

# GOD'S CODED LANGUAGE

is all about

# TRANSPARENCY

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

# IMAGERY

Stories: *His, Hers, Theirs*



NUMBERS 3,000, 1,000, 300, 100, 50, 40, 12, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1

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## INTRODUCTION

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

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

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

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

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All illustrations are used to enhance learning, for educational purposes  
and the associated websites for your reference.

## COLOURS TELL A STORY

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

*(Genesis 37:3).*

In all of creation from the different species to every element of science, God told a story to add clarity and depth. Everything on earth is part of God’s story: shadows from the obstruction of light, vibrations both harmonious and dissonant, smells both pleasant and offensive, texture fine and rough and the candy of the eye—colour. Into the window of the soul, the eye was created to see colours.

### **RED**

The Jerusalem Prayer Team provide an insightful view into the importance of understanding the multi-level meanings in God’s writing style. They offer an understanding into the spiritual connection of the colour red. “The color link to the story of creation and its key word ‘adam’ comes by the word ‘adom,’ red... The name ‘Adam’ (Adam, man), and the two words that are directly related to it: a•da•ma (earth, soil, ground) and ‘dam,’ ‘blood’; sound almost identical... The close connection between the physical, perceptual elements becomes now even tighter: red, adom is the color of dam, blood. The chain: Adam-adama-dam-adom, men-ground-blood-red is the metaphorical mirror of God’s language in the physical word.”

<https://hebrew.jerusalemprayerteam.org/red/>

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

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

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

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

The Old Testament sacrifices painted a graphic image for the ancient Israelites’ of the importance of the consequences of sin, the penalty, the payment that satisfies our Creator and finally, a fellowship offering that all work together to foster a relationship of unity with God.



While these sacrifices could not pay the penalty of the sins of the people, they were a foreshadow of things to come described throughout the pages of the New Testament of the One who can and does pay the penalty.

All of the sacrifices involve a male animal except for one where God commands the sacrifice of a red heifer. God is very specific about which red heifer could be accepted as a sacrifice. The female cow could not be used as a work animal or having worn a yoke and without blemish. This special sacrifice was teaching ancient Israel about how they can cleanse and purify themselves when exposed to the dead. The “dead” God was most concerned about was the spiritually dead and the harmless and destructive influence these people have on people. To be cleansed from toxic thoughts and practices, God requires ashes of a red heifer and water.

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

The sacrifice of the red heifer takes place outside of the camp. Toxic spiritual behaviour is never allowed in God’s holy tabernacle. Outside the camp away from God, the sacrifice takes place.

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

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

Like Father like Son. “As I continued to watch, thrones were set in place, and the Ancient of Days took His seat. His clothing was white as snow, and the hair of His head was like pure wool. His throne was flaming with fire, and its wheels were all ablaze” (Daniel 7:9).

The ashes from the red heifer were carefully collected, stored securely outside the camp and added to water to cleanse and purify those who touch a dead body. God is determined to reinforce the importance of remaining purified from sin. Either not sinning at all—not yet the ability for mortals so, being purified by the ashes of a red heifer is the only method available until the resurrection when death is no more.

The female gender is used by God to image a religious body in contrast to those who hold national, state or civic leadership responsibilities. Jesus Christ is both king (national leader) and high priest (religious body). The purification of the contamination from a dead body mirrors how believers can be purified from the penalty and corruption of sin from the constant exposure of living in sin during this evil age. The death of the blemish-free red heifer foreshadows the sacrifice of Christ who was killed outside of the camp—crucified outside of Jerusalem and his blood saves mankind from the contamination of death—the penalty and corruption of sin.

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

He is the high priest of the church mirrored in the selection of a blemish-free red female young animal. Accepting Christ’s sacrifice allows believers to be cleansed and purified in the church which remains outside the camp during this evil age, until Christ returns and wickedness on earth is overthrown. The imagery is layers deep; red—sacrificial blood, young heifer—the young church cleansed and purified by the blood of Christ; the church—Christ is the head and the believers are the body seen through the eyes of Almighty God as a virgin—O Virgin Israel.

## **BLUE**

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



She touched the hem of his garment. The symbolism in two verses are lessons volumes long.

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

The Tzitzit was made with a blue cord. This colour represents God’s word and His commandments. God incorporated reminders in the clothing of His people to remember His ways and live by them. Living His ways brings spiritual healing.

The woman suffering for twelve years with a constant flow of blood was considered by God’s law as unclean. She knows that she is unclean. Her presence must be kept secret.

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

Spiritual uncleanness needing spiritual healing is acknowledging a life of sin. The loss of blood prevents a woman from conceiving. She could not have children. She was a shamed woman mirroring a church living in paganism and being unable to conceive a congregation let alone, birth a congregation fit for God's kingdom. She was aware of her spiritual condition. This awareness indicated that she was likely a woman from the Gentile ten-tribes of Israel. She remembered the significance of the Tzitzit. She believed that she would be healed by touching it because she believed that Jesus was the Messiah sent only to the lost sheep of Israel. By touching it, she was declaring her repentance and commitment to remembering and obeying God's commandments.

Her story is preserved in only two verses—a witness was done. Her story mirrors the repentance of the church of the wayward ten-tribes of Israel. They accepted Jesus immediately as their Saviour. They became known as the Christians who trumpet Jesus as their Messiah for now over 2,000 years.

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

The Apostle John said that Jesus did so much while he was on earth that all the books in the world would not be enough to record everything he did (John 21:23). Only a few of the voluminous stories were preserved. The story of the woman suffering with the flow of blood was an important story preserved by God to ensure the repentance of the church of the lost sheep of Israel would be remembered and their faith in their healing acknowledged.

The chord of blue healed the church, symbolizing God's Holy Spirit that makes obedience and understanding possible for believers. The blue garment worn by the priests is designed by God to remind His people of their calling, a holy kingdom of priests. Looking up, the colour of the sky seen on earth is blue not by random coincidence but by design.

## **WHITE**

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

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

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

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

Their sins were scarlet red—spiritual death, yet repentance will change the colour of their actions into a radiant white. Living God’s pure religion creates a covering of brightness and glory visible to everyone. Wayward mortals look into the night sky and are impressed by the starry heavens. They decorate their celebrations with fireworks, bright lights and dazzling arrays of colour mixed with glitter and sparkles because light is beautiful. God compares His truth, His word to earthly lights and still mortal man has difficulty putting the two concepts together. And yet, in their distress, they appreciate the kindness they receive from good people as they would appreciate a light in a fearful dark unknown. In their distress, they seek good people for help as they would appreciate a flashlight, candle or torch walking and stumbling in a fearful dark unknown. Distress awakens people living in a small, self-centred world. Suffering is inevitable.

A time of great trouble is on the near horizon. God will purify His people during Jacob’s trouble. Purification by fire is coming and it will bring either destroy them or purify them. The choice will be theirs. “And some of the wise shall stumble, so that they may be refined, purified, and made white, until the time of the end, for it still awaits the appointed time” (Daniel 11:35).

Jesus urges the churches of Revelation to overcome and live righteously before God. “Yet you have still a few names in Sardis, people who have not soiled their garments, and they will walk with me in white, for they are worthy. The one who conquers will be clothed thus in white garments, and I will never blot his name out of the book of life. I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels” (Revelation 3:4-5).

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

Colours tell a story. People in the know use them. A time came when the house of Judah, the Jews, during their exile came under attack by Haman, one of King Xerxes's top royal officials

because Mordecai, the uncle of Queen Esther, would not kneel and honour him. Haman despised Mordecai and plotted to kill not only Mordecai but all the Jews. He obtained a decree from the king. This alarmed Mordecai who immediately tore his clothes and put on sackcloth and ashes. The news also distressed Queen Esther for she was a Jew. She declared a fast.

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



The story was concluded with Mordecai promoted and honoured wearing royal robes of blue and white. These colours are known to represent righteous actions through the power of heavenly forces, such as, God’s Holy spirit.

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



Three colours tell an interesting story of the believer’s journey. Red, blue and white paint a picture of mankind’s need for Christ—their Saviour, God’s Holy Spirit so that His law can be valued and applied and only then, can they be covered with a glorified body of white radiance.

God’s flag could simply be a radiance of pure white or a red, blue and white flag acknowledging the two important steps before transforming into a white radiance for all eternity and bordered with a royal purple and a precious gold.



## **PURPLE**

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



Mystery Babylon, the Great Harlot is described as arrayed in purple.

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

She considers herself a queen, so she arrays herself accordingly.

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

In doing so, the great harlot who glorifies herself trumpets her rarity, her one-of-a-kind preciousness. Riding the beast and coupling her influence with its power and strength to rule, she is convinced that now she will sit forever on a throne. She is mistaken.

## **GOD’S TABERNACLE IN THE WILDERNESS**

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

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

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

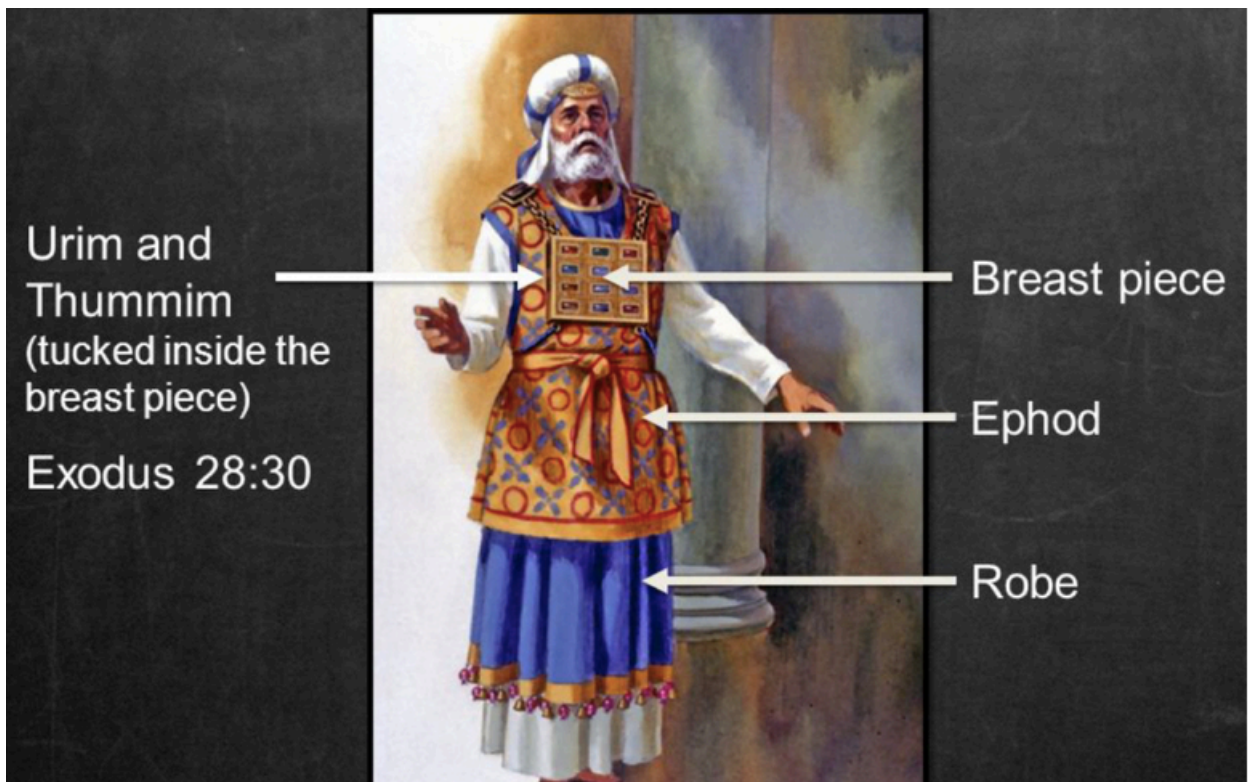
Choosing colours: blue, purple and scarlet symbolizes the importance of having God’s Holy Spirit which is set apart from all other spirits and accessible only to those who accept the redemptive sacrifice of Jesus Christ, symbolized in the colour red.

The same message is applied to the veil that separates the Holy of Holies from the Holy place. The veil was made from “blue, purple and scarlet yarns and fine twined linen” (Exodus 28:31). The picture of God’s temple filled with His perfection, holy presence in righteousness is trumpeted in every aspect of God’s teachings to His people.

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

### THE HOLY GARMENTS

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



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



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

The ephod worn by the high priest is also made of gold, blue, purple and scarlet yarn, and of finely twisted linen (Exodus 28:6). The ephod, worn by the high priest, with the twelve precious stones symbolizes God's people repentant and precious being a significant part in the picture of pure religion. Jesus Christ is King of kings and Lord of lords. He will wear the holy garments of the high priest in God's eternal kingdom. The twelve tribes of Israel will be instrumental in the role of priests serving God in His kingdom.

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

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



## EYES, EARS, HEART, 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 God’s law, His ways and living them.

“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.

### **EYES to SEE**

The eyes are mankind’s main part 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 highly knowledgeable of their history 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. 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 religious leaders because they refused correction and open the eyes of the humble, teachable, ordinary man and woman.

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

“They worship Me in vain; they teach as doctrine the precepts of men. You have disregarded the commandment of God to keep the tradition of men” (Mark 7:7-8).

Jesus had a difficult time correcting the religious leaders during his time. In all of their proclaimed righteousness, they planned to murder him as the solution to their conflict instead

of recognizing the miracles and healing he performed and learning from the teaching of the word of God.

“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 punish the Jewish nation. The Pharisees plotted among themselves and devised what they considered to be a justification for their actions claiming that they were doing was best for the people. But truly they were working to hold onto their own power and money.

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. Unlike Job, who grew in spiritual understanding during his sufferings 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.

### **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.

“Hear this, you foolish and senseless people, who have eyes but do not see, who have ears but do not hear” (Jeremiah 5:21).

The human senses provide key information for making wise decisions. Not having a wealth of information results in poor decisions even harmful actions that effect the individual and others. The lessons from the mistakes are not always learned or remembered, resulting in making the same mistakes over and over again.

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

A wilful 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 some, it is fear and intimidation, and for others 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 majority.

“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).

In contrast to rebels and foolish people, 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 lie, spread misinformation and disinformation.

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

The faithful who repented, accepted Christ as their Saviour and follow him wherever he goes are blessed with ears that understand the word of God. It is not squeezed-fitted pieces to preconceived beliefs or mysteries too deep to be understand. God opens eyes and ears and what cannot be seen by rebellious man is clearly visible by God-fearing and God-serving people. God is a transparent God. 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 forward.

“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 them 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 to call Him, Abba Father.

“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. It is spiritual knowledge and its application that sustains life.

To the churches of Revelation, Jesus urges, “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 SAFETY**

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.

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).

God is a gracious God. His wrath is designed to awaken the people on earth. He will succeed.

the ANIMALS, 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).



God uses animals to add meaning to the behaviour of people. 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. The image of these faithful is that of needing a leader, vulnerable and innocent.

Goats are a cousin to sheep and this animal is used to refer to foolish people, but there is an intriguing reference to two goats in the ritual on the Day of Atonement/Yom Kippur. Goats have horns that point up—an image of kingship in heaven, while most sheep don't have horns. Sheep that do, curl and point down—an image of kingship on earth. Horns image kingship. Goats are independent while sheep gather into flocks. A significant day on God's timeline of the salvation of His people and all of mankind, is the Day of Atonement—Yom Kippur. It involves a sacrifice to God and a ritual involving two goats on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the 7<sup>th</sup> month. God's use of numbers is by no accident. By establishing the Day for Atonement on the 10<sup>th</sup> day and 7<sup>th</sup> month points to God's ten commands being re-established and the 7<sup>th</sup> month pointing to the number for completion, pictures the finishing of the violation of God's ten commandments and the cleansing of His people.

Two goats are used in the Atonement sacrifice. Again, the number two indicates a witness taking place. Two goats are selected, but God Almighty does the choosing by lot of which goat is sent into the wilderness while the other is sacrificed. The two goats provide a witness. One is a witness of the knowledge of good and evil and the other is a witness of the knowledge of life.

God judges as to which witness that He will accept that will bring salvation to mankind. One goat was sent out in the wilderness bearing the sins of Israel and the other was sacrificed as a sin offering. The goat sent into a place where it is void of righteousness points to a leader who deserves to go there. While the other was selected as a sacrifice for sin.



When Adam and Eve sinned, they were brought near to Satan. They formed a relationship with him and the people of Israel even with God's direct guidance, kept wandering into sin re-establishing the same relationship with Satan. This goat on the Day of Atonement mirrors the complete deliverance of Israel from their sins by severing the relationship with the author of sin—Satan, the sin-laden goat, back to his home of wickedness. The wilderness is a place void of righteousness. It is a harsh, life-taking place. The second goat carrying all of the sins of Israel into Satan's wilderness home shows Satan, Azazel—the father of all sin, that his evil influences will not prevail. It also shows the Israelites that if they chose to continue in sin, that they would not enter God's kingdom, rather they too along with Satan, will be led into the wilderness where they will surely die.

God was teaching ancient Israel then and Israel today, that is, all twelve nations of Israel into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the lesson that involved a scapegoat—the being responsible for all sin. This

goat is the leader of the knowledge of good and evil who is in opposition to the leader of the knowledge of life. Both are leaders, hence both imaged as a goat, but each move away from each other in two opposite directions. God Almighty chose the goat fit for the sin offering and the goat to go into the wilderness; He is the ultimate Judge.

### **THE SERPENT**

On earth, snakes crawl and slither. That has become the state of the fallen angel who is the source of all sin. Lucifer upon creation was made beautiful and perfect and 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).

With all of God's wisdom, still Lucifer fell into sin. Pride and arrogance destroyed him and from his high place, God drove him down 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 new creature that took on a beastly appearance. He began to look like a serpent and on earth, a ground-crawling snake stripped of wings. God is not finished with Satan, his form will continue to change until he is mortalized and appears like a crumbled, old man.

"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 1,000 years and imprisoned deep inside the earth—the darkness and lowest place in existence. After 1,000 years, he will be released for a short time where he will deceive again. The nations will be tested, Satan will be tried, sentenced and destroyed on earth for all the nations to witness.

"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 form will resemble a shrunken, aged old man. He will burn up and go to ashes to be no more.

"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).



## **THE MONSTERS OF THE WATERS**

Pharaoh ruling 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 waters. This heavenly ruler declared himself to be a Creator. He claimed to have made the Nile River that rich source of life.



“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 rogue, powerful leader and all of the fallen angels supporting 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 lives in the sea; he lives in the high seas (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.

“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 different dominions allied with him.

## **THE GIANT RED DRAGON**

“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.

“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 rogue and very evil fallen angels. The coalition is imaged as a huge red dragon because 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. 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 forms have 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 vivid concept of something not of 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 rises up. Satan gives this coalition all of his power and authority and in paralyzing fear, the nations of the world surrender after they attack God’s people, those keeping His commandments and hold to the testimony of Jesus Christ who do not escape into the wilderness.



“The whole world was astonished and followed the beast” (Revelation 13:3b). All of the nations on earth witness supernatural power that brings them immediately to their knees and they all declare, “Who is like the beast? Who can make war against him?”

The nations, even as a collective unit of one military force, 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 meet with persecution and relentless attacks. The nations of the world will learn to accept Satan as their king. The leaders of the nations will be richly rewarded for their obedience. Many people will accept his rule as well.

The description of the different animal appearances in this beast is designed to illustrate the different strengths wielded from the different leaders within the coalition. Characteristics of this upcoming heavenly coalition, thrown out of heaven onto earth, can be expected from what is known about leopards, lions, and bears.

#### **IT RESEMBLED A 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.

#### **IT HAD 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 about its feet illustrates the movements of this rogue heavenly beast walking and moving like mortals, aggressively and carnally.



### **MOUTH LIKE A LION**

Lions are symbolic of royalty. The kings ruling within this beast are fallen sons of God; they will speak with authority. They roar and maul. People will not be ready for what is coming.

### **FOUR LIVING CREATURES**

God's plan is transparent; it just requires decoding at times. 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.

"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).



### **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.

**THE MEANING:** The king of Babylon is imaged as a great eagle who goes to Lebanon—the location of God’s legal centre on earth—Jerusalem, and 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 their strength as a nation all came from God.

The king of Judah was determined to disregard God’s punishment on them through the subservience to Babylon. So, the king of Judah went to pharaoh of Egypt for military help by forming an alliance.

The pharaoh of Egypt was the second great eagle. God responded to Judah’s attempt to break from under the subservience to 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 as the “east wind” to be Himself. “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 earth.

### **THE BEASTS OF THE FIELD and 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 heavenly land 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 court in heaven. This was the leader given rulership over Assyria on earth. This once great

leader was described by God in Ezekiel 31 as a “cedar of Lebanon” which is the image of an eternal, tall leader and member of God’s court 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. As well, the nations on earth that were its allies fell and were overthrown (Ezekiel 31:16). When this leader was righteous, it provided protection and safety to “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).

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 court in Lebanon.

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.

“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. You have answered me! I will proclaim Your name to my brothers; I will praise You in the assembly. You who fear the LORD, praise Him! All descendants of Jacob, honor Him! All offspring of Israel, revere Him! For He has not despised or detested the torment of the afflicted. He has not hidden His face from him, but has attended to his cry for help. My praise for You resounds in the great assembly; I will fulfill my vows before those who fear You” (Psalm 22:12-25).

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

“God presides in the great assembly; he gives judgement among the ‘gods’” (Psalm 82:1).

King David understood the fallen angels in heaven and the language God uses to identify them. He knew that the nations on earth are led astray for 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 description of beasts of the field and birds of the air reveal more than animals and birds on earth.

More was known in ancient times on this use of language. The king of Nineveh was alarmed about the news of their destruction, so by the decree of the king and his nobles, 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. The beasts of the field are not necessarily referring to animals on earth.

"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 creature 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 exalt themselves above the Almighty Creator. 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 the Hebrews. His superpower status and expansion were a monument of God's gift of divine grace to a Gentile king who once acknowledged the Supreme 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 heights, 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 earthly leader 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 Babylon at that time, also acknowledged 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 coded language, God is describing a creation being given His Holy Spirit. He is going to pour out His Holy Spirit into places that are spiritually dead and creation there, will come alive. These deep mysteries will be fulfilled in time.

Immortality is described by Isaiah as an 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

*“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 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 will have no place to go. The testimony of Jesus will shine brightly leaving no shadows and no dark places.

*“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.

*“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. All weapons can kill and are used against enemies, but the sword, the sling and the bow 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 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 and hatred for one another.

The sword often images the word of God in particular His law and way of living that produces peace and harmony. The great gliding and coiling serpent, Leviathan will be judged, sentenced and destroyed by God’s sword: His law and His word. He will be tried in God’s heavenly court, judged, sentenced and put to death.

### **THE SWORD, THE SLING, THE BOW**

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 use of a sling and a stone to take down a giant may appear to be risky, but it images a weapon that involves the supernatural intervention of God Himself to disable the enemy. When David took Goliath's sword to end his life, it mirrored the judgement and the death sentence of Goliath's leadership coupled with his belief system. The sword typically images God's word—the sword of truth, God's belief system. In the case of Goliath, his sword imaged his belief system. When David took the sword of Goliath to behead him, he fulfilled the end of the leader of a rogue belief system.

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 12 tribes of 21<sup>st</sup> century Israel during the Millennial reign of Christ. He will again behead leaders pushing Satan's word—beliefs.

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 pictured 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 forces of the ancient gods have 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 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 saving-technology and the pretense of good hearts. They will attack God's people immediately to showcase their power and supremacy over mortals on earth and their disdain for the covenant people. God will allow the attack, turning lemons into lemonade, God's people will awaken to seek Him—the God of Israel. During their distress when supernatural beings reign on earth, they will call out to their God, the Almighty during their captivity scattered among the nations by the beast coalition, and He will hear them. He will rescue them and give them a double blessing, like that of the first born in the family. Their *double blessing* will be their *rescue* and *victory* over their enemy. The second Exodus will push the first Exodus into the shadows to become a forgotten memory. A great Exodus from all the nations around the world is prophesied and to their fortress they will return—prisoners of hope, who will follow their God into the greatest victory to be ever recorded. The supernatural strength of the God of Israel leading His remnant people in battle, will crush both the rogue spiritual and mortal forces on earth.

The Second Exodus will ignite excitement and a surge of passion for their Rescuer—their Hero—their God. Loyal and faithful, they will finally trust Him. God's love for them will be felt by this repentant remnant. 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. But, 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 written in the book of life since the foundation of the world. As the ancient Israelites marched into battle against the giants 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 to 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 remains a future event. At that time, God promises, “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 witness [two-edged] of truth [sword]. The sword of truth 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 and societies infested with corruption and destruction.

“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 facedown 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 of the LORD's army [the Son of God] with his sword drawn revealed to Joshua his holiness and authority in the battle of destroying the giants, off-spring of Wickedness 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.

### **WORD 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 a weapon of the tongue. Cutting remarks, insults, labeling, accusations are the many arrows used by evil-doers.

“Who have sharpened their tongue like a sword. They aimed *bitter speech as their arrow*” (Psalm 64:3).

“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 pure word of God will be accepted.

“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 unrest as they are corrected and taught the truth.

The plays of Wickedness have 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.

Wickedness does not hide his plays. While Jesus was on earth, he was a perpetual victim of the ruthless, malicious plays of Wickedness.



**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).



**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 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” (Matthew 22:15-22).

“But they themselves were filled with rage, and discussed together what they might do to Jesus” (Luke 6:11).



**Mockers, emotionally hindered following the mob:**

“Those who passed by 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:**

"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).

"But the Pharisees went out and plotted how they might kill Jesus" (Matthew 12:14).

"Then the chief priests and the elders of the people assembled in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas, and they schemed to arrest Jesus secretly and kill him" (Matthew 26:3-4).



**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**

*“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).*

Christ will destroy the “Assyrian” with a sword not a physical weapon but the spiritual sword—God’s word. The Assyrian is not mortal. He is the Antichrist. “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*” (II Thessalonians 2:4).

No mortal will ever be able to proclaim himself to be God. This fallen, heavenly being, in all his arrogance is the Antichrist—the Little Horn of Daniel, who will be overthrown. He is the “Assyrian” recorded by Isaiah who is prophesied to be killed by Jesus Christ, not by any mortal. The battle will be a delight for mankind to watch. Jesus Christ, the Word, will disarm and destroy this vile being with his sharp double-edged sword by his spoken words of judgement and sentencing.



*“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).*

The world at that time will have returned to worshipping the fallen gods of ancient times. Idols will be made and mandated. Power will return to mortals to call out to these fallen gods for favours and help. The commandment-keeping people of God will stand against idol worshipping practices. They will be the target of rage by Satan and all who serve him. They 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).*

Jesus Christ, the Word will take down the Assyria—the Antichrist. Through God’s law, the Assyrian will be judged by Christ and found guilty. Those serving this wicked leader will also be judged and run, knowing they participated in liars, deceit and wrong-doing.

“For on that day, every one of you will reject the idols of silver and gold that your own hands have sinfully made. 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 31:7-9).

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 king of Assyria referenced by Isaiah is the heavenly ruler of ancient Assyria who is not yet tried in God’s heavenly court.

“For they flee from the sword—the sword that is drawn—from the bow that is bent, and from the stress of battle” (Isaiah 21:15).

The sword is God’s word and the bow is God’s commandments. 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 will reign SUPREME.

## HABITATS

*“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).*



### THE SKY

God’s Holy Spirit is imaged as air moving with great force, energy and power, like rushing winds when the church all received God’s Holy Spirit for the first time. 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 sky is the habitat above the ground. The first resurrection awakens and transforms the dead first and then the saints who are alive. They rise to meet Christ in the air, above the ground they move upwards into a location that holds 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).*

A future event will witness to the world the effects of Satan’s theology. God’s word, His truth has been snuffed out by the wicked, fallen angels leaving every area they touch with darkness. Revelation records the release of these fallen angels from out of the pit, sometime soon, on our near horizon. A tsunami of thick black smoke will rise and darken the air and even the sun. Its toxicity will be all-encompassing. Mortals will cough and gasp from it, struggling to exchange

toxic carbon dioxide for life-sustaining oxygen. Their every breath will bring them down closer to their grave. The sting of these raging and wild, fallen rulers will inflict torturous pain onto unrepentant mankind and yet, Apostle John recorded in Revelation that many will still not repent.



“And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit” (Revelation 9:2).

Only Almighty God can give His creation life. God’s very name is the movement of breathing.

Through God, Ezekiel will resurrect ancient Israel and they will stand as an army, breathless.

In compassion God will say, “Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live” (Ezekiel 37:5).

The invisible elements in the air support life on earth. Faith in the invisible God pleases Him because it acknowledges, through the witness of all things created that there exists a Creator who is great and powerful and is a designer and engineer of wonderful and beautiful life forms. He creates out of nothing. His words command and the supernatural happens.

The Great Designer and Engineer can do what no other living being can do of their own.

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 1,000-year reign but for a short time.

“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.’” The evil age will come to an end when Satan is silenced.



## THE LAND

The land is God's image for a habitat where growth takes place and an abundance of fruit can be produced. It pictures 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.

King David understood many of the deep things of God. He knew that God is King 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. For people to grow and bear the fruits of righteousness, mankind needs 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 corruption on earth. The loss of God's Holy Spirit God when Adam and Eve sinned has left mankind living and making choices only from the knowledge, understanding and wisdom that comes from his/her own spirit. It is incomplete and without the inflowing of God's Holy Spirit, mankind will never understand the spiritual realm and their destination. To help mankind learn the ways of Almighty God at the time of Babel, He gave the highly-trained and well-respected members of His heavenly court rulership over the nations on earth. He, himself, participated in this project, giving himself rulership over the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

"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.

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.”

Isaiah recorded 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 is call Lebanon. Unfortunately, the highly respected and valued members of God’s heavenly court in Lebanon rebellion 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 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 on spiritual food. Job declared his careful obedience to God's commands and vowed that if he was guilty, then the land of the living would produce only briars and stinkweed—wicked people.

"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 briars grow instead of wheat and stinkweed instead of barley.*" Thus conclude the words of Job" (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.

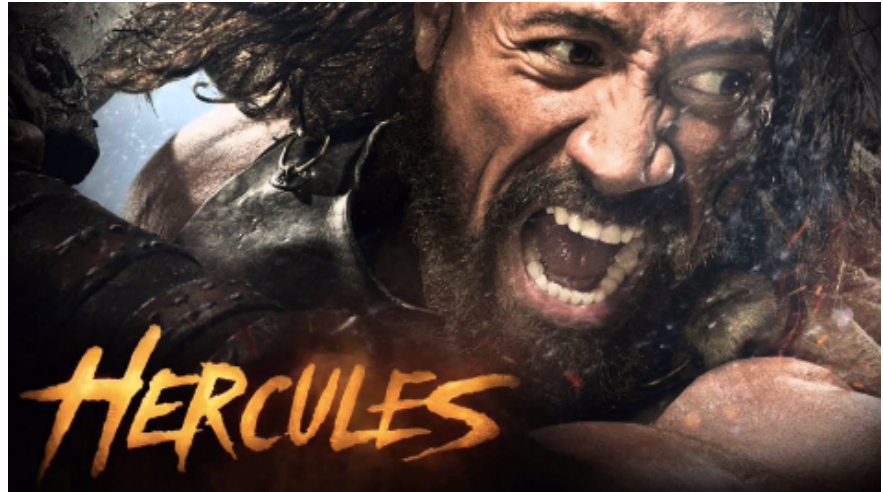
"And if you defile the land, *it will vomit you out as it vomited out the nations that were before you*" (Leviticus 18:28).

The land will be intimately bound with the actions and lifestyle of the righteous. As a person lives, so such blessings they will reap. Obeying God will bring blessings beyond the capacity of the store-house. The habitat 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).

Marriage to the land mirrors the type of produce that comes from strong spiritual leaders who are intimately connected to God's word and His commandments. The desert is the image of land on earth that is spiritually dead.

“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).

Abraham was born 200 years after God gave the nations on earth heavenly rulers.



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These rulers rebelled against God and the land became a desert—a barren, howling wilderness. Rogue, 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 verses evil, passion for power verses humble priesthood, childlike ignorance verses highly-disciplined experts of righteousness and living in the moment verses waiting on the LORD for His kingdom and Christ’s reign.

“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 people across the land has been one of flight from the east wind.

“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, “For behold, the days are coming when 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 be spiritually alive, unlike those who live in the sea—they are spiritually dead.

## 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, 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).

This scripture specifically identifies wicked heavenly entities. "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 describes 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; 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).

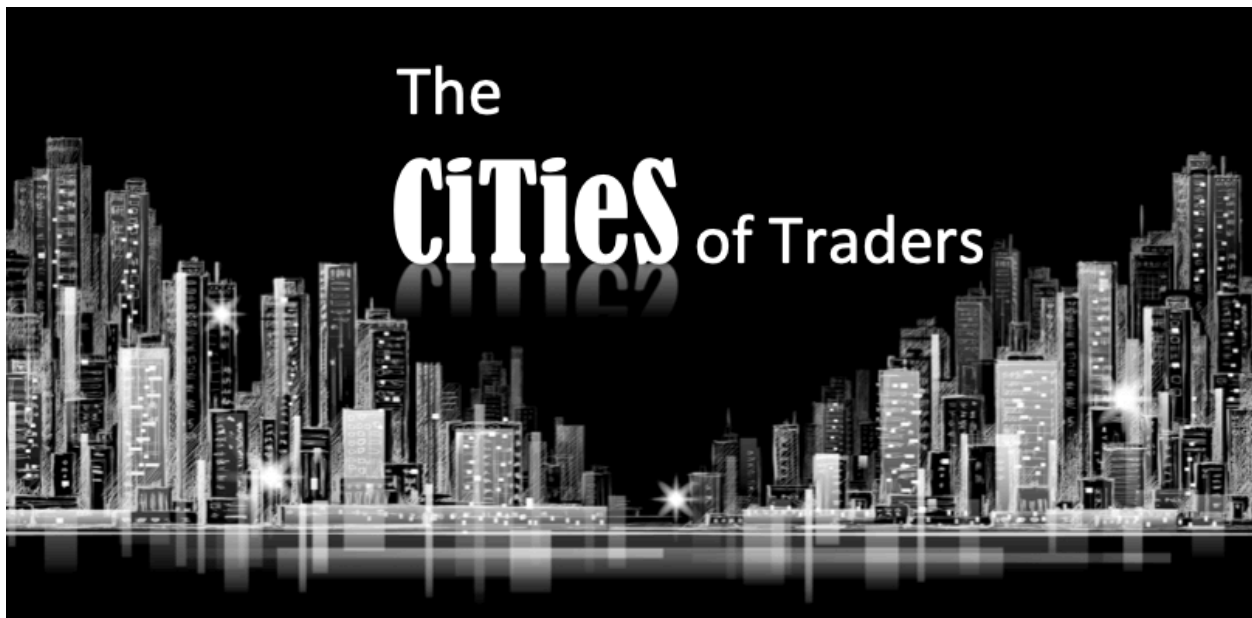
“*You quieted the raging oceans with their pounding waves and SILENCED THE SHOUTING of the nations*” (Psalm 65:7).

### **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 ARE TYRE AND BABYLON.**



#### **TYRE: The king of Tyre.**

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*. 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).

### **BABYLON: the Great Prostitute.**

When the great dragon is thrown down to earth, standing on the seashore, he 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 out of the earth will form a powerful body comprised of the spiritual and physical: a rogue puppet government and a false church serving dark heavenly forces that 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 will not be able to overpower the sophisticated, superior science, spiritual weaponry controlled by the heavenly forces, so, they will submit and worship Satan under duress. “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: Mystery Babylon the Great. This church is 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, 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 mankind’s theology. They are masters at engineering and building vessels that travel into the sea mirroring their mastery in theft, 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 mysteries—their desired riches.

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 those who oppose her merchandise and wares—the saints. “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 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. “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).



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. The presence of mountains is awesome. God's coded language is not difficult; the images used are obvious choices.

God chose His Son who is at the very top of all of God's leaders, "a shoot from the very top of a cedar," to head up His government at the highest level within God's family-kingdom and this new government will be established in God's covenant people, Israel. This Son is Jesus Christ.

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 by 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 temple on earth. "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 5,000 Jews and 4,000 people of the ten tribes, he sat on a hill. He knows God's use of language. A hill and 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 lusted for. 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 evergreen, eternal leaders. These rogue heavenly rulers taught the people of the nations to worship them, instead of the Almighty God. The power the heavenly rulers wielded made it difficult for all people on earth to distinguish between the Almighty God and lesser 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 rogue gods.

“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 they 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).

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. The tribe of Ephraim at one time was well respected in Israel. Their downfall began when the kingdom of Israel split into two houses. King Jeroboam set up two calves one at each end of the territory of the ten tribes for the people to worship there instead of going to Jerusalem. He caused the people to sin by rejecting the worship of Almighty God for the gods over the nations.

“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 walking without stumbling 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 low; their authorities significantly reduced. All of the smaller 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).

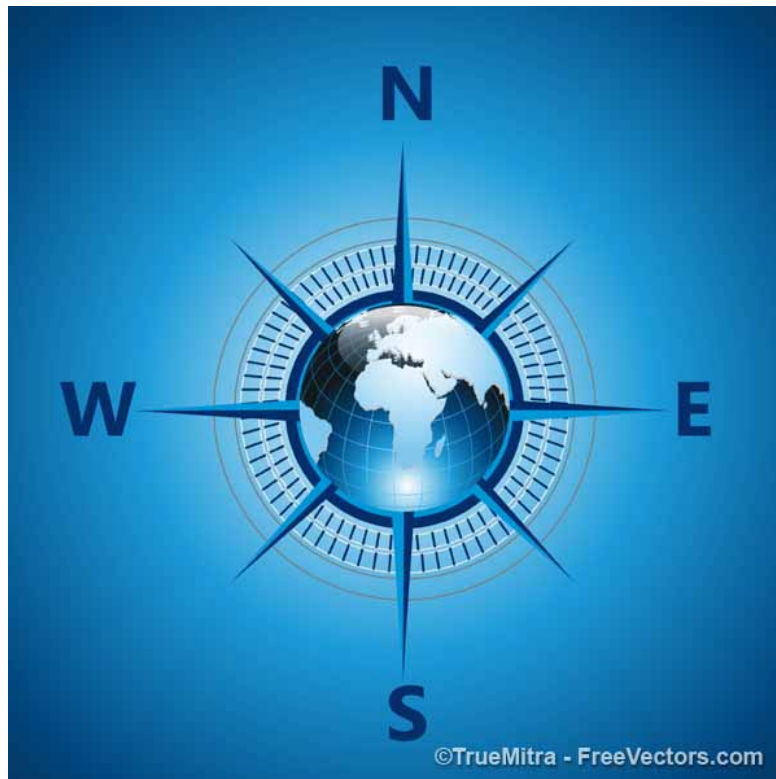
There is a time after the Great Tribulation when joy will fill the hearts and souls of the righteous. The governments at the highest level will recognize and admire the faithful saints who endured patiently. All levels, within the states/provinces, will celebrate in joy the righteous among them and all 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 our loving Father in heaven, the God and only God who mankind owes worship.

## 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).*



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. Heaven is considered north and Earth 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 was born and space was allotted. When God first deemed Lucifer His enemy, it became a marker along infinite time 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. And when I saw it, I fell facedown and heard a voice speaking" (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 likely located in the same direction. From there, His throne radiates as His centre of His law where judgement and sentencing proceeds.

"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)

This northward location goes beyond the location of the angels. It goes far north into the third heaven.

### **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 the 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 second heaven is the habitat of the spiritual beings. The third heaven is the place of God's throne. 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).



## THE ROGUE KINGDOM IN THE FAR NORTH

There exists a dominion in the far north. This kingdom joined Satan during his rise in power. 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 earth's evil age.

"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).

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. Prophecy 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).

Mankind's only enemy has always been the rogue, powerful fallen heavenly angels who rule over vast dominions in heaven. 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 rogue force. They go out and deceive people in the nations again on earth. A second time raging nations on earth 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, for Almighty God will end the attack in a single moment. Two separate groups will receive judgement: Satan and the rogue heavenly ruler, Gog and his army 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,
- his troops
- the many nations with him.

The result of the final battle is that all creation in heaven and on earth at the very moment will know that there is ONE SUPREME and ALMIGHTY GOD. All attempts to overthrow Almighty God will be futile. All creation will know that YHWH is LORD. Satan is not LORD, Gog is not LORD, the Antichrist is not LORD and all previous contenders are not the LORD. The God of Israel is the LORD. He is their God and they are His people, along with all of repentant mankind from all nations, tribes, tongues and people.

North is the location of God's throne where His law is centred and His heavenly court. Before God's people return to the land promised to the 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 the promised land. In the north, He will bring them before His throne, remind them of His law and they will see God's heavenly courts in operation and as they walk east towards the promised land, they will walk under His staff as God takes note of them. From the north, judgement takes place. "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).

God's throne is the centre of His law of love. It is fortified in the north and there it will remain forever. Of the four directions engineered by God, only one is holy and it is not the north.

### **THE EAST**

The east is the location of God's temple; it is holy. Through the imagery of: the east wind, God's garden/His family in the east in Eden, the entrance of the tabernacle built in the wilderness facing east, the wise men came from the east, God has provided us the direction leading to holiness.

The God's temple faces east. "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" (NIV Ezekiel 47:1).

Our Messiah will come from the east. "Who has aroused one from the east and called him to his feet in righteousness? He hands nations over to him and subdues kings before him. He turns them to dust with his sword, to windblown chaff with his bow" (Isaiah 41:2).

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).

### **THE SOUTH**

From the view of Almighty God after creation, planet Earth is in the southerly 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. Though a salvation plan is in place for the repentant, Earth today is the decaying home of all who have sinned.

The rogue fallen angels who have been captured and sentenced are presently imprisoned in inner Earth in the Abyss, the Pit. When Babylon falls it is imprisoned in the Pit awaiting Judgement. Satan, too will be imprisoned during the Millennium in the same location. His jail cell will be the darkest most southerly place in all creation.

The heavenly ruler identified by his dominion is doomed to be overthrown and imprisoned; this is Babylon. Not seen to be a force in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, this leader will rise up and begin trading theological ideas and beliefs at the beginning of the final seven 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).

From earth, all battles in heaven are not visible. Through His imagery, God prophesies many future events. The heavenly ruler identified as 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 [eternal leaders in heaven] and cedars of Lebanon [remaining great heavenly leaders in God's heavenly court] 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).

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. "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 likely 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 being imprisoned by their sins. 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 seal of God onto Ezekiel's message. The southern direction is the place where the rebellious are imprisoned. Jerusalem had become such a city.

Still in the future, 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.

Because they will this time repent sincerely, God will hear them and 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; Yahuah [YHWH] Almighty is his name. He will vigorously defend their cause so that he may bring rest to their land, but unrest to those who live in Babylon" (Jeremiah 50:33-34).

This great Exodus is still in the future. It will surpass the first Exodus, which will become a forgotten memory. God Almighty will rescue His people and those with them. The rogue heavenly rulers, powers and principalities of Ephesians 6:12 will all be soon imprisoned in the most southernly pit. While south is the furthestmost point from north—the direction opposite to God's throne and His law, moving towards the southerly direction while being pushed by the east wind is the west.

## **THE WEST**

The lost ten tribes of Israel were exiled and sentenced to wander among the heathen nations for a period seven times their original punishment because they continued to be angry with God and did not repent. Despite their continued rebellious attitude, God never lost sight of them. He showed the nations watching how unholy they remained by pushing them away from His holy place. The power of the east wind pushed them all the way to the far edges of the western border.

Into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, these people are known as Westerners who live in Western Europe and the 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 them and 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 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. “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).

God has promised their return home and His enduring compassion for them will bring comfort after 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.

### **NORTH, SOUTH, EAST AND WEST**

Suddenly, all directions are pointing at one time to the Saviour of mankind. His feet stand on the Mount of Olives, it is split east and west then the mountain moves one part to the north and the other to the south. Upon his arrival, all compass arrows 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 twelve 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 price 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, to 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. They were a means of refuge for fugitives. Ancient Israel understood the meaning and applied it.

“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).

God's people continued in their rebellion against Him and worshipped the gods of the nations, building altars with horns that symbolized them. This apostasy and treason brought both tribes 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 to 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 said through 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).

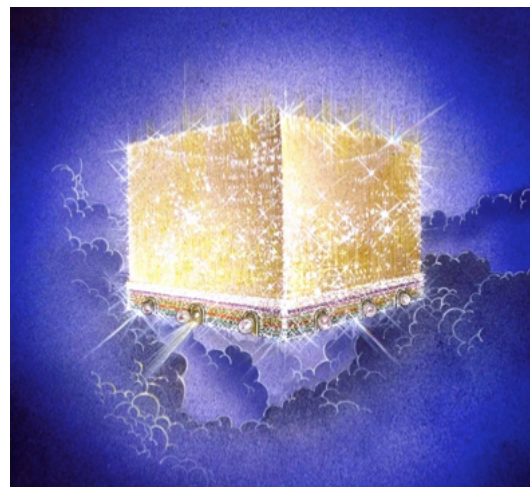
The twelve nations of 21<sup>st</sup> century Israel will return to apostacy and worship gods. This is a difficult truth for people today to understand. The worship of gods has been mythicized. And yet, this history will be repeated. An arrival foreign to the average 21<sup>st</sup> century person will 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 Him, 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 imaging 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 image of the bride of Christ coming down from heaven shaped as a cube 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 will be open the doors to everyone.



## ENERGY and MATTER

*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”  
(1John 1:5).*

God’s penmanship is exquisite filled with layers of meaning, it flows across dimensions weaving in and out of time and space bringing readers into His world, His mind, into the deep things of God.

### THE LIGHT



In the beginning when God the Father began the creation of His family through His Son, He empowered him to create two realms, one in heaven and the other on earth. However, the original creation of earth had become dark, chaotic and broken due to the activity of the fallen angels in heaven.

“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).

God re-created. Light was brought back; the fundamentals of order was re-instated. The home for the long-planned second creation was fixed and made ready 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 Godly 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 the Son is the "tested stone." 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 hardness. 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 all knowledge, understanding and wisdom.

"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 that Jesus Christ, His Son qualifies as the conduit for all creation because he died and his blood paid the price 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 of 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, the Consuming Fire of energy, power and unsurpassable strength and force that King David honoured and 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. Mankind has been not left alone. Through the acceptance of Christ’s sacrifice, God’s Holy Spirit is given and the word of God is preserved into the 21<sup>st</sup> century in the Bible.

Light is the imagery God uses to illustrate, in earthly terms, the ability to see and not fall, to distinguish peaceful resolutions from sneaky hate-filled reactions, to recognize the most precious and invaluable deep things of God that He carefully hides to be discovered only by those who relentlessly search for them.

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.

### **THE DARKNESS**

Before the earth was fixed, it was formless and void spinning out of control and dying. It was in a state of chaos and without order. When God brought in light, He separated the light from the darkness. He called light "day" and darkness He called "night" (Genesis 1:5).



Darkness exists to teach and distinguish right from wrong. Mankind is not left in total darkness, the moon is the lesser light of the two and it provides light at night.

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).

The lesser lights visible to mankind on earth pointing to bodies that reflect light mirrors the angels in heaven keeping God’s law and His ways. They are reflecting Almighty God. By design, these lights contribute to mankind’s knowledge of seasons, landscape and direction.

The sun in earth’s system as the key source of light images God Almighty as mankind’s key source for knowledge, understanding and wisdom. The moon reflects the light of the sun; it images the Son of God reflecting God’s radiant truth, understanding and wisdom. The moon does not generate its own light. Its ability to reflect light is God-designed for people to learn from creation about God’s heavenly matters. 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).

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 and Joseph’s half-brothers.

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. Joseph’s mother, Rachel, images the beloved church that Almighty God married in the wilderness. The leaders of this church were all the prophets and prophetesses throughout time dedicated to serving God and died, as Rachel did, prematurely while birthing a congregation.



Rachel gave birth to only two boys: Joseph and Benjamin. The spiritual stories that parallel them are revealed in the harvest imagery of the first of the firstfruits and the firstfruits. These are lights. In this chapter of time, Jacob imaged the sun, like Almighty God, and Rachel imaged the church loved by God. The stars imaged the twelve tribes of Israel who will overcome and form a radiant crown above the church. Joseph's jealous brothers will be ashamed when they are resurrected for the harm they did, the lies told and their betray of him. Their reaction to Joseph's dream reflected the future disrespect that would be shown by the tribes of Israel towards their Saviour and their rejection of him and his testimony.

While people from all twelve tribes will be saved (Romans 11:26), only two groups will be seen favourably by God. They are people mirrored in Joseph and Benjamin. Jesus Christ is mirrored in Joseph. The prophets and the prophetesses, as well as, those faithful and loyal saints are mirrored in Benjamin birthed out of the loved church who keep the commandments of God and follow Christ wherever he goes.

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

The spiritual story of Jacob, his two wives, their two concubines and their children reveal a stunning prophesy pointing to the Saviour of Israel and mankind, a devoted group of faithful and loyal people identified in the saints, a large group of people struggling to find the path to righteousness and their humble plea for forgiveness when they awaken to the horror of their spiritual state. 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 while in a mortal state.

Darkness is the absence of light. Rebels, in opposition to the ways of God and His law, live in darkness. They are deceitful and dangerous. The spiritual death of God's second creation on earth is one of their main objectives while trying to overthrow Almighty God and Jesus Christ.

God allowed the rogue, fallen angels to continue in rebellion during the mortal age of man. The purpose is 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..."*

“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 1:5-6, 8-9).

Whatever heavenly battles that have taken place unseen and unknown to mortals on earth, Jesus Christ stands tallest among every being in heaven. He was anointed to the highest office, like that of Joseph to Pharaoh who ruled second-in-charge, undertook all of the decision-making and had 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 fix the earth and make it habitable for His second creation, He first commanded the existence of light to be separated from darkness. It mirrors clarity between truth and lies.

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 carried 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. This woman is a religious body crowned with twelve stars imaging the righteous members of the twelve tribes

of Israel, like the 144,000 faithful of Revelation 14. She is held up by the moon, Jesus Christ, showing off his beloved bride.



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 and to save people. She embodies religious authority, 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 male and female. Hated by rogue 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 bound as one.

God's second creation is highly valued by God and He has announced that He will live with them.

## 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 on earth. He wants mankind to know His plan for them and yet, theologians often focus on surface teachings.

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, 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.

Two genders: male and female were 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 fitting 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.

Earth	Heaven
The male was <i>created first</i> .	The angels in heaven were created before mankind on earth.
The first man <i>named the animals</i> on earth and <i>rules</i> over them.	The angels have vast dominions in heaven filled with life forms. They rule over “hordes.”
National leadership is identified in the Bible using the male gender.	The angels hold national leadership positions. They are kings and princes.
Religious leadership is identified in the Bible using the female gender.	Mankind is destined to become a kingdom of holy, royal priests.
The Eve was created from the rib of Adam	Spiritual life is possible for mankind through the “rib” of Jesus Christ the last Adam. “So it is written: ‘The first man Adam became a living being;’ <b>the last Adam a life-giving spirit</b> ” (I Corinthians 15:45).
The rib protects the vital organs.	Eve was created to be part of the structure that protects the organization as a whole.
Eve [female gender] images mankind.	Mankind is destined to be part of the God family
Adam [male gender] images angels in heaven.	The angels are part of the God family. They are sons of God.
Adam sinned knowingly buying into the wiles of Satan.	Adam knowingly sinned against God, as did the fallen angels in heaven. “Nevertheless, death reigned from Adam until Moses even over those who had not sinned in <i>the likeness of the offense of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come</i> ” (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 woman is a mirror of the future union of heaven and earth.	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. Male and female image kingship and lordship.

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



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God Almighty is the ultimate KING and LORD. Jesus Christ has been already anointed ruler over *all* creation. He is King over all kings and Lord over all 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 over all lords.

The final key position remaining presently unfilled is the bride of Christ. This body of men and women are the saints from times past into the present and 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).

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, 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 priests, experts in God's ways, His teaching practices and living beings of grace, humility and righteousness. The priests will provide religious instruction, righteous direction and spiritual healing. The leadership of the priests will walk ahead of 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 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 law.**
  - 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.
  
- **Righteous national leadership bound with pure religious leadership is a complete image of God.**
  - The fall in heaven was a direct result of rogue national leaders who embrace 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.**
  - 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 perfect. 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 and seal.
- Stories that mirror history that God wants preserved.

God created two genders for the following reasons:

- To provide a window in 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 him already ruling over them. 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 that is complimentary and well-fitting to the first creation. 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 of what it mirrors in heaven and into eternity. The union of national and religious leadership only will be sanctioned by God.
- Christ is the last Adam. As if there was a series of Adams, Christ was the only one who 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 Judo-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, exciting holy and 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.

## THE RIDDLE among EVERYDAY STORIES

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

*out of the strong, something sweet”*

*(Judges 14:14).*

The story of Samson is a maze of mysteries orchestra by God, Himself. Samson lived during a time when the ancient Israelites were ruled by the haughty Philistines. He was a miracle baby. God opened the womb of Manoah’s wife and she conceived. From birth, Samson was a Nazirite set apart to serve God. He was not to drink wine or fermented drinks; he was not to cut his hair or eat anything unclean. As a Nazirite, he was to avoid contact with the dead, avoid areas where grapes are grown and fermented drinks are made and yet, Samson travelled through the vineyards of Timnah to visit and later marry a beautiful Philistine woman. On the way with his parents to visit this woman, a lion came roaring toward him and he killed it with his bare hands. As he returned to marry the Philistine woman, he saw the carcass of the lion and inside bees had built a honeycomb flowing with honey. He reached into the carcass and ate from the honey. Samson’s disregard of the Nazirite vow was part of the revelation in this story. Later, he used the jawbone of a donkey to strike down 1,000 men. He more than touched the dead and the unclean but gripped it with all his might. Samson was not pure before God, and yet, the Spirit of the LORD came upon him in power. He was a mirror of God’s people.

Samson’s calling was to initiate the deliverance of Israel from the rule of the Philistines. 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 because that tribe held onto pagan worship for many centuries.



Ancient Israel saw the power the nations worshipping their heavenly leaders had and they craved the glory of status among nations. The price for superpower status is the practice of heinous rituals involving child sacrifice. Often, ancient Israel was prepared to pay that price

and in exchange, the God of Israel subdued them by bringing them into captivity by those nations or under their oppressive rule. Samson 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. Applying God's coded language, Samson was offering these guards an opportunity to change their behaviour from sin to put on "linen garments"—that is, receive instruction on living God's way that produces righteous behaviour, if they could solve the riddle.



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

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

If their only understanding was that of mere honey and a lion, then they gained nothing. Their response is merely the surface of the riddle. The prophesy God had woven into the riddle was the Saviour of Israel and mankind, the Lion of Judah would be killed for the sins of Israel and mankind. He appears to be attacking Samson, but it is truly an image of the Son of God not tolerating sin.

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

A set apart people were violating God’s law and rejecting His way. Samson was a clear reflection of them, and yet, the Spirit of the LORD came upon him in power. Through God’s power, Samson tormented the Philistines, like an actor playing his part well, the story of the salvation of Israel from their enemy and a rich understanding of God’s word, sweeter than honey, was prophesied in the riddle that remains 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. As believers mature and grow in God’s grace and knowledge, the understanding of His word transforms from an undeveloped state into a rich, concentrated source of wisdom, like honey which is eternally fresh.

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

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

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

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

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

Our Father in heaven is perfect and will not and cannot sin. His wisdom is love. Trusting in our LORD Almighty brings peace.

King David prized understanding God’s word. He said, “*The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the judgements of the LORD are true, being altogether righteous. They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the comb*” (Psalm 19:9-10).



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

enemies.’ So, none of the troops tasted any food. Then all the troops entered the forest, and there was honey on the ground. And when they entered the forest and saw the flowing honey, not one of them put his hand to his mouth, because they feared the oath. Jonathan, however, had not heard that his father had charged the people with the oath. So, he reached out the end of the staff in his hand, dipped it into the honeycomb, and put his hand to his mouth; and his eyes brightened. Then one of the soldiers told him, “Your father bound the troops with a solemn oath, saying, ‘Cursed is the man who eats food today.’” That is why the people are faint. ‘My father has brought trouble to the land,’ Jonathan replied. ‘Just look at how my eyes have brightened because I tasted a little of this honey’” (I Samuel 14:24-29).

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

Valuing God’s wisdom, His word and standing strong under His flag under extreme duress, will bring great rewards, for God Almighty honours the faithful. The tribe of Dan is the only tribe not listed among the 144,000 of Revelation likely due to their long history of idolatry. In this story,



Samson is an image of God's people and their history of worshipping the gods of the nations and rejecting the God of Israel, the only true God—Creator. The Israelites craved the glory of having superpower status like that of Assyria, Babylon and Egypt. God was training them to be a kingdom of humble, God-fearing, God-serving priests.

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

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



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

When Samson was captured by the Philistines, they gouged out his eyes. They sentenced him to work grinding at the mill in the prison. Blind and humbled, Samson turned to the God of

Israel and asked for strength one more time. His hair had grown and God answered his final request with the strength that brought down the temple where over three thousand men and women were entertained by Samson. He lost his physical sight, but gained spiritual insight. He lost his physical life, but gained God's grace and support.

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

Samson 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 who are against them because their heavenly rulers are against the God of Israel and what can be expected at the end of this evil age, a righteous, God-fearing people with great spiritual strength fighting and winning against the enemy. The Apostle Paul said the only enemy God-fearing people fight against are the rogue, fallen rulers, powers and principalities in heaven and on earth (Ephesians 6:12).

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### **SOLUTION TO THE RIDDLE:**

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

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

*out of the strong, something sweet”*

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

*(Judges 14:14).*

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

The first shall be last and the last will be first. This principal applies to everything at every level. God's instructional strategy is designed to stir believers into investigating beyond the surface—to probe into the deep mind of God and discover His fascinating complexity of omniscience that baffles and confounds the curious human mind.

## HOSEA'S STORY

So much sensitive history would be lost to 21<sup>st</sup> century Judo-Christians except for the stories God preserved. The lost ten tribes of Israel were divorced by God because of their waning back and forth and their determination to live like the nations on earth. They craved power, superpower status, grandeur, self-determination and self-glory. God gave them their wish and He turned away.

Deeper and deeper into paganism the church of the ten tribes wandered serving the gods of the nations, intimately engaging in their perverted ways. One by one, the church was used and discarded until one day, the church was rescued. This is the story of Hosea and his wife.



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

At the time of Babel, God the Creator gave the members of His holy council rulership over the nations. He divided the nations accordingly and their job was to teach each nation the way of God and how to worship the Almighty God, the God of all gods.

“When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance, when he divided mankind, he fixed the borders of the peoples according to the number of His heavenly court” (Deuteronomy 32:8).

This exuberance of power and glory opened Pandora's magical box of potions and runes. All of these members of His court in heaven reveled, until they were incoherent from the ecstasy of their corruptive power over the nations. When nothing was left, they awoke changed forever, driven by self-elevation, self-determination, and self-glory. They quickly joined forces with God's ancient enemy and the plans for the overthrow of the Almighty God went into action with increased ferocity and determination.



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

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

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



Three children were born from Hosea and Gomer. The first child, a son, was called Jezreel. Lo-Ruhamah a daughter and Lo-Ammi a son, were born in harlotry.

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

Modern history tells of an alliance of people who have dropped more bombs on countries outside their own borders than any other nation in recorded history, disregarding all life. This

same alliance has devised products of mass financial destruction that has pushed the economy to teeter on the edge of a global catastrophe. The godless leadership of this alliance works to control resources and harness power, so that it can remain on the top. That is the story of the West and West Europe.

Gomer gave birth to a daughter, Lo-Ruhamah which means 'not loved/pitied' and then a son, Lo-Ammi which means 'not my people.' The consequences of serving the dark powers and principalities in high places include being cut off from God and cursed because of disobedience. God will not show love or pity for these people. He eventually cut them out of the covenant family; they became Gentiles.

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

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

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

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

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

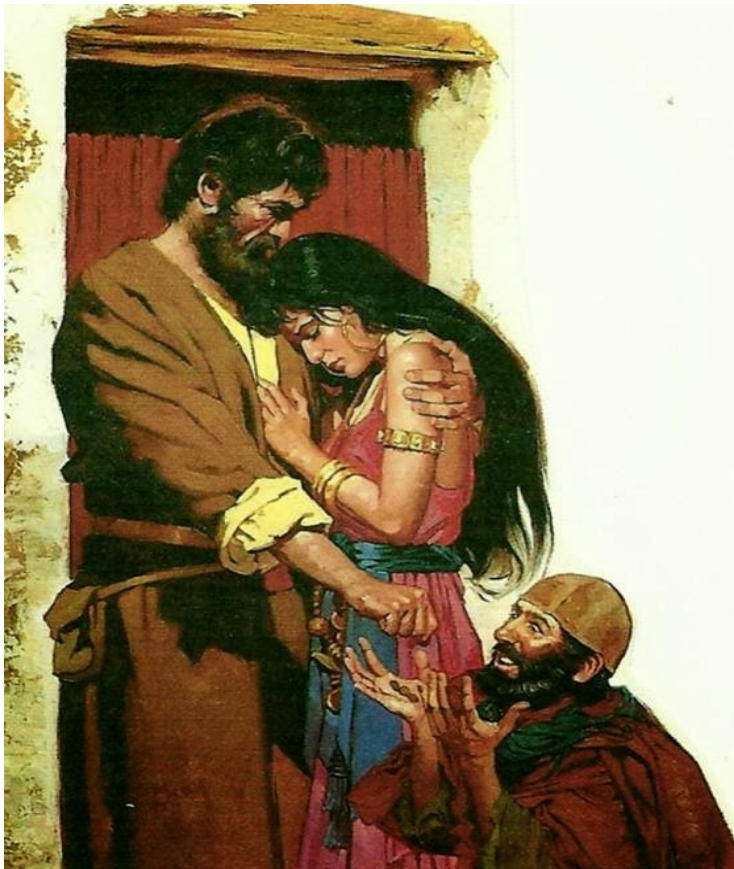
The house of Judah kept and continues to keep God's appointed feasts, but her sister, the house of Israel, was cut off from God for hundreds of years. They have forgotten those sacred celebrations. While scattered among the Gentiles, they picked up pagan traditions. During the ministry of the Apostles,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

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



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

God told Hosea to love Gomer again and love her how He loves the Israelites. Hosea found her at a slave market tethered to an auction block. She was wretched, weathered, dirty, and destitute. She had lost her youthful beauty and become a despised, degraded woman. Hosea



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was moved with compassion. He bought her for the price of a slave. Nobody wanted her. Hosea paid “fifteen shekels of silver and about a homer and a lethek of barley” (Hosea 3:2). Thirty shekels was the price for a servant (Exodus 21:32); the barley was the required sin offering for a woman’s unchastity. Hosea specifically paid in cash and grain to cover all legal obligations for his wife’s sin before man and God. Today, she has been redeemed and God refers to her as a virgin.

The story of the buying back of Israel is an account, rich in grace and mercy. It tells of the great love our Father in heaven has for His people. He gave His only heir to die for the disobedient houses of Judah and Israel and redeem all nations for their sins. Jesus Christ willingly gave his life because he has never stopped loving Israel and all of mankind, too. God is the head and

Christ is His body. They work as one; they are united in saving mankind. The secret redemption plan of mankind—the perfect sacrifice of Christ was kept hidden from the enemies of God. Paul knew the secret and their of their defeat.

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

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

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

**Christ gave the authority which He took as booty from his conquest over the rogue authorities and gifted it to His servants:** “...some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God’s people for works of services, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we ALL reach unity in the father and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ” (Ephesians 4:11-13).

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

After Christ died and was resurrected, He disarmed the gods ruling over the nations and imprisoned them in the lower parts of the earth, for now. These powers have been silenced and 21<sup>st</sup> century scholars have mythicized them. For many days, a possible two thousand years, the house of Israel has been without:

Their **KING** of kings [Christ] has not yet returned. They are without princes because these rogue “princes”—heavenly rulers have been imprisoned.

The **SACRIFICES** to God brought awareness and forgiveness of sin, which came to an end with the destruction of the last temple in 70 AD. The placement of sacred stones taught by the mystic pagan priests as objects of power, charms of protection and guarantees of blessings and healings are no longer practiced.

The **EPHOD** is part of the official dress of the High Priest in Israel. It is symbolic of true religious practice while the household idols are symbolic of false practice. (Hosea 3:4).

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

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

God longs to redeem Israel, but “Israel is swallowed up; now she is among the nations like a worthless thing... Ephraim has sold herself to lovers (Hosea 8:8)... Ephraim will return to Egypt and eat unclean food in Assyria (Hosea 9:3)... The days of punishment are coming, the days of reckoning are at hand. Let Israel know this. Because your sins are so many and your hostility so great, the prophet is considered a fool, the inspired man a maniac... They have sunk deep into corruption, as in the days of Gibeah. God will remember their wickedness and punish them for their sins (Hosea 9:7-9)... Woe to them when I turn away from them! (Hosea 9:12)... All their

leaders are rebellious. Ephraim is blighted, their root is withered, they yield no fruit... They will be wanderers among the nations” (Hosea 9:12-16). “My people are determined to turn from me” (Hosea 11:7).

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

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

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

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

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

There won’t be just a few people from each of the twelve tribes, but everyone remaining in all ten tribes will repent and all of those remaining in the house of Judah. Millions will repent and turn to God. The world watching will be amazed!

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

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

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

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

The wayward house of Israel will awaken to their sins. They will say, “Assyria cannot save us, we will not mount war-horses. We will never say ‘Our gods’...” (Hosea 14:3). “Come, let us return to the LORD. He has torn us to pieces but he will heal us; he has injured us but he will bind up our

wounds. He will revive us after two days; He will raise us up on the third day, that we may live before Him” (Hosea 6:1-2).

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

God’s people will repent and their churches will teach God’s word. Still in the future, this purification will take place and then relationships will grow and blossom.

Hosea was given **battered** shoes to wear by God during his life to preserve a record of the history of the church of the ten tribes and her repentance, her return to her husband and on the near horizon, her blossoming intimate relationship with God and her love for her Saviour, Jesus Christ.

## THE Shoes GIVEN TO WEAR

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

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

This blind man was given by God **dilapidated shoes** to wear, through no fault of his own, to reveal that God has woven in the lives of ordinary people the deep things of God.



The spiritual story orchestrated by Almighty God was preserved through a selected people given shoes to wear and a path to walk, so that 21<sup>st</sup> century Judo-Christians would come to know and understand the spiritual battle at raging in the shadows working to silence history. Nothing has been lost; the whole story is preserved for today and into the Millennium when the nations of 21<sup>st</sup> century Israel—the wayward churches of Revelation “all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ... no longer infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming” (Ephesians 4:13-14a).

The patriarchs and their wives were all given shoes to wear and a path to walk that was difficult and meshed with troubles.

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



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

Jacob was devastated; God Almighty was devastated. Jacob felt God's pain; 21<sup>st</sup> century believers who understand the mirroring, feel God's pain. Jacob was given **tight shoes** to wear to the day he died. He described his life to Pharaoh of Egypt as "The years of my pilgrimage are a hundred and thirty. My years have been few and difficult" (Genesis 47:9).

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

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

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

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

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

**Rachel was born beautiful but barren, no fault of her own.** Rachel was selected by God to wear **beautiful but delicate shoes**. Her shoes wore out quickly; she died young. In addition, the beautiful shoes did not make her happy; she felt ashamed that she could not conceive and troubled, unable to understand why. Her life mirrored the loved prophets who came to an end a long time ago. Jesus was the last prophet who would also die in Jerusalem.

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

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

Rachel mirrored the prophets and prophetesses. Her name is used by Jeremiah and understood by Matthew as the faithful mother church loved by God crying for the righteous congregation who are not living safely in the Holy Land under God’s rule, but among wolves and serpents in this evil world.

The righteous congregation that would come from the prophets throughout the ages, would be a small remnant who keep the commandments of God, His Holy Days and the Sabbath. God knew it would take a miracle, that is, the receiving of God’s Holy Spirit—the opening of the womb by God—for the righteous church to birth a righteous congregation. The prophets died before the fruits of their labor were visible.

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

Rachel’s two children: Joseph mirrors the life of Christ and Benjamin mirrors the life of the saints who will become Christ’s bride. Rachel’s life was shortened by no fault of her own. She was given shoes to wear from God that mirror the life of the loved church infiltrated by false prophets, persecuted and died before their time.

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

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



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

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

Then, one day Jesus arrived at the well, built by Jacob many centuries earlier. She acknowledged that they were both from the tribes of Israel. Jesus, a Jew from the house of Judah and the woman, also a descendant from Jacob, likely from the house of Joseph.

*“Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour... Jesus said to her, ‘Give me a drink...’ The woman said to him, ‘Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob?’” (John 4:5-6, 11-12).*

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

*“Jesus answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel” (Matthew 15:24).*

They were ready to finally obey God.

Like the church of the ten tribes of Israel, the woman at the well searched for a husband for love that did not exist from those she sought. The church was a discarded body like the woman at the well. Her life was a conundrum of failed relationships. God knew that she could endure the shoes that He had given her to wear because deep inside, she was strong, just like the 10-tribed church of Israel who on the surface was lost and wandering, but her roots were alive and well.

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

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

The church of the ten tribes of Israel was once known for who they are: the house of Israel. But after the divorce from their Hebrew God, they became part of the Gentile world. After their repentance, Jesus brought them back into the covenant family and they became known as Christians, followers of Christ. Songs of grace fill their hearts playing non-stop from one generation to the next, thankful and grateful to their Hebrew God, the Great Creator, the Almighty for His grace and His warm welcome back under His care.

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

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

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



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

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

Urged by those with him to listen, he returned and followed the instructions of Elisha. As he washed, he witnessed his own body healing rapidly and renewing itself back into the form of a robust, young man. This story is preserved for yet a future time, when the ten nations of 21<sup>st</sup> century Israel are healed of their spiritual, decaying condition. They will be humbly grateful that God preserved the many important events that brought these rebels back onto the path of righteousness, while they were lost and wandering across Europe lawlessly. These events are often a shadow of the greater one to come.

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

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

From a far off, God saw the prodigal son returning home.

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

Naaman's life was a series of self-revelations and witnesses that changed his allegiance forever. His faith in the Hebrew God surpassed any allegiance to any other god. His story is the mirror of the lost ten tribes of Israel. Their return to their God brought the re-introduction of God's laws and His order into the laws of their land. While their fervour has waned in our present day,

soon, distress unlike no other, will ignite their loyalty where they will stand strong under the flag of the God of the Hebrews.



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

Eighteen long years God gave this woman **heavy construction boots**

that pulled her closer and closer to the ground. Her story provides a vivid illustration for 21<sup>st</sup> century Judo-Christians of the crumpled state of the Jewish church that won’t be healed by Christ until the Millennium—on the Sabbath. Her condition mirrors the greater story of the Jewish church that within a 24-hour period being a full day—period of time, three-quarters of that time, they have been crippled from the heavy burdens placed on them by their religious leaders.

“They tie up heavy, cumbersome loads and put them on other people's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to lift a finger to move them” (Matthew 23:4).

Jesus saw the woman and had sympathy for her. He called to her and healed her on the Sabbath. God knew that this woman, bent over for eighteen long years was worthy to wear the heavy construction boots because she was humble and faithful. She had great persevering strength, like the righteous in the house of Judah who do bare the burdens of the traditions of the elders. They have a long history of carrying heavy burdens:

- They rebuilt the second temple despite so many obstacles
- They honored and preserved the oracles of God during times of peace and adversity—alone, while their brothers who are many—the 10 tribes—flirted with the gods.
- They revere Moses, God’s commandments, His Sabbath and Holy Days.

“Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest” (Matthew 11:28).



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



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

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

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

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



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

All of the crippled, the lame, the deaf, the blind and dumb in the gospels were healed. It was not necessarily any fault of their own. All of these people, whether they are sinners or not, mirror the countless spiritual deformities within all of the twelve tribes of Israel. They cannot understand the word of God; they don't keep God's commandments; they fail to value God's Holy Days and His Sabbath; they wander easily away from God; they love self-glory, self-direction and self-reliance. Yet, Jesus healed them. He is able to heal any condition. It will take the Millennium reign of Christ to bring spiritual healing to the world.

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

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

Suffering is always the result of sins, rather the mechanism to strength and fortify character in righteousness. “For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in His footsteps” (I Peter 2:21).

The Apostle Paul reminded us that suffering during this evil age is inevitable. “For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him” (Philippians 1:29).

“...they strengthened the believers. They encouraged them to continue in the faith, reminding them that we must suffer many hardships to enter the Kingdom of God” (Acts 14:22).

The Bible is full of stories of people given shoes to wear by God. In fact, both genders: male and female wear different shoes from each other, so that the 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will understand their spiritual journey. Soon, everything will be made clear. Until then, continue to walk humbly with God on the path of righteousness, having accepted the shoes given to you, exercising the faith during your walk on earth. Blessed are those who are participants of the greater story.

## FORESHADOWS

“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).

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

“For these rules are only **shadows of the reality yet to come**. And Christ himself is that reality”  
(Colossians 2:17).



The New Testament is clear that events that happened in the past are a foreshadow of greater events in the future. It is God’s method of transparency revealing His plan to His people. He is not a God of secret societies, but a God who has applied imagery on earth to mirror spiritual matters, using numbers to point to the invisible, speaking in parables to hide the truth from the wicked and clarify His word for believers, preserving stories to preserve history and foreshadowing as a type of hologram of future events. This is all by design so that nobody can say that they couldn’t know and understand spiritual matters. “Things which are a *mere shadow of what is to come*; but the substance belongs to Christ” (Colossians 2:17)

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

God is plain and simple. The disciples all understood. Even the prophets saw as through a glass darkly things that were to come. The people of ancient Israel were an example for believers today.

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

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

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

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

The foreshadow of Yeshua HaMashiach as the Saviour for all of mankind is discussed by many theologians and Biblical scholars. Joel Settecase provides a succinct list of events and the supporting scriptures that record the Old Testament foreshadow and the New Testament fulfilment of Christ's redemptive sacrifice.

<https://settecase.wordpress.com/2018/03/29/this-is-apologetics-an-argument-from-the-bibles-hyper-specific-foreshadowing-of-jesus-death/>

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

Joel Settecase lists:



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Foreshadowed: “He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth.”

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- **He would be scourged.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Fulfilled: John 19:20, 34 – “Many of the Jews read this sign, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city.... But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear....”

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

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

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

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

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

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

- **He would be offered gall.**

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

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

- **He would be offered vinegar.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

After the ancient Israelites left Egypt, God Almighty—their King, moved ahead of them by fire at night and a cloud by day. The angel of the LORD moved to the rear protecting them from behind.

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

God Almighty, the God of Israel is the LORD of the Old Testament. “The LORD went ahead of them. He guided them during the day with a pillar of cloud, and he provided light at night with a pillar of fire. This allowed them to travel by day or by night” (Exodus 13:21).

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

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

The accepted redemptive sacrifice of the angel of the LORD was the first critical step to the salvation of mankind. This sacrifice is foreshadowed in the Passover supper. A young male lamb

without blemish was killed and the blood of this lamb was painted on the door post of every home by ancient Israel before exiting out of Egypt.

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

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

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

Forgotten in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, is the joy Christians felt when Jesus welcomed them back into the covenant family. Amazing grace has never been forgotten. Sung regularly; it will be heard for all eternity by the humbled, repentant people of the ten tribes of Israel. They are imaged in the story of the prodigal son who returned to his father after wasting his inheritance and living in squalor.

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

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

“Son of man, say to Pharaoh king of Egypt and to his hordes: ‘Who can be compared with you in majesty?’” (Ezekiel 31:1) God urged this heavenly ruler to consider the fate of the heavenly ruler over Assyria on earth who was envied by all the leaders in God's family and yet, he fell. This renown member in God's heavenly court became proud and arrogant because of the

height to which his leadership grew. This leader was brought down by God and now God lamented, as He warned the heavenly ruler over Egypt, “Yet you, too, will be brought below; you will lie among the uncircumcised [wicked], with those killed by the sword [judged and sentenced by the law of God]. This is Pharaoh and all his hordes,” declares the LORD (Ezekiel 31:18).

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The great second exodus was recorded in the Old Testament by Zechariah.

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

The parallels between the first and second exodus are remarkable.

	First Exodus	Second Exodus
	 <p>Philipcaruso-story.com</p>	 <p><a href="http://crossinthewilderness.blogspot.ca/2013_02_17_archive.html">http://crossinthewilderness.blogspot.ca/2013_02_17_archive.html</a></p>
Time	The ancient Israelites left in haste during the dark of morning after the Passover. They were told to eat in haste mirroring the urgency to exit sin and celebrate Christ’s victory on the cross that would	A GREATER EXODUS: The 21 <sup>st</sup> century Judo-Christians will not leave in haste. They will be a repentant, God-fearing and God-trusting people who will not fear their enemy (Isaiah 52:11-12).



	bring them salvation. They left in the Spring God’s designated time when life begins each year.	They will know their God and know He will totally protect them. Their exodus will likely take place in the Spring.
Population	Over 2 million people left. They include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 603,550 counted men, twenty years and over who could serve in Israel’s army (Numbers 1:46).</li> <li>• Plus, older men, young boys, girls, and women</li> </ul>	Over 200 million people will exit from the second captivity. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One-third of 21<sup>st</sup> century twelve tribes—nations of Israel. “I will bring into the fire; refine them like silver and test them like gold. They will call on my name and I will answer them” (Zechariah 13:9).</li> </ul>
Bondage	Israelites were in bondage. “And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage, in mortar, and in brick, and in all manner of service in the field: all their service, wherein they made them serve, was with rigor” (Exodus 1:14).	Israelites will return into captivity because of their sins. “In that day,’ declares the LORD Almighty, ‘I will break the yoke off their necks and will tear off their bonds; no longer will foreigners enslave them” (Jeremiah 30:8).
Israel cried for deliverance	Israel cried out in Egypt to the God of their fathers, and before they are delivered. “And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them.” (Exodus 3:9; 2:24)	21 <sup>st</sup> century Israel will be taken into captivity and they will plead to God for rescue.  “I have surely heard Ephraim’s moaning...” (Jeremiah 31:18)
Ransomed	Israelites ransomed from the hand of someone stronger—Egypt.	21 <sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will again be ransomed from the hand of someone stronger. “For the LORD will deliver Jacob and redeem them from the hand of those stronger than they.” (Jeremiah 31:11)
Gathered	The Israelites were already gathered as one family in Egypt.	“In that day the LORD will thresh from the flowing Euphrates to the Wadi of Egypt, and you, O Israelites, will be gathered one by one” (Isaiah 27:12).
Nation/s	The God of Israel pulled ONE nation out of ONE nation.  “Has any god ever tried to take for himself one nation out of another nation...” (Deuteronomy 4:34)	A GREATER EXODUS: The God of Israel is going to pull the Israelites who are now many nations from out of all the nations over the world.  “I will gather you and your children from east and west and from north and south. I will bring

		<p>my sons and daughters back to Israel from the distant corners of the earth.” (Isaiah 43:6)</p> <p>"I will surely bring my people back again from all the countries where I will scatter them in my fury. I will bring them back to this very city and let them live in peace and safety." (Jeremiah 32:37)</p>
Traveled	Traveled by foot	<p>A GREATER EXODUS: Returning captives will travel over land on the Highway of Holiness (Isaiah 35:8) also from the air and on boats.</p> <p>“Who are these who fly like a cloud, and like doves to their roosts? Surely the coastlands shall wait for Me; and <i>the ships of Tarshish will come first, to bring your sons from afar</i>, their silver and their gold with them, to the name of the Lord your God, and to the Holy One of Israel, because He has glorified you.” (Isaiah 60:8-9)</p>
Leave with riches	<p>When ancient Israel left, the Egyptians gave them riches.</p> <p>“The LORD caused the Egyptians to look favorably on the Israelites, and they gave the Israelites whatever they asked for. So, they stripped the Egyptians of their wealth!” (Exodus 12:36)</p> <p>“He brought Israel out with silver and gold, and none among His tribes stumbled. (Psalm 105:37).</p>	<p>The exiting 21<sup>st</sup> century Israelites will be treated as royalty and given a wealth of riches.</p> <p>“Who are these who fly like a cloud, and like doves to their roosts? Surely the coastlands shall wait for Me; and the ships of Tarshish will come first, to bring your sons from afar, <i>their silver and their gold with them</i>, to the name of the Lord your God, and to the Holy One of Israel, because He has glorified you.” (Isaiah 60:8-9)</p> <p>“I will give you the treasures of darkness and the riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that I am the LORD, the God of Israel, who calls you by name” (Isaiah 45:3).</p>
Distance	The distance was short from Egypt to Canaan.	A GREATER EXODUS: The distance will be far and wide when the many Israelites from ALL over the world return.
Miracles and Wonders	<p>The God of Israel parted the Red Sea.</p> <p>“Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the LORD drove back the sea with a strong east wind that</p>	<p>A GREATER EXODUS: The God of Israel will part every ocean and every sea necessary to get His people home.</p> <p>“The LORD will devote to destruction the gulf of the Sea of Egypt; with a scorching wind He will</p>

	<p>turned it into dry land. So the waters were divided, and the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with walls of water on their right and on their left” (Exodus 14:21-22).</p> <p>“Has any god ever tried to take for himself one nation out of another nation, by testings, by miraculous signs and wonders, by war, by a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, or by great and awesome deeds, like all the things the Lord your God did for you in Egypt before your very eyes?” (Deuteronomy 4:34)</p>	<p>sweep His hand over the Euphrates. He will split it into seven streams for men to cross with dry sandals. There will be a highway for the remnant of His people who remain from Assyria, as there was for Israel when they came up from the land of Egypt” (Isaiah 11:15-16).</p> <p>“The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up to prepare the way for the kings from the East” (Revelation 16:12).</p>
<p>The exodus was prophesied</p>	<p>Joseph said that they will exit and to take his bones with them.</p> <p>“By faith Joseph, when his end was near, spoke about the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt and gave instructions concerning the burial of his bones” (Hebrews 11:22).</p>	<p>A GREATER EXODUS: This exodus will be remembered as the crescendo of God’s work molding His people.</p> <p>“It will no longer be said, ‘As the LORD lives, who brought up the sons of Israel out of the land of Egypt,’ but, ‘As the LORD lives, who brought up the sons of Israel from the land of the north and from all the countries where He had banished them.’ For I will restore them to their own land which I gave to their fathers” (Jeremiah 16:14-15, Jeremiah 23:7-8).</p>
<p>United/ re-united</p>	<p>When the Israelites left, they were ONE family, ONE kingdom.</p>	<p>A GREATER EXODUS: The healing of a fractured kingdom will take place. When the Israelites return to the land of the forefathers, they will be RE-UNITED into ONE kingdom.</p> <p>“For behold, the days are coming,” says the Lord, “that I will bring back from <i>captivity My people Israel and Judah</i>,” says the Lord. “And I will cause them to return to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they shall possess it.” (Jeremiah 30:1-3)</p> <p>“I am going to take the stick of Joseph—which is in Ephraim’s hand—and the Israelite tribes with him and join it to Judah’s stick with the Israelites</p>

		with him, making them one single stick of wood in my hand.” (Ezekiel 37:19)
Plagues/ Tribulation	<p>The Israelites went through tribulation (the plagues) prior to their exodus.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Water Turned to Blood</li> <li>2. The Plague of Frogs</li> <li>3. The Plague of Lice</li> <li>4. The Plague of Flies</li> <li>5. The Plague of Murrain</li> <li>6. The Plague of Boils</li> <li>7. The Plague of Hail</li> <li>8. The Plague of Locusts</li> <li>9. The Plague of Darkness</li> <li>10. Death of the Firstborn</li> </ol> <p>(Exodus 7-11; Psalms 78:42-51; 105:27-36)</p>	<p>EVENTS AND TRIBULATION LIKE NO OTHER TIME PRIOR TO THE GREATER EXODUS: The Israelites will go through the great tribulation—Jacob’s trouble, an unprecedented crisis. There will be none is like it nor ever again will there be one like it.</p> <p>“For thus says the Lord: ‘We have heard a voice of trembling, of fear, and not of peace. Ask now, and see, whether a man is ever in labor with child? So why do I see every man with his hands on his loins like a woman in labor, and all faces turned pale? Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it; and it is the time of Jacob’s trouble, but he shall be saved out of it’” (Jeremiah 30:5-7).</p> <p>"Therefore, when you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (whoever reads, let him understand), then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains... For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened" (Matthew 24:15-16, 21-22).</p>
Birth	<p>The tribulation of the first exodus was fully effective. The people were not birthed into a spiritual state that could lead them into a true, lasting repentance and relationship with God.</p> <p>“The heart or spirit of a man is the center of his thought, reason, and motivation. Because of human nature, the natural—unconverted—heart is "deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked" (Jeremiah 17:9).</p>	<p>The GREAT tribulation will birth the remnant of the 21st century nations of Israel into a new spiritual state that leads to a true, ever-lasting repentance and intimate relationship with God.</p> <p>“...I see every man with his hands on his loins like a woman in labor, and all faces turned pale? Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it; and it is the time of Jacob's trouble, but he shall be saved out of it” (Jeremiah 30:5-7).</p> <p>“And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy,</p>

	<p>The Old Covenant that God made with Israel was a good agreement but, the ancient Israelites lacked the right heart that would have allowed them to follow God truly and obey His laws.</p>	<p>your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions” (Joel 2:28).</p> <p>“And he said, It is a light thing that thou shouldest be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel: I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth” (Isaiah 49:6).</p> <p>“And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications” (Zechariah 12:10).</p>
All/ remnant	<p>All of the Israelites left Egypt. From those who left Egypt, only Joshua and Caleb entered the Promised Land.</p> <p>God would not allow those who did not put their trust in Him enter the Holy Land.</p>	<p>Again, God will not allow the disobedient to enter the Promised Land.</p> <p>“I will take note of you as you pass under my staff, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant. I will urge you of those who revolt and rebel against me. Although I will bring them out of the land where they are living, yet they will not enter the land of Israel. Then you will know that I am the LORD” (Ezekiel 20:37-38).</p> <p>Only a remnant will return even though they were of the sand of the sea. “Though your people be like the sand by the sea, Israel, only a remnant will return. Destruction has been decreed, overwhelming and righteous” (Hosea 10:22).</p>
Death of the firstborn	<p>The death of the firstborn affected only those who did not paint the blood of the lamb on their door posts.</p> <p>“The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are... I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt” (Exodus 12:13).</p>	<p>All of the people who accept the redemptive sacrifice of Jesus Christ will not die spiritually. Eternal life is now offered again to all of mankind.</p> <p>“And this righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no distinction, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus” (Romans 3:22-24).</p>

<p>Saved</p>	<p>The Israelites were saved out of their suffering.</p> <p>“During the night Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron and said, ‘Up! Leave my people, you and the Israelites! Go, worship the Lord as you have requested...’” (Exodus 12:31)</p>	<p>The Israelites will suffer loss but Jeremiah promises that Jacob will be saved out of his trouble. Even though that "day" is great, and like nothing we have seen before, it will not be the end of Jacob (Jeremiah 30:7).</p> <p>“Therefore, do not fear, O My servant Jacob," says the Lord, "Nor be dismayed, O Israel; for behold, <i>I will save you from afar, and your seed from the land of their captivity.</i> Jacob shall return, have rest and be quiet, and no one shall make him afraid. For I am with you," says the Lord, "to save you; though I make a full end of all nations where I have scattered you, yet <i>I will not make a complete end of you. But I will correct you in justice, and will not let you go altogether unpunished</i>" (Jeremiah 30:8-11).</p>
<p>Established/ GREAT restoration</p>	<p>When the Israelites arrived in the Promised land, there were houses for them to live in and produce from the previous peoples.</p> <p>“When the Lord your God has destroyed the nations whose land He is giving you, and when you have driven them out and settled in their towns and houses...” (Deuteronomy 19:1).</p>	<p>When the Israelites return to the land of their forefathers, they will have to rebuild it. They will be blessed and become richer and increase more than ever before.</p> <p>"Behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "when the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him who sows seed; the mountains shall drip with sweet wine, and all the hills shall flow with it. I will bring back the captives of My people Israel; they shall build the waste cities and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and drink wine from them; they shall also make gardens and eat fruit from them. I will plant them in their land, and no longer shall they be pulled up from the land I have given them," says the LORD your God (Amos 9:13-15).</p> <p>“The land will produce abundantly, the people will multiply, and the old cities will be rebuilt” (Ezekiel 36:8-12).</p>
<p>Leadership</p>	<p>The Israelites began with strong God-fearing leaders: Moses, Aaron and Joshua, but over the years their leadership wavered and waned. Peace and prosperity did not last.</p>	<p>THE GREATER EXODUS WILL BRING ETERNALLY GREAT LEADERS: The Israelites will have perfect leadership this time. Peace and prosperity will last (Jeremiah 23:3-7; Hosea 3:5; Micah 2:12-13).</p>



		<p>King David will rule of the house of Israel.  “And David my servant shall be king over them; and they all shall have one shepherd: they shall also walk in my judgements, and observe my statutes, and do them” (Ezekiel 37:24-25).</p> <p>The twelve apostles will be resurrected and sit as judges over the twelve tribes, ensuring that proper judgement is given (Matthew 19:28; Luke 22:30).</p>
Ephraim, the leader	<p>Ephraim in ancient times was feared and well respected.</p> <p>“When Ephraim spoke, people trembled; he was exalted in Israel. But he became guilty of Baal worship and died” (Hosea 13:1).</p>	<p>Ephraim will resume his place as God's son. Ephraim was the leading tribe in the north and often represents all of the northern ten tribes. Ephraim will repent sincerely.</p> <p>"You have chastised me, and I was chastised, like an untrained bull; restore me, and <i>I will return, for You are the LORD my God</i>. Surely, after my turning, I repented; and after I was instructed, I struck myself on the thigh; I was ashamed, yes, even humiliated, because I bore the reproach of my youth" (Jeremiah 31:18-20).</p> <p>“For there will be a day when watchmen will call out on the hills of Ephraim, ‘Arise, let us go up to Zion, to the LORD our God!’” (Jeremiah 31:6)</p> <p>“For I am Israel’s Father, and Ephraim is My firstborn” (Jeremiah 31:9b). This scripture is referring to the Christians born last in the family as Ephraim was the youngest from Joseph, his father. So those Christians born last—in the latter days, who without a doubt have accepted Christ as their Saviour will be the first to be resurrected—the first born.</p>
Aware of their nationality	<p>The ancient Israelites all knew their birth tribes.</p>	<p>The house of Judah knows their roots but the house of Israel has today forgotten them. They will know soon enough because when they return to the land, it will be distributed according to their tribes and believers from other nations who come with them can choose which tribe they want to live among, living as native-citizens of Israel (Ezekiel 47:21-23).</p>

<p>A renewed covenant</p>	<p>The Israelites agreed to the covenant at Mt. Sinai, but they did not have the Holy Spirit to keep it.</p> <p>“For thus says the Lord God, “I will also do with you as you have done, you who have despised the oath by breaking the covenant” (Ezekiel 15:69).</p> <p>“It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they did not remain faithful to my covenant, and I turned away from them, declares the Lord” (Hebrews 8:9).</p>	<p>Both houses of Israel (Judah and Israel) will make a new covenant; this time given the Holy Spirit they will have a willing heart to obey (Jeremiah 31:31-34, Ezekiel 11:17-20; 36:24-29).</p> <p>This new covenant is a renewed covenant made possible by receiving God’s Holy Spirit.</p> <p>“I will give them an undivided heart and put a new spirit in them; I will remove from them their heart of stone and give them a heart of flesh” (Ezekiel 11:19).</p> <p>“The days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will make <i>a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah</i>. But this is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD. I will put My law in their minds and inscribe it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they will be My people. No longer will each man teach his neighbor or his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ because they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquities and will remember their sins no more” (Jeremiah 31:31, 33-34).</p>
<p>Israel married to God</p>	<p>Israel was married to God at Mt. Sinai. “And all the people answered together, ‘We will do everything that the LORD has spoken.’ So, Moses brought their words back to the LORD” (Exodus 19:8).</p> <p>God proposed an intimate relationship with Him, one that only a husband and wife share. They accepted, but they did not keep their agreement.</p> <p>“For your husband is your Maker—the LORD of Hosts is His name—the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer; He is called the God of all the earth” (Isaiah 54:5).</p> <p>“Return, faithless people,” declares the LORD, “for I am your husband. I will</p>	<p>21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will re-marry God meaning that their relationship with Him will be eternally, tightly bound as if they are one. Israel will be comforted, be given hope, and will finally call God "My Husband" (Hosea 2:14-16).</p> <p>God has offered His people an intimate relationship with them, sharing His every dearest plan and thought. He established the marriage arrangement to mirror this type of intimacy. Only after His Holy Spirit is given are these mysteries understood and valued.</p>

	choose you—one from a town and two from a clan—and bring you to Zion” (Jeremiah 3:14).	
Go joyously/ Return weeping	Israelites called out to God for deliverance. “During that long period, the king of Egypt died. The Israelites groaned in their slavery and cried out, and their cry for help because of their slavery went up to God” (Exodus 2:23).	The Israelites will return with weeping and pleas of mercy (Jeremiah 31:9, 50:4). The tribulation will humble them. Now they can see both how they have fallen short and what is expected of them, they finally recognize that they need God.  "In those days, at that time," declares the LORD, " <i>the people of Israel and the people of Judah together will go in tears to seek the LORD their God</i> " (Jeremiah 50:4).
Spiritual rejuvenation	Israel went through a spiritual instruction with the receiving of the covenant at Mt. Sinai but not a transformation.  God’s covenant with Abraham: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• His descendants would become great nation</li> <li>• The land of Canaan would be given to him</li> <li>• Ultimately all nations on earth would be blessed through him by the birth of Jesus from the tribe of Judah</li> </ul> God’s covenant with Moses at Mt. Sinai: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Was built upon the covenant He made with Abraham</li> <li>• If they obeyed they would be blessed and curses when disobedient (Leviticus 26)</li> </ul> At Mount Sinai, Israel learned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They were the great nation that God had promised to Abraham</li> <li>• They were the ones who would inherit the land of Canaan</li> <li>• Ultimately, their responsibility was to be a blessing to all the nations.</li> </ul>	The 21 <sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will undergo a lasting spiritual transformation.  “But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more”(Jeremiah 31:31-34, also Ezekiel 37:26; Jeremiah 50:5, 20).  “So, the ransomed of the LORD will return, and come with joyful shouting to Zion, and everlasting joy will be on their heads. They will obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing will flee away” (Isaiah 51:11, 35:10).

	<p>The implications were clear: the LORD would be Israel’s God, and Israel would be His people (Exodus 19).</p>	
<p>Exodus, a witness to the world</p>	<p>The exodus and their claiming the land of Canaan was a great witness to the ancient world of the power of the God of Israel who declared himself the Almighty God, the supreme God above all gods.</p> <p>“I know that the Lord has given this land to you and that a great fear of you has fallen on us, so that all who live in this country are melting in fear because of you... We heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red Sea... and what you did to Sihon and Og... When we heard of it, our hearts sank and everyone’s courage failed... for the Lord your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below” (Joshua 2:8-11).</p>	<p>The 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will go through Jacob’s trouble. They will be attacked and the remaining remnant will be taken into captivity where they will complete the witness of the gospel to the whole world.</p> <p>“The nations will see your righteousness, and all kings your glory” (Isaiah 62:2).</p> <p>At the same time, the two houses of the kingdom of Israel will be held captive and rescued by their God.</p> <p>“The people of Israel are oppressed, and the people of Judah as well. All their captors hold them fast, refusing to let them go. Yet the Redeemer is strong; Yahuah (YHWH) Almighty is his name. He will vigorously defend their cause so that he may bring rest to their land, but unrest to those who live in Babylon” (Jeremiah 50:33-34).</p> <p>“At that time, I will gather you; At that time, I will bring you home. I will give you honor and praise among all the peoples of the earth when I restore your fortunes before your very eyes” (Zephaniah 3:20).</p> <p>“And he said, ‘It is a light thing that thou shouldest be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel: I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth’” (Isaiah 49:6).</p> <p>“Many peoples will come and say, ‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the temple of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths.’ The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem” (Isaiah 2:3).</p>

<p>People from different nations will join Israel</p>	<p>Some foreigners left with Israel. These people were required to keep God’s laws too.</p> <p>“Many other people went up with them, and also large droves of livestock, both flocks and herds” (Exodus 12:38).</p> <p>“But you must keep my decrees and my laws. The native-born and the foreigners residing among you must not do any of these detestable things” (Leviticus 18:26).</p>	<p>Even though God makes this covenant primarily with Israel and Judah (Jeremiah 31:31), it is not limited to them.</p> <p>Gentiles who submit themselves to God will also join them.</p> <p>“The Lord will have compassion on Jacob; once again he will choose Israel and will settle them in their own land. Aliens will join them and unite with the House of Jacob” (Isaiah 14:1).</p> <p>The Sabbath will be kept by those wishing to join the house of Israel (Isaiah 56:1-2, 6-8).</p>
<p>The rebellious will not enter into the Holy Land</p>	<p>In the wilderness, some Israelites died due to rebellion and the whole of Israel who left Egypt except for Joshua and Caleb died in the wilderness.</p> <p>“Now Korah..., took men. And they rose up before Moses, with a number of the people of Israel, 250 chiefs of the congregation, chosen from the assembly, well-known men. They assembled themselves together against Moses and against Aaron and said to them, “You have gone too far! For all in the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the Lord is among them. Why then do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the Lord? ...wrath has gone out from the Lord; the plague has begun... Now those who died in the plague were 14,700, besides those who died in the affair of Korah” (Numbers 16:1-4;46-50).</p>	<p>Again, God will not allow rebels to enter the Holy Land.</p> <p>Just as I entered into judgement with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so I will enter into judgement with you, declares the Lord GOD. I will make you pass under the rod and will bring you into the bond of the covenant. I will purge you of those who rebel and transgress against Me. I will bring them out of the land in which they dwell, but they will not enter the land of Israel. Then you will know that I am the LORD” (Ezekiel 20:37-38).</p>
<p>Two different hearts</p>	<p>Heart of stone:          “The people that could not truly love as God exclaims, "Oh, that they [Israel] had such a heart in them that they would fear Me and always keep all My commandments, that it might be well with them and with their children forever!" (Deuteronomy 5:29)</p>	<p>A new heart of flesh:          Ezekiel 11:17, 19-21 foretells of Israel and Judah receiving from God a new heart—a spiritual heart that will enable them to keep His commandments and statutes.</p> <p>"Thus says the Lord GOD: 'I will gather you from the peoples, assemble you from the countries</p>

	<p>God again identifies the problem that hinders His people from honouring their covenant with Him.</p> <p>“Therefore, I was angry with that generation, and said, 'They always go astray in their heart, and they have not known My ways’” (Hebrews 3:10).</p> <p>Ancient Israel listened to their logic and followed their hardened heart leading them further and further away from God’s righteous ways.</p>	<p>where you have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel... Then I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within them, and take the stony heart out of their flesh, and give them a heart of flesh, that they may walk in My statutes and keep My judgements and do them; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God. But as for those whose hearts follow the desire for their detestable things and their abominations, I will recompense their deeds on their own heads,’ says the Lord GOD” (Ezekiel 11:17, 19-21).</p> <p>God gave His people their demand—to live like the nations around them who thought they had the ability to govern righteously. They failed and people everywhere suffered.</p>
<p>Model nation</p>	<p>Ancient Israel was to be a model nation. They were not successful.</p> <p>“See, I have taught you decrees and laws as the LORD my God commanded me, so that you may follow them in the land you are entering to take possession of it. Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding in the sight of the peoples, who will hear of all these statutes and say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people’” (Deuteronomy 4:5-6).</p>	<p>A second chance for Israel has been given to them to be a model nation. This time they will be successful.</p> <p>“In the last days the mountain [government] of the house of the LORD will be established as the chief of the mountains [governments]; it will be raised above the hills [states], and all nations will stream to it. And many peoples will come and say: ‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us His ways so that we may walk in His paths.’ For the law will go forth from Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. Then He will judge between the nations and arbitrate for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will no longer take up the sword against nation, nor train anymore for war” (Isaiah 2:2-4).</p>
<p>Israel was intended to be an example to the nations of the world</p>	<p>Ancient Israel was a bad example. The kingdom was divided into two houses and each house was taken into captivity for their sins.</p> <p>722 B.C. The house of Israel is taken captive by Assyria.</p>	<p>21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel into the Millennium will be the good example.</p> <p>Israel's godly example will be so good that the rest of humanity will desire to live the same way and will seek, not only God's laws, but God Himself: Thus says the LORD of hosts: “Peoples</p>



	<p>586 B.C. The house of Judah is taken captive by Babylon.</p> <p>After 70 years some of the Jews returned to rebuild Jerusalem but many did not return. The house of Israel never returned because they refused to repent and were then sentenced seven times their punishment. They have remained in exile to this day.</p>	<p>shall yet come, inhabitants of many cities; the inhabitants of one city shall go to another, saying, 'Let us continue to go and pray before the LORD, and seek the LORD of hosts. I myself will go also.' Yes, many peoples and strong nations shall come to seek the LORD of hosts in Jerusalem, and to pray before the LORD" (Zechariah 8:21-22).</p> <p>"In those days ten men from every language of the nations shall grasp the sleeve of a Jewish man, saying, 'Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you'" (Zechariah 8:23).</p> <p>"My tabernacle also shall be with them; indeed I will be their God, and they shall be My people. The nations also will know that I, the LORD, sanctify Israel, when My sanctuary is in their midst forevermore" (Ezekiel 37:27-28).</p>
<p>God is merciful</p>	<p>Despite their grumbling and lack of faith, God brought them out of Egypt, however, continual disobedience brought them back into punishment and slavery.</p> <p>"The LORD replied, 'I have forgiven them, as you asked. Nevertheless, as surely as I live and as surely as the glory of the LORD fills the whole earth, not one of the men who saw my glory and the miraculous signs I performed in Egypt and in the desert but who disobeyed me and tested me ten times and have not obeyed my voice, shall see the land that I swore to give to their fathers. And none of those who despised me shall see it'" (Numbers 14:20-23).</p>	<p>God's mercy will be given to the house of Israel and Judah but not without justice.</p> <p>"Behold, I will bring back the captivity of Jacob's tents, and have mercy on his dwelling places; the city shall be built upon its own mound, and the palace shall remain according to its own plan. Then out of them shall proceed thanksgiving and the voice of those who make merry; I will multiply them, and they shall not diminish; I will also glorify them, and they shall not be small. Their children also shall be as before, and their congregation shall be established before Me; and I will punish all who oppress them" (Jeremiah 30:18-20).</p>

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

great Teacher, the only Teacher with a perfect understanding of God’s word. Indeed, he is the Word.

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

**IN ANCIENT TIMES, JOSEPH FED THE WHOLE WORLD DURING A TIME OF THE GREAT FAMINE. IT WAS A FORESHADOW OF CHRIST FEEDING THE WHOLE WORLD. IN THE LAST DAYS THROUGH 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY JOSEPH.**

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

A comparative analysis has been done by Jews for Jesus from the notes of Bill McDonald which details a comprehensive study.

<https://jewsforjesus.org>

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

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

JEWS FOR JESUS

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

PARALLEL	JOSEPH	JESUS
<b>ALL PEOPLE COMMANDED TO BOW TO HIM</b>	They cried out before him, “Bow the knee!” So he set him over all the land of Egypt. (Genesis 41:43b)	That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth. (Philippians 2:10)
<b>PROVIDED FOR ALL IN NEED</b>	So all countries came to Joseph in Egypt to buy grain, because the famine was severe in all lands. (Genesis 41:57)	Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.” (John 6:35a)
<b>HIS PEOPLE DID NOT RECOGNIZE HIM</b>	So Joseph recognized his brothers, but they did not recognize him. (Genesis 42:8)	“Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me?” (John 14:9a)  But their minds were blinded. (2 Corinthians 3:14a)
<b>HIS BROTHERS WERE TROUBLED WHEN THEY MET HIM</b>	Now, do not therefore be grieved or angry with yourselves because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. (Genesis 45:5a)	“I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.” (Zechariah 12:10b)
<b>ALLOWED HIS BROTHERS TO SUFFER A PERIOD OF TRIBULATION</b>	Read Genesis 42:6–44:34	It is the time of Jacob’s trouble, But he shall be saved out of it. (Jeremiah 30:7)  Then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. (Matthew 24:21)
<b>REVELATION AND RECONCILIATION</b>	Then Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph.” . . . “Hurry and go up to my father, and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph: “God has made me lord of all Egypt.” ’ ” (Genesis 45:3–9)	And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: “The Deliverer will come out of Zion, and He will turn away ungodliness from Jacob.” (Romans 11:26)

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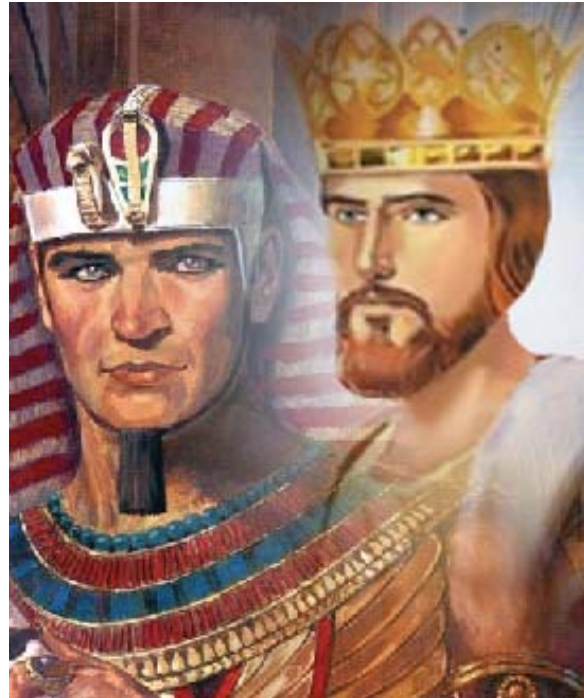


## JOSEPH AND JESUS

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

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

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



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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

Christ has been given rulership in heaven and earth—over all creation, including all of the sons of God in heaven and mankind on earth. Joseph's sheaf standing upright images Christ's loyalty to God and steadfastness in righteousness. He is the tested stone who has been given all power and authority on earth and in heaven—his sheaf stands above them all. "So, this is what the Sovereign LORD says: 'See, I lay a stone in Zion, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone for a sure foundation; the one who relies on it will never be stricken with panic'" (Isaiah 28:16). His

rebellious brothers both on earth and in heaven were jealous and hated him, but as prophecy reveals—all will bend their knee: the whole house of Israel, mankind and all of the powers, authorities, and rulers in heaven.

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

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

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

At a distance, Joseph’s brothers saw him coming—a reflection of Christ’s coming foretold by the prophets. Before Joseph reached them, they plotted to kill him. The mysteries hidden in the multi-layers, shimmer through as we see the sons of God ruling over the nations from the heavens, also plotting their brother’s demise. An obscure scripture in I Corinthians 2:8 removes the veil for a moment, between heaven and earth to give us a glimpse on earth of the battles that rage in the heavens. “None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, *they would not have crucified the lord of glory*” (I Corinthians 2:8).

**HE IS THROWN IN THE PIT.** Joseph was thrown into a pit by his brothers, but it could also be said that the Son of God was put into the grave by his brothers both in heaven and by the Jews on earth. The Psalmist recorded the death of Christ and the interesting imagery of raging bulls, lions and dogs surrounding him as he is dying on the cross. God’s imagery of bulls, lions and dogs refer to rogue heavenly rulers, powers and principalities.

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

Christ spent three days and three nights in the grave, likely Joseph spent the same time in the pit thinking there he would remain.



**THEY TAKE HIS COAT OF MANY COLOURS, TEAR IT AND DIP IT IN THE BLOOD OF A GOAT.**

Joseph’s coat was given to him by his father, Jacob. Mirroring God, the Father’s love for His Son wearing a coat of honour. Joseph’s brothers fake his death by tearing his coat and dipping it in the blood of a goat—using a goat was a type of scapegoat of their actions. It is no surprise when Christ returns that his “robe is dipped in blood” (Revelation 19:13). God’s appointed Holy Day, the Day of Atonement/Yom Kippur is a remembrance of the selected goat whose blood would pay the price of the sins of mankind.

Jacob recognized Joseph’s coat and said, “It is my son’s robe! Some ferocious animal has devoured him. Joseph has surely been torn to pieces” (Genesis 37:33). Jacob believed Joseph to

be dead and he mourned. Overtime, even Joseph's brothers believed their own lie. As Joseph was considered dead by his father, so too, God the Father recognized Jesus on earth in his dying physical body as dead until he regained immortality.

**SOLD AS A SLAVE.** Both Joseph and Jesus were sold for the price of a slave.

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

**TEMPTED BUT DID NOT SIN.** Joseph became the servant to Potiphar, one of Pharaoh's officials in Egypt, a land far from his homeland. Everything that Joseph did, God blessed him and Potiphar noticed and promoted him; "he left in Joseph's care everything he had... he did not concern himself with anything except the food he ate" (Genesis 39:2-6).

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

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

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

**THE ACCUSED—THAT HEBREW SLAVE WAS SILENT.** “This Hebrew has been brought to us to make sport of us!” (Genesis 39:14) “When his master heard the story his wife told him, saying ‘This is how your slave treated me,’ he burned with anger. Joseph’s master took him and put him in prison, the place where the king’s prisoners were confined” (Genesis 39:19).

“Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas, the high priest... The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death. But they did not find any, though many false witnesses came forward” (Matthew 27:57-59). “When he was accused by the chief priests and the elders, he gave no answer. Then Pilate asked him, ‘Don’t you hear how many things they are accusing you of?’ But Jesus made no reply, not even to a single charge—to the great amazement of the governor” (Matthew 27:12-14). Both Joseph and Jesus were innocent and falsely accused, yet accepted the penalty without a word.

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

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

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

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

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

So, Christ, who for a time, gave up his glorious eternal body to be born flesh and blood died with the shamed. “I will give him the honors of a victorious soldier, because he exposed himself

to death. *He was counted among the rebels.* He bore the sins of many and interceded for rebels” (Isaiah 53:12). He lived and breathed God’s will. “I don't speak on my own authority. The Father who sent me has commanded me what to say and how to say it” (John 12:49). The work of God’s hands is a meek and humble servant who is not self-seeking or selfish. And through God’s grace, He shares His plan, knowledge and wisdom to those who seek and obey Him.

### THE MEANING OF THE DREAM

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



### “I CANNOT DO IT,” JOSEPH REPLIED.

God will interpret the dream. The dreams are one of the same. “God has revealed to Pharaoh what He is about to do” (Genesis 41:25b). “... the seven worthless heads of grain scorched by the east wind: They are seven years of famine” (Genesis 41:27). God is the “east wind.”

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

**STORAGE AND PROCESSES WERE ESTABLISHED DURING THE TIME OF ABUNDANCE IN PREPARATION FOR THE TIME OF FAMINE.** “Joseph was thirty years old when he entered the service of Pharaoh king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from Pharaoh’s presence and traveled throughout Egypt. During the seven years of abundance, the land produced plentifully. Joseph collected all the food produced in those seven years of abundance in Egypt and stored it in the cities” (Genesis 41:46-49).

Christ began his ministry at the age of 30 years old. On the day of Pentecost, in the year of his resurrection, the church—a reborn group of people became the church. These people vowed to follow Christ wherever he goes. The baton was passed on that day to spread the good news of

the gospel to the whole world. As Joseph traveled the land freely, he established storehouses, so too, Christ has traveled and established churches stored with the word of God. With the invention of the printing press and the development of the internet, information and knowledge of God's word is everywhere. The Bible, resources, studies, research materials are easily accessible and available at a minimal cost for the most part. We are truly living in a time where the word of God can be easily accessed—so much, that its value is diminished and often thrown away. Initially, this Holy-Spirit-filled group of people, now known as the church, was a store house of the pure word of God. They were delighted to be given the job to preach the gospel to the whole world, but over the years, false teachers and false teachings have polluted the pure truth and the seven churches of Revelation are now urged by Christ to overcome and return to the pure truth of God.

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

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

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

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

"Where do you come from? You are spies! For some of you, I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance, but this I hold against you: some of you have forsaken your first love, some of you hold to the teaching of Balaam, likewise some hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans, some tolerate the woman Jezebel and she misleads my servants into false religion, and many of you think that you are filled with truth, righteousness and wisdom, but these are

wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and spiritually naked Christians. Overcome the ways of this wicked world. Return to your Creator God and practice the pure Way of God” (Revelation 3).

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

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

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

After many years, they still perpetuated the lie that their brother, Joseph was dead. How could they know that if they sold him into slavery? Many Christians reduce the monumental role and testimony of Christ into a novel, a nice idea, or a curious myth—like he is dead. Most of the Jews [the house of Judah] have rejected Christ and refuse to accept him as their Saviour. The admonition of Christ to his churches to overcome has faded from the pages written in Revelation 3, so they continue teaching misconceptions, disinformation and misinformation. They image Joseph’s brothers who believe that their brother is a faded memory.

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

Judah’s reply to his father is interesting, “But Judah said to him, ‘The man warned us solemnly, ‘You will not see my face again unless your brother is with you’” (Genesis 43:3).

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

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

Hidden from view is a small, faithful and loyal group of people who follow Christ wherever he goes. Benjamin was the only brother—Joseph's blood brother who did not betray him. Joseph demands that his brothers bring Benjamin to him, if they want to live. Christ will do the same. He will demand to have his faithful church, his Bride brought near—the ones in the direct care of his father. Jacob, like God our Father in heaven, is very protective of His 'preserved ones' so He like Jacob, will be reluctant to let them go. The mirroring story reveals future events where God will have to rely on Joseph's 21<sup>st</sup> century wayward brothers who image the churches teaching a mixture of truth and falsehood to protect this younger and vulnerable brother—God's tender faithful body of people on their journey to Joseph—Christ. This will take place just prior to the Great Tribulation when Satan, in his fury discovers that his time is now short. He pursues the woman [that faithful, loved church] who gave birth to Christ. This church will be thrust into the open. She will be vulnerable; she is the youngest of them all. During her escape to a place of safety, she will get help from "the earth" (Revelation 12:16)—an image yet to be witnessed, yet to be identified.

God's 'preserved ones' will be spared. "“You have said, ‘It is futile to serve God. What did we gain by carrying out his requirements and going about like mourners before the LORD Almighty? But now we call the arrogant blessed. Certainly, the evildoers prosper, and even those who challenge God escape. Then those who feared the LORD talked with each other, and the LORD listened and heard. A scroll of remembrance was written in his presence concerning those who feared the LORD and honored his name. ‘They will be mine,’ says the LORD Almighty, ‘in the day when I make up treasured possession. I WILL SPARE THEM, just as in compassion a man spares his son who serves him’” (Malachi 3:14-17).

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

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

This ancient story images the time, when Christ confronts the nations of 21<sup>st</sup> century Israel, a whose kingdom comprises of seven core groups. Initially, they will not recognize the confrontation coming from Christ. They will blame each other, condemning the national leaders for their evil and corruption and criticize the churches and their wayward teachings, lack of loyalty and faith before they look at their own short-comings. Christ will see them as Joseph knew his brothers. "The men had been seated before him in the order of their ages, from the

firstborn to the youngest; and *they looked at each other in astonishment*" (Genesis 43:33). And Joseph wept.

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

This chapter of the story reveals the unique relationship felt by Joseph for Benjamin—a close and tender relationship. Benjamin did not take part in the betrayal of Joseph. He is Joseph's blood brother. "Then he [Joseph] threw his arms around his brother Benjamin and wept, and Benjamin embraced him, weeping. And he kissed all his brothers and wept over them" (Genesis 45:14).

This is a story God Almighty wants His people to understand and cherish. The Philadelphia church is characteristic of remaining faithful to Christ. He says, "you have kept my word and not denied my name" (Revelation 3:8). Again, the female gender is always used when referring to the church. The image of brothers in this story is because the story is told at the national level which includes their churches. Benjamin represents the core group within God's ultimate goal of producing a national, holy kingdom of royal priests. This holy kingdom of royal priests will eventually include people from all twelve tribes of Israel. "All of Israel will be saved" (Romans 11:26).

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1. to preserve for you a remnant on earth and
2. to save your lives by a great deliverance" (Genesis 45:7).

Christ understood his two-fold purpose:

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

"For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His coming" (1 Corinthians 15:22-23).

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

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

The lives of Joseph and Jesus meet at this very point where their calling is no longer a mirror image but one of the same—the preserving of the faithful and true people throughout the ages—the faithful remnant that God protects and holds dear to his heart and the rest of mankind. Joseph was not only saving his brothers but all who came to buy food.

#### **THE END TIMES FAITHFUL CHURCH JOURNEYS INTO CHRIST'S CARE.**

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

"She was pregnant and cried out in pain as she was about to give birth... to a son [Jesus]... the woman fled into the desert to a place prepared for her by God, where she might be taken care of for 1,260 days" (Revelation 12:2-6). She is the faithful group of people who have been preserved since the birth of Israel all the way into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. She is a mere remnant of



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

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

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

**JOSEPH'S SILVER CUP.** Joseph's cup goes missing! "Let it be as you say. Whoever is found to have it will become my slave; the rest of you will be free from blame" (Genesis 44:16).

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

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

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

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

his sufferings were planned from before creation to bring forgiveness of sin to them and all of mankind.

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

Rachel called him "Benoni" meaning "son of my sorrow" when he was born, but Jacob changed his name to "Benjamin" meaning "son of my right hand." Joseph's name means "he will add." Joseph added Benjamin. Benjamin was Joseph's only blood brother. He represents the added body of Christ—his bride and nation of faithful people. Joseph cried aloud when he revealed himself. The pain of holding back his love for Benjamin and his brothers was intense—Christ so loves his bride and urges the seven churches of Revelation to overcome and remove the spots, wrinkles, and blemishes in their teachings and behavior, which keep them far and away.

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

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



Benjamin images Christ's bride who the Bible often refers to as a remnant people; the remnant Joseph and Jesus were commissioned to preserve. They will have a significant role during the last five years of Jacob's trouble. Joseph put his cup into Benjamin's bag to identify who he has chosen to be his servant. Joseph's cup is a cup of authority and a cup of suffering. Benjamin's brothers will watch in amazement the rise of their youngest brother who was previously insignificant—protected and hidden by their father. The boy mirrors a group of people who are

obscure and not listed among the aged churches who have been around for hundreds of years, the same aged churches who hold onto the traditions of men, mixing pagan practices into the doctrines of God.

The tribe of Benjamin were known warriors. During the last days of this evil age, there will be no time to lure people to God, as fishers of men do. The urgency of the times will bring in the Benjamin hunters who will tear the lies, misconceptions, disinformation, misinformation away to expose the pure truth of God's word. They will feed the people God's truth and confront with the aggression of a warrior, falsehood and destroy it.

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

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

As it was during the great famine in Joseph's life, so it will be during Jacob's trouble in the last days. Joseph was the governor in charge of the selling of grain, so it is Christ today, who is in charge of our spiritual survival. "When the money of the people of Egypt and Canaan was gone, all Egypt came to Joseph and said, 'Give us food. Why should we die before your eyes? Our money is used up.' 'Then bring your livestock,' said Joseph... When that year was over... there is nothing left for our lord except our bodies and our land... Buy our land in exchange for food and we with our land will be in bondage to Pharaoh... So, Joseph bought all the land in Egypt for Pharaoh. The Egyptians, one and all, sold their fields, because the famine was too severe for them. The land became Pharaoh's and Joseph reduced the people to servitude, from one end of Egypt to the other" (Genesis 47:15-21).

This chapter in the great famine shows the Egyptians becoming enslaved to Pharaoh through Joseph. It is mirroring yet a future time, when mankind will willingly exchange everything to become a servant to God Almighty through Jesus Christ. During this time, the 21<sup>st</sup> century Israelites will be living together in a place that parallels Goshen and they will be cared for directly by Christ.

**JESUS IS A HUMBLE SERVANT OF GOD, AND SON.** "Who, being in the very nature of God, did not consider equality with God something to be used TO HIS OWN ADVANTAGE; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!" (Philippians 2:6-8)

The son is working to restore all things. Joseph had everything functioning in order when he talked to his brothers and after they repented, he was ready for his father's arrival. "Now hurry back to my father and say to him, 'This is what your son Joseph says: God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; don't delay. You shall live in the region of Goshen and be near me—you, your children and grandchildren, your flocks and herds, and all you have'" (Genesis 45:9-10).

The last five years of the great famine may mirror a time after this evil age when Christ is ruling on earth as King of kings and Lord of lords. The great famine is the time of bringing ALL of mankind to their knees. Christ will rule with a rod of iron; there will be no compromising; no drifting off again fattening the road of unrighteousness. Christ is working now to bring all things in order, as they were at one time. When he is finished, he will welcome our Father in heaven and He will dwell with us. Paul understood this. "And he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times have reached their fulfillment—to *bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ*" (Ephesians 1:9-10).

"Heaven must receive him until the time comes for God to restore everything, as he promised long ago through his holy prophets" (Acts 3:21).

### **CHRIST WILL REIGN UNTIL ALL ENEMIES ARE DESTROYED.**

"For He [Christ] must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet. The last enemy that will be abolished is death" (I Corinthians 15:26).

"He [Christ] will swallow up death for all time, and the Lord GOD will wipe tears away from all faces, and He will remove the reproach of His people from all the earth; for the LORD has spoken" (Isaiah 25:8).

The final task for Christ will be to become subject to his father in heaven who will rule over all and through all. "When he has done this, then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all" (I Corinthians 15:25).

This scripture goes back to Joseph's dream that Jacob kept in mind. "'I had another dream, and this time the sun and moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me.' When he told his father as well as his brothers, his father rebuked him and said, 'What is this dream you had? Will your mother and I and your brothers actually come and bow down to the ground before you?' His brothers were jealous of him, but *his father kept the matter in mind*" (Genesis 37:10-11).

The imagery of sun, moon and stars was not a mystery to Jacob, but the bowing down to Joseph of his father and mother was truly a great mystery that he did not discard but kept in mind. That great mystery was understood by the Apostle Paul. He told the Corinthians that Christ will rule second in charge, as Joseph reigned second in charge, until all evil is destroyed and things are restored as they were before iniquity was found.

"Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. 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. When he has done this, then the Son

himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all” (I Corinthians 15:24-28).

Note, Christ is now ruling over God’s kingdom in heaven. He is second in-charge and overthrowing the wicked heavenly rulers, powers and authorities referred to in Ephesians 6:12 who are our true enemies. Our enemies are not comprised of flesh and blood. Christ will continue ruling God’s kingdom until all sin and iniquity is destroyed, hence no more death. Christ is presently battling the wicked heavenly rulers: Satan, rogue eternal sons of God and fallen angels. God Almighty remains supreme, but Christ is ruling with full control as Joseph ruled in his day. When Christ has restored all things, he will bend his knee and hand back full control of God’s kingdom and then, God will rule as the head and Christ as his body.

“When he has done this, then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all” (I Corinthians 15:28).

God Almighty trusts Jesus Christ. About Christ God says, “Your throne, O God, will last forever and ever, and righteousness will be the scepter of Your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore, God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions” (Hebrews 1:8-9).

This rich scripture tells a story of its own. Christ, who God says “loved righteousness and hated wickedness was anointed beyond his companions” (Hebrews 1:9). These companions are heavenly beings. Christ became superior to them.

### **JOSEPH A SHEPHERD, CHRIST A SHEPHERD; JOSEPH SAVED, CHRIST OUR SAVIOUR**

The work of Jesus, Son of David was fulfilled at Jesus’ first coming. His sacrifice paid for the sins of the world. The work of saving the whole world through the gospel message is the work of Jesus, Son of Joseph—yet to be fulfilled.

The story of Joseph is the foreshadowing of Christ foretold over 3,000 years ago. Understanding God’s coded language brings the “wow” moment to why the stories have been preserved in the Bible and why the people in ancient times experienced what they did. There is no mystery when the key to God’s coded language is applied.

## GOD'S CODED LANGUAGE BRINGS TRANSPARENCY

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

God is transparent to those who crave His word and love His law. 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" (1 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*" (1 Corinthians 2:10).

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

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

God stepped out a timeline sealing a marker on key third events. Each third event identifies a key 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 preserved forgotten history. Parables taught key principles of life. God has hidden nothing and yet, the world is blind because they do not have God's Holy Spirit that gives understanding of spiritual knowledge, understanding and wisdom.

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



## ***ABOUT SHARINGSHARPENS***

Sharingsharpens is a resource centre providing studies and videos on God's word. The responsibility of Christians is to study the word of God, test the doctrines of the many churches and prove from scripture what is right and true. Pray daily asking God for guidance and beseech Him for knowledge, understanding and wisdom. Every human being will stand before God in judgement on that day. Each person will stand individually with no one to blame but himself/herself.

For this reason, [www.sharingsharpens.ca](http://www.sharingsharpens.ca) works to share with the body of Christ every study and every precious truth with sincere Christians who love God's word.

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

The Holy Bible of the Jews and the Christians is a book that reveals the whole plan of God. It is a book that will take a life-time to read in pursuit of understanding but never coming to see and know all that lies in the scriptures for man. There lies the importance of sharing. Collectively, the body of Christ can teach each other, learn from each other, and grow into mature Christians—the work of God's hands, giving Him pride and joy eternally.

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