

## PART 4 The Only Begotten Son of God



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### THE LION OF JUDAH

#### Royalty and Kingship

Jesus Christ, the Son of Man, is identified by another title—the Lion of Judah. Every identifier of Jesus Christ is a named-doorway that adds a clearer visual of the indestructible structure of God's kingdom in the making.

The Apostle John wept from the news that no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was worthy to open the scroll that held the details of the events and judgements that will bring a close to this evil age. Immediately, the Apostle John knew that mankind was doomed. He understood the gravity of God's legal judgment on sin. A Saviour for mankind was not found in heaven, or on earth, or under the earth. A quick note, this scripture points to life under the

earth, likely in inner earth where prisoners are being held—the failed Adam-types. Then one of the elders said to the Apostle John, “Then one of the elders said to me, ‘Do not weep! Behold, **the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David**, has triumphed to open the scroll and its seven seals” (Revelation 5:5).



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The lion of Judah was in transition from earth to heaven when the announcement was made, which was important news for creation in heaven who were attempting to be what only the Son of Man from the lineage of King David, achieved. A sinless mortal was successful. He raised all mortals up with him. It was part of Almighty God’s salvation plan from before creation that mortals would be raised up; they have a special calling. They will be a holy kingdom of royal priests—experts in righteousness and forever-warriors against sin.

The image describing Jesus the Messiah, as a lion, points to his royalty and strength among the very strong. He is King over the strongest of the strong. Isaiah recorded Almighty God’s prophecy of the death of His only begotten Son.

“Yet it was the LORD’s will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life a guilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand. After the suffering of his soul, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities. **Therefore, I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the**

**transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors”**  
(Isaiah 53:10-12).

Jesus Christ, the Son of Man, will be given, by the Almighty God, a portion among the great. There is still much that is unknown about the creation in heaven. Almighty God acknowledged the existence of the great in heaven. The great prince, Archangel Michael is likely one of them.

God’s descriptor of a lion illustrates his strength to stand against the temptation of power abuse and power hunger, to devour God’s enemies and to bring a total end to Wickedness.

God’s enemies are the fallen heavenly rulers, powers and principalities. These are the only enemies that the Apostle Paul said that mankind should concern with (Ephesian 6:12). Some think of Russia as the bear in Revelation, but that is not the case. The final beast to come is described as an animal unlike anything on earth. The nations on earth are not the enemy.

Jacob, the patriarchal father of the twelve tribes of Israel, passed over his three eldest sons: Reuben, Simeon and Levi, giving the birthright sceptre to his fourth son, Judah. In him, he saw the long-term employment of God’s law enacted, through which, the rise of the Saviour of mankind was seeded. Sin is a legal matter requiring a legal solution in God’s legal system.

“Judah, your brothers shall praise you; your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; your father's sons shall bow down before you. Judah is a lion's cub; from the prey, my son, you have gone up. He stooped down; **he crouched as a lion and as a lioness; who dares rouse him? The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him; and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.** Binding his foal to the vine and his donkey's colt to the choice vine, **he has washed his garments in wine and his vesture in the blood of grapes.** His eyes are darker than wine, and his teeth whiter than milk” (Genesis 49:8-12).

When that glorious day comes, the Christians will recognize the work of the Jews who embraced God’s law and held it close for hundreds of years. They were not guilty of lawlessness, like their brothers, rather lawfulness by adding hundreds of additional rules and regulations that often nullified the law of God. Jesus Christ will correct their mistakes when he returns; he will also correct the mistakes of the Christians.

**“In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples;** the nations will rally to him, and his place of rest will be glorious. In that day the Lord will reach out his hand a second time to reclaim the remnant that is left of his people... He will raise a banner for the nations and gather the exiles of Israel; he will assemble the scattered people of Judah from the four quarters of the earth” (Isaiah 11:10a, 11).

After this evil age, Jesus the Messiah will rule, teaching the nations God’s law and His ordinances. There will be no deviating away from law and order. “And from His mouth proceeds a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and **He will rule them with an iron**

**scepter.** He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty” (Revelation 19:15).

#### The sword: God’s law and His word

Some may think that the sword is a weapon that slices into the flesh and kills. That is not the sword God Almighty is referring to. The sword represents the word of God (Revelation 1:16, Hebrews 4:12, Ephesians 6:17). The returning Saviour will use the word of God to strike down the nations. He will declare their sins, judge the leaders and the people. He will remind them of the great witness by the two witnesses and the saints that is yet to be completed, warning and urging them to repent and turn away from their sins.

Through the power of Almighty God, the Son of God spoke and creation came into being (Hebrews 11:13), in the same way, the Son of Man will speak the truth against them and they will be subdued, judged and sentenced. Like grapes in a wine press, the unrepentant will be crushed. The fury of God will be executed and the wicked will be dashed into pieces and crushed under foot (Psalm 2:9). The Messiah’s return will be marked by great power and radiant glory.

#### The fear-bringing roar of a lion

Solomon’s wisdom will become history when Jesus Christ returns in power and glory to overthrow Wickedness once and for all. **“The terror of a king is like the growling of a lion; whoever provokes him to anger forfeits his life”** (Proverbs 20:2).

Both Almighty God and the Son, Jesus Christ are described as a lion in scripture. Their call is like the roar of the powerful King in the wild.

God’s slow repenting people will feel the power of God’s roar.

“I will not execute the full fury of My anger; I will not turn back to destroy **Ephraim**. For I am God and not man—the Holy One among you—and **I will not come in wrath**. They will walk after 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 and like doves from the land of Assyria. Then I will settle them in their homes,’ declares the LORD” (Hosea 11:9-11).

The house of Israel [the ten tribes] is often identified in the Old Testament under their ancient leader’s name—Ephraim. These people are living in the West and western Europe. Many are still slow to repent even after the great witness to come during the great tribulation. When they awaken, like the five foolish virgins, they will be humbly grateful of God’s extended compassion towards them. Almighty God will roar like a lion. They will feel the moving blasts of His power and they will return to Him, weeping and begging for life.

These heavenly roars out of heaven are the final calls to awaken the people on earth. A mighty angel in Revelation will roar like the voice of Almighty God—powerful and commanding. “Then



he cried out in a loud voice **like the roar of a lion**. And when he cried out, the **seven thunders sounded their voices**" (Revelation 10:3).

The powerful roar of the lion draws everyone's immediate attention. **"The lion has roared— so who isn't frightened? The Sovereign LORD has spoken— so who can refuse to proclaim his message?"** (Amos 3:8)

A time is coming on our near horizon when Almighty God will again engage directly with mankind. From out of the vast blue sky, the powerful roar of God will be heard and the whole world will immediately stop and listen.

Lions are fearless. The Lion of Judah is intrepid and will stop at nothing to destroy his lawless enemies. He is King over all kings and Lord over all lords. He has been awarded the sceptre for his love for God's law and his great courage, strength and determination to cleanse all creation of wickedness.

"There are three things that are **stately in their stride**, and four that are impressive in their walk: **the lion, which is mightiest among beasts and does not turn back before any**; a strutting rooster; a he-goat; and a king with his army around him" (Proverbs 29-31).

Having the heart of a lion is fearing nothing. Believers have Almighty God and their Saviour as their protectors. They, too, have nothing to fear. They are prepared to put this frail and dying physical life on the line to stand with Almighty God and Jesus Christ. "What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?" (Romans 8:31)

King David was described as having the heart of a lion. His love for God's law brought him very close to Almighty God. He leaned on Him and never forgot whose throne he sat on. "Then even the valiant man, **whose heart is like the heart of a lion**, will utterly melt with fear, for all Israel knows that **your father [King David] is a mighty man, and that those who are with him are valiant men**" (II Samuel 17:10). This verse details that moment in time when King David's son, Absalom, was out to take the throne of Israel. His father, King David, was a highly trained and a courageous warrior with a heart of a lion who served and revered God, the King of Israel. He was in the habit of putting his life on the line to do God's will. Absalom lost against his father. It was not God's will for him to have the throne.

As the lion is the king of the animal world, so Almighty God is the ultimate King above all and Jesus Christ the anointed King over all creation in heaven and on earth. God uses earthly images to describe heavenly matters. God is imaged as a lion illustrating His strength as a King.

He is also imaged as the east wind illustrating His power to move with a force that is very familiar with people living in the Middle East. He pushed His unrepentant people westward away from Him in the east. God never rejected His wayward people. He is the master potter and they will during of great hardship to come, repent. Then, He will roar when it is time for His people to stop their wavering and commit to serving Him forever. Many of them, will awaken in

a fright. They are the five foolish virgins who are slow to acknowledge Almighty God, slow to let go of the cares of this world, and slow to repent.

“They shall go after the Lord; **he will roar like a lion**; when **he roars, his children shall come trembling from the west**” (Hosea 11:10). The slow-repenting people of God will finally awaken to reality. They had forgotten their God—the Great and All-Powerful God and His Son, their Saviour. At a time of great distress, they will be mocked and ridiculed, taken into captivity, sold and purchased. During this horrific time, they will cry out to the Almighty God—the God of Israel and He will hear them.

They will plead with Christ. Like Jacob, returning home, they will wrestle with him begging for his favour and the blessing of eternal life. God and Christ will have mercy on them. God said that He will have compassion on Jacob and choose Israel again (Isaiah 14:1). God’s extended grace will ignite a burning desire to serve God. They will trigger a final religious revival and go out to fight against Wickedness with the heart of a lion. Their renewed passion for righteousness, having received grace and seeing with their own eyes the existence of God and their Saviour, they will be like their King—a lion destroying their prey.

“And the remnant of Jacob shall be among the nations, in the midst of many peoples, like a lion among the beasts of the forest, like a young lion among the flocks of sheep, which, when it goes through, treads down and tears in pieces, and there is none to deliver” (Micah 5:8).

### Samson’s riddle

Revelations of the Messiah of mankind are hidden in the stories of the Bible from ancient times. A well-known example is the image of Abraham willing to sacrifice his son, Isaac, in obedience to God. While God did not allow Abraham to fulfill His request, it remains a prophecy of our Father in heaven willing to sacrifice His Son to save mankind. The Messiah’s redemptive sacrifice provided a source of life, spiritual teaching and growth into maturity with his Spirit in each repentant believer. This important message, God trumpeted throughout the Old Testament. The prophets of old searched and longed to know their Saviour. Hidden in Samson’s riddle is another mirror of the prophecy of mankind’s Saviour. Samson’s mystery riddle has teased Biblical scholars for hundreds of years. God’s use of imagery is key to unlocking the mystery riddle. How much Samson understood is unknown? He formulated a riddle from a lion that he killed and sometime later, when he passed by the carcass, he saw a hive of bees among the decaying body. He reached in and ate some of the honey.

“Then Samson went down with his father and mother to Timnah, and they came to the vineyards of Timnah. And behold, a young lion came toward him roaring” (Judges 14:5).

“After some days he returned to take her [the girl to be his wife]. And he turned aside to see the carcass of the lion, and behold, there was a swarm of bees in the body of the lion, and honey” (Judges 14:8). And as the story goes, he ate some honey.

Many of Samson's life events have an embedded spiritual lesson. The lion that Samson killed is a mirror of God's people who killed their Messiah—the Lion of Judah. But, from out of his death, eternal food became available, like the carcass of the lion from which, a hive of bees produced honey, an imperishable food.

Our sins, whether intentional or through deception, have a penalty of death. Jesus paid the price. His redemptive sacrifice has opened the door again for eternal life for all of mankind; the choice is theirs. However, spiritual growth is essential. Honey from the carcass of the lion is a mirror of eternal food—God's word through Jesus Christ, as the Teacher that when acted upon strengthens and provides the sustenance for spiritual maturity.

It is not a natural habitat for a hive of bees to live in a carcass, so too, it is not a natural practice for God's eternal word to come out of a spiritually dead being. In addition, God forbade the touching of a dead animal, which required a special cleansing practice, to warn His people against engaging with spiritually dead people because they are toxic. Fortunately, through an impossible feat by anyone else, a perfect sacrifice was successful. Jesus Christ took on the sins of mankind polluting his righteous body to make eternal life possible for all of mankind.



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## One Teacher

Only the death of Jesus Christ provides the mechanism for eternal food for mankind. He is their only Teacher.



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**“Don’t let anyone call you ‘Rabbi,’ for you have only one Teacher, and all of you are equal as brothers and sisters. Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one Instructor, the Christ. The greatest among you shall be your servant” (Matthew 23:8, 10-11).**

It can be misunderstood what is recorded in Matthew 23. What Jesus was saying is that he, alone, is the central source of God’s word. He has a perfect understanding. Before he ascended into heaven, Jesus established a theological body. He gave them roles: some apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers to school the saints, men and women, who will also go out and teach until everyone has reached the full measure of the stature of Christ.

**“And it was He who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for works of ministry and to build up the body of Christ, until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God, as we mature to the full measure of the stature of Christ” (Ephesians 4:11-12).**

Jesus Christ is the only Teacher who holds a perfect understanding of God’s law and His word. Everyone else are equal members under Christ who must always look to him for clarity and perfection in understanding. Members under Christ cannot change God’s word or act declaring to have the authority to be the central source of God’s word. Jesus didn’t change God’s word, His Sabbath or God’s law. He is the same yesterday, today and forever (Hebrews 13:8). God’s people have only one Teacher and that is Jesus Christ.



## FROM A STUMP TO A ROOT OF JESSE

Stump of Jesse



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King David was promised that the eternal King and Saviour of all of mankind will come from his family.

“There shall come forth **a shoot from the stump of Jesse**, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit” (Isaiah 11:1).

The reference to the “stump of Jesse” in Isaiah 11, signifies a dying people; all that is left is the stump. However, a shoot comes out of the dying stump and from that shoot, branches that bear fruit. The shoot described by Isaiah is the Messiah and from him, spiritual growth is made possible where fruit—righteous people mature and do good works.

God is showing through the language used that His people were dying spiritually; a stump only remained. They needed a Saviour so that they could be reborn, bear the fruit of good works, faithfulness and righteousness.

The prophet Isaiah refers to the “root of Jesse” because the roots of every plant provide the stability and life of all growth above it. That stability did not die out in family line of Jesse. It is interesting that David was the last son of Jesse’s seven sons and the first son to receive God’s Holy Spirit.

God is constantly unveiling layers upon layers of detail built into his indestructible structure that will form his eternal kingdom. The indestructible structure is comprised of great leaders, like King David. Almighty God and Jesus Christ are described as the first and the last in their own right. David, too, was a first and a last.

**FIRST:** Son of Jesse was the first to receive God’s Holy Spirit in his family

**LAST:** Son of Jesse was the youngest of seven, the last, in his family

“When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom. He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be his father, and he will be my son. . . . **Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever**” (II Samuel 7:12-16).

### Root of Jesse

From a dying stump, the house of Jesse was given life through a life-giving Root.

**“On that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious”** (Isaiah 11:10).

“On that day” is an exact point in time. “On that day” is the time at the end of the great tribulation. The slow-repenting of the twelve tribes of Israel will finally bend their knee and acknowledge the anointed Kingship of Jesus Christ. These are the foolish virgins in Matthew 25 who “at that time” were sleeping along with the wise virgins. Both groups will awaken during the great tribulation. The wise had the essential spiritual maturity to be invited by Jesus Christ to attend, as guests, the wedding supper. These two groups: the foolish and the wise are not the Bride of Christ. She is a separate group who did not fall asleep. This group of men and women continued to overcome and grow spiritually so that when “that day” came, they were ready.

The “root of Jesse,” is no longer referred as the “stump of Jesse” because “on that day” a strong spiritual leader will be present, Jesus Christ, who will have returned. He is the life-giving root who will sprout, grow tall and produce branches bearing fruit. From him, men and women will mature spiritually, become leaders who will work with him to teach God’s people and all people God’s law and His way. The nations of the world will inquire about the arrival of this Spirit Being after witnessing the peace and joy people will enjoy under his rule.

## SON OF DAVID

Jesus' proclamation to be a Son of David is his prophetic acknowledgement to have the sceptre promised through the family-line of David.

While many Jews rejected Jesus as king, others recognized his authority and declared it. "A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, "**Lord, Son of David**, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly" (Matthew 15:22).

This Canaanite woman believed that Jesus could and would heal. Addressing him, she acknowledged also his royal line by adding "Son of David."

Two blind men cried out to Jesus, addressing him as both priest and king—Lord, Son of David. They asked for their eyes to be opened. "Moved with compassion, Jesus touched their eyes, and at once **they received their sight and followed Him**" (Matthew 20:32). A double meaning of "eyes to be opened" is apparent because these blind men were healed both physically and spiritually; they followed Jesus.

"I, Jesus, have sent My angel to give you this testimony for the churches. **I am the Root and the Offspring of David**, the bright Morning Star" (Revelation 22:16). Jesus of Nazareth is the prophesied root from the stump of Jesse and the Offspring of David; he was before the birth of David and after his birth; his existence goes beyond David.

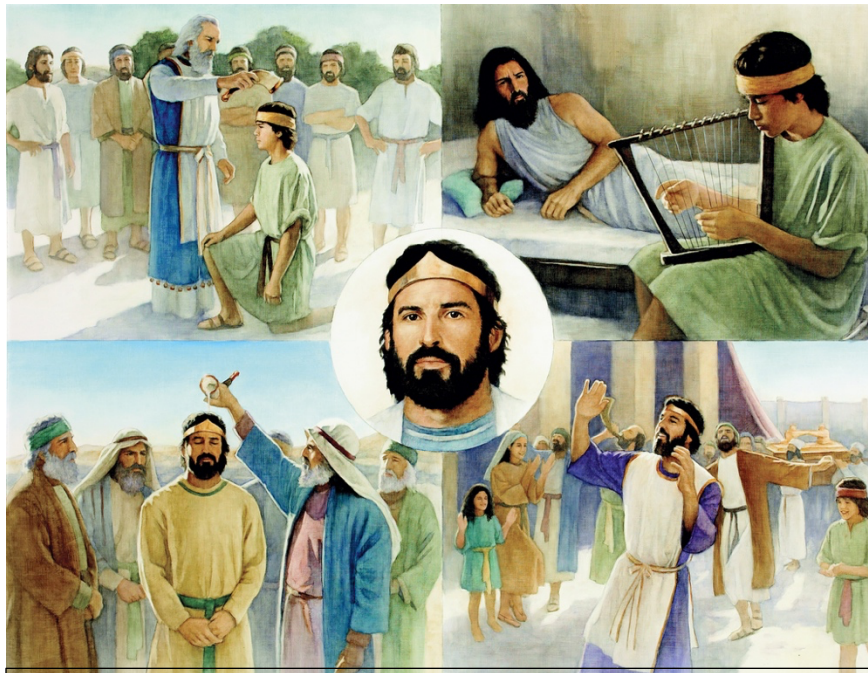


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## LORD JESUS

“But when they went in, they did not find the body of the **Lord Jesus**” (Luke 24:3). In particular, the title of Lord was applied to Jesus after his resurrection. He died for the sins of mankind; he bought them with his blood; he is their Saviour, their Healer, their Life-giver, their High Priest.

### Lord, High Priest

Jesus, the Son of God became more than a priest, but the High Priest of God. “Therefore, since we have a **great high priest** who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess” (Hebrews 4:14).

Fortunately, mankind has a high priest who understands the weaknesses of being human. “For this reason, He had to be made like His brothers in every way, so that **He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, in order to make atonement for the sins of the people**” (Hebrews 2:7).

Again, “For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who was tempted in every way that we are, yet was without sin” (Hebrews 4:15).

### Lord and King

Thomas, the doubter, learned this important lesson quickly. “Then Jesus said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here and look at My hands. Reach out your hand and put it into My side. Stop doubting and believe.’ Thomas answered and said to Him, ‘My Lord and my God!’” (John 20:27-28)

Thomas believed after he saw the wound sites on Jesus. Then he acknowledged Jesus as both his Saviour [Lord] and God [a divine being].

### Lord and Messiah

The Apostle Paul clarified their confusion. “For David did not ascend into heaven, but he himself says: ‘The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand until I place Your enemies *as* a footstool of Your feet.”’ Therefore, let all Israel know with certainty that **God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ!**” (Acts 2:34-36) God declared that Jesus is both High Priest [Lord] and Saviour [King, as he purchased them and now, he is their Ruler].

### Jesus, Lord of all

Since Jesus is the Saviour for all of mankind, he will be the One to offer them grace, forgive sins, heal them and give them life. Healing and giving life will not be limited only to God’s people. God Almighty does not show favouritism. “Then Peter began to speak: ‘I now truly understand that God does not show favoritism, but welcomes those from every nation who fear Him and do what is right. He has sent this message to the people of Israel, proclaiming **the gospel of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all**’” (Acts 10:36).



## Lord of the Sabbath

In the Old Testament, the Almighty God declared the Sabbath as one of His Holy Days.

“Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates.” (Exodus 20:8-10).

In the New Testament, Jesus Christ declared that he is Lord of the Sabbath. “He entered the house of God, took the consecrated bread and gave it to his companions, and ate what is lawful only for the priests to eat. Then Jesus declared, ‘The Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath’” (Luke 6:4-5).

What Jesus was stating was that he is a priest—Lord, and Lord of the Sabbath. The Sabbath is a weekly holy day; it is a day of worship. Jesus is the priest and teacher on all of God’s theological matters. By keeping the Sabbath and resting from work, you are spending time with him and learning from him. The Sabbath is the indicator that a special relationship exists between everyone who is resting: Sabbath-keepers, their Saviour, and the Great Creator God.

The Sabbath is also a sign between the LORD Almighty and the Lord Saviour and those who rest on that Day that they are made holy by the LORD Almighty in ancient times, and now the Lord Saviour who paid the price for their sins in present times.

“Also, I gave them my Sabbaths as a sign between us, so they would know that I the LORD made them holy” (Exodus 20:12).

Jesus Christ is mankind’s High Priest. He has the power to judge, forgive, give grace and life eternal. People who choose to work on the seventh day, are choosing to remain in rebellion against God. These people are changing six days of rebellion into a full seven days of rebellion, picturing no period of time when mankind repents to obey God and bend their knee before Jesus Christ. It is an indicator that they will rebel during the millennial reign of Jesus Christ. These rebels will be judged and destroyed.

“There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God, for anyone who enters God’s rest also rests from his own work, just as God did from his. Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will fall by following their example of disobedience” (Hebrews 4:9-11).

Keeping the Sabbath holy has a direct correlation to refraining from sin. "How blessed is the man who does this, and the son of man who takes hold of it; **Who keeps from profaning the Sabbath, and keeps his hand from doing any evil**" (Isaiah 56:2).

**God’s house is a house of prayer for ALL nations.** “And **FOREIGNERS** who **bind themselves to the LORD to serve him**, and **love the name of the LORD**, and to **worship him**, and all who **KEEP THE SABBATH WITHOUT DESECRATING IT** and who **hold fast to my covenant—THESE I will bring to**

**my holy mountain and give them joy in my house of prayer.** Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for **my house will be called A HOUSE OF PRAYER FOR ALL NATIONS**" (Isaiah 56:6-7).

Those who joyfully keep the Sabbath with reverence to the Eternal God will be blessed generously by God.

"If because of the Sabbath, you **turn your foot from doing your own pleasure** on My holy day, and **call the Sabbath a delight**, the holy day of the LORD **honorable**, and honor it, **desisting from your own ways**, from seeking your own pleasure and speaking your own word, then you will find your joy in the LORD, and **I will cause you to ride in triumph on the heights of the land** and to **FEAST ON THE INHERITANCE OF YOUR FATHER JACOB.**" The mouth of the LORD has spoken" (Isaiah 58:13-14).

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