy Days will be fulfilled, leaving a remembrance of God’s transparency of His saving plan for His people and all of mankind.

THE WILDERNESS

“**By sending it into the wilderness**” places the goat in a very important place. The wilderness is an image of an isolated place where repenting people enter separating themselves from the general unrepentant public to grow in God’s knowledge, understanding, and wisdom to live righteously.

Ancient Israel entered the wilderness for forty years. It was the separation essential for their spiritual journey to draw close to God. After forty years, only the children of the original people who left Egypt survived because they did not rebel against God.

Today, into the 21st century, the journey of the Judeo-Christians who have accepted Jesus Christ as their Saviour are separated in a virtual wilderness as they privately develop an intimate relationship with Almighty God, our LORD through Jesus Christ. As ancient Israel was fed directly by Almighty God in the forty-year wilderness journey by manna, so, the Judeo-Christians are fed by Jesus Christ after accepting his redemptive sacrifice.

THE SCAPEGOAT

The final italicized point is the scapegoat. Jesus Christ bore the sins of all of mankind. He was the sinless, perfect sacrifice willing to die for mankind. He is the scapegoat. Isaiah recorded, “Therefore, I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life until death, and was numbered with the transgressors. *For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors*” (Isaiah 53:12).

THE ROLE OF THE FIRST YOUNG GOAT

God Almighty selected the young goat as the sacrifice for the sins of mankind. The redemptive sacrifice of Jesus Christ fulfilled the legal requirement for Atonement.

THE ROLE OF THE SECOND YOUNG GOAT

The role of the second, young goat sent in the wilderness is the ongoing, continual work of the High Priest Jesus Christ who intercedes for God’s people as they grow and overcome. This work will continue and reach its apex on the official year of the day of Yon Kippur—the Day of Atonement.

It will be fulfilled ten days after the return of Jesus Christ. It will be a solemn day for God’s people. At the end of the great tribulation, Jacob’s trouble, the people who are repentant and remain mortal because they have not reached the fullness of Christ will not be transformed into their spiritual bodies. These people will be atoned for on the Day of Atonement. They will bring this day to completion. A remembrance of this day will continue in the same way that the Passover, Feast of Weeks/Days of Unleavened Bread and Pentecost are kept today.

Before God’s people enter into the Holy Land, God will have them walk under His staff and He will, at that time, purge anyone who holds an unrepentant and rebellious spirit. Ezekiel 20:38 “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 20:38).

Among God’s people, people from the nations will also enter into the Holy Land. “The LORD will have compassion on Jacob; once again he will choose Israel and will settle them in their own land. *Foreigners will join them and unit with the house of Jacob*” (Isaiah 14:1).

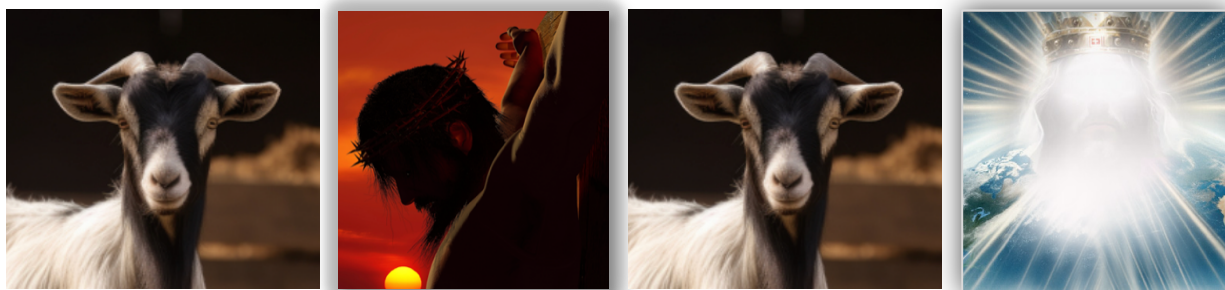
These foreigners who join with DNA people of God from all twelve tribes will be given rulership—an inheritance, exactly the same as the DNA people of God. Ezekiel recorded God’s word. “You are to distribute this land among yourselves according to the tribes of Israel. You are to allot it as an inheritance for yourselves and for the foreigners who have settled among you and who have children. You are to consider them as native-born Israelites; along with you they are to be allotted an inheritance among the tribes of Israel. In whatever tribe the foreigner settles, there you are to give him his inheritance” (Ezekiel 47:21-23).

There will be no re-atonement of God's people who go into the Holy Land at the beginning of Jesus Christ's millennial reign. They will walk under God Almighty's staff; He will purge the unrepentant and the remainder will continue to settle in the Holy Land to live righteously. The Apostle Peter urged God's people to recognize the importance of their calling.

"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light" (1 Peter 2:9).

Both of the young goats selected for the sacramental service on the Day of Atonement image Jesus Christ. The two indistinguishable goats require the selection by Almighty God, Himself. This is intentional to point to only one heavenly ruler who could qualify to fulfill two roles. Jesus Christ fulfilled the perfect sacrifice paying the price of mankind's sins. His sacrifice entitled him to have rulership over God's people and all of mankind and qualifies him to be the High Priest who is able to forgive their sins, awaken them from spiritual death, and heal all of their spiritual infirmities.

God's Holy Days given to His people will be remembered for all eternity.



SMYRNA WILL SUFFER FOR TEN DAYS

Of the seven churches of Revelation, two are promised their own crown: Smyrna and Philadelphia. Jesus compliments the humility and spiritual strength of this group of people who are symbolized in the church of Smyrna. He encourages them to remain strong during a time of extreme distress when Satan will persecute and imprison some of them (Revelation 2:10). Recorded in verse ten, Jesus said their suffering will be for ten days. The symbolism of their suffering for ten days is related to the keeping of God's law. Jesus recognizes the riches they hold and promises them a crown, if they remain faithful.

AFTER TEN JUBILEE CYCLES, GOD'S LAW WILL BE RE-ESTABLISHMENT BY HIS PEOPLE

Daniel recorded and revealed the timing given to God's people to stop sinning and live righteously.

"Seventy 'sevens' are decreed for your people and your holy city to finish transgression, to put an end to sin, to atone for wickedness, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the most holy" (Daniel 9:24). Seventy sevens equal 490 Biblical

years. The time of the next Jubilee will be at the return of Jesus Christ. He will usher in righteous leadership and end corruption, slavery, and debt.

The whole house of Israel, all twelve tribes, which are today twelve nations, still have a lot of spiritual growth. Of the six tasks recorded in Daniel, three are to end sinning and three are to live righteously.

1. Finish transgression = stop/imprison rebellion within your people—the whole kingdom of Israel, all 12 tribes.
2. Put an end/seal up sin = hate sinning, imprison it, hinder it so that it is impossible to spread.
3. Atone for wickedness = sins are altogether removed out of the sight of God—blotted out. Hence, on the Day of Atonement of the last year of this evil age, the people of the twelve nations of Israel who come out of the Great Tribulation repentant and submissive to God finally, will be atoned.

Once sin is overcome, righteous living has to be learned:

4. These people must live perfectly in righteousness.
5. Then, the visions and prophecy that will be laid under a seal, meaning that the visions and prophecy can no longer actively show themselves because they are fulfilled.
6. The next most important and glorious task is the anointing of the Most Holy. This is a divine anointing of a new sanctuary, prior to God coming and filling it with His glory.

Keil and Delitzsch wrote, “The reference is to the anointing of a new sanctuary, temple, or most holy place. The anointing is the act by which the place is consecrated to be a holy place of the gracious presence and revelation of God. If thus the anointing of a most holy is here announced, then by it there is given the promise, not of the renewal of the place already existing, but of the appointment of a new place of God's gracious presence among His people, a new sanctuary.”³

Reviewing the instructions from the angel to Daniel, God’s people have seventy sevens to complete six tasks. Seventy sevens is 490 years, that is, 49 times 10. This time period multiplied by ten immediately makes a statement that a legal matter is at stake here. If the multiplication of 10 points to the absolute enforcement of God’s law, then one block of time (49 years) just prior to the Jubilee is given to God’s people to overcome sin and dedicate themselves to living righteously in time before the anointing of the Most Holy. When does this time period start?

³ Keil and Delitzsch. Bible Commentaries. *StudyLight*, Daniel 9:24.
<https://www.studyLight.org/commentaries/kdo/daniel-9.html>). Accessed April 10, 2022.

The Apostle John recorded, “Then I was given a measuring rod like a staff and was told, ‘Go and measure the temple of God and the altar, and count the number of worshipers there. But exclude the courtyard outside the temple. Do not measure it, because it has been given over to the nations, and they will trample the holy city for 42 months’” (Revelation 11:1-2).

The *new* sanctuary will be established during the millennial reign of Jesus Christ. God’s people have 490 years or 49 years times ten to:

- To overcome sin and keep it from raising its head
- Live righteously and prepare the temple for the arrival of the Almighty God.

Regardless of the number of physical years—490 years or a message symbolized as a mathematical expression: $7 \times 7 \times 10$, if it is not accomplished within the given seventy sevens, they will be brought before the courts of God. A message written in a mathematical expression is solved by understanding the meaning of each number. Seventy sevens = $7 \times 10 \times 7$.

1. A witness is represented with God’s use of *two* sevens: $7 \times 7 \times 10$.
2. A fully complete time period is represented in number seven: *two completions*.
3. A multiplied by ten is represented in number ten, God’s law: *a legal matter*.

It is a period of time when God’s people are given a legal witness of their sins where they are without excuse. Thankfully, prophecy points to a success of God’s people coming out of the Great Tribulation repentant and will bend their knee before Almighty God and Jesus Christ. They will go into the Holy Land with genuine sincerity.

The prophecies in scripture all point to success.

REPENTANCE: “In those days, and in that time, says the LORD, the children of Israel shall come, they and the children of Judah together, going and weeping: they shall go, and seek the LORD their God” (Jeremiah 50:4). The return to God of *both* houses at the same time has never happened. This is a future event.

EVERLASTING COVENANT: “And I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; but I will put my fear in their hearts, that they shall not depart from me” (Jeremiah 32:40).

GOD’S SANCTUARY WILL BE AMONG THEM: “Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them; it shall be an everlasting covenant with them: and I will place them, and multiply them, and will set my sanctuary in the midst of them for evermore” (Ezekiel 37:26).

A question rarely asked is whether these 21st century Israelites are the only Israelites tasked with this legal directive? It appears, through scripture, that there is an additional group who also have this legal directive.

A physical resurrection will take place at the beginning of the Millennium by Ezekiel through the power of Almighty God. This exciting event is recorded in Ezekiel 37.

God said to Ezekiel, “Prophecy to these bones and say to them, ‘Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD! This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life.’”

So, Ezekiel prophesied as he was commanded. “There was a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone... Tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them.” The ancient house of Israel is resurrected back into their physical bodies.

The Almighty God announced, in ancient times, that He will give ancient Israel breath and they will live. “Prophecy to the breath and say to it, ‘Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe into these slain, that they may live... they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army.’”

Ezekiel did as he was commanded and before him, breath entered the slain. These people were killed while they were at war with their God. In great compassion, God will resurrect them. Their heart will beat, their lungs will expand and contract, and their eyes will open. They will stand up before Ezekiel, millions of them!

Conscious of their failed spiritual state, they will say, “*Our bones are dried up.*” They know they have been resurrected back into their physical bodies and they admit defeat—they are spiritually dead and have been for many generations.

“Our *hope* is gone.” They understand that there is no hope of eternal life for them, for they are *both* the divorced house of Israel—the faithless and the unfaithful house of Judah.

“We have been *cut off.*” Both houses of Israel exasperated the Almighty God with their perpetual rebellious and treasonous behaviour. He gave the house of Israel a bill of divorce, severing them from His covenant people and sent them away forbidding them from returning to the Promised land.

Despite what these people have done, God’s timeless love for them endures. “I will bring you back to the land of Israel. Then you, my people, will know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and bring you up from them” (Ezekiel 37:13). In God’s great mercy and enduring love for His people, He has announced their resurrection in the writing of Ezekiel and has promised to bring them back home. The return to the land is God announcing and accepting their repentance at this resurrection.

“‘I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and *I will settle you in your own land.* Then you will know that I the LORD have spoken, and I have done it,’ declares the LORD” (Ezekiel 37:14).

Christ’s sacrifice paid the penalty for all of our sins. This vast number of people have now the opportunity again to choose life. With the help of God’s Holy Spirit, their choices will be different from their destructive direction in the past.

Many of the prophets of old have not finished the job God has given them. They died knowing they didn't nor could they finish it. The prophets will be resurrected at the time of Christ's return and transformed into their glorious bodies. They will finish the God work given to them. The forty-nine-legal-week directive applies primarily to resurrected ancient Israel.

Recorded by the Apostle John in Revelation 21:22, the New Jerusalem comprises of eternal righteousness. "I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp... Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life."

The new Jerusalem is shaped as a cube imaging the layers of spiritually strong people filling positions to bind the foundation and all structures above as a single unbreakable, eternal unit. It needs no light because the glory of Almighty God and Jesus Christ shines out in radiant beams filling all space.

TEN FINGERS AND TEN TOES

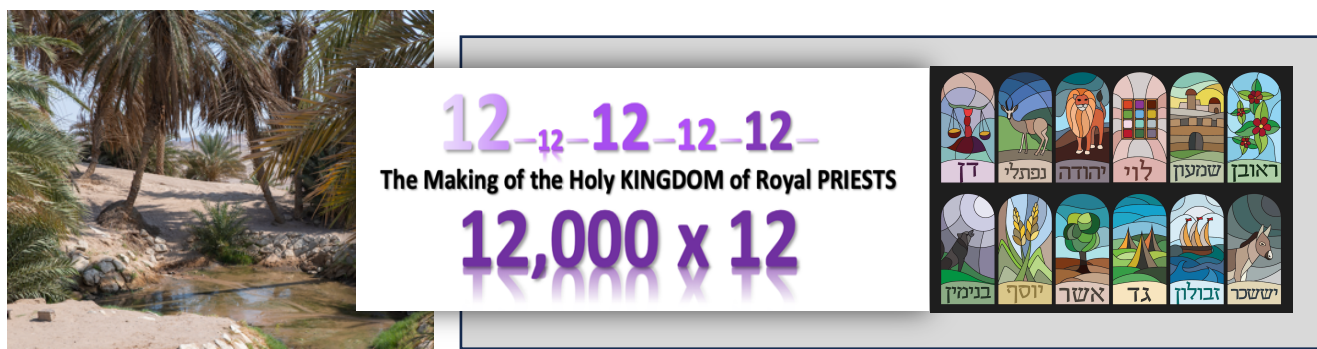
God created mankind male and female. Both have ten fingers and ten toes given so that they could write God's law in their hearts and remain balanced as they walk in His ways.

It is God's law, symbolized in the number ten, that deals with *all legal matters* that will bring divine order and eternal peace, while totally eradicating rebel chaos and confusion. With a humble body of men and women, living righteously and in complete obedience to God's law, a new government will be formed. God's heavenly courts have fallen; He will fill His new courts with repentant and righteous people from the twelve nations of Israel. How can we know this?

THE NUMBER 12 and 70, GOD'S PERFECT GOVERNMENT

“Then I looked, and there before me was the Lamb, standing on Mount Zion, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father’s name written on their foreheads... No lie was found in their mouths; they are blameless”
(Revelation 14:1, 5).

Moses recorded a song for ancient Israel to sing and remember forever. It was a synopsis of their history. The chapter of Deuteronomy 32 records the lyrics of that song. Common knowledge of the ancient Israelites is the history of the time when God Almighty decided to divide the people on earth into their own communities with their own land and language. He placed loyal and revered heavenly rulers over the nations to help them learn God’s way. God decided to participate in this project and He chose the children of Jacob. He gave himself an inheritance—kingship over Israel.



“When the Most High assigned lands to the nations, when he divided up the human race, he established the boundaries of the peoples according to the number in his heavenly court. But the LORD’s portion is His people, Jacob His allotted inheritance” (Deuteronomy 32:8-9).

God added, “Of all the families of the earth, only Israel have I chosen” (Amos 3:2).

It was a painful disappointment for God when one by one all of the heavenly rulers over the nations turned against Him. A storm of wickedness was raging on the earth when Abraham was born and growing up. Moses recorded the rebellion of these fallen angels that brought the destruction of truth—God’s knowledge, leaving a desert of lies, misinformation and disinformation. Abraham was born over two hundred years after the heavenly rulers were given rulership over the nations and in that short time, all truth and goodness was lost.

Recorded in the song of Moses, “In a desert land he found him, in a barren and howling waste. He shielded him and cared for him; he guarded him as the apple of his eye” (Deuteronomy 32:10).

God Almighty began molding His people beginning with Abraham, then Isaac and Jacob. Hosea recorded God's joy finding overcomers in a world of wickedness. "When I found Israel, it was like finding grapes in the desert and that when I saw your fathers, it was like seeing the early fruit on the fig tree" (Hosea 9:10).

God identified His people as the fig tree. This fascinating tree does not show its flowers, rather, they remain hidden within a fleshly structure known as the syconium. The flower eventually develops into fruit. This imagery describes a humble people growing in God's word and developing into righteous leaders who are not seeking self-glory. That is the beauty God is forming in His people.

TWELVE SONS, TWELVE TRIBES, TWELVE NATIONS

Jacob was the father of twelve sons. This was by no accident; it was determined by God long before the creation of Adam and Eve. The history of these twelve sons into the 21st century is mostly a dark story of rebellion, self-reliance, self-direction, and a drive for self-glory—behaving just like the nations of the world.

It was known to God, long before creation on earth began that He would be faced with many challenges. God knows the end from the beginning. He is not finished His handiwork; His plan is transparent. He began with twelve, the number of His perfect government and when He is finished, it will be twelve times twelve times one thousand—the eternal, multi-dimensional perfect government! God will accomplish all He has set out to do.

God said, "It is too small a thing that you should be My servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also make you a light of the nations so that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth" (Isaiah 49:6).

Ancient Israel was destined to become a holy kingdom of royal priests. God foreknew the pearl-like process that would transform His people into righteous, God-fearing servants.

Their transformation began in Egypt when they were slaves to sin. Moses stood in the place of Almighty God demanding the release of His firstborn people. Already, God was declaring who would be part of the first resurrection; it would begin with His people. God poured out ten plagues onto Egypt. The number ten because it is God's symbolic number for His law. A legal judgement was brought upon the heavenly ruler over Egypt at that time, by Almighty God.

After the blood of a lamb without blemish was brushed onto the door posts, the exit out of Egypt was made possible. Egypt symbolized the place of sin that held God's people captive. He was teaching ancient Israel about spiritual freedom and the process they need to follow to get it.

1. A perfect sacrifice accepted by God was the blood of the lamb on their door post.
2. Repentance and the purging of sin out of their lives was represented in their haste to leave Egypt. The time limitations resulted in them baking unleavened bread represented

in them eating the pure word of God that is not puffed up with lies, misinformation and disinformation.

3. Trust in God to guide them through the wilderness into His Holy Land was essential, but difficult for the ancient Israelites to achieve. Only their children, along with Joshua and Caleb, entered into the Promised Land.

The ancient Israelites did not understand the many rituals Moses told them to do. In haste, they ate unleavened bread fleeing out of Egypt. The spiritual significance of eating unleavened bread would not have entered their mind, as they left in the dark of night, fleeing for their lives. The plan of God to have His people eat unleavened bread was to be picture the growth into spiritual maturity through the eating of God's word that is true and good.

The power of the rebel gods over the nations was felt by the people. Almighty God had to prove to His people, who lived in Egypt for over four hundred years, that He was the Supreme God of all gods. The awakening event for the ancient Israelites was the parting of the Red Sea.

In the Middle East, Baal-Zephon was the great god over the sea. His heavenly presence watching over the Red Sea terrified the ancient Israelites. They found themselves cornered, as they gathered between Baal-Zephon's rushing waters and the mountain ranges. The blow of Baal-Zephon's cold trident would be the death of the ancient Israelites if their God was not the Supreme God, the Almighty God, as Moses claimed.

At the moment when all of ancient Israel was trembling and distressed, the God of Israel told Moses to raise his arms and then, the water parted and onto dry land all of ancient Israel crossed over. When the last Israelite walked onto land, God closed the opening and all of the Egyptians chasing them were drowned by the crushing waters. Baal-Zephon proved to be powerless to stop the ancient Israelites or protect the Egyptians.

Only then, the Israelites believed that their God was more powerful, the Almighty. The battle of the Hebrew God against all the gods who once ruled over the nations is a totally foreign concept for 21st century people. Scholars mythicized the ancient gods and the power they once wielded. A time is coming on our near horizon, when the remaining heavenly rulers who have been promised a kingdom at the time of Babel, arrive on earth. The 21st century nations will experience the sting of these rebels once felt by ancient peoples.

SEVENTY PALM TREES, TWELVE SPRINGS OF WATER

Seventy palm trees provided a covering in the hot desert for the ancient Israelites, at their first stop of their journey towards the Promised Land. There, they were revived by twelve springs of water, one represented for each tribe. This was no random or by chance event. It was the Hebrew God prophesying to His people many hundreds of years in the future, the spiritual journey they would take when they return to the land of their forefathers. Seventy palm trees image seventy spiritually strong elders who can survive in very harsh conditions. They equate to the seventy elders with proven integrity and leadership like those selected to help Moses. This

selection of the seventy elders also point to an eternal group of seventy who will serve Almighty God and forever guide God's royal, ruling family in righteousness.

"Then the LORD said to Moses, 'Come up to the LORD—you and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of Israel's elders—and you are to worship at a distance'" (Exodus 24:1).

These seventy were also given God's Holy Spirit. It was mirrored in God giving them some of the spirit given to Moses. Their role requires having God's Holy Spirit in order for them to fulfill their duties. They represent a law-abiding, complete group of counsellors filled with God's Holy Spirit.

"Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Gather for me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them, and bring them to the tent of meeting, and let them take their stand there with you. And I will come down and talk with you there. And I will take some of the Spirit that is on you and put it on them, and they shall bear the burden of the people with you, so that you may not bear it yourself alone'" (Numbers 11:16-17).

This journey was a mirror of the reliable supports God will have in place when the 21st century nations of Israel return to the land of their forefathers. They will have very strong leadership from every tribe. Each tribe will have their own source of life—a righteous and God-serving ministry, who can baptize so that God's Holy Spirit can be given. This is imaged in the twelve springs.

As the Israelites approached the Holy Land, they were prepared to battle against the giants in their land. Moses set up twelve stone pillars, one for each of the twelve tribes and they confirmed their covenant with God. Success battling against the heights of Wickedness requires total allegiance to and trust in Almighty God. God Almighty is the Great King over all kings. That is the lesson ancient Israel learned. Belief in the giants has been viewed as a fantasy by scholars, but the people of the 21st century will awaken during the Great Tribulation, when they face-off against their only enemies who are spiritual: fallen angels, rulers, powers, and principalities. These giants will terrify them.

TWELVE PILLARS

The raising up of twelve pillars in ancient times is a prophecy indicating that the twelve nations into the 21st century will awaken and confirm their covenant with God before battling against rebel fallen rulers, powers, and principalities who will set up their thrones on earth during the latter days.

TWELVE FOUNDATIONS

The twelve foundations of the New Jerusalem image the leadership of the twelve apostles. The structure of this city is designed by God to be everlasting. Its fundamental strength is reinforced by the teachings of Christ through the twelve apostles.

“The wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb” (Revelation 21:14).

The apostles have the exquisite qualities of gem stones. They were among the rare people on earth who endured harsh persecution and overcame growing into priceless members of God’s family reflecting the precision-cut lights of righteousness.

THE BLAMELESS 144,000: 12,000 times twelve will be the saints who will form the new headquarters of the New Jerusalem. These are the saints.

Recorded by Daniel, God Almighty said, “Then the sovereignty, power and greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven will be handed over to the saints, the people of the Most High. His [Christ’s] kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom, and all rulers will worship and obey him [Christ].” This is the end of the matter (Daniel 7:27-28a).

There have been some fierce invisible battles fought in heaven for rulership of God’s kingdom. These cannot be seen or fully understood by mankind. And still on the near horizon, waits the worst battle to be fought on earth—a time like no other. The verdict of this final battle is known. Daniel 7 reveals God’s judgement. Sovereignty will be awarded to Christ and the saints.

The 144,000 of Revelation are the overcomers from 21st century nations of Israel. “Then I looked, and there before me was the Lamb, standing on Mount Zion, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father’s name written on their foreheads... No lie was found in their mouths; they are blameless” (Revelation 14:1,5). One hundred and forty-four thousand will be sealed from the twelve tribes of Israel: Judah, Reuben, Gad, Asher, Naphtali, Manasseh, Simeon, Levi, Issachar, Zebulun, Joseph and Benjamin twelve thousand were sealed (Revelation 7:5-8).

Why *twelve*? Why *twelve* tribes, *twelve* gates, *twelve* foundations and a central group of twelve thousand times *twelve*? It symbolizes God’s power and authority in bringing about a perfect, eternally righteous, ruling government of God-fearing, God-serving body of royal priests. Our Creator’s plan of salvation for all of mankind begins with the twelve tribes—God’s firstborn priest nation.

“Then you [Moses] shall say to Pharaoh, ‘Thus says the LORD, *Israel is my firstborn son* and I told you to let My son go so that he may worship Me. But you have refused to let him go, so I will kill your firstborn son!’” (Exodus 4:22)

Israel—the Overcomers—is God’s firstborn who will, under Christ’s leadership, bring the people of the nations to God. There will be children born into the God family after the firstborn. God is working on the construct of His multi-layered groups of twelve that can handle the entry of all the nations in the world and the ever-expanding kingdom of God.

THE JOURNEY THAT TOOK FORTY YEARS

“They returned from spying out the land, at the end of forty days”

(Numbers 13:25).

It wasn't at the completion of seven days or in three days, but after forty days spying out the Promised Land that the twelve spies brought back a report. Only Joshua and Caleb had faith and trust in God and reported favourably of the overthrowing of the giants living there. Only they were close to God.



Despite all of the many miracles that God did for ancient Israel, all of them except for Joshua and Caleb still did not have a relationship of trust in God. These people will be resurrected back into their physical bodies at the beginning of the Millennium, along with the Israelites like them who lived warring against God throughout the generations. They will be given God's Holy Spirit, a complete and full amount of time to mature spiritually, and draw close to the Creator God of all creation. The story is told in the imagery of numbers.

It was prophesied that these wayward people will repent. “No longer will Jacob [Israelites—who have not yet overcome] be ashamed; no longer will their faces grow pale. When they see among them *their children*, the work of my hands, they will keep my name holy; they will acknowledge the holiness of the Holy One of Jacob, and will stand in awe of the God of Israel [God of the overcomers]. Those who are wayward in spirit will gain understanding; those who complain will accept instruction” (Isaiah 29:22-24).

“Their children” are the resurrected firstborn of mortals who are in reverence to God, obeying Him, trusting Him, and elated that He is their God and they are His people.

Strategically woven into the number forty are tests and trials for mankind designed to stimulate spiritual growth that provides mechanisms to find the way to God that brings spiritual healing and an intimate relationship with Him.

CHRIST WAS CLOSE TO GOD, BEFORE HE BEGAN HIS MINISTRY

For forty days and forty nights Jesus fasted in the wilderness. He was walking and talking with God. Filled with God's Holy Spirit, he was a powerhouse of spiritual strength. He was ready to begin his ministry that would enable our spiritual healing, producing in us—a new man, necessary before entering into the presence of our righteous, heavenly Father. The foolish tempter who often uses physical needs and desires to lure believers away from the spiritual truths and ways of God, failed to entice Jesus. God's plan to save mankind will not fail.

“Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry” (Matthew 4:1).

Despite Jesus' physical hunger, he was filled with God's Holy Spirit and the word of God. He made it possible for our spiritual filling. Through the receiving of God's Holy Spirit, feasting on the word of God, and living the way of God, mankind grows into a healthy state ready to enter into God's kingdom as His adopted children—part of the eternal, great, royal, ruling, holy family of God Almighty.

The wilderness is the image God uses of the place that will bring people close to Him. It is a treacherous place outside of the touch of mankind. It is a place that will strengthen the righteous. The imagery God uses of the woman clothed in the sun and the moon under her feet wearing a crown of twelve stars, escapes to the wilderness from the torrent of water from the dragon. There, she is protected for forty-two months (Revelation 12:6). This woman is the righteous and faithful church; the wilderness is the testing and growth site that leads her into perfection.

AFTER HIS RESURRECTION—NOW VERY CLOSE TO HIS FATHER, MOMENTS FROM RETURNING, CHRIST PREPARED HIS FOLLOWERS FOR FORTY DAYS, BRINGING THEM CLOSER TO GOD

After the crucifixion and resurrection, Christ spent forty days meeting with his disciples and preparing them to teach the Jews and the gentile ten tribes who were returning back into the fold. These Gentiles were awarded the task of taking the message of the kingdom of God to the whole world.

*“After His suffering, He presented Himself to them with many convincing proofs that He was alive. He appeared to them over a span of *forty days* and spoke about the kingdom of God” (Acts 1:3).*

Christ's work on earth was finished forty days after his death and resurrection. The Holy Spirit arrived fifty days later on the first day of Pentecost, seeding the spiritual healing and such growth that eventually all of mankind will come into the fullness of Christ.

GOD CLEANSSED THE EARTH IN FORTY DAYS AND FORTY NIGHTS OF RAIN

God caused the great flood that cleansed the earth of wickedness preserving only eight people, Noah and his family. They were the new beginning for mankind. For forty days and forty nights, Noah and his family, along with selected animals, were saved in the ark. As the rain poured and the waters rose, the ark was brought closer to the heavens. It was a natural result that brought

the small remnant and their home on the water higher and higher, closer to God. Forty days and forty nights of God's judgement in the form of a flood sentenced the wicked to death. Noah was judged before the flood and he and his family found grace in the eyes of the LORD.

"In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on the same day all the fountains of the great deep burst open, and the floodgates of the sky were opened. And rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights. On the very same day Noah and Shem and Ham and Japheth, the sons of Noah, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons with them, entered the ark" (Genesis 7:11-13).

"But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD" (Genesis 6:8).

While the earth was being cleansed by a worldwide catastrophe, those preserved were brought close to God.

"For forty days the flood kept coming on the earth, and as the water increased, they lifted the ark above the earth. The waters rose and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the surface of the water" (Genesis 7:17-18).

NOAH WAITED FORTY DAYS AFTER IT RAINED BEFORE HE OPENED THE WINDOW IN THE ARK

Noah and his family remained covered sending out a raven, then a dove to determine the water level. When the dove did not return, he removed the covering of the ark and saw a cleansed new world. Forty days they waited for the waters to subside.

"And it came to pass at the end of forty days, that Noah opened the window of the ark which he had made" (Genesis 8:6).

As the waters receded, they were brought down back on earth. This is an image of a blameless small group being spiritually strengthened and rejuvenated, ready to restore the way of God and repopulate the earth with God-fearing and God-obeying people. This remnant was humble before God and offered a sacrifice, which pleased God and He promised never to destroy mankind and living creatures again with a flood.

"Then Noah built an altar to the LORD and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, he sacrificed burnt offerings on it. The LORD smelled the pleasing aroma and said in his heart: 'Never again will I curse the ground because of man, even though every inclination of his heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done'" (Genesis 8:20-21).

"Then God blessed Noah and his sons, saying to them, 'Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the earth... I will establish a covenant with you... Never again will all life be cut off by waters of a flood to destroy the earth... the sign of the covenant is the rainbow in the clouds'" (Genesis 9:1-16).

MOSES—FOR FORTY DAYS AND FORTY NIGHTS COVERED IN A CLOUD, WAS TAUGHT BY GOD THE COMMANDMENTS, STATUES, AND ORDINANCES

During the forty days and forty nights, Moses was taught the complete law of God, returning with ten commandments written on two stone tablets.

“Then Moses entered the cloud as he went on up the mountain. And he stayed on the mountain forty days and forty nights” (Exodus 24:18).

Moses was prepared to restore the law of God and bring a spiritual healing to the people of ancient Israel. God’s law written on two tablets of stone provided a guaranteed witness that God’s law works to establish order, peace and prosperity.

“So, he was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he did not eat bread or drink water. And he wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant, the Ten Commandments” (Exodus 34:28).

ELIJAH—FOR FORTY DAYS AND FORTY NIGHTS WALKED TO MOUNT HOREB TO STAND IN THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD

Filled with strength from the food given to him by the Angel of God, Elijah sustained the walk without eating or drinking to climb Mt. Horeb. Each step brought him closer and closer to God.

Elijah’s commission was to bring God’s people back to Him in repentance, have them recognize their sins and their need for God’s forgiveness. He ignited a spiritual awakening of God’s people when he challenged Jezebel’s priests. The event was a display of immense power of the God of Israel and a deep, empty void for Baal who could do nothing.

“Then the fire of the Lord fell and consumed the burnt offering and the wood and the stones and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench. And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces and said, “*The Lord, he is God; the Lord, he is God*” (I Kings 18:38).

Elijah then seized the prophets of Baal and slaughtered them. Jezebel was very angry and swore, “So may the gods do to me and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by this time tomorrow” (I Kings 19:2).

It is difficult for people in the 21st century to understand this level of devotion and loyalty people had towards the gods they worshipped. These gods were the heavenly rulers given kingship over the nations at the time of Babel. These rulers were revered, holy sons of God until they all rebelled against God. People on earth were engaging directly with their heavenly rulers.

While Elijah was in hiding from Jezebel’s anger and decree to have him killed, he took refuge with people from the nations outside of Israel. These people were recipients of miracles. They believed and trusted Elijah and came to acknowledge the God of Israel as the Supreme God. These events point to a future mirroring where people from outside of Israel will believe and received God’s Holy Spirit. The story of Peter in the New Testament was a direct teaching on this important understanding.

“While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard his message. All the circumcised believers who had accompanied Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles. For they heard them speaking in tongues and exalting God. Then Peter said, ‘Can anyone withhold the water to baptize these people? They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have!’ So, he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to stay for a few days” (Acts 10:44-48).

“Then Peter began to speak: ‘I now truly understand that God does not show favoritism, but welcomes those from every nation who fear Him and do what is right’” (Acts 10:34-35).

Elijah’s life was constantly under threat. After he told King Ahab that a severe famine would come because of his sins, God told Elijah to leave and hide in Kerith Ravine. There God had ravens bring him bread and meat in the morning and evening and he drank from the brook. Ravens are an unclean bird and it would seem odd that a God who defined which birds were clean and unclean for the reason to show a distinction between what is favoured and what is not, would have an unclean bird feed His faithful prophet from the northern house of Israel. It is likely because His “clean” people, were incompetent in accomplishing God’s work. So, God through unclean means fed Elijah to keep him alive during a very dark time of history to show His people that He can use the “unclean” to do His work. God was not limited to His, so called, “clean” people.

When the water of the brook at Kerith Ravine dried up, he was fed by a widow living in Zarephath, outside of Israel. This woman is not an Israelite and would be considered unclean. Elijah found her collecting wood to prepare the last meal for her son and herself. He asked for food and water and she replied, “As the LORD your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. And now I am gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it and die” (I Kings 18:12).

She could see that the god she worshipped was not breaking the famine, and Elijah promised her life if she gave the last of her food to him. With nothing to lose, she gave what she had to him, demonstrating her trust in his word and reliance on his God. This woman mirrored the bringing under the God of Israel, people from the nations outside of Israel.

Again, Elijah was fed by “unclean” means. Later, her son died and Elijah brought him back to life. Elijah’s ministry went outside of the boundary of God’s people. He was sent to a gentile church, imaged in the widow living outside of Israel, who took care of him. When God is teaching spiritual lessons, He uses imagery. Women are always imaged as a church—a religious body.

While Elijah was with her, he taught her the word of God which was passed down to her son, who was brought back to life. After her son was brought back to life, the woman then believed fully that Elijah is a servant of the Almighty God. She said, “Now I know that you are a man of God and that the word of the LORD from your mouth is the truth” (I Kings 18:24).

While King Ahab and the people of the northern house of Israel were rebelling against the Almighty God, a gentile church came to believe in the true Creator, the Almighty God. Peter, a disciple of Jesus, learned not to call the Gentiles unclean. “The voice spoke to him a second time: “Do not call anything impure that God has made clean” (Acts 10:15).

Elijah’s commission was a key role, one that mirrored the work of John the Baptist.

“For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. And if you are willing to receive it, *he is Elijah who was to come*” (Matthew 11:13-14). John the Baptist baptised both Jews and Gentiles. John prepared the way for the receiving of God’s Holy Spirit, which is expressed in scripture as having Christ in you. This initiates a spiritual rebirthing process that opens understanding into the scriptures, providing a rich source of knowledge, understanding, and wisdom.

Another “Elijah” will come just before the Great Tribulation—Jacob’s Trouble and prepare the way before the return of Jesus, the King over all kings and Lord over all lords.

When Elijah prayed to God to showcase His power before the wavering people of Israel, he said, “O LORD, God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command. Answer me, O LORD, answer me, so these people will know that you, O LORD, are God, and that *you are turning their hearts back again*” (I Kings 18:36-37).

Elijah has unfinished business. Either he is resurrected to complete this job or an Elijah-like prophet, will turn the hearts of the people back to God. God vows, “Remember the law of my servant Moses, the decrees and laws I gave him at Horeb for all Israel [both houses: Judah and Israel]. See, I will send you the prophet Elijah before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes. *He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers; or else I will come and strike the land with a curse*” (Malachi 4:4-5).

JONAH—FOR FORTY DAYS WARNED THE NINEVITES OF THEIR DESTRUCTION IF THEY DO NOT REPENT OF THEIR VIOLENCE AND EVIL WAYS

The Ninevites were cruel Assyrians and one of ancient Israel’s worst enemies who touted their supremacy and bragged of their military triumphs. And yet, God had compassion on them and He extended them grace, along with anyone who repents of their sins. God does not judge with bias. His people are not favoured over the people of the nations. In contrast, God will punish His people double for their sins because they have been given His law and the oracles. An oxymoron in its truest sense, will be the people of Nineveh on Judgement Day, who will stand against God’s people who have rejected Him. The Ninevites knew and feared the Supreme God better than the wicked generation of God’s people during Jesus’ life on earth.

“On the day Jonah entered the city, he shouted to the crowds: ‘Forty days from now Nineveh will be destroyed!’” (Jonah 3:4)

The people of the city of Nineveh listened and feared the God of Israel. They acknowledged Him as the Supreme God and that they were sinning against Him. He accepted their humble repentance and extended them grace and life.

Jesus said, “The Ninevites believed God. They declared a fast, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth” (Jonah 3:5).

The whole city repented and God had compassion on them. They were not destroyed but received God’s forgiveness and respect.

Their repentance as a people without God’s Holy Spirit is a marvellous event that Jesus highlighted when he condemned the rebellious Jews in Judah.

“The people of Nineveh will also stand up against this generation on judgement day and condemn it, for they repented of their sins at the preaching of Jonah. Now someone greater than Jonah is here—but you refuse to repent” (Luke 11:32).

ANCIENT ISRAEL—FOR FORTY YEARS WANDERED THE WILDERNESS BEFORE ENTERING THE PROMISED LAND

It took the full forty years to cleanse ancient Israel of the generation of unbelieving people who despite the many miracles they witnessed, still did not believe in the supremacy of the God of Israel and His love for them.

“And the LORD said to Moses, ‘How long will this people treat Me with contempt? How long will they refuse to believe in Me, despite all the signs I have performed among them?’” (Numbers 14:11)

While the unbelieving died during the walk in the wilderness, their children matured and lived to enter the glorious land promised to them. They embraced God’s law, kept His Holy Days, and vowed to keep His ways. God fought their enemies with them; together, they won. They were close to their God.

“It was the LORD our God himself who brought us and our forefathers up out of Egypt... performed those great signs before our eyes. Protected us on our entire journey... the LORD drove out before us all the nations... He is a holy God; he is a jealous God. ‘If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, he will turn and bring disaster on you and make an end of you, after he has been good to you.’ But the people said to Joshua, ‘No, we will serve the LORD.’ Then Joshua said, ‘You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen to serve the LORD.’ ‘Yes, we are witnesses,’ they replied... ‘We will serve the LORD our God and obey him’” (Joshua 24:17-22, 24).

The unbelievers of ancient Israel didn’t know their God. Desire to live with Him in the Promised Land was easily snuffed out. Seen through their carnal mind, the Promised Land was just another place where they will die. The giant obstacles seemed too big in their eyes for their God. They simply didn’t know Him. Their mental state was dark and they accused Him of

plotting to kill them as they journeyed in the wilderness, despite the wonderful saving-miracles that He performed solely for them. In great contrast to these ancient Israelites, people of great faith lived in the past and live into the present who without a single miracle believe in the supremacy and greatness of the God of Israel and they love Him with all their heart, mind, soul and strength.

The work of our Creator goes beyond the wisdom of man. His use of numbers is woven into His handiwork with exquisite precision. He threads them as mysteries and binds them securely in His timeline, in our story, in His gifts, in our correction, in His rewards, and in our obedience.

The number forty is used to confirm a completion in testing, a period of judging, the work of restoration and hope that culminates in an intimately close relationship with God. Learn from the city of Nineveh; don't wait for the fulfillment of forty. God's teaching of His mysteries woven in numbers does not end in the number forty. A significant number is next that trumpets the sound of freedom for all people on earth that will stir their hearts to search intensely and find their Great Creator.

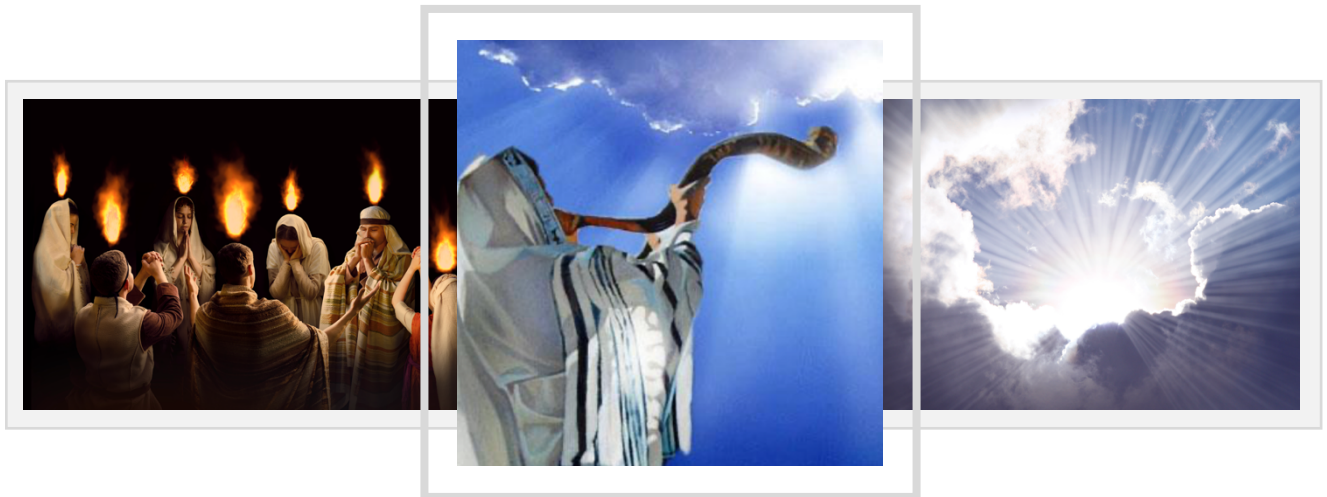
THE JUBILEE OF FIFTY

“You shall count seven weeks of years, seven times seven years, so that the time of the seven weeks of years shall give you forty-nine years. Then you shall sound the loud trumpet on the tenth day of the seventh month. On the Day of Atonement, you shall sound the trumpet throughout all your land.

And you shall consecrate the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you, when each of you shall return to his property and each of you shall return to his clan”

(Leviticus 25:8-11).

Fifty days after the Passover the Holy Spirit came upon the reborn church kingdom. Gathered together a small group of people experienced the arrival of God’s Holy Spirit. Tongues of fire rested on their heads. It was a new beginning! It was the rebirth of the church kingdom that God had planned before creation on earth.



“Now if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, you will be My treasured possession out of all the nations—for the whole earth is Mine. And unto Me you shall be a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words that you are to speak to the Israelites” (Exodus 19:5-6).

God’s plan for His people cannot be thwarted (Job 42:2). The Apostle Peter repeated God’s plan for His people.

“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession, to proclaim the virtues of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light” (I Peter 2:9).

God’s reborn church kingdom started as small as a mustard seed, but it will grow to cover the whole earth.

“This is what the LORD of Hosts says: ‘Peoples will yet come—the residents of many cities—and the residents of one city will go to another, saying: “Let us go at once to plead before the LORD and to seek the LORD of Hosts. I myself am going.” And many peoples and strong nations will come to seek the LORD of Hosts in Jerusalem and to plead before the LORD’” (Zechariah 8:20-22).

Under the rulership of Almighty God, Pentecost is a time of rebirth and growth. Under the rulership of man, Pentecost is a time of distress and oppression.

Ancient Israel rejected Almighty God as their King. They wanted to be like the nations around them whose heavenly rulers had rebelled against God and were teaching their subjects about war and how to increase their power to reach superpower status.

God warned against their request. He said to Samuel, “Now listen to their voice; but you must solemnly warn them and show them the manner of the king who will reign over them... He [Samuel] said to ancient Israel, ‘This will be the manner of the king who will reign over you: He will take your sons and appoint them to serve his own chariots and horses, and to run in front of his chariots. He will appoint some for himself as commanders of thousands and of fifties, and others to plow his ground, to reap his harvest, to make his weapons of war, and to equip his chariots. And he will take your daughters to be perfumers, cooks, and bakers. He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive groves and give them to his servants. He will take a tenth of your grain and grape harvest and give it to his officials and servants. And he will take your menservants and maidservants and your best cattle and donkeys and put them to his own use. He will take a tenth of your flocks, and you yourselves will become his slaves. When that day comes, you will beg for relief from the king you have chosen, but the LORD will not answer you on that day.’ Nevertheless, the people refused to listen to Samuel. ‘No!’ they said. ‘We must have a king over us. Then we will be like all the other nations, with a king to judge us, to go out before us, and to fight our battles’” (I Samuel 8:9-20).

God gave ancient Israel their first king, Saul. He did not fully obey God and in time, he behaved exactly as God had described to ancient Israel. Into the 21st century, national leadership has continued to rule as God foretold.

The rebel heavenly rulers over the nations have now been captured and imprisoned. Their fall gave mankind two thousand years to rule over themselves. God is not finished with these rebels. A final ten were promised a kingdom at the time the original rulers received their inheritance over the nations. These ten will receive their kingdoms on earth during the final three and a half years of this evil age. God Almighty cannot be overthrown; He is the Supreme

King and only Creator. His plan remains fully intact; He is building His legal case against all the rebels in heaven and on earth.

Regardless of the times, the battle has already been won. This evil age will end at the beginning of the next Jubilee year.

The Jubilee year is every fifty years. God taught His people to forgive debts, return land to their original owners, and release their Israelite slaves among them. The trumpet is blown on the Day of Atonement. The sound is produced from a ram's horn, which in Hebrew is "Yovel" meaning ram. This is the same word for the Jubilee year. It is a significant beginning that declares the atonement of God's people where they all will enter into a new time of total freedom. The Jubilee is a full year of joy and celebration.

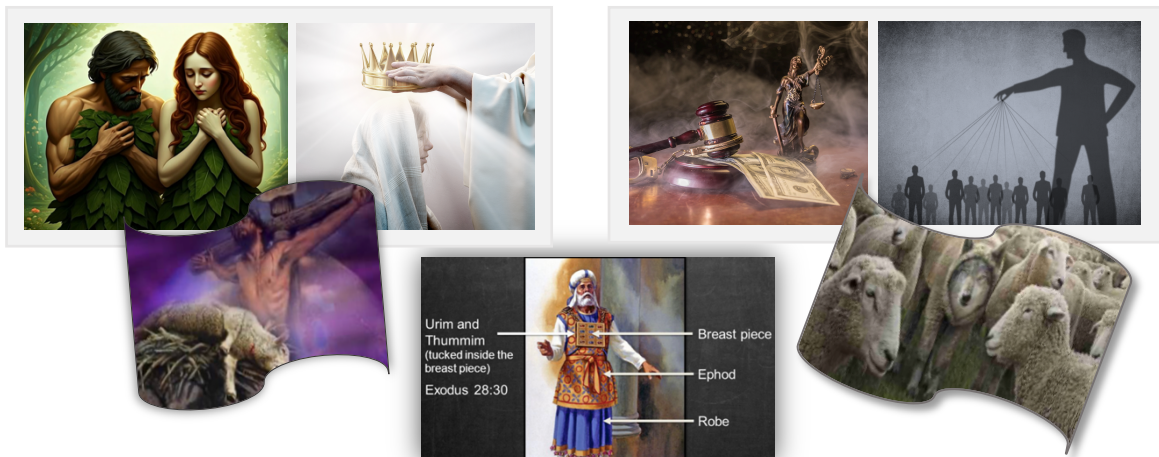
People will rest from conflicts and chaos. The land will rest from overuse. The people will be blessed with a double portion in the previous year that will provide sufficient food for their families. It is a time that mirrors a rest from the hardships of everyday life on earth, with time to focus on growing spiritually.

Christ's millennial reign will begin the next Jubilee year. God's people will return to the land of their ancient ancestors free from debt, slavery, and a passion to serve God and worship Him. It will be the year that Christ restores God's law and His people will humbly return to Him to talk and walk with Him. This new beginning will never end. Christ is the covering for mankind and during his millennial reign, he will bring all people from all nations to worship the Creator God.

CLOTHING—A SYMBOLIC COVERING

“Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with hearts of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience”
(Colossians 3:12).

God’s coded language uses clothing as a covering to image specific attributes in different roles, as well as, a demonstration of humility or strength and by some, a means to hide their true intentions. Kings wear fine clothes, the saints wear fine linen, Elijah and John the Baptist wore camel hair, sackcloth is worn when humbling yourself before God, and evil people clothe themselves to appear honest and good.



Adam and Eve, when created were covered in a glorious radiant glow. When they sinned, that holy covering disappeared and they were left naked. They were ashamed and sought to cover themselves.

“Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so, they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves” (Genesis 3:7).

The expression “their eyes were opened” is their realization that they sinned. Adam’s mistake was different to Eve’s error. Their nakedness is the imagery used to describe the revelation of their wrong choice that led to their wrong action.

Adam and Eve recognized that once they sinned, they needed a covering. While they tried to cover themselves, only God Almighty could provide the appropriate clothing that could redeem them.

The LORD God was walking in the garden and noticed them hiding. They admitted to their mistakes and He made garments of skin and clothed them (Genesis 3:21).

The only covering that could redeem them was a perfect, sinless Son of God whose blood would pay the legal debit for their sins. Though it appears there were attempts by other sons in heaven, only one Son was successful and qualified. Jesus Christ became the only heir of God's kingdom.

The story of Abraham is a mirror of this moment in heavenly history. Abraham's first son, Ishmael, born from Sarah's handmaid, Hagar, was his firstborn son. After Sarah gave birth to Isaac, Hagar and Ishmael were sent away upon Sarah's request and God's approval, because only Isaac was destined by God to be the heir to Abraham's growing, family kingdom.

Sarah was protecting the family inheritance and said, "Get rid of that slave woman and her son, for that slave woman's son will never share in the inheritance with my son Isaac" (Genesis 21:10).

These words may seem harsh but from the spiritual view, Sarah mirrors the free church, not a slave church. Slave churches are not been freed from their master. Congregations birthed out of any church enslaved in paganism will not receive the inheritance of eternal life. Only congregations born again out of theological teachings of the pure word of God, His ways, and keeping His laws will enter into eternal life and become the adopted children of God.

Sarah likely did not understand the spiritual impact of her demand. Her reaction was the tension that existed between the two mothers.

Ishmael and Isaac were not the only sons of Abraham. He married Keturah after Sarah died and her six sons did not receive an inheritance from Abraham, either. Though Abraham had eight sons, only Isaac was the heir to his family kingdom. This is the case for Almighty God; only one Son, Jesus Christ, will be heir of His kingdom.

Isaac imaged Jesus Christ who has brought all of mankind back to life.

God provided a re-enactment of the future sacrifice of His Son through Abraham. He said to him, "Take your son, *your only son*, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you" (Genesis 22:2).

The Apostle Paul understood Abraham's thinking, knowing he had only one heir, Isaac. Abraham's faith and trust in God was evident. He would have sacrificed his son believing that God would perform the great miracle of the resurrection of Isaac in order to fulfill His promise.

"By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had received the promises was about to sacrifice *his one and only son*, even though God had said to him, 'It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned.' *Abraham reasoned that God could raise the dead, and figuratively speaking, he did receive Isaac back from death*" (Hebrews 11:17-19).

These verses confirm Isaac as the only legal heir despite Abraham having eight sons. Only the son born from Sarah who images a righteous theological body—was destined to inherit the kingdom. So, only the Son of God with the complete knowledge, living God Almighty's righteous theological ways will inherit God's kingdom. That Son of God is Jesus Christ—the Word, already coronated as King of kings and Lord of lords.

Christ is the covering for mankind. Each person living in righteousness reflects the different, beautiful qualities of God.

LINEN

Righteous people devoted to God who live according to God's laws have a covering of fine linen. A linen covering has the characteristics of godliness and good deeds.

"She has been given the finest of pure white linen to wear. For the fine linen represents the good deeds of God's holy people" (Revelation 19:8).

The Apostle John reminds believers, "My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you will not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate before the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He Himself is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world" (1 John 2:1-2).

Linen is made from flax, which was harvested in spring in the Middle East. It is one of the earliest known textile materials in an abundance in ancient Egypt. When Joseph was appointed by Pharaoh as ruler, he was given garments of linen (Genesis 41:42).

Linen, when bleached becomes a vibrant white. White is a colour imaging purity; linen is resistant to mold, cool in hot weather, and a strong fabric. The righteousness of the saints describes a redeemed people who live God's way, keep His laws and withstand the pressures of Wickedness. These people image those who will be in the first resurrection— the spring harvest.

"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience" (Colossians 3:12).

God use of imagery is throughout the Bible. "I delight greatly in the Lord; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels" (Isaiah 61:10).

Without being covered by Jesus Christ, our good works are imaged as filthy coverings. Isaiah described the justice of man to be as "filthy rages" used by women during their menstrual cycle.

“And we are all become as one unclean, and all our justices as the rag of a menstruous woman: and we have all fallen as a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away” (Douay-Rheims Bible, Isaiah 64:6).

This description is rarely understood, but the image describes vividly God’s view of the loss He feels when the priesthood fails to conceive a congregation fit for His kingdom and their spiritual life is lost. This happens when they are not preaching the pure word of God and spiritual conception does not take place. Their garments are filthy, that is, permanently stained.

SACKCLOTH

A covering of sackcloth is the image of humility.

King Ahab ruled in weakness and lived in sin. There was a moment, however, in King Ahab’s life when he humbled himself before God because he heard what was said about him and he repented. Gossip of King Ahab’s doings echoed across the land that his behaviour was of the vilest manner.

“It came about when Ahab heard these words, that he tore his clothes and put on sackcloth and fasted, and he lay in sackcloth and went about despondently” (I Kings 21:27).

God acknowledged his response and said, “I will not bring this disaster in his day, but I will bring it on his house in the days of his son” (I Kings 21:29b).

King Ahab finished his reign over the northern house of Israel without being destroyed by God. His family rulership came to an end during the days of his son, Joram.

Job was an example of a man who truly humbled himself with an unrelenting desire to understand the reasoning of his infliction. God allowed Satan to test him and that testing brought riches in understanding for Job that few ever reach. His ancient story reveals a time when there were God-fearing people. Job was one.

His story begins suddenly. Out of the blue, he loses everything. Immediately, he clothed himself in sackcloth to come before God knowing that his misfortune was a direct result of something allowed by God (Job 16:15). He set the stage for dialogue with God. His God-fearing friends came to visit him and he entered into a long discussion with them that brought in Almighty God. During times when ancient Israel revelled in sin, God urged them to enter into a discussion with Him. ““Come now, let us reason together,’ says the LORD. ‘Though your sins are like scarlet, they will be as white as snow; though they are as red as crimson, they will become like wool’” (Isaiah 1:18).

Reasoning with God will bring understanding. God told ancient Israel that their behaviour will change when they reason with Him and come to understand their sins. Job understood the value of talking with God. While lying in dust and ashes, an image illustrating his humble attitude and insignificance before the Almighty Powerful God, he talked to Him. Dust coupled

with ashes illustrates both insignificance and destruction. Job admitted his worthless, dying mortality compared to the greatness of the eternal God.

Humility opens the self-reflective lens of life. Clothed in humility, Job listened and learned. Job came see God in all His greatness. He overcame and God blessed him, like a firstborn son, with a double portion of what he had before. Suffering refines, purges, and perfects. God allowed Satan to perfect Job, while Satan thought he was destroying him.

Jonah was sent to *the people of Nineveh* by God to warn them of their destruction for their wicked ways. Looking forward to ending this great city of people, Jonah hesitated to warn them but eventually, gave into God after being vomited out of the great fish. He walked three days throughout the city, warning the king and all the people. Three days marked God's seal on Jonah's warning. The king ordered every person to put on sackcloth, including himself and he sat in ashes.

"Then the people of Nineveh believed in God; and they called a fast and put on sackcloth from the greatest to the least of them. When the word reached the king of Nineveh, he arose from his throne, laid aside his robe from him, covered himself with sackcloth and sat on the ashes. He issued a proclamation and it said, 'In Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles: Do not let man, beast, herd, or flock taste a thing. Do not let them eat or drink water'" (Jonah 3:5-9).

The king, the royal family, the people and beasts put on sackcloth and fasted. They understood their behaviour was wrong. They also understood the covering needed to get the attention of the God of the Hebrews, while calling out for forgiveness and grace. God accepted their repentance and did not destroy them.

NO CLOTHING, NO COVERING

Wrongful behaviour is imaged as nakedness.

The Laodicea group of people, likely a mixture from many Judeo-Christian synagogues and churches, don't realize that they are not following Christ and living the way of God. They think they are more than okay; they think they need nothing. They think they understand scriptures and conclude that they do not need further instruction. Their confidence is remarkable. They do not see that their actions are carnal and their relationship with God is very underdeveloped.

"For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing, not realizing that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind, and naked. I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined by fire so that you may become rich, white garments so that you may be clothed and your shameful nakedness not exposed, and salve to anoint your eyes so that you may see" (Revelation 3:17-18).

Jesus described them as naked. They do not have a covering at all. This spiritual picture illustrates a group of people who are not following Christ. They are leading through their own interpretation of scripture with a bold confidence causing their congregation to remain babes in

Christ not knowing the difference between right and wrong. In Revelation, In Revelation, Jesus urged them to let him into their congregations and begin trading with him, exchanging their misunderstandings and misconceptions of God's word for the pure word of God, so they will be covered in pristine white garments.

A WOLF COVERING

Deceitful people are pretenders. Their outward behaviour appears harmless and warming. They put on an appearance that won't bring any attention to their true intent. God refers to these types of people as wearing sheep's clothing, but inside, their heart is like a wolf, ferocious and wild.

"Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves" (Matthew 7:15).

Jesus calls his followers "sheep" and he is their Shepherd. Judeo-Christians have only one Shepherd, One teacher—Jesus Christ. "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me" (John 10:21).

False prophets appear on the outside to be followers of Christ. They clothe themselves in an appearance of supporting right decisions and leading to righteousness, but their actions reveal carnal, selfish, and destructive motives.

"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers" (John 10:1-42).

Foreknown by the prophets in ancient times was the arrival a Messiah, the Good Shepherd. "He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young" (Isaiah 40:11).

The wolves among the sheep will be separated on Judgement Day. Jesus said, "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you workers of lawlessness!'" (Matthew 7:21-23)

These wolves in sheep clothing may have thought they were following Christ. They claimed to have performed miracles. Who were they truly serving? What went wrong for them? They were workers of lawlessness! They did not keep God's law rather decided for themselves how they would live.

The faithful servants of God will be admitted into the wedding supper of the Lamb. But many will be shut out because they won't be ready due to their lack spiritual maturity.

"After the master of the house gets up and shuts the door, you will stand outside knocking and saying, 'Lord, open the door for us.' But he will reply, 'I do not know where you are from'" (Luke 13:25).

Characteristics of the wolves in sheep clothing:

- People who lap up power and self-glory.
- People who lack humility and spiritual growth.
- People who subordinate the people.
- People who lack the fruit of the spirit.

These wolves—false teachers are detectable through their actions—their behaviour reveals their unrighteousness; they have no covering.

"By their fruit you will recognize them. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles?" (Matthew 7:16) These people are thornbushes and thistles. Prickly people who bear no good works—no fruit. "As the old proverb says, 'Wickedness proceeds from the wicked'" (1 Samuel 24:13).

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law" (Galatians 5:23).

SPECIAL ROLES

The special role of the priest requires them to dress specifically as God has instructed.

"It shall be that when they enter at the gates of the inner court, they shall be clothed with linen garments; and wool shall not be on them while they are ministering in the gates of the inner court and in the house. Linen turbans shall be on their heads and linen undergarments shall be on their loins; they shall not gird themselves with anything which makes them sweat. When they go out into the outer court, into the outer court to the people, they shall put off their garments in which they have been ministering and lay them in the holy chambers; then they shall put on other garments so that they will not transmit holiness to the people with their garments" (Ezekiel 44:17-19).

Only through Jesus Christ can the ministry rear a congregation fit for God's kingdom. The priesthood is not to deviate from the instructions given to them. Any deviation points to a different plan of salvation, one not of God.

SPECIAL COLOURS

Clothing made from fabric of specific colours such as purple, blue and scarlet are also images of royalty, holiness, and people willing to sacrifice their lives for God. These colours set on white linen image the Saviour of mankind—the High Priest of God. The holy garments specified by God are prophetic, trumpeting His salvation plan in vivid detail.

“Moreover, from the blue and purple and scarlet material, they made finely woven garments for ministering in the holy place as well as the holy garments which were for Aaron, just as the Lord had commanded Moses” (Exodus 39:1).

The colour purple was difficult to make and kept solely for royal use in ancient times. It is a mix of red and blue. Red is symbolic of a blood sacrifice and blue is symbolic of God’s Holy Spirit. Royalty in God’s eyes is the mix of those filled with God’s Holy Spirit and are willing to die to stand loyal and faithful to God.

Those holding important leadership roles wore a purple robe. Daniel was given a purple robe when he provided the interpretation the writing on the wall. “The king spoke and said to the wise men of Babylon, ‘Any man who can read this inscription and explain its interpretation to me shall be clothed with purple and have a necklace of gold around his neck, and have authority as third ruler in the kingdom’” (Daniel 5:7).

Coverings do tell a story. Coverings and colours together unveil a deeper and richer story.

COLOUR-CODED PROOFS COMPLEMENT THE WORD OF GOD

*“Now Israel loved Joseph more than his other sons,
because Joseph had been born to him in his old age;
so, he made him a robe of many colors”
(Genesis 37:3).*

Through people on earth, God is telling the spiritual story. Mankind has only witnessed the birth of Jesus, his ministry and death. All of the Son’s achievements in heaven are invisible except for the imagery, the mirroring, the parallel stories, the reflections carefully woven in the scriptures, preserved in the Bible, unveiling the transparency of God’s penmanship. He will not allow important history both in heaven and on earth to be smudged out. He will declare through all forms of communication the respect and honour He has for His beloved Son, radiating out in all colours seen and unseen by the human eye.



Joseph’s story is a mirror of Jesus Christ. As Israel [Jacob] loved Joseph, God reveals how He loves His beloved Son, Jesus. Joseph was loved by Israel because he was born in his old age. It points to the birth of mankind’s Saviour born in the latter third of this evil age. Though Almighty God does not age, the end of the age of mortal man brings the completion of God’s family. A new era will begin—a timeless era, post judgement, where only the righteous in both heaven and earth will exist. Joseph’s covering of many colours is a mirror of the many achievements of the Son of God in heaven and on earth, now coronated King of all kings and Lord of all lords—the wearer of many crowns.

“Then I saw heaven standing open, and there before me was a white horse. And its rider is called Faithful and True. With righteousness He judges and wages war. He has eyes like blazing

fire, and *many royal crowns on His head*. He has a name written on Him that only He Himself knows” (Revelation 19:11-12).

RED

The creation of the first man, made from the red earth is a very simplistic account of the human body and the brilliance of its design, engineering, and architecture. In simple terms, Moses wrote, “Then the LORD God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being” (Genesis 2:7).

Inside the human body, red blood flows. God said, “For the life of a creature is in the blood, and I have given it to you to make atonement for yourselves on the altar; it is the blood that makes atonement for one’s life” (Leviticus 17:11).

Red is the colour God gave to blood imaging both life and death. The rider on the red horse in Revelation 6 does not bring life, but mirrors the taking of life through war (Revelation 6:4).

The man among the myrtle trees riding the red horse described in Zechariah 1:8 is a life bringer; his blood paid the price for the sins for all of mankind.

The Old Testament sacrifices painted a graphic image for the ancient Israelites of the importance of the consequences of sin, the penalty, the payment that satisfies our Creator and finally, the fellowship offering that all work together to foster a relationship of unity with God. While these sacrifices could not pay the penalty of the sins of the people, they were a foreshadow of things to come described throughout the pages of the New Testament of the One who can and does pay the penalty for mankind.

THE RED HEIFER

All of the sacrifices involve a male animal except for one where God commands the sacrifice of a red heifer. God is very specific about which red heifer could be acceptable for a sacrifice. The female cow could not be used as a work animal or having worn a yoke and must be without blemish. This special sacrifice was teaching ancient Israel about how they can cleanse and purify themselves when exposed to the dead. The “dead” that God was most concerned about was the spiritually dead and the harmful and destructive influence these people have on those around them. In the physical world, to be cleansed from the exposure of the dead, the ashes of the red heifer in water were sprinkled on the individual.

“Put some ashes from the burned purification offering into a jar and pour fresh water over them. Then a man who is ceremonially clean is to take some hyssop, dip it in the water and sprinkle . . . anyone who has touched a human bone or a grave or anyone who has been killed or anyone who has died a natural death” (Numbers 19:17–18).

But truly, God is most concerned about people poisoned by evil thoughts and wicked practices. Spiritual cleansing takes place through the mirroring of the sacrifice of the red heifer.

This sacrifice takes place outside of the camp. Toxic behaviour is never allowed in the area of God's holy tabernacle. Outside the camp and away from God, this sacrifice took place.

During the burning of the animal, the priest added some cedar wood, hyssop and scarlet wool. The scarlet wool is an image of the blood of a pure covering, which is Jesus Christ.

"Among the lampstands was One like the Son of Man, dressed in a long robe, with a golden sash around His chest. The hair of His head was white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes were like a blazing fire" (Revelation 1:13-14).

The ashes from the red heifer were carefully collected, stored securely outside the camp, and added to water to cleanse and purify those who touch a dead body. God is determined to reinforce the importance of remaining purified from sin. Mankind, today, have the intercession of Jesus Christ who pleads on their behalf but that does not lessen the importance of avoiding toxic people.

The female gender is used by God to image a religious body in contrast to those who hold national, state, or civic leadership responsibilities. Jesus Christ is both king (national leader) and high priest (religious body). Unlike all of the other animal sacrifices where a blemish-free male was mandated, a blemish-free female animal is specific to the role of the One who can cleanse and purify.

A red heifer is a rare birth, which is not a surprise as it is rare to find perfect religious leaders. The sacrifice of the blemish-free red heifer foreshadows the sacrifice of Christ who was killed outside of the camp; he was crucified outside of Jerusalem. His blood saved mankind from the contamination of death. After his death, he became our High Priest, our Lord. It is this role that cleanses the sins of mankind who are touched by toxic, evil people.

"And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified, in the name of the **Lord Jesus Christ** and by the Spirit of our God" (1 Corinthians 6:11).

He is the High Priest of the church mirrored in the selection of a blemish-free red female heifer. Accepting Christ's sacrifice allows believers to be cleansed and purified by our faithful and blemish-free high priest. The imagery is layers deep; red—sacrificial blood, young heifer—the innocent high priest on earth who can cleanse and purify.

BLUE

A special story was recorded in the gospels of a woman suffering from a constant flow of blood for twelve years. She learned when Jesus would come to her area. She was seeking healing and she knew she could touch the hem of his coat and be healed. On each of the four corners of a robe, a blue and white tassel known as a "tzitzit" was sewn.

"Suddenly a woman who had suffered from bleeding for twelve years came up behind Him and touched the fringe of His cloak. She said to herself, 'If only I touch His cloak, I will be healed'" (Matthew 9:20-21).

In ancient times, all of Israel sewed tassels on the corners of garments. “Speak to the Israelites and say to them: ‘Throughout the generations to come you are to make tassels on the corners of your garments, with a blue cord on each tassel. And it shall be a tassel for you to look at and remember all the commandments of the LORD, to do them, not to follow after your own heart and your own eyes, which you are inclined to where after. Then you will remember and obey all My commandments, and you will be holy to your God’” (Numbers 15:38-40).

Blue threads were sewn into the tzitzit. This colour represents God’s Holy Spirit that opens the mind to fully know God’s word and obey His commandments. God incorporated reminders in the clothing, their covering, to remember His ways and live by them. Living His ways brings spiritual healing.

The healing of the woman was recorded in only two verses, but her story is volumes long. The woman suffering for twelve years with a constant flow of blood was considered by God’s law as unclean. She knew that she is unclean. Her presence with her condition among people on that day must be kept a secret.

“When a woman has a discharge of her blood for many days at a time other than her menstrual period, or if it continues beyond her period, she will be unclean all the days of her unclean discharge, just as she is during the days of her menstruation” (Leviticus 15:25).

Spiritual uncleanness needing spiritual healing is acknowledging a life of sin. The woman’s discharge of blood prevented her from conceiving. She could not have children. She was a shamed woman mirroring a church living in paganism and being unable to conceive a congregation let alone, birth a congregation fit for God’s kingdom. The church of the ten tribes at that time was aware of her spiritual condition.

The woman remembered the significance of the tzitzit. She believed that she would be healed by touching it. She believed Jesus could heal. By touching specifically the tzitzit, she was declaring her repentance and commitment to learning God’s word and obeying His commandments.

Her story is preserved in only two verses; the number two declares a witness complete. Her story mirrors the repentance of the wayward church of the ten tribes of Israel. They accepted Jesus immediately as their Saviour. They became known as the Christians who trumpet Jesus as their Messiah for now over two thousand years.

It is not by accident that following the two verses of the story of a woman with a twelve-year bleeding issue, that Jesus resurrects back to life a little girl twelve years old. The spiritual story is all about the power given to our Saviour from God to heal a wayward ministry and bring back to life a dead congregation.

The story of the woman suffering with the flow of blood was an important story preserved by God to ensure the repentance of the church of the lost sheep of Israel would be remembered and their faith acknowledged.

The cord of blue healed the church. The blue garments worn by the priests is designed by God to remind His people of their calling, a holy kingdom of priests. Looking up, the colour of the sky seen from earth is blue not by random coincidence, but by design.

WHITE

The first horse to ride out after Jesus opened the seals was the white horse holding a bow and wearing a crown. Unfortunately, this white horse, in this case, is not pure. It is the story of false religion—the weapon of a bow. The crown is its authority but it goes out to deceive. Satan leads the world in false religion.

“And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, in which you used to walk when you conformed to the ways of this world and of the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit who is now at work in the sons of disobedience” (Ephesians 2:2).

In ancient times when God was interacting with His people, they turned away from His righteous ways. He urged them to reason with Him.

“Come now, let us reason together,” says the Lord, “though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool” (Isaiah 1:18).

Their sins were scarlet red—spiritual death, yet repentance will change their behaviour and they will become a radiant white. Living God’s pure religion creates a covering of brightness and glory visible to everyone.

Wayward mortals look into the night sky and are impressed by the starry heavens. They decorate their celebrations with fireworks, bright lights and dazzling arrays of colour mixed with sparkles of popping explosions high in the night sky. God compares His truth, His word to earthly lights and still mortal man has difficulty putting the two concepts together. During times of distress, people appreciate the kindness they receive from good people.

Distress awakens people living in a small, self-centred world. Suffering is inevitable in order to break the mental barriers. A time of great trouble is on the near horizon. God will purify His people during Jacob’s trouble. Purification by fire is coming and it will either destroy them or purify them. The choice will be theirs. “And some of the wise shall stumble, so that they may be refined, purified, and made white, until the time of the end, for it still awaits the appointed time” (Daniel 11:35).

Jesus urged the churches of Revelation to overcome and live righteously before God. “Yet you have still a few names in Sardis, people who have not soiled their garments, and they will walk with me in white, for they are worthy. The one who conquers will be clothed thus in white

garments, and I will never blot his name out of the book of life. I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels” (Revelation 3:4-5).

White is the colour that symbolizes purity—one without sin. Righteous actions are a clothing of white, fine linen. “It was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure”— for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints” (Revelation 19:8).

The great distress to befall on mankind will cause many to repent. “Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, ‘Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?’ I said to him, ‘Sir, you know.’ And he said to me, ‘These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb’” (Revelation 7:13-14).

Christ’s army in heaven is arrayed in white. These are countless righteous angels. “And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses” (Revelation 19:14).

Like his army, Christ is an image of white glory. “The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire” (Revelation 1:14).

Peter witnessed Christ’s transfiguration; his glory was an astounding sight. “And as he was praying, the appearance of his face was altered, and his clothing became dazzling white” (Luke 9:29).

Almighty God is an image of great luminosity. “As I looked, thrones were placed, and the Ancient of Days took his seat; his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames; its wheels were burning fire” (Daniel 7:9).

God’s clothing is white as snow reflecting His perfect righteous behaviour—His faultless wisdom that leads to perfect decisions and righteous actions, imaging a covering of radiant white glory. His throne is comprised of fiery, cleansing flames with wheels of burning fire purifying in every movement.

Colours tell a story. People in the know use them. A time came when the house of Judah, the Jews, during their exile came under attack by Haman, one of King Xerxes’s top royal officials because Mordecai, the uncle of Queen Esther, would not kneel and honour him. Haman despised Mordecai and plotted to kill not only Mordecai but all the Jews. He obtained a decree from the king. This alarmed Mordecai who immediately tore his clothes and put on sackcloth and ashes. The news also distressed Queen Esther for she was a Jew. She declared a fast.

The dramatic story erupted into many twists and turns during which, the Hebrew God extended His arm to influence the outcome. No matter what vile Haman did to promote himself, he was shamed and finally killed on the gallows that he made for Mordecai.

The story concluded with Mordecai promoted and honoured wearing royal robes of blue and white. These colours are known to represent the righteous actions of keeping God's commandments and living His way.

"Then Mordecai went out from the presence of the king in royal robes of blue and white, with a great golden crown and a robe of fine linen and purple, and the city of Susa shouted and rejoiced" (Esther 8:15).

Three colours are tightly woven in the story of the believer's journey. Red, blue on white, paint a picture of mankind's need to accept Christ's redemptive sacrifice and receive God's Holy Spirit so that they can fully keep His word and His commandments and only then, can they be covered with a glorified body of white radiance.

PURPLE

The colour purple is often used in royal garments. It is the combination of red and blue. Making purple dye in ancient times was tedious. The city of Phoenicia in Tyre made their infamous Tyrian purple dye from one of the species of sea snails. It was a careful process of cracking the shell of the snail, extracting the purple-producing mucus, exposing it to sunlight for a specific period of time and the result was a stunning, long-lasting shade of purple. It was valued with gold and set aside for royal use only.

Mystery Babylon, the Great Harlot arrays herself in purple. Her dress is her declaration of being a valuable, exotic sacrifice of the people.

"The woman was dressed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls. She held in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the impurities of her sexual immorality" (Revelation 17:4).

She considers herself a queen.

"As much as she has glorified herself and lived in luxury, give her the same measure of torment and grief. In her heart she says, 'I sit as queen; I am not a widow and will never see grief'" (Revelation 18:7).

In doing so, the great harlot glorifies herself, showcasing her rarity and exquisite style of leadership. Riding the beast and coupling her influence with its power and strength to rule, she is convinced that now, she will sit forever on a throne. She is mistaken.

GOD'S TABERNACLE IN THE WILDERNESS

God gave the ancient Israelites specific instructions on how to build the tabernacle in the wilderness and the materials to use, including the colours of those materials.

"Make the tabernacle with ten curtains of finely twisted linen and blue, purple and scarlet yarn, with cherubim worked into them by a skilled craftsman" (Exodus 26:1).

God symbolized His ten commandments in the ten curtains of the tabernacle. By making them from linen, He is stating that the application of His commandments will result in righteous behaviour. “And it was given to her that she should be clothed in bright, pure, fine linen. For the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints” (Revelation 19:8).

The curtains woven with blue, purple and scarlet thread symbolize the importance of having God’s Holy Spirit, accepting Christ’s redemptive sacrifice, and entering into a blood covenant with God to remain loyal and faithful under every situation. This combination will produce a precious and rare individual that Almighty God loves dearly. His royal and eternal kingdom will be comprised of leaders represented in the mix of red and blue, shining out in radiance of white.

The same message is applied to the veil that separates the Holy of Holies from the Holy place. The veil was made from “blue, purple and scarlet yarns and fine twined linen” (Exodus 26:31-32).

“Make a veil of blue, purple, and scarlet yarn, and finely spun linen, with cherubim skillfully worked into it. Hang it with gold hooks on four posts of acacia wood, overlaid with gold and standing on four silver bases” (Exodus 26:31-32).

The picture of God’s temple are reminders of the importance of accepting Christ’s redemptive sacrifice, entering into a blood covenant, receiving God’s Holy Spirit, and maturing into the full measure of Christ.

God’s temple in the wilderness is an engineer’s feat, intricately detailing every aspect of the Judeo-Christian walk into oneness with God symbolized in the dimensions, the materials, the colours, the items, the number of rooms, and the sacrificial components.

THE HOLY GARMENTS

Like the tabernacle, the clothing of the priests was designed with equal detail reflecting God’s determination to teach His people the importance of His commandments, having His Holy Spirit, and accepting Christ’s sacrifice.

“Fashion a breast piece for making decisions—the work of skilled hands. Make it like the ephod: of gold, and of blue, purple and scarlet yarn, and of finely twisted linen” (Exodus 28:15).

Wise judgement is precious, symbolized in gold and impossible without God’s Holy Spirit symbolized in blue. It is interwoven with purple and scarlet yarn symbolizing the unique Son and only Son who could sacrifice his life in payment of our sins.

The ephod worn by the high priest is also made of gold, blue, purple, and scarlet yarn, and of finely twisted linen (Exodus 28:6). The breastplate of the ephod has twelve precious stones symbolizing the repentant and purified twelve tribes of Israel. Their righteousness is precious. Jesus Christ, King of kings and Lord of lords, will wear the holy garments of the high priest in

God's eternal kingdom. The twelve tribes of Israel will be instrumental in the role of priests serving God in His kingdom.

The robe of the ephod is made of all blue. It is symbolic of God's priests being filled with His Holy Spirit covering them completely. "On the hem you shall make pomegranates of blue and purple and scarlet yarns, around its hem, with bells and a pomegranate, a golden bell and a pomegranate, around the hem of the robe" (Exodus 28:33).

The hem of pomegranates symbolize spiritual virility as this fruit is full of seeds. The golden bells mirror the movement of the high priest, who on earth, is not yet seen but heard.

The clothing of God's priests showcase God's royalty and His perfect standard of living righteously: being filled with God's Holy Spirit, humbly accepting the sacrifice of Christ, and being prepared to sacrifice themselves to save others. This is a rare individual, like Christ—God's only Son, who could sacrifice himself to save mankind. The twelve tribes of Israel will have precious roles in the establishing and fortifying of righteous leadership on earth.

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GOD'S CODED LANGUAGE BRINGS TRANSPARENCY

For people seeking to understand the spiritual world and the deep things of God, decoding God's imagery, numbers, colours, parables, parallels, stories, and foreshadows 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).

When God's coded language is applied, 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 devoted father and his 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 shrubs, 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. Under Christ, all people have been redeemed. God has provided His legal witness that will be complete at the end of the Great Tribulation and God's wrath. Number two is symbolic of a legal witness, hence, the two core elements of the core structure of God's kingdom: law and grace. These two fundamental elements will be bound as one, so that justice, kindness and compassion reign.

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

The Biblical stories have preserved, forgotten history. Parables taught key principles of life. God has hidden nothing and yet, the world is blind because they lack God's special Holy Spirit that gives spiritual knowledge, understanding, and wisdom.

God's coded language is the key for greater understanding, forging a journey closer to the great Almighty God and building an intimate, ever-lasting relationship. The Apostle Paul discovered the mysteries and he 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.

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There is nothing on this earth that compares to the glory of being resurrected in God's kingdom. There is nothing on this earth that can surpass the importance of mankind's calling as royal, ruling children of the living God. There is nothing on this earth worth more your time than studying God's word, living God's way with Christ in us, and growing in grace and knowledge.

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 lifetime to read in pursuit of understanding. There lies the importance of sharing.

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