



“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).

The story of the firstborn is rarely fully understood by most Judo-Christians. This special group are an enigma who are richly blessed by God. They stand out from the crowd as the strong, the faithful, the enduring and the humble servants of God following Christ wherever he goes during times of peace and times of painful distress. Their salvation is guaranteed; they are enrolled in heaven.

Satan and his rogue heavenly powers keep their story from being understood. Silencing is their tactic achieved through mocking truth, ridiculing truth-seekers and hating those who speak out. The revelation of the knowledge of the Church of the Firstborn would become a significant blow to the agenda of Wickedness.

#### **THE DOUBLE PORTION, THE FATHER’S STRENGTH**

God Almighty promises to bless the firstborn with a double portion. “When that man assigns his inheritance to his sons he must not appoint the son of the beloved wife as the firstborn over the son of the unloved wife. Instead, **he must acknowledge the firstborn**, the son of his unloved wife, by giving him a **double portion of all that he has**. For **that son is the firstfruits of his father’s strength; the right of the firstborn belongs to him**” (Deuteronomy 17:20-21).

God directed the ancient Israelites to bless the firstborn son of the family with a double portion of the family inheritance. Why?

There are two aspects to the firstborn blessing:

1. It reflects the strength of the father/God the Father
2. It mirrors the promise to the saints in the first resurrection of a double portion.

**This double portion given to the firstborn son in the family mirrors the first resurrection of the firstborn saints comprising of men and women throughout the ages. They will receive a double portion in God's family after they are resurrected.** They will receive the greater portion; they are part of the better resurrection. This promise was foretold by God; it remains absolute. The remembrance of this promise is commanded by God, but most have forgotten it as time has eroded truth and replaced it with a mixing of pagan celebrations and Hebraic history.

God's strength is manifested through the work of His hands leading people to repent, accept Christ's sacrifice, receive His Holy Spirit and transform into obedient, humble, God-fearing and God-loving people. This spiritual birth is the display of God's strength that no other god can achieve. This lesson is recorded throughout the Bible and overlooked by most theologians. That is the focus of this study.

On one day long, long ago an event happened that prophesied the greatest success story that has ever been told and with that event another was confirmed that prophesied the gracious promise ever to be revealed.

With the death of One, came the saving of many. Within the many, one group in particular will receive a special saving and the double blessing; these are the firstborn.

### **GOD vs gods**

This story began in Egypt. Gods warring against the Almighty God. Who is greatest? Who is the all-mighty King was the core of the battle? The people didn't know. The Egyptian people were told by their god created the Nile, that great river that supported life. He claimed to have the ability to create.



“Speak to him and say: ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: ‘I am against you, Pharaoh king of Egypt, you great monster lying among your streams. You say, **‘The Nile belongs to me; I made it for myself’**” (Ezekiel 29:3).

The Israelites feared the gods. They had felt pain from the power these gods held and they were not convinced that their God was the All-Powerful and All-Mighty God. Four hundred years living in Egypt had eroded their memories of the God of the Hebrews and His great work.

Into the 21<sup>st</sup> century the concept of gods ruling over nations has become a myth—a forgotten piece in history that keeps Biblical scholars from seeing the full picture.

God, the Creator of all took the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob as His inheritance—His rulership, their King. On the day he did that, He gave members in His Heavenly Court their inheritance—rulership over the nations—gods ruling over the nations. Recorded in the Song of Moses is this story, long forgotten and what is remembered is misunderstood.

“When the Most High gave the nations their inheritance, when He divided the sons of man, He set the boundaries of the peoples **according to the number of the sons of God** [in His Heavenly Court]. But **the LORD’s portion is His people, Jacob His allotted inheritance**” (Deuteronomy 32:8-9).

The nations inherited sons of God as kings over them because the people were going astray, again. God divided the people in groups at the time of Babel and gave them their own territory. Their rulers were all members of God’s Heavenly Court. These sons were experts in God’s law and His ways. They were considered great heavenly leaders, but one by one, they fell away and turned against their Creator, the Almighty God. In doing so, they turned the people away from God Almighty. These heavenly rulers were powerful and demanded obedience. They became cruel and the people feared them.

Forbidden practices that took place before the flood, happened again; history was repeated then and will repeat again in the last days. To get help from the gods, the people engaged in sorcery, black magic, child sacrificing and self-infliction. The true Almighty God was repulsed by the practices of the nations led by rogue, fallen heavenly rulers, powers and principalities (Ephesians 6:12). He warned His people, those He had given to Himself to rule over, not to practice the ways of the nations.

These rogue heavenly rulers battled then and have continued into the present against God Almighty seeking to overthrow Him and His Son, to take God’s throne and **be the first to resurrect mortals who worship them not the Great, Supreme, Almighty God**. Hence, this is the reason why Almighty God declared throughout the Old Testament that He is the Supreme God and there is no one like Him and His people would be among the firstborn, that is, first resurrected. King David understood the battle in heaven and the rogue heavenly rulers over the nations.

“For you, **LORD**, are the **Most High** over all the earth; **you are exalted far above all gods**” (Psalm 97:9).

“For **the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods**” (Psalm 95:3).

Judo-Christians have a fuzzy understanding of God’s creation in heaven. There exist sons of God that are identified as sons, angels, hosts, starry hosts and stars.

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

“Again, there was a day when **the sons of God** came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the LORD” (Job 2:1).

God’s family is comprised of created beings both in heaven and on earth. The Apostle Paul confirmed this. God’s use of “sons” and “children” identifies the relationship in His family.

“In Him and through faith in Him we may enter God’s presence with boldness and confidence. So, I ask you not to be discouraged because of my sufferings for you, which are your glory. For this reason, **I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name**” (Ephesians 3:12-15).

Historical records of gods in all of the ancient kingdoms on earth is considered myth into the twentieth century and onwards. This disbelief is part of the playbook of Wickedness. The only enemy of mankind must be mythicized in keeping mankind ignorant and under the grip of Darkness.

The heavenly ruler of Egypt wasn’t always wicked. He built a majestic kingdom that gave glory to God initially, but his pride revealed his hidden desire for supremacy when he declared to be the Creator of the Nile. Ezekiel recorded God’s warning to this heavenly ruler who took the title of Pharaoh.

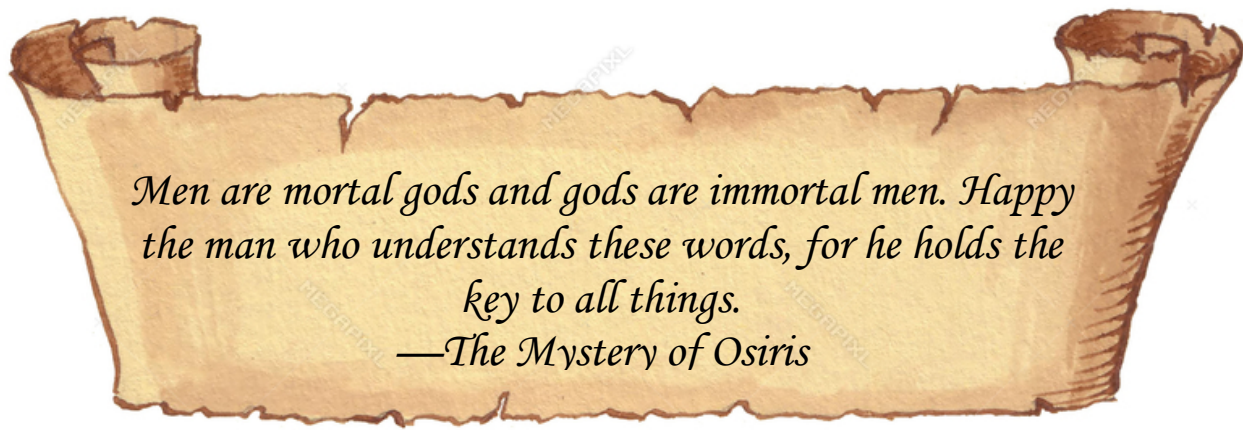
Pharaoh king of Egypt, “Who can be compared with you in majesty? Consider Assyria, once a cedar in Lebanon...” (Ezekiel 31:2).

God’s reference to Assyria as a cedar in Lebanon is not referring to a country in Lebanon called Assyria as there is no such situation. God is using terms specific to His Heavenly Court which is in Lebanon in heaven. Assyria imaged as a cedar tree is God’s use of language to help mortals on earth understand creation in heaven. The great cedars on earth bring an immediate rich visual of the most spectacular trees on earth. They have the unique qualities that mirror the great leaders in God’s headquarters. These tall and grand trees are dimensionally stable with a built-in thermal insulator. With oils that act as natural preservatives, these trees are resistant to bacteria and fungus. To top it off, they release a fresh aroma that deters pests. God created sons in heaven with all of these eternal qualities and superior strength to lead His kingdom in truth, understanding and wisdom of His law and His way. God gave the name of His

headquarters in heaven, 'Lebanon' to mirror on earth His stately and regal leaders—His pride and joy.

A consist formula that can be applied throughout the Bible, is God's use of imagery, which is purely designed to help us understand the unseen.

It is confusing for some scholars when the physical ruler, as it was done in Egypt, took the same title as his heavenly king. It was acceptable because they viewed the ruler on earth as being a mortal god and gods as being immortal men.



<https://www.facts-are-facts.com/article/ancient-egypt-once-egypt-was-a-land-of-light>

God warned His son, Pharaoh, king over Egypt. He said that he was walking in the same footsteps of the fallen heavenly ruler of Assyria [imaged as a cedar—once a great leader in God's Heavenly Court]. God concluded, "Which of the trees [leaders] in Eden [God's family] can be compared with you in splendor and majesty? Yet you, too, will be brought down with the trees [leaders] of Eden to the earth below; you will lie among the uncircumcised [wicked], with those killed by the sword [likely referencing the word of God]. This is Pharaoh and all his hordes," declares the Sovereign LORD (Ezekiel 31:18).

While great things took place in Egypt, in time, the leadership led the people into sin. The Israelites became slaves to the Egyptians and at the right time, the God of the Hebrews showed His power over the gods and led the Israelites back to the Holy Land.

The people of Egypt and the Israelites did not know who was the true Creator. Pharaoh declared himself the Creator, of the Nile. The God of Israel declared Himself the Creator of everything living. But, mortals had difficulty distinguishing one from the other because the gods ruling over the nations exercised supernatural powers.

The release of the Israelites out of Egypt would reveal who was the All-Powerful and All-Mighty God.

The story of supremacy began when:

1. The staff of Aaron, which was turned into a snake ate all the staffs of the Egyptian magicians, which had also turned into snakes (Exodus 7:12).
2. Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron to pray to the God of the Hebrews for relief from the plagues. "Pray to the LORD to take the frogs away from me and my people, and I will let your people go to offer sacrifices to the LORD" (Exodus 8:8).

Moses prayed, "It will be as you say, **so that you may know there is no one like the LORD our God**" (Exodus 8:10).

3. The magicians were unable to undo the two plagues they matched and failed to be able to replicate any of the remaining eight plagues.
4. The physical ruler over Egypt was being taught who rules supreme. He came to learn that the God of the Hebrews is Supreme. To Moses he said, "The LORD is in the right, and I and my people are in the wrong. Pray to the LORD, for we have had enough thunder and hail." Pharaoh acknowledged the God of the Hebrews' supremacy over all gods. Almighty God responded, "I will send the full force of my plagues against you and against your officials and your people, so you may know that **there is no one like me in all the earth. For by now I could have stretched out my hand and struck you and your people with a plague that would have wiped you off the earth. But I have raised you up for this very purpose, that I might show you my power and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth**" (Exodus 9:14).
5. The heavenly ruler over Egypt had no power to prevent the plagues on Egypt and the earthly Pharaoh knew it as well as the magicians. Those who believed Moses and heeded the warnings were saved.
6. The physical ruler over Egypt acknowledged his sins and asked for forgiveness to the only God who can forgive. "I have sinned against the LORD your God and against you. Now forgive my sin once more and pray to the LORD your God to take this deadly plague away from me" (Exodus 10:16).
7. The death of all the firstborn sons of only the Egyptians was God intentionally distinguishing His people who He was purging of sin from the Egyptian people who had fallen deep into sin. The heavenly ruler clearly understood the spiritual message God Almighty was sending. There would be NO firstborn—no first resurrection of the firstborn of Egypt. The first evidence of spiritual strength is the seeding and birthing of children fit for God's kingdom. The Egyptian leadership refused to repent from sin, hence, their kingdom was doomed; no one was spiritually fit for God's kingdom. This has always been a spiritual battle. "And smote all the firstborn in Egypt, the first issue of their virility in the tents of Ham" (Psalm 78:51).

8. The people of Israel are God's firstborn. "Then you shall say to Pharaoh, 'Thus says the Lord, "Israel is My son, My firstborn"' (Exodus 4:22). God made it clear to both the earthly and heavenly leaders of Egypt that **the people of Israel will be the first resurrection of mortals**. God's leadership, the work of His hands, will transform wayward people into humble God-fearing and God-loving people.
9. God Almighty initiated and controlled the plagues on Egypt. He determined what it will be and each one represented their sins. He was both warning and urging them to repent both leaders: in heaven and on earth.
10. The story of the plagues on Egypt details a spiritual battle where the God of the Hebrews gave sons of God from His Heavenly Court rulership over the nations. The task was to teach the nations about God's laws and His ways. Each heavenly ruler failed. The God of the Hebrews judged and sentenced them because He and only He is Supreme.

The last of the ten plagues was the most significant of all the plagues. It declared the death of the firstborn sons if the blood of a lamb without blemish was not brushed on the door posts of their home. All the Israelites and the Egyptians who followed Moses instructions protected their firstborn sons, but the families who were not protected exposed their firstborn sons to the sword of the death angel. Thousands died and Egypt wept, defenceless, anxious and fearful knowing the inability of their gods to protect them.



### **THE GREAT PASSOVER**

On that night, that single event prophesied God's knowledge of the success of His beloved Son's sacrifice—His Son's death on the cross and the saving of mankind. One day a year, every year, a holy remembrance takes place on the Passover. God's people humble themselves, confirm their acceptance of Christ's sacrifice and eat unleavened bread symbolizing the purging of sin out of their lives.

On that night, that single event prophesied the death angel passing over the homes that had the blood of the Lamb without blemish brushed on their door posts saving their firstborn sons. This action prophesied the protection of God's firstborn, the men and women in the first

resurrection. These are the saints throughout the ages who died anticipating their resurrection and those who are alive at the return of Christ. They are the Church of the Firstborn who are assured members in heaven.

“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).

### **THE CHURCH OF THE FIRSTBORN**

The Church of the Firstborn in the latter days include known groups. The 144,000 from twelve tribes of Israel and the Philadelphia group who have been awarded their crown.

“I am coming soon. **Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown**” (Revelation 3:11). What they have assures them the first resurrection; they belong to the Church of the Firstborn.



“Then I looked, and behold, the Lamb was standing on Mount Zion, and with **Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His name and the name of His Father written on their foreheads**” (Revelation 14:1).

Standing with Christ are the saints resurrected and those alive from the twelve tribes of Israel—the Church of the Firstborn—blameless—who speak no lies and like the group from the Philadelphia church, they have written on them: Christ’s new name, the name of Almighty God and identified as the New Jerusalem (Revelation 3:12). “The one who overcomes I will make a pillar in the temple of My God, and he will never again leave it. **Upon him I will write the name of My God, and the name of the city of My God (the new Jerusalem that comes down out of heaven from My God), and My new name.**”

The first resurrection is the better resurrection. It comprises of people devoted to serving God and following Christ wherever he goes. They are the overcomers, Christ’s bride who will rule with him.

Known to the God of the Hebrews before the creation of mankind was the outcome of the great battle in heaven. From out of the second creation, mortals on earth, a church would rise up comprised of unwavering saints dedicated to righteousness and God’s law. They are God’s



firstborn that He revealed He would protect and resurrect them. They would go unscathed by the death angel and be the first mortals in eternity.

Such is the story of the Passover remembered annually on only **ONE day** every year. The sacrifice of Jesus Christ will give God's firstborn a double blessing and the inheritance of rulership in God's holy, royal, ruling family mirrored in God's command to the ancient Israelites to give the firstborn son a double portion of the family inheritance. The rest of mankind will be part of the second resurrection on Judgement Day.

### **THE DOUBLE PORTION**

God loves His people. He longs to see them return to Him. On that day after Jacob's trouble, His people will repent, the remnant, and God will bless them with a double portion. He will identify to all the nations on earth that His repentant people remain the first born of all nations.

"Instead of your shame there shall be a **double portion**; instead of dishonor they shall rejoice in their lot; therefore, **in their land they shall possess a double portion**; they shall have everlasting joy" (Isaiah 61:7).

Zechariah records God's promise to the repentant remnant of Israel who come out of captivity. He blesses them as he would a firstborn, promising them the restoration of twice as much. In fact, they will be the first kingdom devoted to God in the Millennium. "I will free your prisoners from the waterless pit Return to your fortress, O prisoners of hope; even now I announce that I will restore twice as much to you" (Zechariah 9:11b-12).

At the end of Job's suffering, when he came to know God, he was blessed with a double portion. God identified Job as a firstborn. "And the LORD restored the fortunes of Job, when he had prayed for his friends. And **the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before**" (Job 42:10).

Most importantly, Jesus Christ is identified as the firstborn over all creation; he is King of kings and Lord of lords. He rules over two realms; he holds two positions: king and high priest. Indeed, he is the blessed and rightful heir of all things. "The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation" (Colossians 1:15).

The keeping of the Passover is a confirmation of faithfulness and gratitude for God's grace and immense generosity. It is a remembrance of Christ's sacrifice and his love for mankind. It kindles excitement and longing for the establishment of God's Kingdom on earth. It is an awesome day for mankind, a day to be remembered forever.

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