## GOD'S CODED LANGUAGE

is all about

# TRANSPARENCY

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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 prophesies lying on our near horizon.

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### EYES, EARS, HEART and WALK

"Hear this, O foolish and senseless people, who have eyes, but see not, who have ears, but hear not" (Jeremiah 5:21).

God often describes choices in life made by mankind as a journey stumbling along, often blind, deaf and dumb. This journey and all of the difficulties it brings is a direct result of not knowing Him, His law and ways and living them. There is a reason for this.



The Apostle Paul said, "The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned" (I Corinthians 2:14).

Understanding God's world requires having God's Holy Spirit. His highly complex supernatural world exists outside of the physical world of man. Mankind needs special eyes to see, special ears to be able to distinguish between good and evil, a special heart of flesh full of compassion kindness and goodness, and God's wisdom so that they can walk towards God, never wandering off back into darkness.

### **EYES to SEE**

The eyes of man are the main component of the human anatomy used to guide movements, avoid obstacles, and walk towards the goal.

Jesus said, "For judgement I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind" (John 9:39).

The religious leaders at the time of Jesus, were rich in knowledge and the writings of Torah and the prophets. They were also highly trained and disciplined. It would appear from the outside that they were the finest examples of keeping God's law and applying it. They were considered by the ordinary man and woman as having the eyes to understand spiritual matters. Jesus saw them for who they really were—a self-righteous leadership holding to the traditions of the elders and forgoing the teachings of God.

For that reason, Jesus said that he came into this world to blind these types of arrogant people and instead, he opened the eyes of the humble, teachable, ordinary man and woman.

The religious leaders moved the pendulum away from balanced into extreme self-righteousness. Their pride and arrogance became their blinders limiting their understanding of anything beyond their established and sanctioned traditions.

Jesus reiterated the prophetic words recorded by Isaiah, "Therefore the Lord said: 'These people draw near to Me with their mouths and honor Me with their lips, but their hearts are far from Me. Their worship of Me is but rules taught by men'" (Isaiah 29;13).

Jesus had a difficult time correcting the religious leaders during his time. In all of their proclaimed righteousness and their attention to detail by tithing to the leaf of herbs, yet, they planned and plotted his murder as their solution to someone disagreeing with them. Filled with hatred, their eyes were closed to the countless miracles he did, the healing he performed, and his teaching of God's way of love.

Recorded by the Apostle John, "Therefore, many of the Jews who had come to Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in Him. But some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. Then the chief priests and Pharisees convened the Sanhedrin and said, 'What are we to do? This man is performing many signs. If we let Him go on like this, everyone will believe in Him, and then the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation'" (John 11:45-48).

The Pharisees were afraid that if the Jewish people started following Jesus and calling him King, the Roman government would feel threatened and destroy both the high positions they held and the whole Jewish nation. "Thou shalt not kill" was a law these Pharisees white-washed as they devised a plan justifying their actions, claiming that they were doing what was best for the people. But truly, they were working to hold onto their own power and influence.

Many attempts were made on Jesus' life. These ruthless religious leaders played the politician very well, putting on appearances, careful to keep secret their nefarious plans.

"When Jesus had finished all these sayings, He said to His disciples, 'You know that after two days is the Passover, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to be crucified.' Then the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders of the people gathered in the palace of the high priest, who

was called Caiaphas, and took counsel that they might take Jesus covertly and kill him. But they said, 'Not on the feast day, lest there be an uproar among the people'" (Matthew 26:1-5).

Jesus was killed at the designated time. The religious leaders remained blind to their actions, blind to understanding God's law and His ways, blind to their nakedness—their unrighteousness. Unlike Job, who grew in spiritual understanding during his suffering and declared, "I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear; but now my eye sees You" (Job 42:5). Job's relationship with God moved up into perfect view.

Pride, arrogance and hatred cause spiritual blindness. Misguided traditions, pressures from the crowd, trust in wayward leadership, all add to spiritual blindness. God's Holy Spirit is the daily cleansing agent essential to seeing and understanding spiritual matters.

### **EARS to HEAR**

The ears of the human body provide supplementary information to the unseen. Pairing it with information coming from the eyes, wiser choices are made.

Frustrated by the disobedience of His people, God said, "Hear this, you foolish and senseless people, who have eyes but do not see, who have ears but do not hear" (Jeremiah 5:21).

Almighty God, the most powerful Being in all existence, the very Creator of all things, the God of all creation of whom all creation owes their every breath trumpeted to the disobedient houses: Judah and Israel, "Should you not fear me?" (Jeremiah 5:22a)

These people had become so familiar with their Great and long-suffering King that they lost all respect for the greatest wonder comprehensible to all creation—a Being perfect and pure, loving and kind, graceful and enduring.

God Almighty added, "Should you not tremble in my presence? I made the sand a boundary for the sea, an everlasting barrier it cannot cross. The wave may roll, but they cannot prevail; they may roar, but they cannot cross it" (Jeremiah 5:22b).

The sea, with all its power, obeys its Great Creator. The sea also images the home of Wickedness who does not cross the boundaries established by God. And yet, His people violate His boundaries recklessly, like senseless drunkards.

When people reject truth, God's word and His law, the lessons are not learned from their mistakes because they see no wrongdoing from their choices. The harm done is blamed elsewhere, justified, ignored or considered a natural consequence. With many people all thinking the same way, it becomes right and the consequences a part of life.

"Having eyes do you not see, and having ears do you not hear? And do you not remember?" (Mark 8:18)

A willful refusal to see and acknowledge truth is an indicator of a variety of issues. For some, they harbour a rebellious spirit determined to hold onto selfish thinking that often leads to pride and arrogance. For others, it is fear and intimidation, and for many, a trust in corrupt leadership.

"You men who are stiff-necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears are *always resisting the Holy Spirit;* you are doing just as your fathers did" (Acts 7:51).

Typically, people follow the majority, listen to mainstream media and submit to "experts." Many people don't care to search out truth; they fear straying off the wide road of the masses. Worse still, it is prophesied that people will intentionally select a ministry who are bound to the whims of the congregation.

"For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires" (II Timothy 4:3).

It begins by only wanting to hear doctrines that you favour and the interpretation of scriptures that you like. By eating the poisonous fruit, bite by bite, it will lure these people into the depths of darkness where truth is hated and love is ridiculed. They will be transformed into the image of Wickedness where God's salvation plan for them is no longer available.

The Apostle Paul saw it coming. "The coming of the lawless one will be accompanied by the working of Satan, with every kind of power, sign, and false wonder, and with every wicked deception directed against those who are perishing, because they refused the love of the truth that would have saved them. For this reason, God will send them a powerful delusion so that they believe the lie, in order that judgment may come upon all who have disbelieved the truth and delighted in wickedness" (II Thessalonians 2:9-12).

During the Great Tribulation, a great falling away will take place when people turn away from their faith in Almighty God and their gratefulness to their Saviour.

"Now concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to Him, we ask you, brothers and sisters, not to be easily disconcerted or alarmed by any spirit or message or letter seeming to be from us, alleging that the Day of the Lord has already come. Let no one deceive you in any way, for it will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness—the son of destruction—is revealed. He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God... And you know what is restraining him now so that he may be revealed in his time. For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work, but the one who now restrains it will continue until he is taken out of the way. And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will slay with the breath of His mouth and annihilate by the majesty of His arrival. The coming of the lawless one will be accompanied by the working of Satan, with every kind of power, sign, and false wonder, and with every wicked deception

directed against those who are perishing, because they refused the love of the truth that would have saved them" (II Thessalonians 2:1-4, 6-10).

This prophecy is a warning to all Judeo-Christians of the importance of being ready spiritually to withstand the most terrifying and deceptive theological battle to ever stand before mankind.

The "man of lawlessness" has already been reduced to mortality in God's eyes—a state still on the near horizon. He is the "son of perdition"—a son, a family member, but unfortunately a fallen son of God who will declare his godship and supremacy over all gods including Almighty God. It is the powerful Archangel Michael restraining him from going down to earth. It will require the nemesis of this raging, arrogant fallen being, the Son of God—the King of all kings and Lord of all lords, to destroy him. This spiritual battle will come down to earth causing the Great Tribulation that will unleash terrifying and terrible troubles onto God's people and all of the nations on earth.

On a side note: Satan is destined for the same fate as the son of perdition. Isaiah recorded, "Those who see you will stare; they will ponder your fate: 'Is this *the man* who shook the earth and made the kingdoms tremble, who turned the world into a desert and destroyed its cities, who refused to let the captives return to their homes?'" (Isaiah 14:16-17)

Isaiah recorded God's words talking to this fallen being." How you have fallen from heaven, morning star, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations! (NIV, Isaiah 14:12)

This "morning star, son of the dawn" will be dealt with in the same matter of the "son of perdition." Both are fallen sons of God in heaven. They are the two leaders of the rogue, heavenly coalition out to depose Jesus Christ and Almighty God. A closer study of each of these characters provides essential pieces to the great puzzle. The son of perdition can be identified with four key traits.

### The son of perdition

- Man of lawlessness = an instrument of chaos, confusion, recklessness.
- The Antichrist = opposes and tries to subdue and overthrow Jesus Christ.
- The "little horn" = a heavenly being who acquires rulership by force.
- The Assyrian = a cruel warrior of destruction.

The man of lawlessness—son of perdition—is against the Messiah, Christ. He is a spiritual being in the realm of heaven who gains his power by force and intrigue. Daniel recorded, "In the latter part of their reign, when rebels have become completely wicked, a stern-faced king, a master of intrigue, will arise. He will become very strong, but not by his own power. He will cause astounding devastation and will succeed in whatever he does. He will destroy the mighty men and the holy people. He will cause deceit to prosper, and he will consider himself superior. When they feel secure, he will destroy many and take his stand against the Prince of princes. Yet he will be destroyed, but not by human power" (Daniel 8:23).

This powerful being cannot be destroyed by human power; he is spiritual. Daniel added, "The king will do as he pleases. *He will exalt and magnify himself above every god and will say unheard-of things against the God of gods*. He will be successful until the time of wrath is completed, for what has been determined must take place" (Daniel 11:36).

God Almighty will allow this wicked spiritual being to succeed. He is testing and identifying all who align with wickedness within creation in heaven and on earth. He will bring them before His law courts and judge them. They are heading for destruction.

God has prophesied His plans for these wicked beings. The heavenly ruler in the dominion of Tyre in heaven is destined to be reduced into mortality and die. The aging process of mortality for these beings will likely not correspond to the rapid aging of 21<sup>st</sup> century mankind. Adam lived to 930 years old. Noah lived to 950 years old, 600 years before the flood and 350 years after the flood (Genesis 7:6 and Genesis 9:28-29). God has said that judgement for these characters will be "after many days."

"In that day the LORD will punish the host of heaven above and the kings of the earth below. They will be gathered together like prisoners in a pit. They will be confined to a dungeon and punished after many days" (Isaiah 24:21-22).

Hundreds of years of mankind's time will pass before they are judged, sentenced and destroyed.

Ezekiel recorded God's sentencing of this arrogant being. "In the pride of your heart you say, 'I am a god; I sit on the throne of a god in the heart of the seas." Wicked spiritual beings do not believe that they can be destroyed. This wicked being sits on a throne in the territory of Wickedness in heaven—in the high seas.

God replied, "But you are a man and not a god, though you think you are wise as a god" (Ezekiel 28:2). God is forecasting this being's demise: reduced to mortality and having the foolishness of man. God continued, "By your great skill in trading you have increased your wealth, and because of your wealth your heart has grown proud... Because you think you are wise, as wise as a god, I am going to bring foreigners against you, the most ruthless of nations; they will draw their swords against your beauty and wisdom and pierce your shining splendor" (Daniel 28:5-7).

Living in wickedness depletes the glory given of spiritual beings. The remaining shining glory left within the ruler of Tyre will not protect him. "They will bring you down to the pit, and you will die a violent death in the heart of the seas. Will you then say, 'I am a god,' in the presence of those who kill you? You will be but a man, not a god, in the hands of those who slay you" (Ezekiel 28:8-9).

God assures this being that he will be weak, like mankind, mortalized. He will not have the power and strength of a god when he is taken down. The pit is the prison for all sentenced

rebel heavenly rulers. It is located in inner earth, the lowest place in all creation. These once glorious eternal beings have fallen from the high places of honour into the shamed, lower realms of creation, even below mankind.

### Three key names revealing the traits of the son of the dawn

- Lucifer = once an honored guardian angel of God and very powerful.
- Satan = opposes Almighty God and tries to establish himself equal to God.
- The dragon = a wild and powerful beastly heavenly ruler destined for destruction.

Like the *ruler* of Tyre, the *king* of Tyre is destined for destruction. God continued prophesying the fate of the wicked leaders in Tyre, the home of Wickedness in heaven through Ezekiel. The king of Tyre is Satan, once a perfect example of God's creation.

He stated, "You were the model of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. You were in Eden, the garden of God... You were anointed as a guardian cherub for so I ordained you. You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created till wickedness was found in you... Your heart became proud on account of your beauty, and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendor. So, I threw you to earth; I made a spectacle of you before kings" (Ezekiel 28:12-15, 61a-17).

God Almighty trumpets Satan's plan to overthrown his Creator. "You said in your heart, 'I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of the sacred mountain. I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.' But you are brought down to the grave, to the depths of the pit" (Isaiah 14:13-15).

God has already declared the fate of the fallen, rebel sons of God. "I said, 'You are gods; you are all sons of the Most High. But you will die like mere men; you will fall like every other ruler" (Psalm 82:6). They will be mortalized and die like mankind, crumbling into a devastating state of weakness, vulnerability and helplessness.

Satan's wisdom has become the folly of man. In contrast to the son of the dawn and the son of perdition, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing and rejuvenation.

"'For behold, the day is coming, burning like a furnace, when all the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble; the day is coming when I will set them ablaze,' says the LORD of Hosts. 'Not a root or branch will be left to them. But for you who fear My name, the *sun of righteousness will rise* with healing in its wings, and you will go out and leap, like calves from the stall. Then you will trample the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day I am preparing,' says the LORD of Hosts" (Malachi 4:1-3).

Wise people search for knowledge. They do not relax and simply trust the "experts" and "authorities" because in this evil age, these once-trusted people hold onto misconceptions,

some lie intentionally, others spread misinformation and disinformation knowingly and unknowingly.

"The mind of the prudent acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge" (Proverbs 18:15).

The faithful who have repented, accepted Christ as their Saviour, and follow him wherever he goes are blessed with ears that understand the word of God and eyes to know where to walk towards our Great Creator.

They do not squeeze pieces into preconceived beliefs or mysteries too deep to be understand. God opens their eyes and ears and what cannot be seen by rebellious man is clearly visible by God-fearing and God-serving people. God is transparent. His plan is recorded in the Bible. Time is revealing all that He prophesied many years in the past. What the prophets longed to understand is crystal clear to the saints into this present day and in the future.

"But blessed are your eyes, because they see; and your ears, because they hear. For truly I say to you that many prophets and righteous men desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it" (Matthew 13:16-17).

God Almighty remains faithful to his people and longs for the sleeping to awaken, open their eyes and listen. He plans to extend His grace to them and make an everlasting covenant with His repentant people. They will hear His voice and grow spiritually, even drawing so close to call Him, Abba Father instead of Master.

"Incline your ear and come to Me. Listen, that you may live; And I will make an everlasting covenant with you, according to the faithful mercies shown to David" (Isaiah 55:3).

### **HEART to FEEL**

God will keep unrepentant rebels in a hardened state until the Day of Judgement.

"Go to this people, and say, 'You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive. For this people's heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed; lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them'" (Acts 28:26-27).

Judgement day remains a day in the future. When people lose interest and faith in God, their heart hardens and instruction becomes impossible, only then, will God cause their disbelief and their hardened heart to remain closed. They will remain guilty until Judgement Day. God does not take pleasure in the wicked (Ezekiel 33:11). He wants to save all of mankind, beginning with His people.

God's Holy Spirit softens the crusty human heart into a youthful, pliable heart. "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh" (Ezekiel 36:26).

The heart is a vital organ of the human body. God designed it that way. Drawing attention to the mechanics of this muscle at the centre of the circulation system, pumping blood around the body exemplifies the importance of a humble, teaching attitude. The blood sends oxygen and nutrients to all parts of your body, and carries away toxic carbon dioxide and other waste products. A heart of flesh from the spiritual perspective does the same job as the physical heart. Through a humble and teachable spirit, spiritual food is recognized as truth. Falsehood is purged and life-enriching truth flows into the mind, sustaining life.

To the churches of Revelation, Jesus urged, "He who has an ear, let him hear." Change is needed for all the churches. All of them must overcome and time is running out.

### THE WALK to and of GOD

With a new heart comes a safe, law-keeping walk. "And I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes and to carefully observe My ordinances. Then you will live in the land that I gave your forefathers; you will be My people, and I will be your God" (Ezekiel 36:27-28).

Love one another is what Jesus taught. However, "whoever hates his brother is in the darkness and walks in the darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes" (I John 2:11). Hating your fellow brother or sister is living in sin and causes blindness.

Not only God's people have rebelled, but the nations of the world during the Great Tribulation will surrender to Satan and the beast. They will rebel against truth, God's word and His laws. Foolishly, they will choose the losing side. "I will bring distress on mankind, so that they shall walk like the blind, because they have sinned against the Lord; their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung" (Zephaniah 1:17).

History will repeat itself. "As it was in the days of Noah, so will it be at the coming of the Son of Man. For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark. And they were oblivious, until the flood came and swept them all away. So, will it be at the coming of the Son of Man" (Matthew 24:37-39).

The nations will be worshipping Satan. They will see the power of the beastly coalition thrown out of heaven and surrender. God is gracious. His wrath is designed to awaken the people on earth. He will succeed.

Eyes provide the interpretation of what is seen. Ears supplement information providing varying depths of understanding. The heart moves mankind into a state of harmony or chaos. God's Holy Spirit transforms the heart of man into a state of harmony, willingness to love Him and one another. With eyes that see, ears that hear and a humble and willing heart filled with God's Holy Spirit, people are brought onto a righteous walk following the lead of Jesus Christ towards Almighty God, their Creator, their Heavenly Father.

### SHEEP and GOATS, The SERPENT, MONSTERS of the Sea, BEASTS of the FIELD, BIRDS of the AIR

"Behold, I am about to do something new; even now it is coming. Do you not see it? Indeed, I will make a way in the wilderness and streams in the desert. The beasts of the field will honor Me, the jackals and the ostriches, because I provide water in the wilderness and rivers in the desert, to give drink to My chosen people. The people I formed for Myself will declare My praise"

(Isaiah 43:19-21).

Created with only instinct, how can God declare that the beasts of the field will honour Him? This study will explore God's use of language that moves back and forth in both realms of creation.



In some cases, God uses animals to add meaning and a clear visual of the characteristics of people on earth and rebels in heaven. The use of sheep is common in the Bible. They are a popular, domesticated animal raised for their fleece, their milk and meat. God refers to them as a clean animal providing a safe meat source for mankind. The imagery of sheep is often attached to the faithful who follow Jesus Christ, their Shepherd. Sheep are vulnerable and need caring; they image people who will follow a loving leader.

Jesus was imaged as a lamb, sacrificed to save mankind. A lamb is a picture of innocence, gentility and vulnerability. In contrast, Jesus was also imaged as a goat sacrificed on the Day of Atonement/Yom Kippur.

Goats are a cousin to sheep and this animal can be used to refer to foolish people, but also to a specific type of leader who is consistent and sure. There is an intriguing reference to two goats in the ritual on the Day of Atonement/Yom Kippur. Goats are independent and sure-footed,

climbing up to very high places with ease, while sheep gather into flocks, grazing in pastures. The Son of God, Jesus Christ, is a reliable leader who has climbed to the highest level in God's government with ease. He is the One Almighty God has placed His confidence.

God said, "See, I lay in Zion a stone, a chosen and precious cornerstone; and the one who believes in Him will never be shaken" (I Peter 1:26 and Isaiah 28:16).

On the Day of Atonement, in ancient times, one goat was sacrificed to pay the price of sin and the other was released into the wilderness. Both image two key roles that Jesus Christ holds: the Saviour and Intercessor of mankind.

The reference to different animals, points to specific characteristics of those they image. God broadens and deepens our understanding by His use of imagery.

### THE SERPENT

On earth, snakes slide on their bellies; they move on the lowest place for life on the land. This reflects the state of the fallen angels who are the source of all sin. Lucifer, upon creation, was made beautiful and perfect. He was ordained by God as a guardian cherub. He walked among the fiery stones in the third heaven, the location of God's throne. He was a "model of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty... every precious stone adorned you... Your settings and mountings were made of gold" (Ezekiel 28:12b-13).

Even having God's wisdom, still Lucifer fell into sin. Pride and arrogance destroyed him and from his high place, God drove him out of God's throne area into heaven with the angels below. He was expelled. His beauty and radiance faded along with his wisdom. His form began changing into a decrepit creature that took on a beastly appearance. He began to look like a serpent and on earth, a ground-crawling snake stripped of his wings. God is not finished with Satan, his form will continue to change until he is mortalized; he will appear like a crumpled, old man.

God said, "Your heart became proud on account of your beauty, and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendor. So, I threw you to the earth; I made a spectacle of you before kings" (Ezekiel 28:17).

Satan is expelled from God's heavenly throne into heaven below with the angels. He will yet be thrown down to earth, soon. He will be captured for one thousand years and imprisoned deep inside the earth—the darkest and lowest place in existence. After one thousand years, he will be released for a short time where he will deceive again. The nations will be tested, Satan has already been tried, convicted; his destruction is only a matter of time.

Satan's sentencing is recorded by Isaiah. God said, "But you will be brought down to Sheol, to the lowest depths of the Pit. Those who see you will stare; they will ponder your fate: 'Is this the man who shook the earth and made the kingdoms tremble, who turned the world into a

desert and destroyed its cities, who refused to let the captives return to their homes?" (Isaiah 14:15-17)

Satan will be mortalized; his once-glorious body will be a horror sight. His destruction will take place with the destruction of the old earth and heaven. A new earth and new heaven will be the glorious home of the righteous.

Ezekiel recorded God's future judgement, "By your many sins and dishonest trade, you have desecrated your sanctuaries. So, I made a fire come out from you, and I reduced you to ashes on the ground in the sight of all who were watching. All the nations who knew you are appalled at you; you have come to a horrible end and will be no more" (Ezekiel 28:18-19).

### PHARAOH: A MONSTER IN THE WATERS:

Pharaoh, ruler over Egypt, was described by God as a monster lying among his rivers. When God is relating heavenly matters to His people on earth, He describes them referencing things on earth that man can see and relate to. The heavenly ruler over Egypt had become a monster living in wickedness—imaged as his rough waters. This heavenly ruler declared himself to be a Creator. He claimed to have created the Nile River, the richest source of life in Egypt in ancient times.

"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 29:3).

God will take down this rebel, powerful leader and all of the fallen angels allying with him. "But I will put hooks in your jaws and cause the fish of your streams to cling to your scales. I will haul you up out of your rivers, and all the fish of your streams will cling to your scales" (Ezekiel 29:4).

### SATAN: A COILING SERPENT, A RED DRAGON

Satan lives in the sea as a coiling serpent and on the "high seas" under the protection of his great battleship (Ezekiel 27:4). Again, God uses the image of the sea as the haven of Wickedness in heaven. Satan is imaged as a named serpent, called Leviathan, a dragon of the sea.

Isaiah recorded this future event. "In that day the LORD will take His sharp, great, and mighty sword, and bring judgement on Leviathan the fleeing serpent—Leviathan the coiling serpent—and He will slay the dragon of the sea" (Isaiah 27:1).

Leviathan will be destroyed by God. King David sang, "But you, O God, are my king from of old; you bring salvation upon the earth. It was you who crushed the heads of Leviathan and gave him as food to the creatures of the desert" (Psalm 74:12-14).

Wickedness will be overthrown. The many heads image the many dominions allied with him.

"And the great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him" (Revelation 12:9).

The red dragon will bring much blood shed and terror.

### THE BEAST FROM OUT OF THE SEA

"Then another sign appeared in heaven: a huge red dragon with seven heads, ten horns, and seven royal crowns on his heads" (Revelation 12:3).

This beastly image is describing a heavenly coalition of rebel and very evil, fallen angels. The coalition is imaged as a huge red dragon; Satan is the builder and leader of this alliance. There are seven different leading governments imaged as heads and ten kings imaged as horns. These kings wear royal crowns because they are sons of God from His royal family in heaven. They are fallen sons of God.

God does not have a redemption plan for the animals and birds on earth. He describes Satan and his wicked coalition as a huge monstrous beast because there is no redemption plan for them and they are now operating on a form of instinct, void of sound thinking, void of God's Holy Spirit. Their original form has completely changed and they resemble something so fearful, terrible and horrible that God compiles an image of a mix of wild, raging animals to provide a concept of sorts for something not found on earth.

What is to come in the last days, Jesus said, "will be great tribulation, unmatched from the beginning of the world until now, and never to be seen again. If those days had not been cut short, nobody would be saved. But for the sake of the elect, those days will be cut short" (Matthew 24:21-22).

Wars on earth between extremely vile, wicked angels against Almighty God will terrify all the nations on earth.

"And the dragon stood on the shore of the sea. And I saw a beast coming out of the sea. He had ten horns and seven heads, with ten crowns on his horns, and on each head a blasphemous name. The beast I saw resembled a leopard, but had feet like those of a bear and a mouth like that of a lion. The dragon gave the beast his power and his throne and great authority. One of the heads of the beast seemed to have had a fatal wound, but the fatal wound has been healed" (Revelation 13:1-3).

The beast from out of the sea—the haven of Wickedness, is a beastly coalition of evil, fallen angels who will appear on earth. Satan gives this coalition all of his power and authority. In paralyzing fear, the nations of the world will surrender after this evil coalition attacks the people serving God, those keeping His commandments and hold to the testimony of Jesus Christ. These people do not escape with the "woman" into the wilderness because they are not ready spiritually.

The people of the world will be terrified. "The whole world was astonished and followed the beast. Men worshiped the dragon because he had given authority to the beast, and they also worshiped the beast and asked, 'Who is like the beast? Who can make war against him?'" (Revelation 13:3b-4)

The nations, even as a collective unit of one military force on earth, cannot make war against this beast and win. Surrender is their only option if they want to remain alive. All opposition against this beast will be met with persecution and relentless attacks. The nations of the world will submit and accept the beastly rulership as their king. Satan will give his throne, power and great authority to this beastly coalition. He will sit on the sidelines, knowing his only hope is the success of this coalition of evil forces as he has already been judged and sentenced. The leaders of the nations will be richly rewarded for their obedience.

The description of the different animal appearances in this beast is designed to illustrate the different strengths wielded by the different leaders within the coalition. They resemble a formidable force that will be strong, elusive, swift and decisive.

### THE LEOPARD

This beast represents the smallest of the large cat species. It is the strongest climber of the large cats and most elusive. In short bursts, it can reach high speeds. Its strength is in its speed, elusive covering and decisive attacks.

### THE FEET OF A BEAR

Bears walk flat footed like humans and using their toes, they can walk upright like people. Their feet are long, flat and with sharp claws. The polar bear has partially webbed toes for swimming and walking on snow as well as furry bottoms to keep its feet warm on the ice.

The image of a bear with the focus solely on its feet illustrates the movements of this rebel heavenly beast walking and moving like mortals, aggressively and carnally.

### THE LION

Lions are symbolic of royalty. The kings ruling within this beast are fallen, royal sons of God; they will speak with authority. They have knowledge of God's military plans and strategies. They roar and maul. These rebel sons of God will be heard; people will convulse. They will command and demand, ruling as dictators.

### **FOUR LIVING CREATURES**

God's plan is transparent. God is using creation on earth to describe the unseen in heaven. A few prophets were taken into heaven and witnessed creatures beyond anything on earth. Ezekiel's ascension revealed more than angels, but also creatures with four heads and eyes all over their body.

"I looked and saw a whirlwind coming from the north, a great cloud with fire flashing back and forth and brilliant light all around it. In the center of the fire was a gleam like amber, and within it was the form of four living creatures. And this was their appearance: They had a human form, but each had four faces and four wings. Their legs were straight, and the soles of their feet were like the hooves of a calf, gleaming like polished bronze. Under their wings on their four sides; they had human hands. All four living creatures had faces and wings, and their wings were touching one another. They did not turn as they moved; each one went straight ahead. The form of their faces was that of a man, and each of the four had the face of a lion on the right side, the face of an ox on the left side, and also the face of an eagle. Such were their faces. Their wings were spread upward; each had two wings touching the wings of the creature on either side, and two wings covering its body. Each creature went straight ahead. Wherever the spirit would go, they would go, without turning as they moved. Each creature went straight ahead. Wherever the spirit would go, they would go, without turning as they moved" (Ezekiel 1:5-12).

These four living creatures are a marvel and a wonder. Nothing on earth resembles them. They are a mystery until the heavens are opened.

### TWO GREAT EAGLES and a VINE

There are also heavenly beings imaged as great eagles in heaven. Ezekiel recorded the imagery. God was speaking to the rebellious house of Judah about their efforts to independently strength themselves by allying with Egypt instead of being obedient to God. God spoke through an allegory and a parable to tell a story that involved characters both in heaven and on earth.



"Son of man, set forth an allegory and tell it to the Israelites as a parable. Tell them that this is what the Lord God says: 'A great eagle with great wings and long pinions, full of feathers of

many colors, came to Lebanon and took away the top of the cedar. He plucked off its topmost shoot, carried it to the land of merchants, and planted it in a city of traders. He took some of the seed of the land and planted it in fertile soil; he placed it by abundant waters and set it out like a willow. It sprouted and became a spreading vine, low in height, with branches turned toward him; yet its roots remained where it stood. So, it became a vine and yielded branches and sent out shoots. But there was another great eagle with great wings and many feathers. And behold, this vine bent its roots toward him. It stretched out its branches to him from its planting bed, so that he might water it. It had been planted in good soil by abundant waters in order to yield branches and bear fruit and become a splendid vine'" (Ezekiel 17:5-8).

God was talking to the king of Judah through His imagery. He asked the king if he understood this story and continued to decode it for him, spelling out every detail to ensure that the king knew full well, the fate of the house of Judah because of their rebellion against Him.

At that time, all of the nations had heavenly rulers over them. The Israelites had the Almighty God ruling over them.

**GOD PROVIDES THE MEANING:** He said, "Say to this rebellious people, 'Do you not know what these things mean?' Say to them: 'The king of Babylon went to Jerusalem and carried off her king and her nobles, bringing them back with him to Babylon. Then he took a member of the royal family and made a treaty with him, putting him under oath. He also carried away the leading men of the land, so that the kingdom would be brought low, unable to rise again, surviving only by keeping his treaty. But the king rebelled against him by sending his envoys to Egypt to get horses and a large army. Will he succeed? Will he who does such things escape? Will he break the treaty and yet escape?

"'As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign Lord, he shall die in Babylon, in the land of the king who put him on the throne, whose oath he despised and whose treaty he broke. Pharaoh with his mighty army and great horde will be of no help to him in war, when ramps are built and siege works erected to destroy many lives. He despised the oath by breaking the covenant. Because he had given his hand in pledge and yet did all these things, he shall not escape" (Ezekiel 17:11-18).

The king of Babylon is imaged as a great eagle who goes to Lebanon. Almighty God is referring to the heavenly ruler over Babylon. He is described as a great eagle. This ruler soars through the heavens with eyes that see everything. He is very powerful. He may even have the head of an eagle, like Horus, the Egyptian god of the sky deity.

The physical king of Babylon is a regent for the heavenly ruler. God is using imagery because He is referring to the heavenly rulers.

God's holy court in heaven is located in Lebanon. It is by no coincidence that Lebanon on earth is of the same name. The great cedars grown in Lebanon on earth image the great leaders in heaven, members of God's holy courts. God is speaking from the spiritual view and uses His

language accordingly. The heavenly king over Babylon on earth was not in rebellion against the Almighty God at this time. He was working with the God of Israel.

He overpowers the king and nobles of Judah so they are subservient to him, which God allowed because of Judah's rebellion against Him. The king of Babylon made a treaty and took Jewish leaders to keep their kingdom from becoming powerful and rising up against them. The kingdom of Judah is imaged as the vine that was nourished by God and all their strength as a nation came from Him.

The king of Judah was determined to disregard God's punishment by being subservient to Babylon. So, the king of Judah went to pharaoh of Egypt for military help by forming an alliance.

Pharaoh of Egypt was the second great eagle. God responded to Judah's attempt to break from under the subservience of Babylon and said, "Will it not wither completely when the east wind strikes it—wither away in the plot where it grew?" (Ezekiel 17:10b)

God translated His own imagery and the "east wind" is the image of His unseen great power. "I will bring down on his head my oath that he despised and my covenant that he broke. I will spread my net over him, and he will be caught in my snare. I will bring him to Babylon and execute judgement upon him there because he was unfaithful to me" (Ezekiel 17:19-20).

God uses the imagery of birds and animals to unveil a bigger picture that is beyond what can be understood from earth.

### THE BEASTS OF THE FIELD and THE BIRDS OF THE AIR

There is more to understanding the animals and birds on earth. There are vast dominions in heaven with different creatures some that exist on land in heaven and others with the ability to fly. Reference to this picture can be seen in God's lament of the fall of a great leader in His courts in heaven.

This fallen leader was given rulership over Assyria on earth. He once was a great leader described by God in Ezekiel 31 as a "cedar of Lebanon," which is the image of an eternal, righteous member of God's courts in heaven, named Lebanon. This leader fell into sin and when God took it down, the Assyrian nation on earth fell and the nations on earth trembled. The nations who had allied with Assyria lost military protection and rich trading opportunities (Ezekiel 31:16). God said, "all the birds of the air nested in its boughs, all the beasts of the field gave birth under its branches; all the great nations lived in its shade" (Ezekiel 31:6).

God added, "I made the nations quake at the sound of its downfall, when I cast it down to Sheol with those who descend to the Pit" (Ezekiel 17:16).

These birds of the air and beasts of the field are not referring to physical birds and animals. The leader that fell was a son of God in heaven, a member of His holy courts in Lebanon. The beasts

of the field and the birds of the air are life forms in heaven who are not members of God's holy, eternal family. Mankind can only see into heaven through a glass darkly.

There exists in heaven creatures referenced as beasts, bulls and calves and more.

King David recorded a song in Psalm 22 that describes the death of Jesus on the cross and him surrounded by bulls, lions, dogs and wild oxen. These are likely descriptors of wicked heavenly beings.

King David wrote what Jesus saw while dying on the cross.

"Many bulls surround me; strong bulls of Bashan encircle me. They open their jaws against me like lions that roar and maul. I am poured out like water, and all my bones are disjointed. My heart is like wax; it melts away within me. My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth. You lay me in the dust of death. For dogs surround me; a band of evil men encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet. I can count all my bones; they stare and gloat over me. They divide my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing. But You, O LORD, be not far off; O my Strength, come quickly to help me. Deliver my soul from the sword, my precious life from the power of wild dogs. Save me from the mouth of the lion; at the horns of the wild oxen" (Psalm 22:12-21).

The animals referenced in Psalm 22 are evil beings gloating over the death of Jesus on the cross. Roaring lions, encircling bulls, wild dogs, and wild oxen with horns paint a terrorizing image of raging rebels celebrating the death of the Messiah.

King David understood the fallen angels in heaven and the language God uses to identify them. He knew that God gives opportunities to sons of God in heaven to apply their judgement and correction. He said, "God presides in the great assembly; he gives judgement among the 'gods'" (Psalm 82:1).

He knew that the nations on earth are led astray by *fallen* heavenly rulers and said, "Rebuke the beast in the reeds, the herd of bulls among the calves of the nations, until it submits, bringing bars of silver. Scatter the nations who delight in war" (Psalm 68:30).

A vast dominion and countless angels and creatures exist in heaven. The reference of beasts of the field and birds of the air reveal more than simply the animals and birds on earth. This use of language was common in ancient times. This is evident in the story of the repentance of the city of Nineveh. The king was alarmed about the news of their destruction because of their evil ways, so by a decree, he ordered, "Let no man or beast, herd or flock, taste anything at all. They must not eat or drink. Furthermore, let both man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and have everyone call out earnestly to God. Let each one turn from his evil ways and from the violence in his hands" (Jonah 3:7-8).

A strange picture appears to 21<sup>st</sup> century readers when the king of Nineveh grouped man with beast ordering them to fast and *wear sackcloth*. The herds and flocks were given a different order recognizing the *different level of accountability*. To be clothed in sackcloth means the wearer understands the level of humility and sincerity needed to show God their willingness to change from their evil ways.

On a side point, the people of Nineveh believed that the God of Israel was the Supreme God, so they repented to save their lives. They knew the god they worshipped could not thwarted the commands of the God of Israel.

The future paints a grim picture of wild animals in Babylon. "Hyenas will howl in her fortresses and jackals in her luxurious palaces. Babylon's time is at hand, and her days will not be prolonged" (Isaiah 13:22). The type of creatures living in Babylon's territory at the end of this evil age, will possibly be a mix of wild, unrepentant people and mischievous demons.

God's use of the word "beast" describes people and fallen angels who fail to acknowledge the work of the Almighty God and the power He gives to leaders. Daniel had a dream of a great tree. This tree imaged a leader, Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon. Daniel's dream prophesied the expansion of Babylon as a world-ruling power through the power of the God of Israel. His superpower status and expansion were a monumental gift from the God of Israel to a gentile king who acknowledged the supremacy of the true Almighty God.

"The tree grew large and strong; its top reached the sky, and it was visible to the ends of the earth. Its leaves were beautiful, its fruit was abundant, and upon it was food for all. Under it the beasts of the field found shelter, in its branches the birds of the air nested, and from it every creature was fed" (Daniel 4:3-4).

While at its height, the beasts of the field would find shelter and the birds of the air would nest. These creatures are not necessarily referring to animals and birds on earth, as their habitat does not change from one superpower nation to another. Rather an expanded story emerges, revealing God's imagery of creatures in heaven benefiting from the righteous rule of king Nebuchadnezzar on earth whose heavenly ruler over them at that time, also submitted and obeyed the Supreme God. Babylon was not always the haven of Wickedness.

Through Isaiah, God prophesied new things! A time is coming when even the wild animals will honour God.

"Behold, I am about to do something new; even now it is coming. Do you not see it? Indeed, I will make a way in the wilderness and streams in the desert. *The beasts of the field will honor Me, the jackals and the ostriches,* because I provide water in the wilderness and rivers in the desert, to give drink to My chosen people. The people I formed for Myself will declare My praise" (Isaiah 43:19-21).

The beasts of the field, the jackals, and the ostriches, are prophesied to honour the Supreme God. In God's coded language, He is describing a creation been given His Holy Spirit. He is going to pour out His Holy Spirit into places that are spiritually dead; creation there will come alive. These deep mysteries will be fulfilled in time.

Immortality for mankind is described by Isaiah as having the ability to fly. He said, "But those who wait upon the LORD will renew their strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not faint" (Isaiah 40:31).

Unmeasurable joy will fill those who wait on the LORD to fulfill His plan for mankind. So much so, that it cannot be fully understood while in this decaying state.

### The SWORD, the SLING and the BOW and ARROWS

"Listen to Me, O islands; pay attention, O distant peoples: The LORD called Me from the womb; from the body of My mother, He named Me. He made My mouth like a sharp sword; He hid Me in the shadow of His hand. He made Me like a polished arrow; He hid Me in His quiver. He said to Me, You are My Servant, Israel, in whom I will display My glory"

(Isaiah 49:1-3).

Mankind, who live in sin, thinking their evil and corrupt deeds go unseen, will be ashamed when all of their actions are brought into the light. Sharper than any two-edged sword their lies will be exposed. Polished arrows of truth will pierce through the armour of the wicked. Exposed for who they are, they will flee searching for their hidden places, but they will have no place to go. The testimony of Jesus will shine brightly leaving no shadows and no dark places.



The Apostle Paul said, "For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it pierces even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow. It judges the thoughts and intentions of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight; everything is uncovered and exposed before the eyes of Him to whom we must give account" (Hebrews 4:12-13).

The day is coming when Almighty God and Jesus Christ will end Satan's reign on earth. The commanding power of God's spoken words will capture, judge, sentence, and destroy.

"In that day, the LORD will punish with his sword, his fierce, great and powerful sword, Leviathan the gliding serpent, Leviathan the coiling serpent; he will slay the monster of the sea" (Isaiah 27:1).

God refers to three main weapons above all others: the sword, the sling and the bow with arrows. All weapons can kill and are used against enemies, but the sword, the sling and the bow with arrows are unique weapons used in specific types of attacks. The Apostle Paul said that our only enemies are the heavenly rogue, fallen rulers, powers and principalities that are both on earth and in heaven (Ephesians 6:12). Mortals cannot kill or destroy spiritual entities, but they can destroy their lies, twists within truth, misinformation, disinformation, mal-information that creates chaos and division on earth.

The sword often images the word of God in particular His law and ways of living that produce peace and harmony. The great gliding and coiling serpent, Leviathan is already condemned; soon, he will be sentenced and destroyed by God's sword: His law and His word. God's law courts in heaven will soon be bustling. The rebel, little horn of Daniel will be brought before God. "The court will sit, and his power will be taken away and completed destroyed forever" (Daniel 7:26). God prophesied against this rebel long ago; he is already doomed.

### THE SWORD, THE SLING, THE BOW with ARROWS

The ancient battles fought by the Israelites all used, at some point, the sword. The famous battle remembered into the 21<sup>st</sup> century of David against Goliath involved a sling with a stone and Goliath's sword.

"Thus, David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone; without a sword in his hand, he struck down the Philistine and killed him. Then David ran and stood over the Philistine and took his sword and drew it out of its sheath and killed him, and cut off his head with it. When the Philistines saw that their champion was dead, they fled" (I Samuel 17:50-51).

The sling is the stabilizing component of a weapon, like the stable structure created by righteous leadership. The stones released from the sling image the righteous servants of God who go out to all the world to shed light in all the dark places, destroying the giants of darkness. The use of a sling also images the supernatural participation of God, Himself, to disable the enemy.

The sword typically images God's word—the sword of truth. In the case of Goliath, his sword imaged his belief on what he promoted as truth. When David took the sword of Goliath and beheaded him, he brought an end to the leader and his rebellious belief system using Goliath's own sword, that is, Goliath's lies and deception decapitated him.

It is by no surprise that it would be David who would kill Goliath. Ancient stories will be repeated and in David's case, he will be anointed king over the twelve tribes—the twelve nations of 21<sup>st</sup> century Israel, during the Millennial reign of Christ. He will again behead leaders pushing Satan's lies and deception.

A time rests on our near horizon when God's people will return to Him, during a time when earth has become the habitat of Satan. They will call out to their God and He will hear them. He will rescue them and lead them against their enemy described as an army spanning the size of a vast sea.

People, into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, have dismissed the reality of the spirit world. The reality of the ancient gods has been mythicized. Their silenced history is all part of Satan's plan to entrap people, keep them ignorant, and ill-prepared for his arrival and takeover of the earth. Many of God's people have accepted these lies and fallen away from religion, while others have been swept up into the concerns and business of everyday life.

Priorities will change, when the Great Prostitute takes control and Satan is thrown down to earth with his wicked coalition. An alien arrival may be the appearance seen across the planet by all nations—all peoples. They will dazzle the people with their life-saving technology and the pretense of good hearts. They will attack God's repentant people immediately to showcase their power and supremacy over mortals on earth and their disdain for the God-fearing covenant people. God will allow the attack, turning lemons into lemonade, these people will strengthen their relationship with Him and will enter a growth spurt of spiritual maturity to become an unbreakable force.

Another group of God's people will awaken during the latter part of the Great Tribulation. During their captivity, they, too, will call out to their God, the Almighty. Scattered among the nations by the beastly coalition, God will hear them. He will rescue them and give them a double blessing, like that of the firstborn in the family. Their *double blessing* will be their *rescue* and *victory* over their enemy. God will bid for them as He did in ancient times; He will gather them from the four corners of the earth. A second Exodus is coming.

The prophesied second Exodus will push the first Exodus into the shadows to become a faint memory. The greatest Exodus to be remembered for all eternity will be a grand exit from not just one nation, but people from twelve nations taken captive and enslaved in all of the nations on earth. To their fortress they will return—prisoners of hope, who will follow their God into the greatest victory to ever occur. The supernatural strength of the God of Israel leading His remnant people in battle, will crush both rebel spiritual and human forces on earth.

The Second Exodus of humbled people will ignite excitement and a surge of passion for their Rescuer—their Hero—their God. Loyal and faithful, they will finally trust God. His love for them will be felt and they will respond with eternal reverence. God "will bend Judah as I bend a bow and fill it with Ephraim. I will rouse your sons, O Zion, against your sons, O Greece, and make you like a warrior's sword." The Jews will be God's bow—the protectors of the Law, and the Christians of the ten tribes of 21<sup>st</sup> century Israel, will be the millions of arrows shot out against the nations of the world.

A religious war will surge across the planet with God's people on one side and the false prophet on the other. Through the power and strength of Almighty God, His people, in obedience to His

law and His ways, will become an invincible force of truth and righteousness. The Christians will slice open the lies, deceit and corruption to reveal the dark secrets of Wickedness. The arrows are already being released as alternative media reveals the lies and deceit of mainstream media. What lies ahead on the near horizon is a coordinated work of all 21<sup>st</sup> century twelve tribes of Israel destroying Wickedness with God Almighty in front with Jesus Christ, leading and protecting them.

The height of this great battle will take place at the very end of this evil age. It will be the time to overthrow the "inhabitants" whose names have not been written in the book of life since the foundation of the world. As the ancient Israelites marched into battle against the giants living in their promised land, with God Almighty in the lead and Jesus Christ behind, so it will be again.

"Then the LORD will appear over them; his arrow will flash like lightning. The sovereign LORD will sound the trumpet; he will march in the storms of the south, and the LORD Almighty will shield them. They will destroy and overcome with slingstones. They will drink and roar as with wine... The LORD their God will save them on that day as the flock of his people. They will sparkle in his land like jewels in a crown" (Zechariah 9:14-17).

Like David, God images them using slingstones because His guiding power will supernaturally disarm the giant forces making it possible for His people to decapitate the enemy. The bow and arrows work in the same way. The house of Judah and the house of Israel will bend their knee before their God and together, they will overthrow the armies of the nations who are in servitude to Satan.

The great repentance of the people of the 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel remain a future event.

At that time, God has promised, "I will strengthen the house of Judah and save the house of Joseph. I will restore them because I have compassion on them. They will be as though I had not rejected them. The Ephraimites will become like mighty men, and their hearts will be glad as with wine... I will signal for them and gather them in. Surely, I will redeem them; they will be as numerous as before. Though I scatter them among the peoples, yet in distant lands they will remember me. They and their children will survive and they will return... I will strengthen them in the LORD and in his name, they will walk" (Zechariah 10:6-12).

The sword is a powerful weapon that cuts away the lies to reveal truth, honesty and righteousness. When Adam and Eve were cast out of the garden of Eden, two powerful angels were stationed at the entrance to keep polluting sinners out.

"So, He drove the man out; and at the east of the garden of Eden He stationed the cherubim and the flaming sword which turned every direction to guard the way to the tree of life" (Genesis 3:24).

Eternal life was not accessible to Adam and Eve after they sinned. They would need a Saviour with a two-edged sword—a double witness [two-edged] of truth [sword]. The sword of truth in the hand of Jesus Christ will determine honesty, justice, and ensure the preservation of peace.

### THE COMMANDER OF GOD'S ARMY

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is the great commander of God's army of truth and righteousness. He is battling against Wickedness—that evil enemy, who is: a liar, a deceiver, and the instigator of dark secrets embedded in societies infested with corruption and destruction.

This Commander reveals his holy power to Joshua. "Now it came about when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, a man was standing opposite him with his sword drawn in his hand, and Joshua went to him and said to him, 'Are you for us or for our adversaries?' 'Neither,' He replied. 'I have now come as Commander of the LORD's army.' Then Joshua fell face down in reverence and asked Him, 'What does my Lord have to say to His servant?' The Commander of the LORD's army replied, 'Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy. And Joshua did so" (Joshua 5:13-15).

The Commander [the Son of God] of the LORD's army with his sword drawn revealed to Joshua his holiness, authority and expertise to execute the word of God in the battle of destroying the giants, living in rebellion against God.

The relentless war on earth throughout all the ages, is the battle of: truth against lies, righteousness against wickedness. It will take the complete knowledge and understanding of God's word and His law to *overcome* Wickedness.

### **SWORD OF THE SPIRIT**

"And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" (Ephesians 6:17).

Lies and deceit will be exposed.

"For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12).

God's word cuts deep. Excuses and compromises will be exposed, bringing shame to the dishonest. The sword and arrows are weapons of the tongue. Cutting remarks, insults, labeling, accusations are the many arrows used by evil-doers.

King David understood God's imagery and used it in his lyrics. "Who have sharpened their tongue like a sword. They aimed bitter speech as their arrow" (Psalm 64:3).

In the wisdom of Solomon, he taught the importance of the careful use of language. "There is one who *speaks rashly like the thrusts of a sword*, but the tongue of the wise brings healing" (Proverbs 12:18).

Jesus loves righteousness and truth. Compromising, twisting and pushing disinformation is the battle Christ faces and he will use God's truth as his sharp two-edged sword to destroy every deviation from the pure word of God. Nothing but the truth, the whole truth will be accepted.

Jesus said, "Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but *a sword*" (Matthew 10:34).

Jesus Christ will not compromise on God's word. People will feel the discomfort as they are corrected and taught the truth.

The playbook of Wickedness has not changed since iniquity. In this evil age, every play is used by those who serve Wickedness.

"The coming of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders, and with every wicked deception directed against those who are perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved" (II Thessalonians 2:9-10).

Question the narrative of the news reporters and people who claim to know the story. Search for the truth, test your findings by the word of God and do not lean on your own understanding, but press God earnestly for His guidance into truth, so that you may be saved.

While Jesus was on earth, he was a perpetual victim of the ruthless, malicious plays of Wickedness.

The scriptures expose the playbook in use.



### Liars:

"You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies" (John 8:44).



### Deceivers, twisting good works into evil:

"And when the demon had been driven out, the man began to speak. The crowds were amazed and said, 'Nothing like this has ever been seen in Israel! But the Pharisees said, 'It is by the prince of demons that He drives out demons.' Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness" (Matthew 9:33-35).

It is not surprising that the Jesus-hating Pharisees twisted the good works of Jesus claiming the power of all the miracles he did to have come from the devil.



### Accusers, falsely accusing in order to bring a charge:

"On another Sabbath He entered the synagogue and was teaching; and there was a man there whose right hand was withered. But He knew what they were thinking, and He said to the man with the withered hand, 'Get up and come forward!' And he got up and came forward. And Jesus said to them, 'I ask you, is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the Sabbath, to save a life or to destroy it?'" (Luke 6:6-11)

"The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death" (Matthew 26:59).



### Character assassins, blackening and slandering every good action:

Jesus said, "John [the Baptist] came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon.' The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners'" (Matthew 11:18-19).



### Tricksters, weaving malicious arguments to entrap:

"What then will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and kill those tenants and give the vineyard to others. Haven't you read this scripture: 'The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes'?' Then they looked for a way to arrest him because they knew he had spoken the parable against them... Then they sent some of the Pharisees and Herodians to Him in order to trap Him in a statement" (Mark 12:9-12).

"So, they watched Him, and sent spies who pretended to be righteous, in order that they might catch Him in some statement, so that they could deliver Him to the rule and the authority of the governor" (Luke 20:20).

"When He left there, the Scribes and the Pharisees began to be very hostile and to question Him closely on many subjects, plotting against Him to catch Him in something He might say" (Luke 11:53-54).



### Haters, filled with rage and angst:

"Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap him [Jesus] in his words... 'Tell us then, what do You think? Is it lawful to give a poll-tax to Caesar, or not?' But Jesus perceived their malice, and said, 'Why are you testing Me, you hypocrites? Show Me the coin used for the poll-tax.' And they brought Him a denarius. 'Whose image is this, He asked, 'and whose inscription?' They answered, 'Caesar's.' So, Jesus told them, 'Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's.' When they heard this, they were amazed. So, they left him and went away" (Matthew 22:15-22).



### Mockers are mob followers:

Determined to discredit Jesus, they, "hurled insults at him, shaking their heads and saying, 'You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! Come down from the cross, if you are the Son of God!' In the same way the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders mocked him. 'He saved others,' they said, 'but he can't save himself! He's the king of Israel! Let him come down from the cross, and will believe in him'... In the same way the robbers who were crucified with him also heaped insults on him" (Matthew 27:39-42, 44).



### Bribers and enticers, paying-off informants:

Bribing and enticing to pay-off informants became necessary to the cover-ups of their evil deeds.

"And after the chief priests had met with the elders and formed a plan, they gave the soldiers a large sum of money telling them, "You are to say, 'His disciples came during the night and stole him away while we were asleep'" (Matthew 28:12-13).



### Conspirators, plotting the death of those in their way:

Jesus saw into their perpetual conspiracy against him. He spoke a parable. "But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, 'This is the heir. Come, let's kill him and take his inheritance.' So, they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him ... When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus' parables, they knew he was talking about them" (Matthew 21:38-39, 45).

The Pharisees were aware that Jesus knew their plans. It added more fuel to their fire to kill him at any cost. "But the Pharisees went out and plotted how they might kill Jesus" (Matthew 12:14).



### Outlaws, despisers of God:

"So, you must be careful to do everything they tell you. But do not do what they do, for they do not practice what they preach. They tie up heavy, burdensome loads and lay them on men's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to lift a finger to move them" (Matthew 23:3-4).

Jesus said, "Be on guard against the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees. Then they understood that he was not telling them to guard against the yeast used in bread but against the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees" (Matthew 16:11b-12).

"So, the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, 'Why don't your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with "unclean" hands?' He replied, 'Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written: "These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain; their teachings are but rules taught by men." You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to the traditions of men'" (Mark 7:5-8).

God has called believers back into His word to live honestly, care for and love one another. Find ways to support each other and resolve conflicts peacefully. "Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels. And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. Those who oppose him he must gently instruct, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth, and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will" (II Timothy 2:23-26).

Recognize the red flags and avoid them. There is no place for Wickedness in the lives of those who serve the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

### AN ESPECIALLY NASTY ENEMY OF GOD'S PEOPLE

There lies on our near horizon a ruthless and cruel enemy. He will be used by God to awaken God's people and mankind to see the work of Wickedness. When God is done, this enemy is destined to fall by the power of God's spiritual sword. Isaiah recorded, "And the Assyrian will fall by a sword not of man, and a sword not of man will devour him. So, he will not escape the sword" (Isaiah 31:8).

Unfinished business remains to be seen; an invasion is prophesied. "When the Assyrian invades our land and marches through our fortresses..." (Micah 5:5). This remains a future event because God's people will subdue this Assyria, unlike Israel's captivity by Assyria at 722 B.C..

At this time, God's people will have righteous, God-fearing and law-keeping leaders. "We will raise against him seven shepherds, even eight leaders of men. They will rule the land of Assyria with the sword, the land of Nimrod with drawn sword. He [God] will deliver us from the Assyrian when he invades our land and marches into our borders" (Micah 5:6).

This will be a time when these people have repented of their sins; they are God-fearing and God-serving people. "Your hand will be lifted up in triumph over your enemies" (Micah 5:9). It will be a time at the end of the Great Tribulation, a remnant will survive and they will become a great force among the nations because God Almighty strengthens them. They will come to see the "Assyrian" for who he really is—a traitor to their God and enemy out to totally destroy them. God said, "Woe to the Assyrian, the rod of my anger, in whose hand is the club of my wrath! I send him against a godless nation, I dispatch him against a people who anger me to seize loot and snatch plunder, and to trample them down like mud in the streets. But this is not what he intends, this is not what he has in mind; his purpose is to destroy, to put an end to many nations" (Isaiah 10:5-7).

This group of God's people are not part of the religious body referred to in Revelation as the "woman" who escapes into the wilderness for three and a half years. It would also appear that they are not the group who are keeping the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus Christ and then, targeted by Satan after his fall to earth. Rather a wayward and

stubborn group who follow Satan for a time, worshipping idols and serving him. These eventually go into captivity and are scattered among all of the nations on earth.

"'For on that day, every one of you will reject the idols of silver and gold that your own hands have sinfully made" (Isaiah 31:7). God's wrath is against these people who awaken by the invasion of the very leader in whom they had put their faith and trust.

The world at that time will have returned to worshipping the fallen gods of ancient times. Idols will be mandated. Power will return to mortals to call out to these fallen gods for favours and help. Magic and witchcraft will become common place. The remnant of God's people will repent and destroy the idols that they make.

They will no longer rely on the Assyrian. "In that day the remnant of Israel, the survivors of the house of Jacob will no longer rely on him who struck them down but will truly rely on the LORD, the Holy One of Israel. A remnant will return, a remnant of Jacob will return to the Almighty God. Though your people, O Israel, be like the sand by the sea, only a remnant will return" (Isaiah 10:20-22).

These people will be cruelly mocked and cursed. The God of Israel will comfort them, both Judah and the ten tribes—all twelve tribes of Israel, and save them.

"As you have been an object of cursing among the nations. O Judah and Israel, so will I save you, and you will be a blessing. Do not be afraid, but let your hands be strong" (Zechariah 8:13).

This painful time will awaken the remaining stubborn people of God who refused to listen to instruction earlier.

The heavenly ruler over ancient Assyria is a fallen son of God. Ancient Assyria on earth collapsed around 609 B.C.. The Assyrian-like leader of the future will behave like the ancient Assyrian rulers who were relentlessly cruel. This Assyrian-like ruler will set himself up as supreme ruler in the Holy Land. His plan resembles the desires of the Antichrist and the little horn in Daniel. The LORD Almighty has sworn, "I will crush the Assyrian in my land, on my mountains, I will trample him down. His yoke will be taken from my people, and his burden removed from their shoulders" (Isaiah 14:25).

God will destroy the "Assyrian" with His spiritual sword when He orders the court to sit. The world will hear God's condemnation, judgement, sentencing, and destruction.

"Then Assyria will fall, but not by the sword of man; a sword will devour them, but not one made by mortals. They will flee before the sword, and their young men will be put to forced labor. Their rock will pass away for fear, and their princes will panic at the sight of the battle standard,' declares the LORD, whose fire is in Zion, whose furnace is in Jerusalem" (Isaiah 31:8-9).

The war in heaven will come down to earth. It will be a time like no other and a time that will never occur again in all its horror and terror. God Almighty and Jesus Christ will pour out their wrath on all the wicked both spiritual and mortal, on earth. From the mouth of Jesus Christ through merely a spoken command, all will be fulfilled. "In His right hand He held seven stars, and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; and His face was like the sun shining in its strength" (Revelation 1:16).

All of the creation in heaven understood the fundamentals of God's law upon their waking breath. There is no salvation plan for those who sin, knowingly.

"So, when the Lord has completed all His work against Mount Zion and Jerusalem, He will say, 'I will punish the king of Assyria for the fruit of his arrogant heart and the proud look in his eyes'" (Isaiah 10:12).

The sword is God's word and the bow is God's law. The wicked rulers in heaven and on earth will all be brought before God's heavenly court. Their reign of terror will end!

"In that day the LORD will punish the host of heaven above and the kings of the earth below. They will be gathered together like prisoners in a pit. They will be confined to a dungeon and punished after many days. The moon will be confounded and the sun will be ashamed; for the LORD of Hosts will reign on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem, and before His elders with great glory" (Isaiah 24: 21-23).

GOD ALMIGHTY reigns supreme.

### The HABITATS on and above EARTH

"And God said, 'Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear."

And it was so"

(Genesis 1:9).

In the beginning, God created realms for the first and second creation. The realm of the first creation is vast, a home for countless angels and creatures. The realm of the second creation is small by comparison and in many ways remains a mystery to mankind. It points to our Great, Almighty God who the Psalmist said, "The heavens declare the glory of God, the skies proclaim the work of his hands" (Psalm 91:1). Mankind is yet to understand the magnitude of that scripture.



Godless scientists and researchers have withheld discoveries from the people that have generated suspicion. Many historians have bent their knee to silence truth and remain in lock-step with the puppeteers. A narrative devised by evil entities is preached repetitively to program the people, keeping them misinformed and spiritually ignorant of the wonderful truth of who they are and their royal calling. A hidden agenda is at play, but not for long.

The first verse of the Bible begins with the moment God, the Father began creating through the Son. A beginning was established. "In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth" (Genesis 1:1). The realms for two creations were created at the same time. Planned before the beginning, was the creation of an eternal, holy, royal, ruling God family.

"Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters" (Genesis 1:2). The earth had fallen into chaos—it was formless and covered with darkness. God is not a Creator of chaos and darkness. The Son, through the power of the Father, commanded and all the forces at work obeyed. "Let there be light," God said. And, there was light. Order was set into motion again, and chaos disciplined.

Then God said, "Let there be a firmament between the waters, to separate the waters of the heavens from the waters of the earth" (Genesis 1:6). This verse points to two separate water basins—one in heaven where the spirit beings live and one on earth. A firm divider was set in place to separate the waters.

The "firmament" by definition in the Merriam-Webster is "the vault or arch of the sky."1

Vocabulary.com state, "The *firmament* is the curve of the sky, especially if you imagine it as a solid surface."<sup>2</sup>

God called the firmament, "sky."

At the end of the age, God will roll up this structure—the sky—and mankind will be able to see into the realm in heaven. "All the stars of heaven will be dissolved. The skies will be rolled up like a scroll, and all their stars will fall like withered leaves from the vine, like foliage from the fig tree" (Isaiah 34:4).

### THE SKY

This sky that God will eventually roll up is described to have ends, like a scroll. He may slice into the firmament to create each end. "And He will send forth His angels with a great trumpet and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other" (Matthew 24:31).

Job knew a lot about the amazing engineering of earth and all that surrounds it. He said to his friends who were debating him, "Can you, like Him, spread out the skies to reflect the heat like a mirror of bronze?" (Job 37:18)

The Psalmist saw the greatness of the Almighty God. He wrote, "Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD my God, You are very great; You are clothed with splendor and majesty. He wraps Himself in light as with a garment; He stretches out the heavens like a tent, laying the beams of His chambers in the waters above, making the clouds His chariot, walking on the wings of the wind. He set the earth on its foundations; it can never be moved" (Psalm 104:1-5).

This image sets Almighty God, of whom there is none like Him, covered in glorious light. The third heaven is built with a sky like that over earth that is stretched out like a tent, with beams that are set deep in the waters of heaven. He uses the clouds as His chariot and walks of the poetic wings that span out from the forces of the wind. Like God's throne in heaven, He set earth, an engineered structure, on foundations. Ezekiel saw God's habitat. "Above the expanse [the tent-like sky] over their heads [the four living creatures] was the likeness of a throne with

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Merriam-Webster Dictionary. Definition. "Firmament." *Merriam-Webster Dictionary*, <a href="https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/firmament">https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/firmament</a>. Accessed June 15, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Vocabulary.com. Dictionary. "Firmament." *Vocabulary.com,* <a href="https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/firmament">https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/firmament</a>. Accessed June 15, 2022.

the appearance of sapphire, and on the throne high above was a figure like that of a man" (Ezekiel 1:26).

The Great Creator is mighty. "It is *He who sits above the circle of the earth*, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, who *stretches out the heavens like a curtain and spreads them out like a tent to dwell in*" (Isaiah 40:22).

God's throne is north of earth. Again, the heavens are stretched out like a tent. A massive canopy separates the realms of the first and second creation.

Even the sun on earth is described as covered under a tent. "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge. Without speech or language, without a sound to be heard, their voice has gone out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world. In the heavens He has pitched a tent for the sun" (Psalm 19:4).

God's structures are familiar to all of mankind. All well-engineered buildings have a roof, supporting pillars and a foundation. The New Jerusalem in the making will be comprised of the same engineering. The foundation will be comprised of the ancient judges, prophets and apostles, the supporting pillars will be the Philadelphia saints and the roof will be the great expanse of Almighty God, Himself and Jesus Christ, King over all kings and Lord over all lords.

Satan's goal is to distract mankind from discovering their Great Creator by looking into the great expanse. He provokes a desire to explore deep space; engineer high-tech craft and go star-trekking with hope to expand and settle, dominate and control, as if that is their calling. Instead of humbling themselves in wonder and amazement before their Great Creator, they are consumed with self-direction, self-reliance, and self-glory. It will take a time of great distress before all of God's people awaken and seek their God. They will be dumbfounded when they realize that all this time, He has been patiently waiting to offer them and all of mankind in time, life eternal in His holy, royal, ruling God family.

Despite mankind's refusal to see God in the incredible and awesome science and technology of creation, His plan for them moves forward. The sky is comprised of invisible gaseous substances seen only when forces propel movement. God's Holy Spirit is imaged as air moving with great force, energy, and power—like rushing winds. The people of the born-again church who received God's Holy Spirit felt the great force of His Holy Spirit.

"When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like a mighty rushing wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting" (Acts 2:1-2).

The first resurrection awakens and transforms first the saints who have died and then the saints who are alive. They rise to meet Christ in the air, above the ground they move upwards into a level of supremacy.

"Then we which are alive [and] remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so, shall we ever be with the Lord" (Thessalonians 4:17).

The resurrected elect will be gathered from the ends of earth and heaven. The ends of the vast expanse separating the realms in heaven and earth, is so vast that mankind cannot see the ends. Jesus uses exaggeration to emphasize that He will gather all the saints no matter where they are. Even those transported off planet and sent away, will be gathered by the angels if that becomes a possibility. He said, "And then He [Jesus] will send forth the angels, and will gather together His elect from the four winds, from the farthest end of the earth to the farthest end of heaven" (Mark 13:27).

The sky is a habitat of unseen elements that are tapped and used. Airwave transmission is a broadcasting activity everywhere across this planet. Satan is the master of this invisible platform that carries his messages to unsuspecting mortals. He is referred to as the prince of the power of the air and his telepathic-like chatter never stops.

"Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience" (Ephesians 2:2).

The last bowl to be poured out on the earth at the end of this evil age, will go into the air, onto Satan's communication platform. No longer will he be able to deceive, except after Christ's one-thousand-year reign, but only for a short time.

The Apostle John recorded, "And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, 'It is done'" (Revelation 16:17). The evil age will come to an end when Satan is captured and silenced.

## **THE LAND**

And God said, "'Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear.' And it was so. God called the dry ground "land," and the gathered waters he called "seas." And God saw that it was good" (Genesis 1:9-10).

Naming is important because the one who names has authority over it. God names these habitats because He has rulership over them.

Daniel recorded an event, global in magnitude and humbling for the house of Judah. "Now these were the visions in my mind as I lay on my bed: I was looking, and behold, there was a tree in the midst of the earth and its height was great" (Daniel 4:10-11).

Daniel had a vision of a tree positioned right in the middle of earth. The tree is an image of a leader and in this case, the leader was King Nebuchadnezzar. The middle of the earth points to his centre of control over all of the earth. His kingdom may have been the first world-ruling

kingdom after the great flood, where God was involved in the subjugation of all people on earth.

The engineering of earth includes foundations that keep it from collapsing. The Psalmist recorded, "He established the earth upon its foundations, so that it will not totter forever and ever" (Psalm 104:5).

The earth also has supporting pillars not visible on the surface. When Job was describing the absolute power, perfection and brilliance of God, he said, "Who shakes the earth out of its place, and its pillars tremble. He speaks to the sun and it does not shine; He seals off the light of the stars... He performs wonders that cannot be fathomed, miracles that cannot be numbered... How can I dispute with him?" (Job 9:6-7, 10, 14a)

God built earth like a house using the same blueprint as He built for Himself. God said, "Heaven is my throne, and the earth is My footstool. Where then is a house, you could build for Me? And where is a place that I may rest?" (Isaiah 66:1)

Indeed, God is great! Satan is working day and night to hide the evidence of the Mighty Creator using distraction and pride, encouraging foolish mankind to limit their calling to merely startrekking under the canopy of earth when God is offering mankind eternal life in His vast, horizonless kingdom.

## THE PLACE OF THE LIVING

The land is God's image for a habitat where growth takes place and an abundance of fruit can be produced. It mirrors people who have the potential for eternal life, where they can grow in God's knowledge, understanding and wisdom to produce the fruits of righteousness. Like the covering of the righteous, the fields clothe the earth.

The Psalmist sang, "You attend to the earth and water it; with abundance You enrich it. The streams of God are full of water, for You prepare our grain by providing for the earth. You soak its furrows and level its ridges; You soften it with showers and bless its growth. You crown the year with Your bounty, and Your paths overflow with plenty. The pastures of the wilderness overflow; the hills are robed with joy. The pastures are clothed with flocks, and the valleys are decked with grain. They shout in triumph; indeed, they sing" (Psalm 65:9-13).

King David understood many of the deep things of God. He knew that God had given Himself an inheritance, that is, kingship over all of Israel [his portion]. He knew that land has a different spiritual story to the sea and the air. He said to Almighty God, "You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living" (Psalm 142:5).

The land is the habitat of all people on earth. It is the place where they live—the land of the living. For people to grow and bear the fruit of righteousness, they need trained leaders, both national and religious leaders who know and exercise God's law to ensure justice and peace. Leaders are often the cause of much corruption on earth. Mankind is incomplete without the

inflowing of God's Holy Spirit. Mankind has a very long and ancient history of taking the wide road to their destruction. To assist the people on earth, Almighty God at the time of Babel, gave them princes—highly-trained and well-respected members of His heavenly court to rule over the nations on earth. He, Himself, participated in this project, giving Himself rulership over the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

Recorded in the Song of Moses, "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. For the LORD's portion [the group of people on earth God gave to Himself to rule over] is his people, *Jacob his allotted inheritance* [rulership]" (Deuteronomy 32:8-9).

Having rulership over dominions is a snare for all creation both in heaven and on earth. The temptation to become proud and arrogant is difficult to fight. Power corrupts. The land remains the place of the living and under the land—inside the earth—is the place of the imprisoned.

#### **INNER EARTH**

The prison inside earth has many names. It is described by Ezekiel as the Pit. The Apostle John referred to it as the Abyss. The Psalmist and ancient Israel called it Sheol. It is located in the deep south inside the earth. After Jesus was resurrected, he took the captured rebellious, wicked rulers down to inner earth. "This is why it says: 'When He ascended on high, He led captives away, and gave gifts to men'. What does "he ascended" mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions?" (Ephesians 4:8-9)

It is difficult for mankind to understand a place they have not visited. The lowest place in all creation is located in the realm of the fallen second creation—earth. Inside the earth, is the prison for the captured, rebellious fallen wicked spiritual entities. It is a great insult for the first creation of spiritual beings to be cast out of the most glorious places in all creation to be sentenced to the lowest of all places—inner earth. Inside the earth is possibly where the pillars and foundation of earth are located.

The disciples understood the fate of the rebel spirits and the location of the prison where they remain today. "For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit, in whom He also went and preached to the spirits in prison who disobeyed long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built" (I Peter 3:18-19).

When Satan is eventually brought down to Sheol, God will announce for all to hear that He no longer has a place among those who are spiritually alive. He will reside with the captured, fallen angels in the "Pit."

## **BATTLE OVER RULERSHIP**

God knew Satan's secret plan. "'You said in your heart, 'I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost

heights of the sacred mountain. I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.' But you are brought down to the grave to the depths of the pit" (Isaiah 14:13-15).

On the land, creation grows to great heights. God placed on earth a forest of great cedars in an area named Lebanon. By God's purpose and design, locations on earth are named accordingly. In heaven, God's heavenly court is located in Lebanon in heaven. Unfortunately, the highly respected and valued members of God's heavenly courts in Lebanon rebelled against Him and they taught the nations of the world to worship *them* instead of the Great Creator God.

"Then all the trees [leaders] of Eden [God's family name], the choicest and best of Lebanon [God's heavenly court], all the trees [leaders] that were well-watered [filled with God's Holy Spirit], were consoled in the earth below [imprisoned in the pit] (Ezekiel 31:16b).

Lebanon isn't the only location named specifically to mirror a location in heaven. Tyre is a city on earth with a mirrored location in heaven. It is located on the edge of land—on the edge of the spiritual living, a seacoast city. Ezekiel recorded God's words about the fall of Tyre, speaking to the king of Tyre, He prophesied the fall and destruction of this wicked king.

"When I make you a desolate city like other deserted cities, and when I raise up the deep against you so that the mighty waters cover you, then I will bring you down with those who descend to the Pit, to the people of antiquity. I will make you dwell in the earth below like the ancient ruins, with those who descend to the Pit, so that you will no longer be inhabited or set in splendor in the land of the living" (Ezekiel 26:19-20).

The book of Ezekiel records the destruction of all of the heavenly rulers given kingship over the nations on earth. The earthly names identify these rulers. Mankind's only enemies are these fallen heavenly rulers, powers and principalities (Ephesians 6:12) who have led mankind astray and hidden truths essential to their salvation.

## THE LAND, HOLY GROUND

The land is also the place of God's holy presence. It is often personified, alive with emotion.

"Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is *holy ground*" (Exodus 3:5).

God Almighty's presence made the ground holy—a place separated from other places—a place pure and perfect.

"The Commander of the LORD's army replied, 'Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy.' And Joshua did so" (Joshua 5:15).

Jesus Christ's presence, the Commander of God's army, made the ground holy—a place separated from other places—a place pure and perfect.

God expects His people to follow His directions and rest the land every seven years imaging God's seventh day rest. By not resting, the land does not rejuvenate. By not resting on God's Sabbath, mankind does not rejuvenate spiritually. Job declared his careful obedience to God's commands and vowed that if he was guilty, then the land of the living—the land of the righteous would produce only briers and stinkweed—wicked people.

Job understood the correlation of obedience to God with blessings opposed to curses when disobedient. "I would give account of all my steps; I would approach Him like a prince. If my land cries out against me and its furrows weep together, if I have devoured its produce without payment or broken the spirit of its tenants, then let briers grow instead of wheat and stinkweed instead of barley" (Job 31:37-40).

Jeremiah asked, "How long must the land cry out in mourning, the grasses of the field wither and bake in the sun? The birds and wild animals have simply vanished, all because of the wicked living here — Because they say, 'God does not see what will become of us'" (Jeremiah 12:4).

The land mourns when the righteous are not present. A desert forms resulting in the destructive practices of the wicked.

God warned ancient Israel, "And if you defile the land, it will vomit you out as it vomited out the nations that were before you" (Leviticus 18:28).

The land is intimately bound with the actions and lifestyle of people. During the millennium, the righteous people will reap great blessings. Obeying God will bring blessings beyond the capacity of the storehouses. When God's people return to their homeland, they will be cared for and the two: the people and the land, will be bound together as one.

"You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate, but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the LORD delights in you, and your land shall be married" (Isaiah 62:4).

People married to the land will care for each other. The desert is the image of land on earth that is spiritually dead.

Abraham was born 200 years after God gave the nations on earth heavenly rulers. "But the LORD's portion is His people, Jacob His allotted inheritance. He found him in a desert land, in a barren, howling wilderness; He surrounded him, He instructed him, He guarded him as the apple of His eye" (Deuteronomy 32:9-10).

It didn't take long for these heavenly rulers to rebel against God, creating deadly sandstorms starving plant life and forcing birds and animals to flee. Their land became a desert—a barren, howling wilderness. Rebel, fallen angels were raging against God and among each other. As it was before the flood, so it happened again. God guarded Abraham from all the wickedness

surrounding him. Abraham obeyed God, trusting in Him completely. He became the father of mankind's Saviour and a people destined to become a holy kingdom of royal priests.

The story of God's people is a struggle of good against evil, passion for power over humble priesthood, childlike ignorance chosen over becoming highly-discipled experts of righteousness, and living in the moment instead of waiting on the LORD for His kingdom and Christ's reign.

Hosea recorded God's lament of His back-sliding people, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I will also reject you as My priests. Since you have forgotten the law of your God, I will also forget your children. The more they multiplied, the more they sinned against Me; they exchanged their Glory for a thing of disgrace" (Hosea 4:6-7).

The journey of God's rebellious people across the land has been one of flight from the east wind. Israel was pushed by the east wind to move westward all the way to its borders. "Has the LORD struck Israel as He struck her oppressors? Was she killed like those who slayed her? By warfare and exile You contended with her and removed her with a fierce wind, as on the day the *east wind* blows" (Isaiah 27:8).

When they repent and turn to Him, God has promised, "I will restore from captivity *My people Israel and Judah*. I will restore them to *the land* that I gave to their fathers, and they will possess it" (Jeremiah 30:3).

God's people will go home to their land—the Holy Land. Finally, thousands of years later the descendants of Jacob will awaken, turn to their God and grow spiritually.

There is a land mass on earth that stands like an elephant in a small room that most people ignore as if it is inconsequential. It is Antarctica. Attention was drawn to it at the end of World War II because Nazi submarines were going there. The Americans were chasing the last of the Nazi escapees. Their pursuit ended quickly after a fateful battle with unidentifiable crafts. All attention now is quietly redirected, except for selected governments. The Antarctic treaty was formulated and later signed on December 1, 1954 by twelve nations to remain a demilitarized zone. The treaty now has 54 signatory nations. It has been declared a site for research and study. This land mass holds mysteries that leaders of 54 nations are interested in, which are rarely shared with the public. If an entrance was found, the discoveries with it remain classified to the ordinary people.

## **THE SEA**

When Christ has restored all things, the last enemy to be overthrown will be death (I Corinthians 15:26–28) for then, there will be no sin—no wickedness. At that time, God will create a new heaven and a new earth and there will be *no sea*—no haven for Wickedness.

God likens wicked entities and wicked people to the waves of the sea that push and pull people away from truth kicking up falsehood and deceit—hidden reefs that cause trouble:

impersonators of righteousness for their own evil goals, evil practitioners that froth up in shame, undisciplined emotions that rage in anger, shouting voices with an intimating presence, and unethical users of fearful, bullying tactics.

"The wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt" (Isaiah 57:20).

"These men are the hidden reefs in your love feasts, shamelessly feasting with you but shepherding only themselves" (Jude 1:12).

Scriptures identify both mortals and spiritual beings guilty of wickedness. Evil heavenly entities are like rough and turbulent waters. "They are wild waves of the sea, foaming up their own shame; wandering stars, for whom blackest darkness has been reserved forever" (Jude 1:13).

The Psalmist described them using God's imagery. "The seas have lifted up, LORD, the seas have lifted up their voice; the seas have lifted up their pounding waves. Above the roar of many waters—the mighty breakers of the sea—the LORD on high is majestic" (Psalm 93:3-4).

## THE DEEP WATERS, THE HEART OF THE SEA IMAGES THE HEADQUARTERS OF WICKEDNESS

King David praised God and thanked Him for rescuing him from wicked, powerful enemies. "I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised; so shall I be saved from my enemies. For the waves of death engulfed me; the torrents of chaos overwhelmed me... He reached down from on high and took hold of me; he drew me out of deep waters. He rescued me from my powerful enemy, from my foes, who were too strong for me. They confronted me in the day of my disaster, but the LORD was my support" (II Samuel 22:4-5, 17-19).

King David prayed many times for saving. "Rescue me from the mire and do not let me sink; deliver me from my foes *and out of the deep waters*. Do not let the floods engulf me or the depths swallow me up; let not *the Pit* close its mouth over me" (Psalm 69:14-15).

"Reach down from heaven and rescue me; rescue me from deep waters, from the power of my enemies, whose mouths speak falsehood, whose right hands are deceitful" (Psalm 144:7-8).

Jonah prayed, when he found himself in the very headquarters of Wickedness. He experienced the hellish realm of the wicked in the belly of the great fish; it terrified him.

"In my distress I called to the LORD and He answered me. From the belly of Sheol, I called for help, and You heard my voice. You hurled me into the depths, into the very heart of the seas, and the currents swirled about me; all your waves and breakers swept over me. I said, 'I have been banished from your sight; yet I will look again toward your holy temple. The engulfing waters threatened me, the deep surrounded me; seaweed was wrapped around my head... but you brought my life up from the pit, O Lord my God'" (Jonah 2:2-6).

# GOD HAS SUPREME AUTHORITY AND HE MAINTAINS CONTROL OVER THE WICKED: ON EARTH AND IN HEAVEN

God's plan cannot be thwarted, every move of the wicked is known; He is all powerful.

"But mightier than the violent raging of the seas, mightier than the breakers on the shore—the LORD above is mightier than these! Your testimonies are fully confirmed; holiness adorns Your house, O LORD, for all the days to come" (Psalm 93:4-5).

"You rule over the surging sea; when its waves mount up, You still them" (Psalm 89:9).

"You quieted the raging oceans with their pounding waves and silenced the shouting of the nations" (Psalm 65:7).

## JESUS CHRIST, TOO, HAS AUTHORITY OVER THE WICKED

Mankind does not have power or authority to quiet spiritual wickedness on earth without praying in the name of Jesus. Jesus has authority over these raging entities. "Then Jesus got up and rebuked *the wind and the sea*. 'Silence!' He commanded. 'Be still!' And the wind died down, and it was perfectly calm" (Mark 4:39).

Jesus was not talking to the weather, but the wicked entities raging against him.

# TWO SIGNIFICANT CENTERS OF WICKEDNESS: TYRE AND BABYLON TYRE: The king of Tyre.

The wicked centers of Wickedness are described by God to be on the high seas. God said, "You were once the model of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. You were in Eden, the garden of God... you were blameless in your ways from the day you were created till wickedness was found in you" (Ezekiel 27:12b, 15). His "domain was on the high seas" (Ezekiel 12:4).

The sea referenced here is likely the waters in heaven separated from the waters of earth recorded in Genesis. "His builders brought his beauty to perfection" (Ezekiel 27:3-4). They built a maritime city. "All the ships of the sea and their sailors came alongside to trade for your wares" (Ezekiel 27:9).

This maritime city also established and maintained an army of mercenary troops. "Men of Persia, Lydia and Put served as soldiers in your army. They hung their shields and helmets on your walls, bringing you splendor. Men of Arvad and Helech manned your walls on every side, men of Gammad were in your towers. They hung their shields around your walls; they brought your beauty to perfection" (Ezekiel 27:10-11).

It was a well-fortified, world trading center—a complete package: self-defending, self-reliant, self-determined coalition.

However, in God's grand plan, this maritime city is doomed.

"The east wind [God Almighty] will break you to pieces in the heart of the sea. Your wealth, merchandise and wares, your mariners, seamen and shipwrights, your merchants and all your soldiers, and everyone else on board will sink into the heart of the sea on the day of your shipwreck" (Ezekiel 27:26b-27).

#### THE SEA BEAST AND THE EARTH BEAST

When the great dragon is thrown down to earth, standing on the seashore, Satan will summon up the beast from out of the sea (Revelation 13:1).

He will stand on the seashore and orchestrate the meeting of the beast from the sea with the beast from out of the earth. A union of the high seas—the heavenly domain of Wickedness with their earthly domain from out of the earth will form a powerful body comprised of the spiritual and physical: a rebel government and a false church serving dark heavenly forces will fight this one last time—together. Like iron and clay, this mix will not endure.

The beast from out the sea [wickedness] is an ancient enemy that it will rise again in the latter days and appear on the international scene in its true form—a grotesque and malformed body beyond any natural recognition. Seven heads [seven governments] one of which, suffered a fatal wound but healed, with a blasphemous name on each of its ten horns [ten rulers], moving like raging, wild animals; it is desperate to devour the living.

"The beast, which you saw, once was, now is not, and will come up out of the Abyss and go to his destruction" (Revelation 17:8).

The nations of the world will be taken captive and they will say, "Who can make war against him?" (Revelation 13:4) The combined weaponry of the nations on earth will not be able to overpower the sophisticated, superior, and spiritual weaponry controlled by the heavenly forces, so, they will submit and worship Satan. "Men worshiped the dragon because he had given authority to the beast, and they also worshiped the beast" (Revelation 13:4).

The prostitute dressed in purple will ride this beast. She will hold the golden cup filled with the blood of the saints. She is the teacher of her church called: the Great Mystery Babylon. This church will be the centre of mankind's theology, producing a congregation who thrive on physical knowledge and human achievements, while discrediting God's word—His spiritual knowledge and His commandments.

"And the angel said to me, 'The waters that you saw, where the prostitute is seated, are peoples and multitudes and nations and languages'" (Revelation 17:15). These people are not righteous God-fearing, God-serving people; they are sold into the theology of Satan. They are masters at engineering and building vessels that travel into the sea is a mirror of their mastery to travel into living in darkness filled with cargoes of lies, deception, corruption, and infiltration to grab power, wealth, and prestige.

**SHE SENDS HER MERCHANTS OUT TO SEA**—that place where wickedness resides to bring back ideas and knowledge in every area of new science, revolutionary medicine, devious business dealings, alluring arts and tantalizing mysteries.

God will bring this city down. "Every sea captain, and all who travel by ship, the sailors, and all who earn their living from the sea, will stand far off. When they see the smoke of her burning, they will exclaim. 'Was there ever a city like this great city?' They will throw dust on their heads, and with weeping and mourning cry out: 'Woe, Woe, O great city, where all who had ships on the sea became rich through her wealth! In one hour, she has been brought to ruin!'" (Revelation 18:17-18)

They are powerless against Almighty God.

"In that day the LORD will punish the powers in the heavens above and the kings on the earth below. They will be gathered together like prisoners in a pit. They will be confined to a dungeon and punished after many days" (Isaiah 24:21-22).

The victims of the Great Harlot are the saints who oppose her merchandise and wares. "I saw that the woman was drunk with the blood of the saints, the blood of those who bore testimony of Jesus" (Revelation 17:6).

Wicked mankind loves self-reliance, self-determination, and self-glory. Relying on and trusting in Almighty God has never been their first choice since day one. It is a difficult lesson to learn for the created to rely on their Creator. What seems so right and good in the eyes of the created can be so wrong and destructive. Solomon wrote, "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight" (Proverbs 3:5-6).

## THE MOUNTAINS, THE HILLS AND VALLEYS

God images his highest level of government as a mountain. "This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I myself will take a shoot from the very top of a cedar and plant it; I will break off a tender sprig from its topmost shoots and plant it on a high and lofty mountain. On the mountain heights of Israel, I will plant it" (Ezekiel 17:22-23a).

God's great in heaven were all falling into rebellion. The power given to them seeded pride, which grew into arrogance. It was time to end any further challengers. Enough was enough. The verses in Ezekiel 17, share the moment when God officially announces that His Son will rule at the highest level of government over His people, Israel.

The image of a mountain top is a clear picture of the height only a rare few can climb and the only formation on earth that reaches into the heavens. God's coded language is not difficult. The images of hills, valleys and mountains are clear choices for all levels of government.

Mountains will be taken down by God as Wickedness on earth is destroyed. Their lofty federal governments will be demolished. Amazing battles are yet to take place. Not through the use of superpower military might but through God's Holy Spirit, rebellious forces on earth will be flattened. God will use resurrected Zerubbabel to obliterate rebel forces in the way of building God's new temple on earth.

Zechariah recorded God's words, "What are you, O mighty mountain? Before Zerubbabel you will become level ground. Then he will bring out the capstone to shouts of 'God bless it! God bless it!' then the word of the LORD came to me: 'The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this temple; his hands will also complete it.' Then you will know that the LORD Almighty has sent me to you" (Zechariah 4:7-9). All unfinished tasks given to the people in ancient times will be completed by them, after they are resurrected.

## **HILLS**

When Jesus taught the five thousand Jews and four thousand people of the ten tribes, he sat on a hill. He knows God's use of language. A hill is an elevated position, in this case, indicating his authority to teach them.

Ancient Israel has a long history of rebellion against the God of Israel. They craved to be like the nations who were the superpowers on earth with grand temples, massive armies, wealth, and riches. Ancient Israel thought that serving the gods ruling over these nations would give them the self-glory and power they craved.

The nations understood where their heavenly rulers resided and they built altars on the highest locations on earth and under evergreen trees. The symbolism acknowledged the heavenly authority of the gods and the evergreen trees acknowledged them as eternal leaders. These rebel heavenly rulers taught the people of the nations to worship them, instead of the Almighty God. The power that the heavenly rulers wielded made it difficult for all people on earth to distinguish between the Almighty God and lessor gods—sons of God. These once, highly honoured heavenly rulers turned away from God and entered into a war that remains to this day. God taught ancient Israel against serving these rebels.

"You shall utterly destroy all the places where the nations whom you shall dispossess serve their gods, on the high mountains and on the hills and under every green tree" (Deuteronomy 12:2).

When God's people in the latter days are oppressed by the enemy and God's punishment against them ends, He will direct His wrath to the destruction of their oppressors. "The LORD Almighty will lash them with a whip" (Isaiah 10:26).

In response, the oppressor will rage against the "mountain of the daughter of Zion" and "the hill" in Jerusalem on earth. God's great theological leaders in heaven and on earth will be the target of their rage as these rebels fall from power.

"Yet today he will halt at Nob; He shakes his fist at the mountain of the daughter of Zion, the hill of Jerusalem. Behold, the Lord GOD of Hosts will lop off the branches with terrifying power. The tall trees will be cut down, the lofty ones will be felled" (Isaiah 10:32-33).

This language of "mountains" and "tall trees" is all about God destroying the powerful, rebel heavenly rulers battling on earth raging against Zion in heaven and His centre, Jerusalem on earth.

God settled the leading tribes on hills as a visual of their authority. It is to no surprise that the tribe of Ephraim was given land in the hill country. This signified their authority as leader among the ten tribes of Israel. Joseph, the father of Ephraim received the firstborn blessing by his father, Jacob. Ephraim was Joseph's youngest son. Both sons were blessed by Jacob when he adopted them into his family as equal members. They received Joseph's firstborn double blessing.

One of many stories of the ancient Israelites oppression by their enemies is preserved when God sent Ehud, a left-handed Benjaminite to lead them into freedom. He goes to the hill country of Ephraim to blow the battle trumpet. It was symbolic of his authority in the place of authority. "It came about when he had arrived, that he blew the trumpet in the hill country of Ephraim; and the sons of Israel went down with him from the hill country, and he was in front of them" (Judges 3:27).

## THE VALLEYS

In the low places, life thrives. God promises to remove the hinderances that cause people to stumble and fail to move forward towards God. A time is coming when God will level the way to Him.

"A voice of one calling: 'In the desert prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God. Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all mankind together will see it.' For the mouth of the LORD has spoken" (Isaiah 40:3-5).

Before truth breaks out to cover planet Earth, mankind will experience a dreadful and terrible time at the end of this evil age. Places will have become totally controlled by Wickedness; God's word will be buried. God Almighty will heal those places with the outpouring of His Holy Spirit. People will witness God's truth and recognize the God of Israel as the Supreme God. The valleys will be raised up. Church leadership will not be considered secondary to national leadership. Federal and state/provincial leaders will be made lowered; their authority will be reduced. All of the local authorities imaged as "rough ground" and "rugged places" that have worked to spread disinformation and lies, such as mainstream media, will be flattened—silenced. Their power will be gone. People will finally hear the truth; people will hear and believe.

God will accomplish all that He desires. "So is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it" (Isaiah 55:11).

There is a time after the Great Tribulation when joy will fill the hearts and souls of the righteous. The governments at the highest level will recognize and admire the faithful saints who endured patiently. All levels, within the states/provinces, will celebrate in joy the righteous among them and all leaders who hold any position at any level, civically and locally, will clap their hands honouring the righteous people serving Almighty God.

"For you will go out with joy and be led forth with peace; the mountains and the hills will break forth into shouts of joy before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands" (Isaiah 55:12).

The world will change because God's covenant people will finally and sincerely return to their loving Father in heaven, the God and only God who mankind owes worship.

He created their home, called Earth with a canopy filled with stars and planets that appear in their vast universe. Pillars support the tented-sky and a foundation keeps all planets stable.

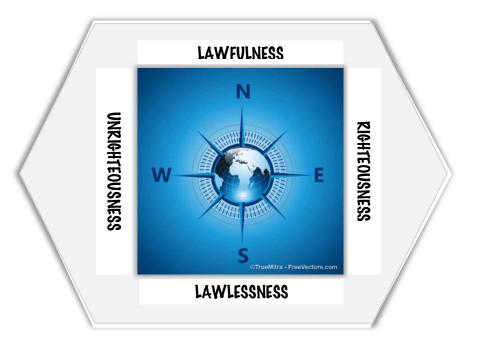
Today, we see through a glass darkly often because godless scientists, researchers, puppeted leaders and puppeteers want it that way. This evil age will end. Truth will be untethered and mankind's Great Creator and their Saviour will come into perfect view. All directions will light up and God's way will be clear and trouble free.

## **DIRECTIONS**

"And they will come from east and west and from north and south, and will recline at the table in the kingdom of God"

(Luke 13:29).

The *big* picture of God's story comes to life as God reveals His deeper things. He will take His scholars in all directions making clear why He pushed His unrighteous people westward all the way to the borders and why the lawless are gathered to the south. He will remind His people that His temple is located in the east far from the unrighteous, and His throne and centre of law and justice are located in the north.



From the beginning, two realms were planned, one in heaven and one on earth. The directions: north, south, east, and west exist in both realms. By no coincidence, heaven is north and earth is south. From out of infinite space and time, God gave His creation in heaven and on earth multiple ways to recognize their path and the direction to where they are moving. God, Himself uses these mechanisms to fulfill His work.

Events initiate time and boundaries define space. When God created, time came into existence and space was allotted. When God first deemed Lucifer His enemy, it became a marker along a timeline and his dominion became dark and chaotic.

#### THE NORTH

"I looked, and I saw a windstorm *coming out of the north* – an immense cloud with flashing lightning and surrounded by brilliant light" (Ezekiel 1:4).

God's throne appears to Ezekiel from out of the north. "Above the expanse over their heads was the likeness of a throne with the appearance of sapphire, and on the throne high above was a figure like that of a man. From what seemed to be His waist up, I saw a gleam like amber, with what looked like fire within it all around. And from what seemed to be His waist down, I saw what looked like fire; and brilliant light surrounded Him. The appearance of the brilliant light all around Him was like that of a rainbow in a cloud on a rainy day. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD" (Ezekiel 1:26-28).

The power of Almighty God presents itself like a windstorm, a massive, thunderous force that comes from the north. God's throne is north of earth beyond earth's skies. He has an army that is located in the same direction. From there, His throne radiates as His centre of His law where judgement and sentencing proceeds.

Mankind will one day see God's great army. "Listen, a tumult on the mountains, like that of a great multitude! Listen, an uproar among the kingdoms, like nations gathered together! The LORD of Hosts is mobilizing an army for war" (Isaiah 13:4).

"The Lord utters His voice before His army; surely His camp is very great, for strong is he who carries out His word. The day of the Lord is indeed great and very awesome, and who can endure it?" (Joel 2:11)

North is the location of God's throne where His law is centred and His heavenly courts are work to judge and sentence. Before God's people return to the land promised to their ancient fathers, God will gather them from the places all around the world where they were taken as slaves, during the Great Tribulation, and He will bring them to an area in the north.

"In those days the house of Judah will walk with the house of Israel, and they will come together *from the land of the north* to the land that I gave to your fathers as an inheritance" (Jeremiah 3:18).

God is not allowing any rebellious people back into His Holy Land. In the north, He will bring them from all directions before His throne, reminding them of His law. They will see God's heavenly courts in operation and as they walk east towards the Holy Land, they will walk under His staff and He will take note of them. From the north, judgement takes places. "I will purge you of those who revolt and rebel against me. I will take note of you as you pass under my staff, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant" (Ezekiel 20:38, 37).

This northward location goes beyond the location of the angels. It goes far north into the highest of heavens.

#### THE FAR NORTH

Heaven, from the view of mankind on earth, is not simply the sky covering earth. It extends high above the physical universe into the location of the first creation—the habitat of spiritual beings—the angels, living creatures, the elders and much more. The skies covering earth and filling space in our vast universe is the first heaven. The habitat of angels extends into their vast heavens. God's throne is located in the highest heaven. From earth, it directs the human eye northward, way into the far north.

The Apostle Paul visited this far north location in some way. "I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to *the third heaven*—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. And I know that this man was caught up into paradise—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows— and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter" (II Corinthians 12:2-4).

God's throne is in the far north. "A Song; a Psalm of the sons of Korah. Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, in the city of our God, His holy mountain. Beautiful in elevation, the joy of the whole earth, is Mount Zion in the *far north*, the city of the great King. God, in her palaces, has made Himself known as a stronghold" (Psalm 48:1-4).

God's throne is the centre of His law and order. It is fortified in the north and there it will remain forever.

## THE ROGUE KINGDOM IN THE FAR NORTH

There exists a dominion in the far north. God is aware. It is a rebel kingdom untouched by God's hand, saved for the final testing of mankind at the end of Christ's millennial reign on earth. The leader of this rogue kingdom is Gog, king of Magog. He and his hordes in Magog will be called into judgement by Almighty God at the very end of Christ's millennial reign. This leader was likely given rulership, at the time of Babel, over the territory of Russia today. The ancient cities of Meshech and Tubal point to that assumption. To God's great disappointment, all of the highly honoured members of His heavenly court, after given rulership over the nations on earth, turned against Him and allied with Satan.

"O Gog," God said, "I will turn you around and drag you along. I will bring you from the far north and send you against the mountains [government] of Israel" (Ezekiel 39:20).

This king is doomed along with the hordes within his dominion. These hordes are not the Russian people, but a spiritual army of beings existing in the far north of heaven serving in the dominion of Magog.

Christ won the battle and gained kingship over all the nations on earth upon his perfect sacrifice, which paid for the penalty of the sins of mankind. After his resurrection, he gathered these rebel rulers and imprisoned them in inner earth. However, prior to the end of this evil age, one dark kingdom will remain untouched, until Almighty God calls him to war.

God is not finished. He will use King Gog of Magog to test mankind at the end of the Millennium. King Gog, a chief prince, has the same power and authority as Michael, the archangel, also a chief prince.

Ezekiel heard God's condemnation and recorded, "The LORD came to me, saying, 'Son of man, set your face against Gog of the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal. Prophesy against him and declare that this is what the Lord GOD says: Behold, I am against you, O Gog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal... After a long time, you [Gog] will be summoned. In the latter years you will enter a land that has recovered from war, whose people were gathered from many nations to the mountains of Israel, which had long been desolate. They had been brought out from the nations, and all now dwell securely. You and all your troops, and many peoples with you will go up, advancing like a thunderstorm; you will be like a cloud covering the land...Gomer and all its troops; the house of Togarmah from the *far north* and all its troops—many people are with you'" (Ezekiel 38:2-3, 6, 8).

The Apostle Paul made it clear that mankind's only enemy then and today are the rebel, powerful fallen rulers, powers and principalities in heaven who rule over vast dominions and rebel heavenly rulers on earth. Gog ruling over the territory of Magog in heaven, in the far north, has a vast army. He sits quietly until the end of Christ's millennial rule as his last chance to destroy God's righteous people on earth and steal salvation from the nations. Satan is released and joins with this rebel force. They go out and deceive people in the nations on earth, again.

A second time, raging nations will gather led by desperate, wicked, heavenly rulers to war against God's peaceful people. There will be no need for God's people to fight; Almighty God will end the attack in a single moment. Three separate groups will receive judgement: Satan and Gog, the hordes with Gog, and the people within the nations on earth who join with them.

"I will execute judgement upon him with plague and bloodshed. I will pour out torrents of rain, hailstones, fire, and sulfur on him and on his troops and on the many nations with him. I will magnify and sanctify Myself, and will reveal Myself in the sight of many nations. Then they will know that I am the LORD" (Ezekiel 38:22-23).

Note: God will execute judgement on:

- Him [Gog]
- his troops
- the many nations with him.

Many scholars identify Gog of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, to be the ruler over Russia because in ancient times, Meshech and Tubal were cities located in old Russia. However, they have not understood God's language. His heavenly court is location in Lebanon in heaven. The king over Tyre has his domain on the high seas [in heaven]. The city of Tyre on earth is not located on the high seas.

Gog of Magog is a chief prince like Michael, the archangel. The war that Gog will initiate against God's people, living in safety, will draw in people from the nations on earth, as well as, all of the remaining rebel domains in heaven. The rebel domains include: "Persia, Cush, and Put will accompany them, all with shields and helmets, as well as Gomer with all its troops, and Bethtogarmah from the *far north* with all its troops and the many nations with you" (Ezekiel 38:5-6).

God is not singling out any one nation from the nations on earth when He references Gog of Magog. He is identifying the final great rebel in heaven who will lead and gather all of the other rebel rulers with their hordes to attack God's people on earth. He will incite the nations on earth to join them. At that time, the existence of heavenly rulers and their domains will be common knowledge. The sky will be rolled back. All the people in the nations on earth will see and engage with them. Gog of Magog will incite the people in the nations to become jealous of the riches God's people will enjoy. They will be receiving the blessings promised long ago for keeping God's laws of love and living in peace.

The people in the nations on earth will question Almighty God as their Supreme King and some will favour Gog and his allies, believing these heavenly rulers have greater power than the God of Israel. The final battle is a decisive blow to Gog and all of his allies. Almighty God, in a single moment, will disarm Gog and is allies and destroy them all with torrents of rain, hailstones and burning sulfur. God Almighty will then declare His greatness over all heavenly rulers and people on earth who put their trust in these lesser sons of God.

"I will show my greatness and my holiness, and I will make myself known in the sight of many nations. Then they will know that I am the LORD" (Ezekiel 38:23).

All creation will know that YHWH [YHUH] is LORD. God's reference to His title, LORD, is Him taking on His role of High Priest and passing judgement and destruction in righteousness on Gog and all who follow him.

Of the four directions engineered by God, north is the centre of God's throne and His law. Only one direction is the centre of God's holy temple.

## THE EAST

From the east, wise men came bringing three precious gifts to the new born King. A lot can be learned from little. Applying God's coded language, the number three is the seal of God—His official stamp indicating His divine approval. The three gifts: Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh are a picture of the Messiah. He is rare and extremely valuable like gold; he symbolizes kingship and divinity. Gold was used extensively inside the tabernacle in the wilderness, Solomon's temple and Herod's temple. It symbolizes precious purity and, in this case, the pure sacrifice of Christ.

Frankincense and Myrrh come from two different trees. To obtain the resin used in healing balms, the bark of these trees is wounded, scraped and gouged. The tree resin bleeds out, when hardened, it is harvested and like Myrrh used in healing balms, burned as incense and

added to oil to be used in anointings. These three precious gifts image: The royal Messiah's pure sacrifice, his ability to heal mankind, and his role as mediator between Almighty God and mankind. The men from the east point to righteous, religious men. If they came from the north, it would indicate that their focus is on the law of God, but from the east, the focus is on religious leadership: the application of the knowledge of living righteously and the application of understanding that embraces the works of wisdom.

Through God's use of direction, a clearer picture is visible. God is providing believers with the direction leading to His precious and pure religious centre. He is consistent in His language. His powerful and fearful force is described as the *east* wind. His garden [His family] is in the *east*, in *Eden*. The entrance of the tabernacle built in the wilderness faced east. The wise men came from the east.

When our Messiah was born, three wise men recognized the timing and were ready to bring him gifts.

"Now Jesus having been born in Bethlehem of Judea in *the* days of Herod the king, behold, Magi from *the east* arrived in Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the One who has been born King of the Jews? We saw *His star in the east* and have come to worship Him'... On coming to the house, they saw the Child with His mother Mary, and they fell down and worshiped Him. Then they opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh" (Matthew 2:1-2, 11).

## **GOD'S TEMPLE IN THE EAST**

The rebuilding of a physical temple will take place and stand in the east. It will be a glorious visual with water flowing from the south forming a river lined with lush, tall trees. The water cleanses every area it touches, reaching the sea and making it fresh.

"The man brought me back to the entrance to the temple, and I saw water coming out from under the threshold of the temple *toward the east...* The *water flows toward the eastern region* and goes down into the Arabah, where it enters the Sea. When it empties into the Sea, the water there becomes fresh. Swarms of living creatures will live wherever the river flows" (NIV Ezekiel 47:1, 8,9a).

## **CHRIST'S RETURN FROM THE EAST**

Our Messiah's return will come from the east. It is pointing to the location of God's temple and the seat of righteousness. "So, if they tell you, 'There He is in the wilderness,' do not go out; or, 'Here He is in the inner rooms,' do not believe it. For just as the lightning comes forth from the east and shines as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man" (Matthew 24:26-27).

#### CAIN PROTECTED IN THE EAST

Cain was cursed for killing Abel and sentenced to live outside of Eden, still on the eastern side as God promised to protect him. "Then Cain went away from the presence of the LORD and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden" (Genesis 4:16).

Eden is the home of God's family. Cain was cast out of God's immediate protection. Like his parents, Adam and Eve, he was sent away from God's presence. It is a mystery why Cain needed protection, but likely other strange activities were taking place by Satan and his rebel followers who could harm him. God kept him close, as He did with Adam and Eve, but not in His immediate holy place.

#### THE EAST WIND

The east wind brought the plague of grasshoppers to Egypt. The east wind burns and destroys. The east wind scatters God's people. Jeremiah recorded God's promise to turn away from His rebellious people on their day of distress. "Like an east wind I will scatter them before the enemy; I will show them My back and not My face in the day of their calamity" (Jeremiah 18:17).

The east wind is the power driving unrighteous people in the opposite direction of God's righteous abode. The fault of the ancient house of Israel was their godless, unrighteous behaviour when they were in rebellion against the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. The house of Israel is not the Jews of 21<sup>st</sup> century, but descendants of ten sons of Jacob, whose name was changed to Israel. These ten tribes separated from the kingdom of Israel around 900 B.C.E. keeping the name Israel, while the remaining two tribes took the name of Judah, the patriarch of the Jews.

The split was caused by the oppressive taxes on the people initially by Solomon. The ten tribes had had enough and pleaded for grace, relief from this heavy burden. The young king, son of Solomon, refused. War between the two houses was about to break out, but God intervened. God divided the kingdom forming two houses: Judah and Israel.

Jeroboam was anointed king over the house of Israel while Rehoboam remained king, but now over only his tribe, Judah and the tribe of Benjamin. These two houses became two kingdoms. Both kingdoms, in time, wandered away from God.

"Have you not noticed that these people are saying, 'The LORD has rejected the two kingdoms he chose'? So, they despise my people and no longer regard them as a nation" (Jeremiah 33:24).

King Jeroboam, ruling over the kingdom of Israel, was a great disservice to his people. He established two golden calves and led his people into rebellion against God. They were unrelenting so God caused them to be captured and sent them out of His Holy Land. The house of Israel went into captivity around 722 B.C.E. God punished them to live in exile for 360 years. After that time, they remained indignant and angry with God, so they were sentenced seven times their original sentence. They have never returned to the Holy Land as a kingdom

comprised of all ten tribes. Their story of repentance is mirrored in a story of Naaman, the general. These people were pushed by God's power of the east wind, westward into the far west to the very border. West is the direction of the unrighteous.

## **THE WEST**

Like the prodigal son, it took a long time and much hardship for this kingdom to repent and return to their heavenly Father. Upon their release from the kingdom of Assyria, they continued to move as the east wind directed them. They wandered among the heathen nations for a period seven times their original sentence. Despite their continued rebellious attitude, God never lost sight of them. He showed the nations watching how unholy they remained by pushing them out of His Holy Land in the opposite direction of His temple. These lost ten tribes were never lost; they live in the west all the way to the western border in the opposition direction of God's holy temple facing east.

Into the 21st century, these people are known as Westerners who live in Western Europe and the far West. While they have forgotten their roots, it is clear where they live. These once wayward Israelites, repented and became known as Christians. Still young in their relationship with their God, a time of great distress will awaken the wayward among them. They will sincerely seek with all their heart, mind, soul and strength their God and beg for redemption.

"They will walk after the LORD; He will roar like a lion. When He roars, His children will come trembling from the west" (Hosea 11:10).

Despite many generations of rebellion, these people will see the light and remember their heritage. They will acknowledge Jesus Christ as their Messiah and through him, they will build a deep and unbreakable relationship with their God. "Afterwards, the Israelites will return and seek the LORD their God and David their king. They will come trembling to the LORD and to his blessings in the last days" (Hosea 3:5).

This divided kingdom of Judah and Israel will at this time, be joined as one. They will serve one God, accept the sacrifice of one Saviour, and embrace one theology—the word of God. While still in the west, 21<sup>st</sup> century ten nations of Israel will repent. "Yet the number of the children of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured or numbered. And *in the place* [in the West] where it was said to them, "You are not my people," it shall be said to them, "Children of the living God" (Hosea 1:10). These outcasts living outside of the Holy Land will return home.

God's enduring compassion for them will bring comfort during a time of great distress.

"At that time, I will gather you; at that time, I will bring you home. I will give you honor and praise among all the peoples of the earth when I restore your fortunes before your very eyes" (Zephaniah 3:20).

"'For behold, days are coming,' declares the LORD, 'when I will restore the fortunes of my people, Israel and Judah and I will bring them back to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall take possession of it'" (Jeremiah 30:3).

Into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the people of Israel and Judah have grown into the millions. Twelve nations on earth are the descendants of ancient Israel. They are prophesied to enter into a time of great trouble, Jacob's trouble, but they will be saved out of it. This trouble will bring them a second time into slavery and scatter them to the north, south, east and west over the earth. In the homes of people in different countries, they will take the gospel to the whole world and complete the witness of the gospel. Then, they will be ready to return to the Holy Land.

#### THE SOUTH

From the view of Almighty God after creation, planet Earth is in the southernly direction. Mankind looks up to the heavens. The south implies imprisonment as all of mankind have sinned, hence, slaves to sin and doomed to die. The south is in the opposition direction of the north where God's law and His courts operate. All people on earth have broken God's law. Though a salvation plan is in place for the repentant, Earth today, is the decaying southerly home of the lawbreakers.

The rebel fallen rulers who have been captured and sentenced, are presently imprisoned in inner Earth, in the Abyss, the Pit. When the king of Babylon is overthrown, he will be imprisoned in the Pit awaiting judgement. Satan, too will be imprisoned in the same location during the millennial reign of Jesus Christ. His jail cell will be the darkest most southerly place in all creation.

Not seen to be a force in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the king of Babylon will rise up during the final years of this evil age. This heavenly ruler, when overthrown and imprisoned, will be taken into the Underground. "Sheol beneath is eager to meet you [Babylon] upon your arrival. It stirs the spirits of the dead to greet you—all the rulers over the earth. It makes all the kings over the nations rise from their thrones" (Isaiah 14:9).

The rulers over the earth and the kings over the nations are condemned to Sheol, awaiting their execution. These rulers and kings are the rebel rulers, powers and principalities in heaven and on earth identified by the Apostle Paul in Ephesians 6:12.

From earth, all battles in heaven are not visible. Through God's imagery, His prophecies can be anticipated and understood with reasonable accuracy. The heavenly ruler identified as the king of Babylon is known to be ruthless and unrelenting, targeting *both* the righteous in heaven and God's people on earth.

"On the day that the LORD gives you [God's people and those who live with them] rest from your pain and torment, and from the hard labor into which you were forced, you will sing this song of contempt against the king of Babylon: How the oppressor has ceased, and how his fury has ended! The LORD has broken the staff of the wicked, the scepter of the rulers. It struck the

peoples in anger with unceasing blows; it subdued the nations in rage with relentless persecution. All the earth is at peace and at rest; they break out in song. Even the cypresses and cedars of Lebanon [great heavenly leaders] exult over you: 'Since you [the heavenly ruler over Babylon] have been laid low [overthrown], no woodcutter [rogue heavenly ruler] comes against us'" (Isaiah 14:3-8).

Even the great leaders in heaven are fearful of this rebel and ruthless heavenly ruler. They rejoice with God's people over the fall of this unruly, cruel, wicked king.

This fallen king of Babylon is not the great harlot of Mystery Babylon. This king is the heavenly ruler over Babylon who in the future, is prophesied to fall. Mystery Babylon is a queen ruling with the beast. She will be selling her theology to the nations on earth.

Following the fall of Babylon, Satan will follow. "O morning star, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations! You said in your heart, 'I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God, I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of the sacred mountain, I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.' But you are brought down to the grave, to the depths of the pit" (Isaiah 14:12-15).

The prison for all of the fallen angels awaiting judgement lies inside the earth. The Apostle Paul explained it. "This is why it says: 'When He ascended on high, he led captives away, and gave gifts to men.' What does 'He ascended' mean, except that He also descended to the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the very one who ascended above all the heavens, in order to fill all things" (Ephesians 4:8-9).

When God prophesied against the house of Judah through Ezekiel, it was as if He was positioned in the land of Babylon. It was a time period prior to the fall of this heavenly ruler. His kingdom was used as God's sword against the house of Judah. Jerusalem was considered to be south—symbolic of living lawlessly (the opposite direction of north—symbolic of keeping the law of God).

Ezekiel recorded God's words to him, "Son of man, set your face toward the *south*; preach against the *south* and prophesy against the forest of the *southland*" (Ezekiel 20:46). In one verse, three times "the south" is mentioned adding the divine seal of God. The southern direction is the place where the rebellious are imprisoned. Jerusalem had become lawless and the "forest of the southland" images many lawless leaders covering the land in their jurisdiction of the south.

Still in the future, many from the 21<sup>st</sup> century ten tribes will again go into captivity along with their brothers, the Jews. The king of the south will again take captive the Jews, while the king of the north, as it was done in ancient times, will take captive the ten tribes. During their great distress, they will remember their God and cry out.

God will hear them because they will be sincere and He will rescue them. "Since you are precious and honored in my sight, and because I love you, I will give men in exchange for you, and people in exchange for your life... I will say to the north, 'Give them up!' and to the south, 'Do not hold them back'" (Isaiah 43:4-6).

"The people of Israel are oppressed, and the people of Judah as well. All their captors hold them fast, refusing to let them go. Yet the Redeemer is strong; YHWH Almighty is his name. He will vigorously defend their cause so that he may bring rest to their land, but unrest to those who live in Babylon" (Jeremiah 50:33-34).

This great Exodus is still in the future. It will surpass the first Exodus, which will become a faint memory. God Almighty will rescue His people and those with them. The rebel heavenly rulers, powers and principalities of Ephesians 6:12 will all soon be imprisoned in the most southernly pit. South is the furthermost point from north—the direction opposite to God's throne and His law; it is the place of lawlessness, those living in darkness and chaos.

## NORTH, SOUTH, EAST AND WEST

Suddenly, all directions will be pointing at one time to the Saviour of mankind. His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives and split the mountain to the east and west then move it, one part to the north and the other to the south. Upon his arrival, all compass arrows will point to the return of Jesus Christ simultaneously. From that location, everything on earth changes immediately.

The imagery God uses when applying all four directions at one time, implies a universal marker. When the 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel return and settle in the land promised to their ancient fathers, this universal marker appears. Three nations from the twelves will settle in the north, three in the south, three in the east and three in the west. The nations of the world will witness this incredible event and from any direction, God's people will be seen.

"And He will lift up a standard for the nations and assemble the banished ones of Israel, and will gather the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth" (Isaiah 11:12).

Christ's death on the cross paid the penalty of sin for all of mankind. While God chose the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob to be their King, His saving grace is not limited to only His covenant people. From all nations of the world, from every direction, people will come and serve Almighty God. "And they will come from east and west and from north and south, and will recline at the table in the kingdom of God" (Luke 13:29). This universal accomplishment is the work of Almighty God.

The four living creatures with four faces each placed at four corners move with the spirit speeding like flashes of lightning back and forth, yet moving in any direction without turning (Ezekiel 1:10, 12-13).

These multi-directional creatures guarding God's throne see in every direction at one time and they move in any direction instantly being controlled by all of the four living creatures as if they are of one mind. With eyes all over their bodies, they see everything; nothing is hidden.

"When they moved, they went in any of their four directions without turning as they went; but they followed in the direction which they faced, without turning as they went" (Ezekiel 10:11).

God implemented the sacrificial system for His people so that they could learn about the penalty of sin and the heavy costs living continually in sin. The altar at the front of the temple had four horns built-in to each of the four corners. These horns were symbolic of God's presence everywhere, in all directions at one time, where people could hold onto and receive God's protection by His authority. They were a means of refuge for fugitives. Ancient Israel understood the meaning and applied it.

We see this in the story of Adonijah seeking his life from the King of Solomon. "But Adonijah, in fear of Solomon, got up and went to take hold of the horns of the altar. It was reported to Solomon: 'Behold, Adonijah fears King Solomon, and he has taken hold of the horns of the altar, saying, 'Let King Solomon first swear to me not to put his servant to the sword.' So, King Solomon summoned Adonijah down from the altar, and he came and bowed down before King Solomon, who said to him, 'Go to your home'" (I Kings 1:50-53).

In ancient times, God's people struggled to keep from rebelling against God and worshipped the gods of the nations, building altars with horns that symbolized these strange gods. This apostacy and treason brought both houses into captivity in ancient times and will bring all rebels of the twelve nations of 21<sup>st</sup> century Israel into captivity, again in the future. On that day of God's wrath, His fury will reach all four corners of their land. Nobody will escape.

"And you, son of man, thus says the Lord God to the land of Israel, 'An end! The end is coming on the four corners of the land'" (Ezekiel 7:2).

God saw into the future, into the 21<sup>st</sup> century and said to Moses, "Behold, you will rest with your fathers; and this people will rise and play the harlot with the gods of the foreigners of the land, where they go to be among them, and they will forsake Me and break My covenant, which I have made with them. Then My anger shall be aroused against them in that day, and I will forsake them, and I will hide My face from them, and they shall be devoured. And many evils and troubles shall befall them, so that they will say in that day, 'Have not these evils come upon us because our God is not among us?' And I will surely hide My face in that day because of all the evil which they have done, in that they have turned to other gods" (Deuteronomy 31:16-18).

The twelve nations of 21<sup>st</sup> century Israel will return to apostacy and worship gods. This is a difficult truth for people today to understand because the ancient gods have been mythicized. And yet, this history will be repeated. An arrival, foreign to the average 21<sup>st</sup> century person, will

come and if they do not understand what is happening, they will worship these gods as commanded by them.

"O mountains [government] of Israel... I am about to bring the sword against you... Wherever you live, the towns will be laid waste and the high places demolished... your people will be slain among you... But I will spare some, for some of you will escape the sword when you are scattered among the lands and nations... those who escape will remember me—how I have been grieved by their adulterous hearts, which have turned away from me... They will loathe themselves for the evil they have done... And they will know that I am the Lord; I did not threaten in vain to bring this calamity on them" (Ezekiel 6:3-10).

They will awaken to the reality of their world—Satan's rule, and feel great shame. Then, upon their repentance, when they cry out to God, He will hear them and gather them from every place on earth.

It has taken hundreds of years for God's people to repent and grow into spiritual maturity. On that day, when evil has been conquered, Christ's bride will come down from heaven. She is described as a cube with layers upon layers of righteous men and women. They fortify a structure that gives every member equal value and importance, unlike the structure of a pyramid.

The New Jerusalem is this image with gates of pearl on the north, south, east and west, opening their doors in every direction will be a riveting sight (Revelation 21:12). God wants to save all of mankind; He will open the doors to everyone inviting them into His kingdom. The light of the New Jerusalem will draw their attention. Nobody will be left behind.

## **ENERGY** exploding into LIGHT

This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all"

(1 John 1:5).

Almighty God is pure energy, always existed, never tires, never sleeps. He is perfect in wisdom and understanding. He is rich in knowledge and His spirit is unique to all other spirits. Mortals cannot look at His face and live. His greatness cannot be contained. He is the one and only Almighty God.



## THE LIGHT

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. During timelessness, the earth became corrupted by spiritual beings in rebellion against Almighty God. Earth was covered in darkness and chaos when God recreated.

Moses recorded, "Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters." God said, "Let there be light and there was light... God called the light 'day'" (Genesis 1:3, 5).

Light was the first correction made to earth. Light restores order. God was recreating the home for the long planned second creation and making it suitable for them.

Objects in the physical world are seen when light reflects onto them. This property was specifically incorporated into God's design to teach mankind about spiritual matters. God is clear that light is the key component to sight.

The spiritual story is God's primary focus. The Son, given power by the Father to create, said, "While I am in the world, I am the light of the world" (John 9:5).

Jesus is fully qualified to show mortals the way to living righteously and peacefully. He existed from the beginning of creation.

The Supreme God has told us exactly what light images; it is an image of His word.

King David lived during those ancient days when the Supreme God of all creation spoke through the prophets and prophetesses. King David said, "Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path" (Psalm 119:105).

The word is God's knowledge, understanding, and wisdom of His laws and ways of rightness. The Supreme God is perfect. He is all-knowing, full of wisdom and complete in all understanding. King David knew the Supreme God and said, "As for God, His way is perfect: The Lord's word is flawless; he shields all who take refuge in him" (Psalm 18:30), and "For the word of the Lord is right and true; he is faithful in all he does" (Psalm 33:4).

The Son of God was with the Father before creation. He is an expert of God's law and His ways. He has become the personification of God's word because the Son lives and breathes God's ways perpetually and perfectly. "In the beginning was the Word [the Son of God], and the Word was with God, and the Word was God" (John 1:1).

The Father said that this Son is the "tested stone." The Almighty God will not award kingship to anyone who will fall and bring decay and chaos into His eternal, family kingdom. He will test everyone who will hold important positions. The Son, who created through the power of the Father, has been tested thoroughly. He is a proven righteous leader.

"So, this is what the Sovereign LORD says: 'See, I lay a stone in Zion, a *tested stone*, a *precious cornerstone for a sure foundation*; the one who relies on it will never be stricken with panic" (Isaiah 28:16).

This image illustrates God's concluding assessment of His tested Son who proved his strength, loyalty and love for God's ways resembling stones with crushing strength, durability and hardiness. The Son became the Word, the Light, the Way for all of mankind to follow.

The Father is the source to all knowledge, understanding and wisdom and the Son is the conduit for all creation both in heaven and on earth of access of God's knowledge, understanding and wisdom.

After God creates the new heaven and earth, He will live with mankind in the great city. "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" (Revelation 21:23).

God is very specific with His language. Recorded in Revelation 21:23 is the reference to the Son as the Lamb. God is intentionally reminding His creation on earth that Jesus Christ, His Son qualifies as the conduit for all creation because he died and his blood paid the penalty for all of mankind. The Son became King of all kings in heaven and on earth; the Son became Lord of all lords in heaven and on earth. He reigns supreme above all creation in heaven and on earth.

"And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, 'All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age'" (Matthew 28:18-20).

Above the Son, reigns the Father—the Almighty God of whom worship is entitled. "For he has put everything under his feet. Now when it says that "everything" has been put under him, it is clear that this does not include God himself, who put everything under Christ" (I Corinthians 15:27).

Almighty God, the Great Creator is a consuming fire, powerful with unsurpassable strength and force. In this God, King David sought refuge and enjoyed peace. He said, "The LORD is my light and my salvation— whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life— of whom shall I be afraid?" (Psalm 27:1)

The word of this Great God establishes a legal framework of love that cannot be broken and interactions among one another that fortifies peace, bringing eternal happiness. God's ways are bright and beautiful, radiant and rich, peace-loving and perfect.

Christ died and was resurrection back into his eternal body. He sits on the right hand of Almighty God. He has not left mankind alone. Through the acceptance of Christ's sacrifice, God's Holy Spirit is given and the word of God opened. It cannot be replaced or destroyed despite countless wars, invasions, captivities and many years of rebellion. Light cannot be darkened.

Light is the imagery God uses to illustrate, in earthly terms, the power of His knowledge, understanding, and wisdom. Objects, like the sun that release explosions of energy, overpowers darkness and, in many cases, eliminates it completely. Clarity is instantly visible.

God's word is the radiating light that unveils dark secret agendas and guides believers onto the righteous path towards their salvation. It takes Biblical explorers into the precious, deep things of God. Journeys for truth become lifelong adventures.

God's imagery is to provide transparency for mankind on earth of heavenly matters. So, precious is His word, His ways, His laws that God likens these to rare precious pearls, and the eternal value of gold and silver. Applying God's imagery is critical to understanding His language; it is coded to amplify clarification.

God uses imagery to illustrate the rebellion against Him, His laws and His ways. Rebellion is a fearful journey into darkness where shadows creep, secrets are kept, and dangerous creatures lurk.

## DARKNESS SEPARATED FROM LIGHT...LIES SEPARATED FROM TRUTH

Before the earth was recreated, it was formless and void spinning out of control and dying. It was in a state of chaos. When God returned light, He separated the light from the darkness. He called light "day" and darkness He called "night" (Genesis 1:5).

God separated His knowledge, understanding, and wisdom from the falsehood, twists of truth, misinformation and disinformation.

The creation of the sun and the moon was intentional and part of God's design to distinguish two different significant bodies of light where one is significantly greater than the other. The greater light is an actual light source, while the lesser light reflects its light from the greater light.

"God made the two great lights, the greater light to govern the day, and the lesser light to govern the night; He made the stars also" (Genesis 1:16).

God made two governing lights. The sun is the image of Almighty God as the source and governor of all truth, knowledge, understanding, and wisdom. The moon is the image of Jesus Christ, the unique and beloved Son of God who reflects God's word to the very letter.

Jesus didn't come to earth with his own words rather like the moon reflecting the light of the sun, he came to repeat the words of the Father. He said, "For I did not speak on my own, but the Father who sent me commanded me to say all that I have spoken" (John 12:49).

All religious leaders should be following Christ and avoid applying their own interpretations of scripture. Breaking away from following Christ leads to many different views on scripture, many different theologies, and many different practices.

The lesser lights visible to mankind on earth point to other bodies that reflect light. These image the righteous angels in heaven. God is teaching mankind that there exist other family members. There are countless, righteous spirit beings all living in God's truth and His righteous ways. Under the canopy of earth's firmament, these lights contribute to mankind's knowledge of seasons, landscape and direction. As the physical stars work to guide mankind, so do the righteous angels in heaven and they rejoice when one sinner repents. Through God's imagery, we can know they exist even from a great distance.

"In the same way, there is joy in the presence of God's angels when even one sinner repents" (Luke 15:10).

The birth of Jesus Christ was foreknown to ancient Israel. Through Balaam, ancient Israel's rebel prophet, God blessed His people and prophesied the birth of their Saviour. "I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near; a star shall come forth from Jacob, a scepter shall rise from Israel" (Numbers 24:17).

The ancient story of Joseph provides another spiritual image. He had a dream that offended his brothers and startled his father.

"Now he had still another dream, and related it to his brothers, and said, 'Lo, I have had still another dream; and behold, the sun and the moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me'" (Genesis 37:9).

"He told his father and brothers, but his father rebuked him and said, 'What is this dream that you have had? Will your mother and brothers and I actually come and bow down to the ground before you?" (Genesis 37:10)

When Joseph told his father his dream, immediately Jacob, understood the imagery of the sun, moon and the stars to reflect him, Joseph's mother, Benjamin and Joseph's half-brothers. He understood that he was head of the household, the source of knowledge, passing God's word onto his wife, who then, taught the children.

The depth of Jacob's understanding of Joseph's dream was likely not fully understood, but he kept the matter in mind. Joseph didn't understand either; he was a young boy sharing his dream. But many years later, events revealed a parallel between the life of Joseph and the life of Jesus. The story of Joseph's dream is a mirror of Jesus where he will rule over everyone in his family. It is a prophecy of the rise of Jesus Christ as King over all kings and Lord over all lords.

Before Jacob died, he understood more of the details of Joseph's dream when he came before Pharaoh and saw his son ruling, second in command, over Egypt.

The story of Israel as a light to the world has been an ebb and flow throughout time, but at the end, they will shine brightly, like dazzling stars in the night sky.

"Then the wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness will shine like the stars forever and ever" (Daniel 12:3).

God's use of objects seen on earth are intended to provide an understanding of spiritual matters, things that are not visible on earth.

Darkness is the absence of light. Rebels in heaven live in opposition to the ways of God and His law. They are deceitful and dangerous. The spiritual death of mankind is one of their main objectives, while trying to overthrow Almighty God and Jesus Christ.

God allows the rebel, fallen rulers to continue during the evil age of man. It is a legal matter. God's is using this time to show mankind sin and teach them the importance of leaning on and trusting in Almighty God for His wisdom, knowledge, and understanding. Jesus Christ is the tested Son, who proved consistently and without failure that he would remain totally loyal to God.

"So, He [Jesus Christ] became as far superior to the angels as the name He has inherited is excellent beyond theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say: 'You are My Son; today I have become Your Father?' Or again: 'I will be His Father, and He will be My Son?' And again, when God brings His firstborn into the world, He says: 'Let all God's angels worship Him" (Hebrews 1:5-6).

Almighty God is enamoured with His Son's devotion to Him, His law and the love His Son has for righteousness. In awe, God has awarded greatness to this unique, beloved Son. He was willing to lay down his life for mankind, in doing so, he jeopardized his resurrection back into his spiritual body because if he had failed, if he had sinned, eternal life could not be returned to him.

It was Jesus' physical death on the cross that brought so much delight to the fallen angels. They were not briefed on Almighty God's plan of salvation for mankind and the concept of the resurrection. If these evil entities had known, they would not have crucified the Saviour of mankind.

"We speak of the mysterious and hidden wisdom of God, which He destined for our glory before time began. None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. Rather, as it is written: 'No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no heart has imagined, what God has prepared for those who love Him.' But God has revealed it to us by the Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God" (I Corinthians 2:7-10).

"But about the Son He says: 'Your throne, O God, endures forever and ever, and justice is the scepter of Your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, Your God, has anointed You above Your companions with the oil of joy'" (Hebrews 1:8-9).

God Almighty's unique and beloved Son is King of kings and Lord of lords.

Whatever heavenly battles that have taken place unseen and unknown to mortals on earth, Jesus Christ stands tallest among every being in heaven. He has been anointed to the highest office, like that of Joseph to Pharaoh who ruled second in command, taking on all of the decision-making with complete authority over the kingdom. Jesus is the bright morning star.

"I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star" (Revelation 22:16).

When the sun rises in the morning, one morning star shines brighter than the rest.

When God began to recreate the earth and made it habitable for His second creation, He first commanded the existence of light to be separated from darkness. It mirrors the separation of God's word from falsehood and disinformation.

A mystery woman is described in Revelation 12:1 "clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head."

This imagery describes a religious body of devoted men and women living righteously, keeping God's commandments and dedicated to serving Him. Throughout time, this church existed. She is the mirror of the ancient judges, the prophets and prophetesses in ancient times. She birthed the Son of God, and into the 21<sup>st</sup> century she will stand against Mystery Babylon, Mother of Harlots.

The image of the woman clothed with the sun, is a religious body of men and women crowned with twelve stars imaging the righteous members of the twelve tribes of Israel—God's new governors, like the 144,000 faithful saints of Revelation 14. She is held up by the moon, Jesus Christ, showcasing his beloved bride clothed in radiance.

She is a wonder before God. She is the beloved church among God's covenant people. She is devoted and will put her life on the line to stand loyal to God and her Saviour. She embodies religious authority, which is one of the only two offices God has ordained. She is the mother of all righteous churches birthing congregations fit for the kingdom of God.

She unveils the mystery of the genders and why God created mankind male and female. Hated by rebel angels and loved by the righteous angels, she will be honoured with the highest office in God's kingdom under Jesus Christ. She is his body; together, they are one.

God's second creation is highly valued by God and He has announced the exciting news that He will live with them because they are no ordinary creation. They are His kingdom of holy, royal, ruling priests—an image of Him.

## THE GENDERS

"For this reason, a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh. This mystery is profound, but I am speaking about Christ and the church" (Ephesians 5:31-32).

The spiritual meaning behind the creation of gender is often a mystery, rarely understood. God is primarily concerned with spiritual teachings. He wants mankind to know His plan for them and yet, theologians often don't fully understand this teaching.



When God said to Adam and Eve, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it" (Genesis 1:28a), it is often interpreted to mean that God is promoting big families with lots of children. The surface interpretation is not all together wrong, but what is often missed is the deep, spiritual meaning.

God is birthing family members through mankind on earth. He wants children fit for his kingdom. The mystery that Apostle Paul understood was the spiritual story of the man becoming one flesh with the woman through marriage. This union is a mirror image of Jesus Christ marrying the church and through their combined leadership working as one, a righteous God-fearing and God-serving congregation is birthed fit for God's family kingdom.

God is not concerned with numbers; He is concerned with the quality of each individual. Gender made male and female was intricately planned in every detail to mirror the importance of righteous national and religious leadership working together as one to ensure the family is protected and nurtured. Each gender specializes in a unique role, seamlessly fitted and operating as one. The big picture of the creation of gender is the future relationship of the first creation in heaven with the second creation on earth.

Scriptures reveal parallels between the first and second creation.

Physical world	Spiritual world
The man was created first.	Spiritual beings in heaven were created before mortals on earth.
The man named the animals and has rulership over them.	Heavenly rulers, powers and principalities (Ephesians 6:12) rule in heaven over vast dominions, which they have named.
Mankind's history is primarily led by men holding leadership positions.	The spirit beings are all referred to by God using the male gender. They hold national leadership positions in heaven.
Religious leadership is identified in the Bible using the female gender.	Christ's wife is the church, religious leaders.  Mankind is destined to become a kingdom of holy, royal, ruling priests.
Eve was created second from the rib of Adam.	Mankind, like Eve, is the second creation. Spiritual life is possible for mankind through Christ. The church is made from Christ's "rib" revealing their vital role in God's kingdom. "So it is written: 'The first man Adam became a living being;' the last Adam a life-giving spirit" (I Corinthians 15:45).
Ribs protect the vital organs.	Eve images the church who was created to have a vital role of the structure that protects the organization as a whole.
The words "wisdom," "knowledge" and "understanding" in Hebrew are all referred to in the female gender.	God Almighty is LORD—high priest, the source of holy wisdom, knowledge and understanding. Christ is the Son, the Word, King of kings and Lord of lords. Mankind is destined to become a holy, royal, ruling kingdom of priests—lords.
Eve [female] images mankind.	Mankind is destined to be part of the God family with the role of priests—lords.
Adam [male] images the sons of God in heaven, with the same responsibility to enforce law and keep order, lead and protect.	The sons of God in heaven are powerful rulers, who understand God's law fully and incorporate it within the legal structure of their dominions.

Physical world	Spiritual world
Adam sinned knowingly buying into the wiles of Satan.	The fallen angels/sons of God knowingly sinned and allied with Satan "Nevertheless, death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come" (Romans 5:14).
Eve was deceived and sinned unknowingly.	Mankind sins unknowingly for the most part. They are deceived, which allows for God's salvation plan for them.
The marriage of a man and a woman is a mirror of the future bonding of two creations.	Christ is the man to marry the faithful and loved church, bringing two realms together under one rulership: Christ and his bride.
Mankind was created male and female. They are made in the image of God.	God is both King and Lord mirrored in gender: male and female, which image kingship and lordship. Christ is both King and Lord. He is King over all kings and Lord over all lords.

Gender was created to reveal the big spiritual picture of two different anointed, leadership positions. God is still birthing His family kingdom. Repentant mankind is being reborn—given a new life, one that can image God. Ultimately, when He is finished and a new heaven and earth are created, both realms will unite as one ruler—Jesus Christ, King of kings and Lord of lords. Ruling by his side will be his wife, his Queen.

God Almighty is the ultimate KING and LORD. Jesus Christ has been already anointed ruler over *all* creation. He is King over all coronated kings and Lord over all anointed lords. The kings and princes in heaven are subject to Jesus Christ for he is King of kings and when repentant and righteous mankind is transformed into their spiritual bodies, they will be subject to Jesus Christ as he is Lord of lords.

The bride of Christ will hold one of the top ruling three positions. This body of men and women are the saints from times past into the present and the future. Their crowns have been given to them and yet, the world cannot see them for who they are, nor do they hold positions in this world that would identify them.

"But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of angels, to the general assembly and *Church of the Firstborn who are enrolled in heaven,* and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect" (Hebrews 12:22-23).

They are Christ's body of many members. "Just as each of us has one body with many members, and not all members have the same function, so in Christ we who are many are one body, and each member belongs to one another. We have different gifts according to the grace given to us" (Romans 12:4-6).

Upon Christ's return, all will quickly be known. The bride will be transformed immediately and she will be radiant. Her covering will dazzle all of creation; her beauty will be admired and her role and responsibilities will be elevated above all of creation in heaven and on earth. She will be respected and honoured standing by the side of her Husband who she follows wherever he goes, the King of kings and Lord of lords.

The bride will marry Christ and together one unified body will become the fundamental and critical structure within God's kingdom that will bind God's law and His ways into every proposal, thought and action. Love will reign and peace will ensue eternally.

The wife of Christ will be a body of experts in God's righteous ways, His teaching and practices. They will be the work of God's hands, beings given grace, living in humility and righteousness. As God's kingdom expands, birthing new life will take place. Members of God's kingdom of priests will nurture, provide instruction, righteous direction, and spiritual healing. The leadership of the priests will be bound with national leadership in the same way adjectives are used in language. *Righteous rulership* will reign because of the marriage of the roles of the priest and the king. God pictures the intimacy of these two very important roles in the physical marriage of a man and a woman.

From before creation began, God Almighty planned the two critical roles: Priest and King. The number two is symbolic of a legal witness. God Almighty is the Great Teacher. He expects His students to think, search, dig, and discover. He has hidden His deep things in numbers, images, mirroring, stories, parables, parallels, and in plain sight in nature everywhere.

God will eventually bring His whole creation into judgement. A legal witness will first be given both in heaven and on earth. It will involve the implementation of His law and ways coupled with mercy and grace. God mirrors this principal in His people.

### Law linked with grace completes God's way.

The kingdom of Israel split into two houses thousands of years ago because they
rejected God as their King and He gave them what they wanted, a mortal king who
cannot rule lovingly. They wanted to live like the nations around them, instead of
growing and maturing in a single kingdom of humble, holy priests. These two houses

mirror the story of law and grace. The house of Judah embraced God's law, while the house of Israel received God's grace.

The two houses remain split to this day because law and grace have not been bound as one. Jesus Christ will bind the two together for all eternity, when he returns.

- Righteous national leadership bound with pure religious leadership is a complete image of God.
  - The fallen in heaven are a direct result of rebellious heavenly rulers who enforce their own ideas of leadership.
  - The fallen angels do not want to share their rulership with a religious body. Even the Great Harlot will not be tolerated by them.

"The beast and the ten horns you saw will hate the prostitute. They will bring her to ruin and leave her naked; they will eat her flesh and burn her with fire" (Revelation 17:16).

Without the union of national and religious righteous leadership, the image of God is not present.

- Perfect leadership is the marriage of righteous national leaders with grace-filled priests who compassionately teach the perfect ways of God. They are one team fulfilling two essential roles of equal value and importance.
  - o Christ and His bride will be the perfect leadership team.
  - A husband and wife were designed to mirror the perfect leadership team.
  - The idea of creating gender is God's design to teach creation in heaven and on earth the value and importance of their roles, which is a perfect image of Him.

God Almighty is molding His creation on earth to bring them into perfection. He is working in stages. The angels in heaven do not always understand the work of God's hand on earth. "It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves, but you, when they foretold the things now announced by those who preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things" (I Peter 1:12).

To understand God's spiritual plans, He has given mankind His language which uses:

- Imagery on earth to mirror the spiritual world in heaven.
- Parables to bring understanding.
- Numbers to be markers that confirm His divine seal.
- Stories that mirror history that God wants preserved.

God created gender for the following reasons:

- To provide a window into the roles and responsibilities of the first creation in heaven mirrored in the male gender for mankind's understanding. That is why Adam was made first and named the animals. By naming, it shows he has authority over them and points to the angels in heaven already having rulership. The first creation in heaven are rulers over vast dominions and large territories who need a helpmeet. God is teaching them that they need a special type of help.
- To reveal the special qualifications that *only* the *second* creation can offer creation in heaven, that is complimentary and well-fitted to national leadership, is their expertise of having a full measure of knowledge, understanding and wisdom of God's word and His ways. One-third of the angels have fallen away from God; they do not like His plan for mankind helping them. They want to rule by themselves or ally with other ruling angels. This is why God forbids homosexuality. God is blessing only the union of one male and one female because it mirrors the marriage of Christ and the church for all eternity. God will not sanction the partnership of angels in heaven.
- Christ is the last Adam. It was written to echo a series of Adams. The fallen rulers over the nations failed. They may have had the opportunity to rule with Christ. It is a difficult temptation to remain humble when given access to large portions of power. Only Jesus Christ, the Son of God, succeeded, hence through him, mankind can live eternally. That is why Eve was made from the rib of Adam. God is specific. The spiritual Adam is Jesus Christ. Spiritual Eve is the church. Christ will marry the church. God foreknew the fall of man and His successful saving plan.

"So, it is written: 'The first man Adam became a living being'; the last Adam, a life-giving spirit" (I Corinthians 15:45).

The Apostle Paul understood God's coded language and constantly revealed God's mysteries to the Judeo-Christians. The mystery of the creation of two genders was not limited to physical procreation, but a great revelation of two critical roles that form the image of God.

After God's kingdom is established, holy, royal priests and kings, together, will design and develop exciting new directions and creations that glorify the Great Creator, Almighty God. The future will be an explosion of wonder and awe.

Mystery, seemingly hidden in codes, is often viewed as pieces of a great puzzle. Soon, these pieces will come together for all to see clearly God's grand plan for mankind's salvation and His future plans. Even, Samson's riddle will be resolved.

# THE RIDDLE slipped in among EVERYDAY STORIES

"Out of the eater, something to eat; out of the strong, something sweet"

(Judges 14:14).

Everyday stories hold mysteries that tease scholars for centuries. The deep things of God are discovered by the relentless explorers. The story of Samson is rich in lessons.



The story of Samson is a maze of mysteries orchestra by God, Himself. Samson lived during a time when the ancient Israelites were ruled by the haughty Philistines. He was born from the tribe of Dan. He was not a Jew from the house of Judah. He was a miracle baby from the house of Israel.

God opened the womb of Manoah's wife and she conceived. From birth, Samson was a Nazirite, set apart to serve God. He was not to drink wine or fermented drinks; he was not to cut his hair or eat anything unclean. As a Nazirite, he was to avoid contact with the dead and keep his distance from vineyards—the site where fermented drinks are made and stored. Yet, Samson travelled through the vineyards of Timnah to visit and later marry a beautiful Philistine woman. On the way with his parents to visit this woman, a lion came roaring toward him and he killed it with his bare hands. As he returned to marry the Philistine woman, he saw the carcass of the lion and inside was an unnatural and intriguing sight. Bees had built a honeycomb flowing with honey. He reached into the carcass and ate.

Samson's disregard of the Nazirite vow was part of the revelation in this story. It was the Spirit of the LORD moving him to do as he did. It was by God's wise choice and teaching method that a Danite was chosen for this job. The tribe of Dan was notorious of flirting with the

neighbouring nations worshipping their gods in opposition to the God of Israel—the Almighty God. They have a history that has lingered in the Celtic traditions. Following the story of the Danites in the book of Judges, they took a pagan-serving Levite, Micah with his idols, as their priest.

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

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

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

Ancient Israel craved the glory of military and economic strength. They sought superpower status that leading nations around them had acquired. The price for the rise in power was the worship of rebel gods. Often, ancient Israel was prepared to pay that price. As a result, the God of Israel subdued them by bringing them into captivity by those powerful nations. At times, God simply brought them under an oppressive rule. This was the case at Samson's time. He initiated the battle for freedom. Clumsy and ruthless, he played his role well. He taunted the Philistines with his great strength and they hated him.

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

#### THE RIDDLE

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

Applying God's coded language, by offering a prize of new sets of clothing made from linen was Samson offering these guards an opportunity to change their behaviour from sin to put on "linen garments"—that is, receive instruction on living the God of Israel's way that produces righteous behaviour, if they could solve the riddle.

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

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

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

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

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

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

The nectar is stored in the stomach of the bee where the complex sugars are converted into simple sugars, then regurgitated once in the hive. The house bees work to concentrate the nectar by beating their wings, the nectar is fanned and the water is evaporated. Finally, in a concentrated state—no longer nectar, the honey is deposited into the honeycomb.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Like honey, the word of God revives the dying, those living in lies, deception and corruption. A short historical moment was recorded in I Samuel when Jonathon, the eldest son of King Saul, ate the honey found in the forest. "Now the men of Israel were in distress that day, for Saul had placed the troops under an oath, saying, 'Cursed is the man who eats any food before evening, before I have taken vengeance on my enemies."

"So, none of the troops tasted any food. Then all the troops entered the forest, and there was honey on the ground. And when they entered the forest and saw the flowing honey, not one of them put his hand to his mouth, because they feared the oath. Jonathan, however, had not heard that his father had charged the people with the oath. So, he reached out the end of the staff in his hand, dipped it into the honeycomb, and put his hand to his mouth; and his eyes brightened. Then one of the soldiers told him, "Your father bound the troops with a solemn oath, saying, 'Cursed is the man who eats food today.' That is why the people are faint."

"'My father has brought trouble to the land,' Jonathan replied. 'Just look at how my eyes have brightened because I tasted a little of this honey'" (I Samuel 14:24-29).

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

Valuing God's wisdom, His word and standing strong under His flag during times of extreme duress, will bring great rewards, for God Almighty honours the faithful.

The tribe of Dan is the only tribe not listed among the 144,000 of Revelation likely due to their long history of idolatry. In this story, Samson is an image of God's people and their history of worshipping the gods of the nations and rejecting the God of Israel, the only true God—the Creator. The Israelites craved the glory of having superpower status like that of Assyria, Babylon and Egypt. God was training them to be a kingdom of humble, God-fearing, God-serving priests.

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

Samson was captured when he revealed the secret of his strength. His hair was cut while he was sleeping and the Philistines captured and imprisoned him. The god worshipped by the Philistines was Dagon. "Now the lords of the Philistines gathered together to offer a great sacrifice to their god Dagon. They rejoiced and said, 'Our god has delivered Samson our enemy into our hands'" (Judges 16:23). Credit is given to the god Dagon for the capture of Samson.

The Philistines gouged out Samson's eyes. They sentenced him to work grinding at the mill in the prison. Blind and humbled, Samson turned to the God of Israel and asked for strength one more time. His hair had grown and his strength returned. God answered his request. Samson turned toward the servant guiding him, "Put me where I can feel the pillars that support the temple, so that I may lean against them" (Judges 16:26).

The temple was crowded with thee thousand men and women on the roof. Samson pushed with all his might against the pillars and the temple collapsed; he died with the taunting Philistines. There will be 21<sup>st</sup> century Israelites from all twelve nations of Israel who will die during Jacob's trouble. They will be guilty of flirting with the beast and the great harlot, but they will awaken and repent. God will humble them and their treasonous sins will bring them death.

Samson lost his physical sight, but gained spiritual insight. He lost his physical life, but gained God's grace and support.

His life, orchestrated by God, is a witness to all of God's people throughout time who flirt and play with false religion and evil doings. They will suffer.

The final words of the blessing by Jacob to his son Dan, were, "Dan will judge his people as one of the tribes of Israel. He will be a snake by the road, a viper in the path that bites the horse's heels so that its rider tumbles backward. *I await Your salvation*, *O LORD*" (Genesis 49:16-18).

Finally, the people behaving like the tribe of Dan will learn and patiently wait for God to save them. It is then; they will receive supernatural power to take down their enemy.

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

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

When Samson's mother conceived and learned that the boy would be a Nazirite, Samson's father prayed, begging God to send the man of God who spoke to his wife back, so that he can learn how to raise the boy correctly. The angel of the LORD returned and gave Manoah instructions. Manoah invited the man to stay and eat after the burned offering. The angel of the LORD said that he would stay only for the sacrifice. Manoah prepared a young goat together with a grain offering and sacrificed it to God. Then, an amazing event took place as flames of fire burst up towards heaven, the angel of the LORD ascended in the flames (Judges 13:20). Samson's father was terrified as he thought that the man was Almighty God. He feared for his life, thinking he had seen God. His wife reassured him that God would not have accepted the burnt offering or given the blessing of a miracle child to have them die. The angel of the LORD in the Old Testament is the Son of God. He is not the Almighty God who is a consuming fire that mortals cannot look upon and live.

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

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

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

- Christ is the lion who will not tolerate wickedness.
- He is killed by sinning people.
- Christ's body is the word of God—the bread of life.
- Sweet honey is the reviving delight upon understanding God's word.
- Samson is the actor whose life mirrored ancient Israel and all of God's people who flirt and mingle with false religion and Wickedness.
- Manoah, Samson's father offered a sacrifice when he learned that his wife would become pregnant and birth a Nazirite son. He offered a goat and the angel of the LORD returned to heaven in the flames of that sacrifice. Christ is imaged as both goats in the ceremony on the Day of Atonement/Yom Kippur. The first goat is sacrificed and the second one is the released scapegoat. The goats point to a special leader who is surefooted and able to climb to high places easily.
- o Samson died taking down the enemy, so it will be for God's people who behave like him.

#### THE SOLUTION OF THE RIDDLE:

"Out of the eater, something to eat;

Out of the Messiah's sacrificed body, God's word resides—the bread of life, he is the Word; out of the strong, something sweet"

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

(Judges 14:14)

There is more that can be learned from Samson's story than the pesky riddle. The spiritual story behind why Samson's mother was sterile points to a miracle being performed for her to conceive. In order for mankind to come into the family of God, it takes the receiving of the miraculous power of God's Holy Spirit.

Her husband begs God to send the messenger back and again the angel of the LORD goes to Manoah's wife and she brings her husband to meet with the angel. God is pointing to the elevated role of His church who will be the leaders to communicate God's instructions. The prophets and prophetesses were the communicators of God's instructions to the national leaders in times past. This will be the practice in God's eternal kingdom.

Samson's mother's name is not spoken. She is an image of the church who will remain a silent figure until Christ returns and rules on earth.

Samson's story preserved the history of ancient Israel at that time. They were suffering the oppression of the Philistines because they were they were not obedient to God. It was written, "Again the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the LORD, so the LORD delivered them into the hands of the Philistines for forty years" (Judges 13:1). Forty is the number of drawing close to God. Unfortunately, it takes captivity and distress before God's people look to Him and humbly bend their knee in obedience to His law and ways.

Samson's long hair was braided into seven sections. Long hair is a covering that symbolizes protection against spiritual death through Christ's redemptive sacrifice. Christ is the covering for the church. Women are a mirror of the church that is why God wants women to have longer hair than men.

The spirit of the LORD came upon Samson three times. It was the seal of God marking the completion of this series of events in His saving plan.

The stories God preserved in the Bible are rich in details that provide many of the missing pieces to the grand puzzle of God's grand plan for mankind. These stories will provoke the curiosity of Bible explorers and bring them closer to their Creator where they will marvel at His penmanship, His engineering, and His deep love for them.

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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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