# GOD'S CODED LANGUAGE



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#### PROLOGUE

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

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

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

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

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#### HOSEA'S AMAZING LOVE

"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).

The stories of many of the great prophets are a mirror of God's relationship with His people, His encounters with them, and how they have treated Him. As a result, the lives of selected people within the family were full of hardships and betrayals from within their own family and throughout their country. They served God and endured, often not understanding the message woven in their lives. Their stories are preserved for the end-time believers.



The ten tribes of the ancient house of Israel were sentenced to live 2,520 years in exile. This number is seven times their original sentence, because they did not repent. They had many years of wandering across Europe raping, pillaging, plundering, worshipping gods, playing with magic, and casting spells. Sometime, prior to the birth of Jesus, they fell into despair and pleaded with God, like the prodigal son, to accept them back into His covenant family. With their long history of superficial sincerity, they were left to wait until their heart softened into a humble and pliable state.

Into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, they may not remember the full details of their wayward past, their illusive repentance, nor do they see their future allegiance with the God of Israel who has prophesied a double blessing for them. Regardless, the God of Israel never lost sight of them. He preserved their history in a story.

The ten tribes of Israel were divorced by God because of their relentless waning back and forth determined to find refuge living like the nations around them. A kingdom of humble, holy

priests was not what they desired, rather a life of glitter and glory, pride and arrogance, power and control. God gave them their wish and turned away. "As for you, O house of Israel, this what the Sovereign LORD says: Go and serve your idols, every one of you! But afterward you will surely listen to me and no longer profane my holy name with your gifts and idols" (Ezekiel 20:39).

Deeper and deeper into paganism the church of the ten tribes wandered serving the gods of the nations, intimately engaging in their perverted and heinous practices. One after the other, these rebel gods used them and eventually discarded them until one day, they were rescued. The amazing love story of Hosea is the mirror of the redemptive rescue of the church of the ten tribes of Israel.

The word of God spoke to Hosea and instructed him to marry an adulterous woman. Enactments preserved in stories are one of the teaching tools used by God. Hosea married Gomer and he loved her. It wasn't long and Gomer became restless. She turned to serving the god, Baal and became a prostitute of the gods. The unfaithful relationship that Hosea experienced mirrored the on-going relationship that the house of Israel had with their God. Over two thousand seven hundred years later, the relationship continued to move like the ocean tide.

This story cannot be fully understood without the knowledge of the events that took place at the time of Babel. The Great God gave the members of His holy court in heaven rulership over the nations. The nations received an inheritance, which meant they received heavenly rulers because they were going astray, again. This knowledge is not lost rather mythicized. God divided the nations accordingly and gave each one their own language. This change remains to this day. The task of the members of God's heavenly court was to teach each nation the way of God and how to worship the Almighty God, the God of all gods. The members of God's heavenly court were experts on God's law. They judged; they ruled; they sentenced.

"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" (NLT, ESV, Berean, BST, CEV, NAB, GNT, Deuteronomy 32:8).

Some translations based the division according to the number of the sons of Israel, but Abraham was not born for another 100 years and his grandson, Jacob for at least 200 years, after the dividing of the people into nations. In addition, Jacob's twelve sons do not account for the number recorded in Genesis 10 in the Table of Nations, which is a list of seventy.

Michael Heiser provides the explanation in his book, The Unseen Realm.

"Most English Bibles do not read 'according to the number of the sons of God' in Deuteronomy 32:8. Rather, they read 'according to the number of the sons of Israel.' The difference derives from disagreements between manuscripts of the Old Testament. 'Sons of God' is the correct reading, as is now known from the Dead Sea Scrolls.

The notion that the nations of the world were geographically partitioned and owe their terrestrial identity to the sovereign God takes the reader back to the Table of Nations in Genesis 10-11, and two details there regarding God's apportionment of the earth that are important for the context of the textual debate in Deuteronomy 32:8. First, the Table of Nations catalogs seventy nations, but Israel is not included in the inventory. Second, the use of the same Hebrew root in both passages to describe the "separation" of humankind and the nations substantiates the long-recognized observation of scholars that Genesis 10-11 are the backdrop to the statement in Deuteronomy 32:8. Israel alone is Yahweh's portion and so is not numbered among the seventy other nations.

Deuteronomy 32:8–9 harks back to events at the Tower of Babel, an event that occurred before the call of Abraham, the father of the nation of Israel. This means that the nations of the earth were divided at Babel before Israel even existed as a people. God decreed, in the wake of Babel, that the other nations he had forsaken would have other gods besides himself to worship."<sup>1</sup>

Mike Heiser confirmed from the Dead Sea scrolls that the translation in Deuteronomy 32:8 should be "sons of God" not "sons of Israel." While his research is thorough solving the question of how God divided the nations, I challenge his reasoning that God surrendered the nations at the wake of Babel, allowing them to worship gods. This thought conflicts with the reality that there is only one Great Creator and He only is deserving of worship. Jesus rejected Satan's offer by remaining loyal to Almighty God and said, "Away from Me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve Him only'" (Matthew 4:10).

Satan demands worship. The ruling rebel sons of God demanded worship, but there is only one Almighty God that all creation owes their life, service, and worship.

In as little as one hundred years, the heavenly rulers over the nations began to fall. Two hundred years later only a few remained faithful to God. These rebels no longer taught the people in the nations God's law or His ways. Instead, they became oppressive dictators.

All of ancient civilization experienced the interaction of the gods on earth. Many nations rose in power and glory. The people of the nations benefited and enjoyed the riches that filtered down to them. The exuberance of power and glory that their nations flaunted opened Pandora's box for God's people to desire the same greatness and self-glory. The heavenly kings over the nations tasted, enjoyed, and gorged on power and control, until they were incoherent from the ecstasy that they could not control. Their toxic desires pushed them away from humbly serving God to forever change their values, morals, thoughts, and actions. They had woven themselves into darkness with plans to overthrow Almighty God with increased ferocity and determination.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Heiser, Michael. "The Unseen Realm." pp. 68-69. Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2014.

The northern house of Israel saw the great structures of Egypt, the wonders that dazzled their eyes and challenged their engineering. They admired Egypt's 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 fallen gods taught their nations the art of war, weapon making, military strategies, and techniques to prepare them to expand their territories into empires by overthrowing weaker nations. The people of the nations followed their leaders and worshipped them willingly no longer able to distinguish between their heavenly rulers and the Almighty God, the Supreme Creator. The presence of these powerful heavenly rulers was felt; it was real and at times excruciatingly painful for those opposing them. 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 rebel gods to capture mankind and prepare them for the last great battle. Deceived mankind, believe these rebel 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 rebel gods. She was representative of a covenant people destined for priesthood who chose to depart from humbly serving their God and living His ways of love, kindness, justice, honesty, and righteousness. Instead, these people worked to build a dark kingdom covered in red, as they built-up their military might through the acquisition of weapons, building alliances, while pillaging and plundering wealth from invasions. They built their economic riches by stealing, lying, and the implementation of many deceitful practices. Their desire for stardom was hindered, as they were forced to move north west and west 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. Their story is recorded in the life of Gomer, Hosea's wife.

Three children were born under the care of Hosea. The first child, a son, was named Jezreel. He was the only child born from both Hosea and Gomer. The second child was a daughter named, Lo-Ruhamah born in harlotry along with the third child, a son named Lo-Ammi.

Jezreel reminds God's people throughout the ages, that it will take much blood shed for the houses of Israel to repent. A short reminder, Hosea's life was a mirror on earth of God's relationship with His church nation. The kings of ancient Israel adopted many pagan practices from the nations around them. They were often in rebellion against God. Jezreel was the name God told Hosea to name his first son. The name means "to scatter" or "to sow." In this case, Jezreel means both because God will scatter and then, He will sow them.

The root meaning of the name is provided by Biblehub.com.<sup>2</sup>

**JEZREEL Word Origin:** Derived from the Hebrew root זרע (zara), meaning "to sow" or "to scatter," and אל (El), meaning "God."

Jezreel symbolizes the harsh conditions that bring repentance to a stubborn, rebel people. In ancient times, God brought both houses into captivity because of their rebellion against Him. The house of Israel did not repent after their captivity. Their sentence was extended and they wandered Asia Minor into Western Europe for 2, 520 years. During that time, after they had experienced enough pain and suffering from the curses of disobedience, like the prodigal son, they repented and begged to return to the Father.

The kingdoms of Israel remain today separate nations, each with their own language, but a reunification is prophesied by God. The reunification is the sowing together of the kingdom and planting them back in their original homeland. Only after they truly repent, will God restore the kingdom of Israel.

The Valley of Jezreel was a fertile plain in ancient times and today. Many battles of the house of Israel took place in that valley against neighbouring people and from within their kingdom. It was a strategic location, a trade route. Its name is well-fitting for God to mirror the crucial battles that result in so much pain, suffering, and death for some, as God crushes His rebel people to humble them and then, mold them into God-fearing and God-serving people who bear the rich fruit of righteousness. The fertile plain of Jezreel was ideal for growing crops, but little could be harvested when battles ravaged the land. This mirror is exactly God's message to His wayward people. When living in sin, hatred, and disobedience against God, the rich harvest of His word and law that leads to righteousness and peace is destroyed.

Hosea 1:4 describes God's judgement on the battles He fought, through his servants, to end evil, warn His people, and purge them of their unrelenting wickedness.

"Name him Jezreel; for yet a little while, and I will visit the bloodshed of Jezreel upon the house of Jehu, and I will cause the kingdom of the house of Israel to cease" (Hosea 1:4).

The wording of this scripture has caused some confusion of its meaning. King Jehu fulfilled God's order to bring a total end to the reign of King Ahab's family line. It was a bloody event and painful for God to endure, but it was ordered in righteous judgement. The house of Israel rarely had a king who would reign righteously. King Jehu is the only king that did as God had commanded. His failure was in his carelessness of God's law. "Yet Jehu was not careful to keep the law of the Lord, the God of Israel, with all his heart" (II Kings 10:31). God vowed to end the

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Biblehub. "Jezreel." *Biblehub.com*, https://biblehub.com/hebrew/3157.htm. Accessed May 15, 2020.

monarchy of the house of Israel. Their unrelenting sinful behaviour and stubborn mindset, and continual failure to sincerely return to Him and obey His law had reached the boiling point.

After thousands of years of sin that has brought so much pain, suffering, and death symbolized in the name, Jezreel—God will scatter, but a new day is coming—the day of Jezreel. God's poetry is a marvel. The name Jezreel is both a judgement and a blessing.

It is on our near horizon, when 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will unite together and humbly bend their knee before the Almighty God. A remnant will return. God will bring them back home safely and settle them in the promised Holy Land, symbolized in the name, Jezreel—God sows. On that day, both houses of Israel: Judah—the Jews and Israel—the West and Western Europe will reunite. Together, they will truly call out to God and He will hear them.

"Then the people of Judah [the Jews] and Israel [the West and Western Europe] will unite together. They will choose one leader for themselves, and they will return from exile together. What a day that will be—the day of Jezreel—when God will again plant his people in his land" (Hosea 1:11).

The plains are often God's image of a pathway without obstacles. Zechariah recorded the LORD Almighty saying, "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" (Zechariah 4:7).

The mighty mountain God is referring to, are the superpower forces across the earth controlling all of the world's governments. It is imaged in the great statue in the book of Daniel. A level ground will appear; all of the barriers to obeying God will be gone; all of the toe-stubbing stones—the lying media, the bullying national leaders, the puppeted scholars and educators, and the false and wayward religious leaders will all be crushed.

**Lo-Ruhamah, a daughter,** mirrors the religious leadership specifically the churches of the ten tribes, the house of Israel, who struggle to grow in God's knowledge. Theologians have difficulty removing the old pagan traditions and returning to the pure word of God written in both the Old and New Testament.

God said that Lo-Ruhamah is not loved by Him. The theological doctrines of this daughter church of their mother, Jerusalem, are incomplete. They resemble the Laodicean group in Revelation who believe that they have a full understanding of the scriptures and what they are teaching is the pure word of God. Yet, the Laodicean's are blind to their ignorance; their nakedness—ungodly behaviour, and their walk is not with Jesus because he is standing at their door knocking to come in to teach them the pure word of God.

While the Laodicean group are in need of growth, Jesus offers those who overcome rulership with him. This is a great honour and a reflection of their value before God.

God's Holy Days were given to His people to be kept for all generations. The Holy Days are a memorial, a celebration, and a permanent statute. "And this day will be a memorial for you, and you are to celebrate it as a feast to the LORD, as a permanent statute for the generations to come" (Exodus 12:14).

Almighty God has woven His transparency of His saving plan for His people and all of mankind into His Holy Days. Every Holy Day, in its sequence, maps every crucial step to the saving plan of mankind. To alter or remove any of God's Holy Days or to keep them on the different day or month in the wrong way will push God's transparency into the dark.

Christians have modified their ancient pagan customs to celebrate their Saviour, Jesus Christ in a way that was not recognized by Almighty God. Easter is an example where the Christians try to remember the death and resurrection of Christ on the cross with easter bunnies, eggs and hot cross buns. Christ's birth is celebrated on December 25<sup>th</sup> by decorating a tree and exchanging gifts. Christ was not born on December 25<sup>th</sup>. God commanded His people to keep His Holy Days exactly as He has had them recorded in Leviticus 23. God will not draw close to a theological body that is not cleansed of their pagan customs, their twists and turns applied to doctrines, and the pride in assuming that they can change what God has ordained as permanent.

**Lo-Ammi** mirrors the national leadership who have little or no relationship with Almighty God. They lack humility; they grapple continually for power; they aspire for self-glory, self-reliance, self-direction and superpower status. They engage in all sorts of corruption in every department at every level.

Technology has deepened and broadened their grip over the people: spying, manipulating their thoughts and decisions, lawless leadership, lying, propagandizing, overtaxing, misusing taxpayer's money, serving for personal financial gain does not reflect God's leadership style. Worst of all are those who are aware of the dark practices of many politicians and wealthy elites, and do nothing to expose them and purge government of their scandalous activities. God said that they are not His people. They do not reflect God's "servant of all" mindset and self-sacrificing work to care for the people.

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 set time, He will withhold it and added, "I will expose her lewdness before the eyes of her lovers; no one will take her out of my hands" (Hosea 2:10).

God will sort this house and separate the unrepenting from the overcomers. The unrepenting will undergo judgement by 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 near future.

"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).

"From that day forward the house of Israel will know that I am YHWH [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).

The story of the church of the house of Israel is a picture of Christians feeling secure with their understanding of God's theology, yet blind to their true state. God is talking to the churches in Western Europe and the West. They need spiritual guidance onto the narrow path towards the God of Israel. When God uses the female part of speech, He is speaking to the churches.

"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 spiritual rejuvenation is prophesied. A forgiving Father will reclaim His people.

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 and degraded woman. Hosea 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 lethech 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 of their sins. Jesus Christ willingly gave his life because he has never stopped loving Israel and all of mankind. God is the head and Christ is His body. They work as one; they are united in saving all of mankind. The secret redemption plan of mankind began with the perfect sacrifice of Christ, which was kept hidden from the enemies of God. Paul knew this secret and their defeat.

"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).

The fallen rebels were not briefed on this pivotal portion of God's plan. "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 rulership over the nations and received the victor's booty. "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 rebel rulers and gifted it to His servants. We see here that the job of the heavenly kings over the nations involved being teachers of God's word. Their job was given to God's people. "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 service, 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). Hosea understood the mission God had given to him.

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" Hosea said the Israelites will live with Christ, but like him, they will not be intimate. A possible two thousand years as the Apostle Peter said, "With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day" (II Peter 3:8b), the house of Israel has been without:

- Their **KING** of kings [Christ] who has not yet returned. They are without their King nor do they have **princes** because these rebel "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 record to the seven churches in Revelation is a plea for the churches to overcome their wayward

practices and traditions of men to turn fully to the way of God. Only those who overcome will rule with Christ.

God longs to redeem Israel, but recorded in Hosea are all the wicked ways of the house of Israel who He said, "is swallowed up; now she is among the nations like a worthless thing... [note: God's use of the female gender. He is speaking to the church of the ten tribes of Israel].

"Ephraim [the leader of the ten tribes who are often collectively identified under that name] has hired lovers" (Hosea 8:9b).

"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 (the place where the tribe of Benjamin protected heinous, Satan-worshipping men). 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)

"Ephraim is blighted, their root is withered, they yield no fruit... They will be wanderers among the nations" (Hosea 9:16).

"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; they are 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" (Hosea 12:7).

Such is a fair description of Wall Street, the City of London today, and the International Monetary Fund.

"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).

Indeed, God will bring them into captivity for now *twice* sinning and protecting evil, Satanworshipping people holding leadership positions throughout their countries.

"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, in the future. The Assyrians took captive the ancient northern house of Israel. A future event will impact the 21<sup>st</sup> century northern house of Israel because many have fallen away from worshipping Almighty God.

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... [note now God's use of the male gender, He is speaking directly to the national leadership] 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)

When God refers to "Ephraim," He is talking to all of the ten tribes of Israel, Western Europe and the West. He longs to redeem them. "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 many from within all of the ten tribes and the house of Judah who will repent. 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).

A careful study of this scripture uncovers long forgotten roots and a reunification that will never be broken.

• "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. They are Westerners.

- "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.
  - 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 reunited kingdom forever.
- They will appoint one leader. This will occur after the return of Jesus Christ. The first resurrection will take place and the reunited 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 conflict and the suffering that brings hard-hearted people to repentance.

There isn't a group of people who have been so treacherous to their God than the people of both houses in the kingdom 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 will respond, "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 am I anymore 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 gave Hosea old leather shoes to wear. His life was hard; his feet were sore from his life's journey. It was by design to preserve a record of the history of the church of the ten tribes through Hosea's life. Upon Hosea's resurrection, he will be given a glorious pair of shoes. All of his hardships will be lifted. He will be delighted to see the spiritual growth of the church and dearly love their humble and sincere return to the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. They will humbly bend their knee before their loving Saviour, Jesus Christ.

The Master Potter will finish His work; it will be glorious.

## THE SHOES GIVEN TO WEAR

"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).

Throughout the Bible, there 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 the history of God's people could be preserved and prophecy revealed to His people in the latter days. During the millennial reign of Jesus Christ, the truth of God's word, His law, and history will be taught to everyone.



Selected people were given shoes to wear and a path to walk to fulfill a role like an actor on the stage. For some, like Abraham and Jacob, chapters of their lives became reenactments of God's relationship with His people. Others, like Isaac, were part of events pointing to the great saving sacrifice to come. Selected women played important roles mirroring churches within God's people that suffer persecution, while others have separated to stand alone, over doctrinal interpretations. The difficulty for all churches is the work of teaching and training their congregations to grow spiritually in the body of Christ "until all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God, as mature to the full measure of the stature of Christ" (Ephesians 4:13). This is an extreme high standard for the ministry.

Every story in the Bible has a spiritual message essential for our spiritual growth towards maturing into the full measure of the stature of Christ.

The blind man recorded by the Apostle John in chapter 9 was given by God to wear, figuratively, broken shoes with the sole flapping open and heel coming apart, through no fault of his own.

The disciples asked Jesus, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

Jesus responded, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but this happened so that the work of God might be displayed in his life" (John 9:2-3).

This blind man was a selected man by God to live with the hardship of blindness to teach the disciples that God has woven in the lives of ordinary people, spiritual learning opportunities.

The key to unlocking these teaching moments given to the Judeo-Christians is the application of God's coded language.

Important chapters of spiritual history have been preserved in the lives of ordinary people. The shoes were given to them and their walk was more often one of suffering than of joy. 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 revealing chapters. He was given many different shoes to wear. In this particular episode, 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 received directly from Him.

Jacob was devastated; God Almighty was devastated. Jacob felt God's pain. He was given by God to wear, figuratively, tight imitation leather shoes 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 Judeo-Christians would come to learn the greater story. This was only one small scene 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 by God to wear figuratively, hand-me-down 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 swayed to live the ungodly ways of the nations around them.

Birthing children is the God-given role of women. It mirrors the ministerial role of the church ordained to birth a God-fearing, God-serving congregation fit for the kingdom of God. 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). This is a mirror of God having mercy on the wayward church wanting to be loved by Him. He gave her a congregation; this church would birth children fit for the kingdom. It is a miracle!

Jesus has urged the Laodicean church to overcome and allow him in to teach them, remove their blindness, bring them onto the righteous path, clothe them in humility, and open their heart to learn the pure word of God (Revelation 3:14-22).

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, was a mirror of the life, they gave her. They will repent and overcome.

#### RACHEL WAS BORN BEAUTIFUL BUT BARREN, NO FAULT OF HER OWN

Rachel was selected by God to wear figuratively, glittering silk slippers. Her shoes wore out quickly and fell apart. It is an image of her premature death, while a young woman. In addition, the beautiful shoes did not make her happy; she felt ashamed and troubled that she could not initially conceive or understand why. Her life mirrored the loved prophets who died prematurely due to persecutions and executions. God's decision to suspend the anointing of prophets came due to the infiltration of false prophets. Jesus was the last prophet who also died prematurely 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).

The prophets were all killed trying to bring people back to God—back into righteousness. It was a dark time for them as God's people refused to listen. 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 mirrors the loved church—the faithful prophets. Her name is used by Jeremiah and understood by Matthew as the faithful, mother church loved by God, who is distraught because it appears that her children are dead, that is, no congregation is left that is fit for the kingdom

of God. The news of utter failure would cause an uncontrolled cry of distress from the faithful prophets and prophetesses of old. Their suffering and death would appear to be worthless.

God assured the prophets and prophetesses, imaged in Rachel, that their work will be rewarded. "This is what the LORD says: 'Keep your voice from weeping and your eyes from tears, for the reward for your work will come, declares the LORD. Then your children will return from the land of the enemy'" (Jeremiah 31:16).

A born-again people will rise up from the teachings of the prophets throughout the ages. They will 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, which is imaged in the opening of Rachel's womb by God, for the pure and loved church to birth a righteous congregation. The prophets died before the fruits of their labor were known by them.

God intentionally did not open Rachel's womb until after Leah and the two handmaids had given Jacob children to show the 21<sup>st</sup> century Judeo-Christians about the birth of the righteous congregation that will take place in the last days after God's Holy Spirit is given. "So, the last will be first, and the first will be last" (Matthew 20:6). The first was ancient Israel and the last are the Holy-Spirit filled 21<sup>st</sup> century Judeo-Christians.

It should be noted that Leah too had her womb opened by God. It is an illustration of the church having a difficult time seeing the path of righteousness of God, without God's Holy Spirit.

Rachel's two children: Joseph, whose life mirrors Christ and Benjamin, whose life mirrors the saints. Rachel's life was shortened. She was found to have taken idols from her father's home. This is a reflection of the infiltration by false prophets that would take place among God's faithful prophets. God knew false prophets would infiltrate his church. Did God inspire Rachel take the idols that shortened her life? The premature end of the prophets brought Rachel's premature death. She was blessed with two sons—both image a righteous people.

### THE WOMAN AT THE WELL WAS SHUNNED AND DESTITUTE, 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 impoverished to live with a man, who was willing to take her in. Women, in those days, relied heavily on the care of a man.

Figuratively, this woman was given by God stilettos that distorted the growth of her feet, which is an image of God's people who depart from Him. She mirrored the church of the ten tribes 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 the house of Israel craved to be like the powerful nations around them. To get what they desired, they were willing to worship rebel gods who forced the church of the ten tribes of Israel to adopt their heinous,

pagan practices. The people followed leaving the ancient house of Israel infertile spiritually. None of them were fit for the kingdom of God. The woman at the well was an image of the spiritually infertile church of the ten tribes of Israel, who went from one god to another hoping to find love, but all she received was abuse.

Discarded by the gods, this church repented and sought to return to the God of the Hebrews. They learned of their Saviour and patiently waited for his arrival and forgiveness of sins.

Then, one day Jesus arrived at the well, built by Jacob many centuries earlier. A Samaritan woman was there. He entered into a conversation with her by asking if she would give him a drink. She was puzzled that a male Jew would engage with her. Jesus ignored her response and continued his discussion about *water* in *this* well, by introducing himself as someone with the exceptional ability to provide *living* water.

While Jesus entered into a spiritual conversation, the woman initially focused on the physical matter of giving Jesus water from the very deep well, until she gave thought to Jesus' description of "living water." She immediately understood the movement of the conversation to have entered into the spiritual world and she responded, "Are you greater than *our* father, Jacob who gave *us* the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his flocks and herds?" (John 4:5-6, 11-12)

In one statement, the woman showed that she understood that both she and Jesus were of the lineage of Jacob as she referred to Jacob as *their* father who gave both of them, the well. More importantly, she recognized that Jesus could be a prophet to offer her "living water."

Jesus knew this woman at the well was the one playing the role of the church of the ten tribes of Israel. He offered her God's Holy Spirit, but before she could accept it, Jesus addressed her many relationships. She immediately acknowledged him as a prophet, someone who must have had direct communication with God to know of her failed relationships. She did not hide her failures, instead the poverty she suffered not knowing or living God's way brought her to seek a Saviour. For that reason, Jesus waited for her at the well built by Jacob.

The well is the source of water imaged as Almighty God, the source of the Holy Spirit. Jesus said that he was that Saviour and she immediately believed him because he proved to have information that only a prophet could know. This woman mirrored the faith of the church of the ten tribes of Israel who was taught by Jesus. He was commissioned by God to save them and bring them back into the covenant family.

Jesus said to the Canaanite woman of great faith, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel" (Matthew 15:24).

It took the church of the ten tribes of Israel hundreds of years, but finally they were ready to obey God.

Like the church of the ten tribes of Israel, the woman at the well married five times but could not conceive. Her life was a conundrum of failed relationships and distress. God knew that the woman at the well could endure the shoes that He had given her to wear because deep inside, she was strong. She was the embodiment of the church of the ten tribes whose 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 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)

After God divorced the house of Israel, both church and nation became known as pagan Gentiles. They lost their name, Israel. God will not allow the name to be defiled. Jacob's name was changed to Israel when he proved to be an overcomer. The house of Israel was not a house of repentant people nor did they overcome. Their name was changed to what they had become, Gentiles, goyim—non-covenant people. After their repentance, Jesus brought them back into the covenant family and they became known as Christians, roots in Christ. Songs of grace continue to fill their hearts playing from one generation to the next, thankful and grateful to their 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 tribes of the 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 to wear, figuratively, shoes with abrasive insoles causing discomfort and ulcers. He was a man who achieved a high military status, but suffered a contagious lifedebilitating disease. 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 ten tribes of Israel, Naaman initially reacted foolishly 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 submitted to 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. The prophecy of this story has already begun. The ten tribes of Israel were healed and their spiritual growth over the past two thousand years is visible, but the greater growth is yet to be seen. The ten nations of 21<sup>st</sup> century Israel will be healed of their spiritual, decaying condition in stages, beginning before the Great Tribulation. Jesus told the group of people who form the Thyatira church that they are doing more than what they did in the past, but still more needs to be done before he returns.

"Never-the-less, I have this against you: You tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess. By her teaching she misleads my servants into sexual immorality and the eating of food sacrificed by idols. I have given her time to repent of her immorality, but she is not willing... Now I say to the rest of you in Thyatira, to you who do not hold to her teaching and have not learned Satan's so-called deep secrets (I will not impose any other burden on you): Only hold on to what you have until I come. To him who overcomes and does my will to the end, I will give authority over the nations—'He will rule them with an iron scepter; he will dash them to pieces like pottery'—just as I have received authority from my Father. I will also give him the morning star" (Revelation 2:20-21, 24-28).

To each of the seven churches in Revelation, Jesus appears with different striking features. Before the Thyatira church, his "eyes are like blazing fire and feet like burnished bronze." This is a picture of Christ when he returns as King over all kings and Lord over all lords. He is a ruler and he is addressing the rulers (Thyatira) of all twelve nations of Israel into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Prior to his return, Christ has urged the national leaders of all twelve nations of Israel to get out of the ways of the Jezebel-types in leadership positions. Jezebel, in ancient times, was Queen under King Ahab. She used his seal to execute commands. Most of the Jezebel-types today have acquired their positions of authority deceptively, falsely, and illegally. They are highly destructive, serving darkness, and bound to practise Satanic rituals.

Jezebel is the source of "Satan's so-called deep secrets" (Revelation 2:24b). She has her "daughters" in many agencies all working for her. These deep secrets include promises of power, wealth, and leadership offered to weak people willing to submit to this evil force that promotes Satan's one-world government, his globalist agenda that is working to entrap the ordinary people, and forced submission to his regime.

Jezebel in ancient times died a violent death, thrown out from a high window and "her blood splattered the wall and the horses trampled her underfoot" (II Kings 9:33).

Everyone in 21<sup>st</sup> century Israel who participates in her activities will, like Jezebel, suffer intensely, if they do not repent. God will strike the people dead working with her and bring a total end to her work (Revelation 2:22-23).

As national leaders clean out the "swamp," they are met with malicious and aggressive opposition. God is witnessing the suffering, the attacks, the slander, and slurring by those who are against the people who are trying to do the right thing by upholding the law, enforcing justice, and restoring peace. In some cases, their lives are in danger. During Christ's millennial reign, the nations will see the peace coming from God's people and ask for help. These people will be rewarded rulership to teach and help them implement God's laws and policies within their national legal system.

They will also receive the "morning star." Their resurrected bodies will shine very brightly, like Jesus Christ (II Peter 1:19). God has always shown favour to those who uphold the law.

In the millennial rule of Jesus Christ, the nations will return to God and implement His laws and policies and the people will no longer suffer. The leaders will learn to serve. In time, every nation on earth will join the united, holy kingdom of royal priests (Revelation 5:10).

God chose Naaman, the Syrian general knowing that he would humble himself and accept Elisha's instructions to reflect clearly the broken spirit of the returning ten tribes, who during their desperate time, will collectively decide to return to their God—the Almighty God.

"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. This story provides insight into the desperate state of the ten tribes of Israel that brought them to repentance.

"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 mirror of the national leaders of the spiritually lost ten tribes of Israel. Their return to God brought the reintroduction of God's laws and His order into the legal structure 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, again.

#### THE WOMAN BENT OVER FOR EIGHTEEN 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 a burden that weighted her down, a figure of the wearing of heavy construction boots. Her story provides a vivid illustration for 21<sup>st</sup> century Judeo-Christians of the burdened 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 has been crippled by the many added rules and regulations placed on them by their religious leaders for a symbolic eighteen hours of a complete twenty-four-hour period.

Jesus described the self-righteous, law-making Jewish priests in his time. "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. She is an image of the Jewish elect who love God and are willing to endure patiently for Him. Jesus called to her and healed her on the Sabbath. This is an image of Jesus Christ healing the suffering Jewish church at the beginning of his millennial reign. God knew that this woman, bent over for eighteen long years, could withstand the suffering because she was humble and faithful.

Jesus has overcome the world and he will give us all rest. "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 to wear, figuratively, thrown-away 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. Now, God is providing an additional lens into the story of the church of the ten tribes. They were entrenched in false religion, divorced by God, and cut out of 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 church of the ten tribes of Israel. For half of their time as a people, that is, twelve hours of the symbolic twenty-four hours in a day, she was dying spiritually. Her bleeding condition imaged her inability to conceive and birth a healthy congregation. 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, it would communicate her repentance and desire to keep God's commandments. Jesus felt the power of repentance leave him, healing 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 twelve-year-old daughter of Jairus. Two stories flowing one over the another. The wonder in God's penmanship is His preservation of the timing of events. The healing of the ministry will overlap the resurrection of the congregation.

#### THE DEATH OF JAIRUS' TWELVE-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER, NO FAULT OF HER OWN

Jairus' daughter was given to wear, figuratively, shoes saturated with toxic oils.

While He was still speaking, messengers from the house of Jairus arrived and said, "Your daughter is dead; why bother the Teacher anymore?" (Mark 5:35).

She mirrored the spiritually dead congregation of the church of the ten tribes of Israel. Fortunately, Jesus can heal the dead.

All of the crippled, the lame, the deaf, the blind, and the dumb in the gospels were healed. It was not necessarily any fault of their own. All of these people, whether they were 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 all the world.

The stories preserved in the Bible all mirror the greater story—the spiritual story, which is the only story that matters. The ill-fitting 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. Our walk will be healthy and make us eternally strong.

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 sin, but in God's wisdom, it is also the mechanism to strengthen 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) and "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 the image of God as King and Lord.

Blessed are the participants of the greater story.

#### FORESHADOWS: THE REDEMPTIVE SACRIFICE

"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).

The Apostle Paul said that Adam is a type of Christ. Adam's failure was a conscious decision to choose rebellion against God, while Christ's success was a conscious decision to remain faithful and loyal to God. Adam is a mirror of the sons of God in heaven. Christ is a special Son of God. Christ succeeded; he was victorious, and his redemptive sacrifice has bought salvation to all of mankind.



Adam was a foreshadow of the first creation in heaven who have the responsibility to protect all life under their care. One-third of the angels in heaven have rebelled against God. Adam chose to follow in their footsteps. The Son of God through the power of the Father created all of the spirit beings in heaven. He is the protector that the Father has tested and with absolute assurance, trumpets to mankind that he will not fail. By following him, mankind will not fall again.

"So, this is what the Lord GOD says: 'See, I lay a stone in Zion, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation; the one who believes will never be shaken'" (Isaiah 28:16).

The New Testament is clear about events that have 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, used numbers to point to the invisible, spoke in parables to hide the truth from the wicked while making it known to believers, recorded stories to preserve history and provided foreshadowing that works like a hologram to broadcast future events. This is all by design, so that nobody can say that they didn't know, or couldn't understand their spiritual calling and miss out on God's invitation into His family.

The Apostle Paul explained, "Things which are a mere shadow of what is to come; but the substance belongs to Christ" (Colossians 2:17).

Christ is the real deal, the substance.

The Apostle Paul understood God's coded language. The tabernacle built by ancient Israel while wandering in the wilderness was a copy of God's temple in the highest heaven.

"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).

Also, "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" (I Corinthians 10:11).

Relentlessly, God teaches 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 the painful loss. It was a method for atonement, but only a shadow of the only sacrifice that could atone.

"For Law [the physical rituals that atone through the application of the sacrifice], 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 REDEMPTIVE SACRIFICE OF JESUS WAS FORESHADOWED IN THE OLD TESTAMENT AND FULFILLED IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

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.<sup>3</sup>

#### • 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:** Isaiah 53:7 – "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.'"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Settecase, Joel M.. "This Is Apologetics: An Argument from Foreshadowing." 29 March, 2018. *Settecase*, <a href="https://settecase.wordpress.com/2018/03/29/this-is-apologetics-an-argument-from-the-bibles-hyper-specific-foreshadowing-of-jesus-death/">https://settecase.wordpress.com/2018/03/29/this-is-apologetics-an-argument-from-the-bibles-hyper-specific-foreshadowing-of-jesus-death/</a>. Accessed May15, 2020.

#### 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 19:19-22 – Outside of the city of Jerusalem, the Place of the Skull, is where they crucified him. "Pilate had a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read: JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. Many of the Jews read this sign, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and written in Aramaic, Latin and Greek. The chief priests of the Jews protested to Pilate, 'Do not write "The King of the Jews," but that this man claimed to be king of the Jews.' Pilate answered, 'What I have written, I have written.'"

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 decision of the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah.

Jesus was present with the ancient Israelites when they left Egypt. God Almighty—their King, moved ahead of them by fire at night and a cloud by day and the angel of God moved with Almighty God leading the people of Israel.

"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).

Jesus in the Old Testament was the angel of God. 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).

God's name is YAHUAH
The Son of God's name is YASHUAH.

The redemptive sacrifice of the angel of God 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 Yashuah HaMashiach
- 2. The First Resurrection
- 3. The exodus out of Egypt/sin.

The redemptive sacrifice of the Messiah is celebrated annually by Judeo-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 of 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 nor was he resurrected on Easter Sunday. Jesus died around 3:00pm on a Wednesday afternoon. There was a short period of time before sunset for the women to prepare his body for burial. That evening was the annual Passover Holy Day. God designed the new day to begin after sunset. Jesus was resurrected just after sunset on the weekly Sabbath (Saturday). The Easter celebration includes chocolate bunnies, Easter eggs and hot cross buns, which are all ancient pagan traditions 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 all twelve tribes of Israel.

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. Pharaoh understood God's message. Under the leadership of the heavenly ruler, all the

people of Egypt went into sin. The Egyptians would not be part of the first resurrection; the death angel took the lives of the Egyptian firstborn sons who did not have the blood of the lamb on their door posts. They felt the pain of this loss.

The ancient Israelites with the blood of the lamb painted on their door posts lived. God is pointing to a spiritual message: those who accept the sacrifice of Christ will live. The people who accept the redemptive sacrifice and obey God, they will be the first to be resurrected into their eternal, glorious bodies. They will be part of the *better* resurrection. They are those who accept the sacrifice of Christ and eat the unleavened bread during the annual Days of Unleavened Bread by overcoming, 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 sacrifice, his spilt blood, and renew their blood covenant with God. They are prepared to die, if necessary, to remain faithful and loyal to Almighty God.

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. In turn, only the people who painted the blood of the lamb on their door posts among Pharaoh's people will be part of the first resurrection.

"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 ruler was brought down by God and now He urged 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, have been 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, below 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, has turned against his Creator.

Isaiah wrote, "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 spiritual beings taking down mortals.

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.

"I have said, 'You are gods; you are all sons of the Most High.' But like mortals you will die, and like rulers you will fall" (Psalm 82:6-7).

The third step in the foreshadow of the Passover was the exodus out of Egypt symbolized as the exodus out of sin. The great, ancient exodus remembered today and portrayed in movies will be a small event compared to the second, spectacular exodus to come.

## FORESHADOWS: The FIRST and SECOND EXODUS

"It will no longer be said, 'As the LORD lives, who brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt,' but, 'As the LORD lives, who brought up the children 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).

When God's people turn away from Him and live in the ways of rebels, full of corruption, hatred, and dishonesty, God causes them to fall into captivity, where they are attacked and taken out of their country to live as slaves among their captors. It happened in ancient times and it is prophesied to happen, again. Back into captivity, they will go.



Today, we live in a world of corrupt governments, manipulated finance and trading, protocol-controlled medical professionals, and an educational system who has misrepresented history by filling text books with a formulated narrative. Religion is silent, for the most part, to warn and educate the people who are captured in a system of darkness.

A second captivity is prophesied. God's people will be the target of Satan's wrath and they will awaken in shock and terror. During this time of great distress, God's people will remember Him. They will humbly repent and cry out to Him. He will hear and rescue them. God used the First Exodus of the ancient Israelites out of Egypt as a foreshadow of the greater most spectacular Exodus to come.

"If anyone is destined for captivity, into captivity he will go; if anyone is to die by the sword, by the sword he must be killed."

Here is a call for the perseverance and faith of the saints. Then I saw another beast rising out of the earth. This beast had two horns like a lamb, but spoke like a dragon" (Revelation 13:9-11).

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

Isaiah recorded God's prophetic words describing a second exodus, one different from the first. God trumpeted, "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 lives because God Almighty is completely covering them; they are fully protected and they trust in Him. 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 for all eternity, while the First was merely the stage play of the biggest event to ever take place.

The great Second Exodus was also 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. Each one reveals events from the past that will happen again, without being hindered or thwarted.

### The First Exodus and the Second Exodus comparison

### Joseph fed the ancient world; Jesus feeds the modern world

**First Exodus:** Prior to the exodus, the ancient Israelites went to Egypt to be saved from the great famine. They eventually became slaves to the Egyptians. Joseph rose up and became second in command under Pharaoh. He fed the people. He gave them all physical life. This is a mirror of what is to come.

**Second Exodus:** Prior to the Second Exodus, a portion of the 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will return to slavery (imaged as Egypt) because of they are slow to repent. Jesus Christ will teach them first through the saints, the two witnesses, and then, directly.

## Leaving in haste to not leaving in haste

**First Exodus:** 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 imaged as Egypt. They left in the Spring, God's designated time when life begins each year.

**Second Exodus:** The 21<sup>st</sup> century Judeo-Christians will not leave in haste. They will sincerely repent during their captivity. They will not fear their enemy (Isaiah 52:11-12). In fact, they will be ecstatic with the realization their God is the Supreme God who will fight for them for their release.

They will know their God and trust in Him. Their exodus will likely take place again in the Spring.

#### Population

First Exodus: Over 2 million people left.

They include:

- 603,550 counted men, twenty years and over who could serve in Israel's army (Numbers 1:46).
- In addition, older men, young boys, girls, and women.

**Second Exodus:** Over 300 million people will likely exit from the second captivity. 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).

Prior to this exodus different groups of 21<sup>st</sup> century Israelites will not be included in the group who go into captivity. The Philadelphia group are prophesied to be "kept from the hour of trial" (Revelation 3:10). The church that escapes from the grips of the serpent into the wilderness (Revelation 12:6) may be a different group to the Philadelphia group. Many will die. As Zechariah recorded, "And in all the land, declares the LORD, *two-thirds will be cut off and perish*, but a third will be left in it" (Zechariah 13:8).

#### Bondage

First Exodus: Ancient Israel was 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).

**Second Exodus:** The last portion of the 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will repent while in bondage.

"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).

#### Cried out for deliverance

**First Exodus:** Israel cried out in Egypt to the God of their fathers 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).

**Second Exodus:** 21<sup>st</sup> century Israel will be taken into captivity and they will plead to God for rescue.

"So, there is hope for your future, declares the LORD, and your children will return to their own land. I have surely heard *Ephraim's moan*ing: 'You disciplined me severely, like an untrained calf. Restore me, that I may return, for You are the LORD my God. After I returned, I repented; and after I was instructed, I struck my thigh in grief. I was ashamed and humiliated because I bore the disgrace of my youth'" (Jeremiah 31:17-19).

How often we do foolish things when we are young.

"For behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will restore from captivity My people Israel and Judah, declares the LORD. I will restore them to the land that I gave to their fathers, and they will possess it" (Jeremiah 30:3).

The whole kingdom, both houses, will repent and cry out to God at the same time. This has never happened in the past.

#### Ransomed

**First Exodus:** Israelites were ransomed from the hand of a stronger force—Egypt.

"And the LORD said unto Moses, 'Rise up early in the morning, and stand before Pharaoh, and say unto him, thus says the LORD God of the Hebrews, "Let my people go, that they may serve me"" (Exodus 9:13).

#### **Second Exodus:**

"For the LORD will deliver Jacob and redeem them from the hand of those stronger than they" (Jeremiah 31:11).

"The *people of Israel* are oppressed, and the *people of Judah* as well. All their captors hold them fast, refusing to let them go. Yet the Redeemer is strong; YHWH [Yahuah] 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).

#### Gathered

First Exodus: The Israelites were gathered as one family out of Egypt.

**Second Exodus:** The 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will be taken into captivity and scattered as slaves among many nations on earth. God will again gather them, raking them up from wherever they are across the planet into a single body, a united kingdom.

"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 to nations

First Exodus: 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).

**Second Exodus:** The God of Israel is going to pull the Israelites who are now *many nations* from out of all the nations of the world.

"I will gather you and your children from east and west and from north and south. I will bring my sons and daughters back to Israel from the distant corners of the earth" (Isaiah 43:6).

"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).

#### Traveled

First Exodus: Traveled by foot

#### Second Exodus:

Returning captives will travel over land on the Highway of Holiness (Isaiah 35:8) also from the air and on boats.

"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 children from afar, 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).

#### Leave with riches

**First Exodus:** When ancient Israel left, the Egyptians gave them riches.

"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)

"He brought Israel out with silver and gold, and none among His tribes stumbled" (Psalm 105:37).

**Second Exodus:** The exiting 21<sup>st</sup> century Israelites will be treated as royalty and given a wealth of riches.

"Surely the islands will wait for Me, with the ships of Tarshish in the lead, to bring your children from afar, with their silver and gold, to the honor of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for He has glorified you" (Isaiah 60:9).

"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).

## Distance

**First Exodus:** The short distance of about 480 miles from Egypt to Canaan was prolonged for forty years as they wandered in the wilderness. The children grew close to God.

**Second Exodus:** The distance will be far and wide when the many Israelites from *all* over the world return. It reflects the magnitude of the conversion of God's people into a humble, Godfearing and God-serving people.

## • Miracles and Wonders

First Exodus: The God of Israel parted the Red Sea.

"Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all the night the LORD drove back the sea with a strong east wind that 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).

"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)

**Second Exodus:** The God of Israel will part every ocean and every sea necessary to get His people home.

"The LORD will devote to destruction the gulf of the Sea of Egypt; with a scorching wind He will 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).

"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).

## The exodus was prophesied

**First Exodus:** Joseph said that they will exit and to take his bones with them.

"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).

**Second Exodus:** This exodus will be remembered as the crescendo of God's work molding His people into holy, royal priests.

"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).

#### United to reunited

**First Exodus:** When the Israelites left, they were *one* family, *one* kingdom.

**Second Exodus:** The healing of a fractured kingdom will take place. When the Israelites return to the land of the forefathers, they will be *reunited* into *one* kingdom.

"For behold, the days are coming," says the Lord, "that I will bring back from *captivity My people Israel and Judah*," 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).

"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 with him, making them one single stick of wood in my hand" (Ezekiel 37:19).

The house of Israel is not the Jews today but the ten tribes that were the "lost sheep" that Jesus brought back into the covenant family. Their identity is not known to them today. The Jews today are the house of Judah. The two houses will be reunited.

## Plagues to tribulation

**First Exodus:** The plagues God poured out on Egypt demonstrated the superiority of the Hebrew God over the gods ruling over Egypt. He exposed their sins and sentenced to death those who are not redeemed. The ancient Israelites were not cursed with all of the plagues. God showed the Egyptian rulers that He will save His people with the blood of the lamb.

The Israelites went through tribulation (the plagues) prior to their exodus.

- 1. Water turned to blood
- 2. The plague of frogs
- 3. The plague of lice
- 4. The plague of flies
- 5. The plague of pestilence on their livestock
- 6. The plague of boils
- 7. The plague of hail
- 8. The plague of locusts
- 9. Darkness
- 10. Death of the firstborn

(Exodus 7-11; Psalms 78:42-51; 105:27-36)

**Second Exodus:** 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will go through the great tribulation—Jacob's trouble, an unprecedented crisis. There will be none like it nor ever again will there be anything like it.

"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).

"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).

### Birth

**First Exodus:** The tribulation of the First Exodus did not birth a righteous people.

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).

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 sincerely.

**Second Exodus:** The future great tribulation will birth the remnant of the 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel into a new spiritual state that leads to a true, everlasting repentance and intimate relationship with God.

"For I will take you from among the nations and gather you out of all the countries, and I will bring you back into your own land. I will also sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean. I will cleanse you from all your impurities and all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will remove your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes and to carefully observe My ordinances" (Ezekiel 36:24-27).

The Jews will receive grace and God's Holy Spirit.

"The Lord will save the dwellings of Judah first, so that the honor of the house of David and of Jerusalem's inhabitants may not be greater than that of Judah" (Zechariah 12:7).

"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).

### From only two to many

**First Exodus:** All of the Israelites left Egypt, but only two: Joshua and Caleb demonstrated faith in the power of Almighty God before entering the Promised Land, hence, the forty-year wandering in the wilderness.

God would not allow those who did not put their trust in Him to enter the Holy Land.

**Second Exodus:** Again, God will not allow the disobedient to enter the Promised Land.

"I will take note of you as you pass under my staff, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant. I will purge you of those who revolt and rebel against me. Although I will bring them out of the land where they are living, yet they will not enter the land of Israel. Then you will know that I am the LORD" (Ezekiel 20:37-38).

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).

It should be noted at this time, that modern Israel will experience waves of conversion. The Philadelphia group is prophesied to be kept from the hour of trial. This group may be the "woman" who flees to a place of safety for three and a half years prior to the great tribulation.

## • The blood of the lamb protects the life of the firstborn

**First Exodus:** Those Israelites and even Egyptians who painted the blood of the lamb on their door post protected the life of their firstborn son.

"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).

**Second Exodus:** A first resurrection will take place giving eternal life to a special firstborn group of people.

"If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable. But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the first fruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming" (I Corinthians 15:19-23).

#### Saved

**First Exodus:** The ancient Israelites were saved out of their suffering.

"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).

**Second Exodus:** The 21<sup>st</sup> nations of Israel will suffer 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).

"'Therefore, do not fear, O My servant Jacob,' says the Lord, 'Nor be dismayed, O Israel; for behold, I will save you from afar, and your seed from the land of their captivity. 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 will not make a complete end of you. But I will correct you in justice, and will not let you go altogether unpunished" (Jeremiah 30:8-11).

# Ancient Israel was established, but 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will participate in a great restoration

**First Exodus:** When the ancient Israelites arrived in the Promised Land, there were houses for them to live in and produce from the previous peoples.

"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).

**Second Exodus:** When the Israelites return to the land of their forefathers, they will rebuild. They will be blessed and become rich and increase more than ever before.

"'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).

"The land will produce abundantly, the people will multiply, and the old cities will be rebuilt" (Ezekiel 36:8-12).

### Leadership

**First Exodus:** The Israelites began with strong God-fearing leaders: Moses, Aaron, Joshua, and Caleb but over the years their leadership wavered and waned. Peace and prosperity did not last.

**Second Exodus:** Into the 21<sup>st</sup> century after the nations of Israel purge their corrupt leaders and a cleansing takes place during Jacob's trouble, God will raise up strong leaders. Peace and prosperity will prevail (Jeremiah 23:3-7, Hosea 3:5, Micah 2:12-13).

King David will rule over 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).

The twelve apostles will be resurrected and sit as judges over the twelve tribes; righteous judgement will be made (Matthew 19:28, Luke 22:30).

### • The tribe of Ephraim's leadership, once dead will be alive

**First Exodus:** The tribe of Ephraim was the leader of the northern house in ancient times. The leaders from this tribe were feared and well respected.

"When Ephraim spoke, people trembled; he was exalted in Israel. But he became guilty of Baal worship and died" (Hosea 13:1).

**Second Exodus:** The nations of Ephraim will resume his place as God's son and sincerely repent.

"You have chastised me, and I was chastised, like an untrained bull; restore me, and I will return, for You are the LORD my God. Surely, after my returning, 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).

"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)

"For I am Israel's Father, and Ephraim is My firstborn" (Jeremiah 31:9b). This is an interesting scripture pointing to God's love for a people who strayed very far from Him and returned to humbly serve Him, forever.

## Aware of their nationality to unaware

First Exodus: The ancient Israelites all knew their birth tribes.

**Second Exodus:** The house of Judah knows their Hebrew roots but the house of Israel has forgotten them today. They will know soon enough because when they return to the land, it will be distributed according to their tribes. Believers from other nations will come with them and choose which tribe they want to live among, living as native citizens of Israel.

"You are to divide this land among yourselves according to the tribes of Israel. You shall allot it as an inheritance for yourselves and for the foreigners who dwell among you and who have children. You are to treat them as native-born Israelites; along with you, they shall be allotted an inheritance among the tribes of Israel" (Ezekiel 47:21-23).

#### • The old covenant to a renewed covenant

**First Exodus:** The Israelites agreed to the covenant at Mt. Sinai, but they did not have the Holy Spirit to keep it.

"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).

"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).

**Second Exodus:** Both houses of Israel (Judah and Israel) will make a new covenant. This time, they will be given the Holy Spirit that will produce a willing heart to obey (Jeremiah 31:31-34, Ezekiel 11:17-20, 36:24-29).

This new covenant is a renewed covenant made possible because they are a redeemed people so, God can give them His Holy Spirit.

"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).

"'The days are coming,' declares the LORD, 'when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. 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).

## Ancient Israel was married to God. This intimate relationship will be offered

First Exodus: 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).

God proposed an intimate relationship with the people of ancient Israel, one that only a husband and a wife share. They accepted, but they did not keep their agreement.

"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).

"'Return, faithless people,' declares the LORD, 'for I am your husband. I will choose you—one from a town and two from a clan—and bring you to Zion'" (Jeremiah 3:14).

**Second Exodus:** 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will be offered again an intimate relationship with God meaning that their relationship with Him will be eternally, tightly bound as one.

"Israel will be comforted, be given hope, and will finally call God 'My Husband'" (Hosea 2:14-16).

"Therefore, behold, I will allure her and lead her in the wilderness, and speak to her tenderly. There I will give back her vineyards and make the Valley of Achor into a gateway of hope. There she will respond as she did in the days of her youth, as in the day she came out of Egypt. In that day, you will call Me 'My Husband,' and no longer call Me 'My Master'" (Hosea 2:14-16).

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, these mysteries will be understood and valued.

# As ancient Israel cried out and sought God, so will 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel

First Exodus: The ancient Israelites called out to God for deliverance.

"After a long time, the king of Egypt died. The Israelites groaned and cried out under their burden of slavery, and their cry for deliverance from bondage ascended to God" (Exodus 2:23).

**Second Exodus:** The 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will return with weeping and pleas of mercy (Jeremiah 31:9, 50:4).

The great tribulation will humble them. Now they can see both: how they have fallen short and what is expected of them. They will finally recognize that they need God.

"In those days, at that time," declares the LORD, "the people of Israel and the people of Judah together will go in tears to seek the LORD their God" (Jeremiah 50:4).

## Spiritual rejuvenation

**First Exodus:** Ancient Israel went through a spiritual instruction with the receiving of the covenant at Mt. Sinai but not a transformation.

God's covenant with Abraham:

- His descendants would become great nation.
- The land of Canaan would be given to him.
- Ultimately all nations on earth would be blessed through him by the birth of Jesus from the tribe of Judah.

God's covenant with Moses at Mt. Sinai:

- Was built upon the covenant He made with Abraham.
- If they obeyed, they would be blessed and curses when disobedient (Leviticus 26).

At Mount Sinai, Israel learned:

- They were the great nation that God had promised to Abraham.
- They were the ones who would inherit the land of Canaan.
- Ultimately, their responsibility was to be a blessing to all the nations.

The implications were clear: the LORD would be Israel's God and Israel would be His people (Exodus 19).

**Second Exodus:** The 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will undergo a lasting spiritual transformation.

"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 am I anymore 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).

The imagery in these verses describes God's people like a cedar—great eternal leaders, the prophets and the apostles, with deep roots—establishing a stable foundation. They will have the splendor of an olive tree—the bright lights shining on the righteous path. They are the ministry, rich in God's word, bringing their congregations into the fullness of Christ. They will flourish like grain; there will be an abundance of these leaders. These types of leaders will be famous.

#### Exodus, a witness to the world

**First Exodus:** The exodus of ancient Israel 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 to be the Almighty God, the Supreme God above all gods.

"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).

### **Second Exodus:**

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.

Their repentance will be a witness to the whole world after hundreds of years of corruption.

"The nations will see your righteousness, and all kings your glory" (Isaiah 62:2).

Both houses of the kingdom of Israel will be held captive and rescued by God at the same time.

"The people of Israel are oppressed, and the people of Judah as well. All their captors hold them fast, refusing to let them go. Yet the Redeemer is strong; YHWH [Yahuah] 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).

After 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel are devastated, taken out of their countries to live as slaves among the nations, God will restore wealth and riches to them.

"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).

"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).

"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).

## • People from different nations will join Israel

**First Exodus:** Some foreigners left with Israel. These people were required to keep God's laws too.

"Many other people went up with them, and also large droves of livestock, both flocks and herds" (Exodus 12:38).

"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).

**Second Exodus:** Even though God makes this covenant primarily with Israel and Judah (Jeremiah 31:31), it is not limited to them.

Gentiles who submit themselves to God will also join them.

"The Lord will have compassion on Jacob; once again he will choose Israel and will settle them in their own land. *Foreigners* will join them and unite with the House of Jacob" (Isaiah 14:1).

The Sabbath will be kept by those joining the house of Israel (Isaiah 56:1-2, 6-8).

### • The rebellious will not enter into the Holy Land

**First Exodus:** In the wilderness, some Israelites died due to rebellion and the whole of Israel who left Egypt died in the wilderness, except for Joshua and Caleb.

"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?' God saw this and became angry. He sent a plague that killed 14,700, besides those who died in the affair of Korah" (Numbers 16:1-4, 46-50).

**Second Exodus:** Again, God will not allow rebels to enter the Holy Land.

"'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).

#### Two different hearts

#### First Exodus:

#### The old heart of stone:

God exclaimed, "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)

God again identifies the problem that hinders His people from honouring their covenant with Him.

"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).

Ancient Israel listened to their logic and followed their hardened heart, leading them further and further away from God's righteous ways.

#### Second Exodus:

#### A new heart of flesh:

Ezekiel 11:17, 19-21 is a prophecy of Israel and Judah receiving a new heart from God—a spiritual heart that will enable them to keep His commandments and statutes.

"Thus says the Lord GOD: 'I will gather you from the peoples, assemble you from the countries 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).

#### Model nation

First Exodus: Ancient Israel was to be a model nation. They were not successful.

"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).

**Second Exodus:** A second chance for Israel has been given to them to be a model nation. This time, they will be successful.

"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).

### Israel was intended to be an example to the nations of the world

**First Exodus:** Ancient Israel was a bad example. The kingdom was divided into two houses and each house was taken into captivity for their sins.

722 B.C. The house of Israel is taken captive by Assyria.

586 B.C. The house of Judah is taken captive by Babylon.

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.

**Second Exodus:** The 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel into the Millennium will be the good example. Israel's godly example will be so noticeable 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 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).

"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).

"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).

#### God is merciful

**First Exodus:** God brought them out of Egypt into freedom; however, continual disobedience brought them back into punishment and slavery.

"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).

**Second Exodus:** Israel and Judah will be rescued, but not without justice.

"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).

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 needed God's Holy Spirit. Christ's accepted sacrifice brought God's people and all humanity salvation as well, as access to, His 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 sacrifice 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. One, the Son of God, is the only heir because his sacrifice was accepted; he paid the price and bought salvation for all of mankind. His life was mirrored in Joseph, Jacob's oldest son born from Rachel.

# FORESHADOWS: JOSEPH and JESUS

"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).

The scriptures clearly state that by divine design examples were given to believers for teaching purposes and especially to those at the end of this evil age. The events in Joseph's life are a mirror of the troubles and successes of Jesus Christ. Joseph's life was the stage play, Jesus' life is the spiritual reality.



# IN ANCIENT TIMES, JOSEPH FED THE WHOLE WORLD. IT WAS A FORESHADOW OF CHRIST FEEDING THE WHOLE WORLD IN THE LAST DAYS

Foreshadowed in ancient times, 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will find themselves in a great famine of God's word. It will stretch out across the whole world after Satan is thrown out of heaven. He will hand his throne over to the beastly coalition. He has already been condemned and does not have sufficient power alone to overthrow Jesus Christ and Almighty God. His only hope is to stand aside and hand over his throne, great authority, and power to the beastly coalition (Revelation 13:2).

Together, with the great harlot, Mystery Babylon will cover earth with her theology wrapped in magic spells and rituals. People will be lured into a different religion that will appear to be right and good. It will take the 21<sup>st</sup> century people back to how things were in ancient times. The mythicized will be their reality. A great teaching will take place.

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 Christ.

A comparative analysis has been done by Jews for Jesus from the notes of Mr. Bill McDonald detail a comprehensive study.<sup>4</sup>

Parallel	Joseph	Jesus
Beloved of his Father	"Now Israel loved Joseph more than all of his children" (Genesis 37:3a).	"This is my beloved son, in whom I am well pleased" (Matthew 3:17b).
Envied and hated without a cause	"When his brothers saw that their father love 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).
A root out of dry ground	"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).
He foretold that one day he would rule	"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 in heaven" (Matthew 26:6-4).

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> McDonald, Bill. "Joseph and Jesus Comparison." *Jews for Jesus*, <a href="https://jewsforjesus.org">https://jewsforjesus.org</a>. Accessed May 15, 2020.

Parallel	Joseph	Jesus
Accused of being a dreamer (beside himself, deluded)	"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).
Sent by the Father to seek the welfare of his brothers	"Then they 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).
He went willingly and	"'They have departed from here, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to	"Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God" (Hebrews 10:9).
sought until he found them	Dothan.' So, Joseph went after his brothers and found them in Dothan" (Genesis 37:17).	"He came to his own, and his own did not receive him" (John 1:11).
Rejected and condemned to die	"They conspired against him to kill him" (Genesis 37:18b).	"We will not have this man to reign over us" (Luke 23:21).
Stripped of his clothing	"They stripped Joseph of his tunic, the tunic of many colors that was on him" (Genesis 37:23b).	"They stripped him" (Matthew 27:28a).
Thrown into a pit (alone, forsaken)	"Then they took 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).
Sold for silver into the hands of Gentiles	"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).

Parallel	Joseph	Jesus
Raised from the pit	"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" (I Corinthians 15:4b).
Became a servant	"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).
Everything he did prospered	"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).
Resisted temptation	"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" (Hebrews 4:15b).
Falsely accused	"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).

Parallel	Joseph	Jesus
Numbered with transgressors	"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).
Promised deliverance to a condemned man	"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).
Foretold the future accurately	"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).
Proved to be a great counselor	"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).
Promoted to honor and glory and given a new name	"Pharaoh said to Joseph, 'See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt'" (Genesis 41:41, 45a).	"Therefore, God also has highly exalted him and given him the name which is above every name" (Philippians 2:9).
All people commanded to bow to him	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).

Parallel	Joseph	Jesus
Provided for all in need	"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).
His people did not recognize him	"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" (II Corinthians 3:14a).
His brothers were troubled when they met him	"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 grieves for him as one grieves for a firstborn" (Zechariah 12:10b).
Allowed his brothers to suffer a period of tribulation	Read Genesis 42:6-44:34  "Now please let your servant stay here as my lord's slave in place of the boy. Let him return with his brothers. For how can I go back to my father without the boy? I could not bear to see the misery that would overwhelm him" (Genesis 44:33-34).	"It is the time of Jacob's trouble. But he shall be saved out of it" (Jeremiah 30:7).

Parallel	Joseph	Jesus
Revelation and reconciliation	"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).

#### **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 very important spiritual story. The events in their lives are full of meaning and within the multi-layers, clear reflections into a glorious and wonderful world appear.

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. Into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, information is overflowing and resources are available at the touch of a finger. Unlike many people in the past, today's believers can grow exponentially in the knowledge of our Creator and Saviour.

"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, people are 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. Their love for their Creator and Saviour is bringing them all together, intimately close.

Ancient Israel struggled; they died without receiving God's Holy Spirit.

When they are resurrected, they will say, "We are without hope."

Indeed, they are correct. In God's great mercy, they will be resurrected back into their mortal bodies and He will give them His Holy Spirit. God's grace will melt their hearts of stone and move them to ask for God's word and drive them to obey His law. Their eyes will open and they will fall to their knees, humbly acknowledging the absolute supremacy of the God of Israel. Then, the multitude of faithful and righteous people will teach them. For the first time, they will appreciate the richness of God's word. Their appetite will be stimulated and strength will fill their soul. They will commit their service to the Great Creator and vow their loyalty and servitude forever.

This blend of ancient Israel with the 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel is mirrored in Joseph's life. He brought his family back as a single unit and provided for them. While only a small group of seventy; Jesus will bring together millions. He will heal the fracture of the kingdom of Israel and bind them as one solid, indestructible union.

Christ's death conquered sin and secured him *the sceptre*—kingship over the kingdom. He bought all people on earth under his rulership with his blood.

Jesus is the first of the firstborn from mortality. He has been given the firstborn birthright blessing—the riches of all resources physical and spiritual. He has a full measure of God's knowledge, understanding, and wisdom. He will feed the whole world who live in abject poverty of God's law and His word. The Son of God is the only Teacher who knows God's word in perfect precision.

"Neither be called instructors; since One is your instructor, the Christ" (Matthew 23:10).

No Rabbi or minister can claim to be an expert of God's word and declare a doctrinal change from what Jesus taught.

Joseph's life was a mirror of mankind's Saviour. Like Jesus, he was young when God began His work through him.

"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).

The Son of God was there before the creation of heaven and earth. More than just his presence, but through the power of the Father, the Son created both heaven and earth. He is the centre piece to the whole puzzle and nothing can be fully understood until that piece is recognized and fitted in its place.

It was God's love for this Son that He planned an expansion and the birth of the God family. The engineering of the God family necessitated the death and resurrection of this Son to: test, perfect, and fortify him as the centre piece capable of holding everything together for all eternity. Without this Son of God, everything will collapse. The God family will not exist. The rebel fallen angels know this and they will continue to attack him until their time of terror is

complete. While Joseph's story reveals the opposition from within the family, there exists powerful adversaries outside.

Joseph was the oldest born from Rachel, the wife Jacob loved. From the moment Jacob met this shepherdess; he loved her. Joseph was the eleventh of twelve boys born to Jacob. The number twelve is a reference to a perfect government. From four different wives, two free women and two slaves, twelve boys were born. These wives represent churches. Two churches will rise up from out of the covenant family. This family is emblematic of a perfect government engineered by God, where Christ is the head. The firstborn of God's repentant people and people from gentile nations will 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 intriguing. But his brothers scoffed and said, "Do you intend to reign over 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 has been exalted and anointed by God to reign as King of kings and Lord of lords, second in charge under Almighty God.

Christ has been given rulership in heaven and earth—over all creation, including all of the sons of God in heaven, mankind on earth and those fallen angels imprisoned in inner earth. Joseph's sheaf standing upright images Christ's superiority and rulership over God's people. 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 the sun, moon and eleven stars because 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). The Apostle Peter reaffirmed their calling. "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 near horizon, both houses of Israel, who in this 21<sup>st</sup> century have become many nations, will repent and become a God-fearing, reunited, 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 ten tribes. These outcast tribes Jesus was sent to find and bring back into the family through God's grace, were part of the new beginning of a church given God's Holy Spirit. God's people have always been a church; they have always been a church kingdom. Only a few were given God's Holy Spirit in times past, to fulfill important roles, allowing God to move forward in the rescue of creation on earth.

With the resurrection of Christ, all repentant people from inside and outside of the covenant family will receive God's Holy Spirit. They will complete the commission and take the legal testimony of Christ to all the nations, and then the end will come. 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 West led by the Christians will take the gospel to the world during a time of extreme distress, Jacob's trouble—the Great Tribulation.

At a distance, Joseph's brothers saw him coming—a reflection of Christ's coming foretold by the prophets. Before Joseph reached them, they had plotted to kill him. The mysteries hidden in the multi-layers, shimmer through as we see the remaining fallen sons of God ruling over the nations from the heavens, also plotting their brother's demise. While it was the Jewish priests

who led the campaign to kill Jesus on earth, they were not alone. 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, like the Son of God who, too, was put into the grave by his brothers, the leading Jewish priests shouted, "Crucify him, crucify him!" The Psalmist recorded the death of Christ with unlikely imagery of raging bulls, lions, and dogs surrounding him as he was dying on the cross. God's imagery of bulls, lions, and dogs refer to the rebel heavenly rulers, powers, and principalities who have lost their godliness and are now destined to die are characterized as soulless animals. Dogs are also an image used to describe heathens.

"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.

### JOSEPH'S COAT WAS TORN AND DIPPED IN BLOOD

The coat is an image of honour like that of a prince. It mirrors the love that God, the Father has for His Son who is the Prince among all princes. Joseph's brothers fake his death by tearing his coat and dipping it in the blood of a goat. God is consistent with His use of language. Joseph's brothers didn't understand their actions. The choice of the blood of a goat is a mirror of the two goats selected by God on the Day of Atonement/Yom Kippur. In ancient times, animal sacrifices were practiced. On the Day of Atonement/Yom Kippur, one goat was used as a "scapegoat" who took the blame for their actions of sinners and the other goat was sacrificed. It is no surprise when Christ returns that his "robe is dipped in blood" (Revelation 19:13).

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 Almighty God resurrected him back into immortality. Many among God's people today, disregard the sacrifice of Jesus; it is like he is dead.

#### **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. 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 attempting to rape her.

Far from his Father's place in heaven, Christ was born on earth and became a servant. As the life of Joseph unfolds, 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 in the same way, but neither one of them weakened; they ran from adultery. They were unrelentingly loyal to serving and obeying the Almighty God. Women image the church. Knowledge, understanding, and wisdom all are expressed in the female part of speech.

Solomon understood. "Get wisdom, get understanding; do not forget my words or turn from them. Do not forsake wisdom, and she will preserve you; love her, and she will guard you" (Proverbs 4:5-6). Three times in one sentence, Solomon referred to God's theology in the female part of speech.

The Apostle Paul had an exceptional knowledge of the mysteries of God. He fully understood the God's use of gender. "For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you and asking God to fill you with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you may walk in a manner worthy of the Lord and may please Him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God"

(Colossians 1:9-10).

Biblehub.com provides the translation and meanings of the Greek for the word "knowledge,"<sup>5</sup> and Hebrew for the words "understanding"<sup>6</sup> and "wisdom."<sup>7</sup>

Knowledge	Understanding	Wisdom
epignósis: Knowledge, full knowledge, discernment, recognition Original West Entity recorg. Part of Speech: Noun, Feminine Translittration: et pied-gno-sis Pronunciation: et ped-gno-sis Phonetic Spelling: (ep-ig-no-sis) Definition: Knowledge, full knowledge, discernment, recognition Meaning: knowledge of a particular point (directed towards a particular object); perception, discernment, recognition, intuition.	binah: Understanding, insight, discernment  Original Word: 17:2  Part of Speech: Noun Feminine Iramsteration: highan Pronunciation: bee-NAH Phonetic Spelling: (bee-naw) Definition: Understanding, insight, discernment Meaning: understanding	chokmah: Wisdom Original Word: กัววิทิ Part of Speech: Noun Feminine Transliteration: chokmah Pronunciation: khok-MAH Phonetic Spelling: (khok-maw') Definition: Wisdom Meaning: wisdom

All three words use the female part of speech.

There is only one woman to love and that is the church that is full of the knowledge of God, the understanding of His law and ways, and the rare wisdom that protects against sin.

Daily, Joseph lived feeling the expectations upon him to accept and participate in the pagan practices of the Egyptians, but longed to be living among the righteous. Jesus loved Jerusalem and longed to bring the ministry under his wing and purify them. Satan knew his tender feelings and tempted him. Jesus responded, "Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only" (Matthew 4:10). He, like all of the prophets of old, knew to wait patiently on God, knowing the right time will come when God has His legal case complete against the enemies of righteousness.

Both Joseph and Jesus are in love and fully committed to the church who loves and lives the theology of Almighty God. Wickedness is always at work. Counterfeit churches have risen up confusing the people and causing them to commit adultery against 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 righteous church. Relentlessly, this loyal and faithful church will be attacked for a time that God has determined.

"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).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Biblehub. "Knowledge." Biblehub.com, https://biblehub.com/greek/1922.htm. Accessed May 15, 2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Biblehub. "Understanding." Biblehub.com, https://biblehub.com/hebrew/998.htm. Accessed May 15, 2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Biblehub, "Wisdom." Biblehub.com, https://biblehub.com/hebrew/998.htm. Accessed May 15, 2020.

The men and women who comprise this body of Christ, will not be tempted to join the false church and commit adultery against Almighty God. Characteristic of the Philadelphia church is their love for their Saviour. They will not deny Christ's name or sin against God. Among the faithful, another tested group will overcome Satan "by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they will not love their lives so much as to shrink from death" (Revelation 12:11).

#### THE ACCUSED—THAT HEBREW SLAVE WAS SILENT

In her disdain for being rejected, Potiphar's wife said, "That Hebrew slave you brought us came to me to make sport of me. But as soon as I screamed for help, he left his cloak beside me and ran out of the house." (Genesis 39:17-18).

When the master heard the story his wife, he ordered Joseph's imprisonment. "Joseph's master took him and put him in prison, the place where the king's prisoners were confined" (Genesis 39:20).

The difficulties in the life of Joseph continued to reflect the life of Jesus. False accusations were made against Jesus. "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 received the firstborn blessing by his father and his youngest son became the leader of the ten tribes of Israel—the northern house. Jesus was born from the tribe of Judah, the southern house given the sceptre.

Through the mirroring in the story of Joseph, it is understood that Jesus is also representative of the ten tribes of Israel, the northern house. Joseph was given the firstborn birthright blessings. It is a blessing of rich, physical resources of land and the abundance it produces. On a spiritual level, it images an abundance measure of having God's word.

Jesus Christ was anointed High Priest. He is Lord of lords. He has the firstborn blessings of riches; he is the bread of life. He is full of God's knowledge, understanding, and wisdom. The sceptre is a symbol of law and the double blessings of the firstborn is symbolic of grace. Christ has the authority to extend grace because all people on earth have been purchased by him,

through his redemptive sacrifice. Christ will bring law and grace together at the beginning of his millennial reign on earth; he is King of kings and Lord of lords.

Today, God's people remain a divided kingdom, but their reunification 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 with the Israelite tribes associated with him, 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).

The reunification of the two houses by God is an event timed exactly when Christ rules on earth where he will be King and Lord. Law and grace will be bound together as one. It will result in leadership that exercises the full knowledge of God's way, the clear understanding of the truth, and the rare application of wisdom that will heal the spiritually sick and give spiritual growth to the weak.

#### **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).

Joseph's 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 Joseph and he 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.

The Son of God, for a time, gave up his glorious eternal body to be born flesh and blood and die 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).

Jesus 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

Now, Pharaoh had another dream.

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

Pharaoh sought the meaning of the dream.

"I cannot do it, but God can,' Joseph replied. 'At this,' Joseph said to Pharaoh, 'The dreams of Pharaoh are one and the same. God has revealed to Pharaoh what He is about to do. The seven good cows are seven years, and the seven ripe heads of grain are seven years. The dreams have the same meaning. Moreover, the seven thin, ugly cows that came up after them are seven years, and so are the seven worthless heads of grain scorched by the east wind—they are seven years of famine'" (Genesis 41:25-27).

#### The COWS and the HEADS OF GRAIN

The dream of the seven cows and the seven heads of grain both tell the same story. There will be seven years of abundance and seven years of famine. Despite the incredible abundance produced during the first seven years, so much so that Joseph stopped keeping records, it had no relief on the famine that followed. The lean, ugly cows that ate up the fat cows remained still lean and 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 overwhelming abundance of information, misinformation, and disinformation 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 of life. All of mankind will become totally indebted to God for their survival through the authority of Jesus Christ. This is evident when the Egyptians sell everything to Joseph to survive, even their freedom. They tithe to Joseph and become indentured servants.

#### 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 in this dream 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'" (Mathew 28:18).

The Apostle Paul added, "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 Great Creator remains supreme.

#### **HIS NAME IS CHANGED**

Pharaoh gave Joseph the name Zaphenath-Paneah and gave him Asenath, daughter of Potiphera, 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."

It is no surprise that the meaning of Joseph's new name remains unclear. Even Christ's new name remains hidden to this day.

Drama and difficulties 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 church. Christ has been given by God a new name reflective of his new title—King of kings, Lord of lords. One special group of people will have Christ's new name written on their foreheads.

"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.

"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).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Biblehub. "Zaphnathpaaneah." *Biblehub.com*. <a href="https://biblehub.com/topical/z/zaphnathpaaneah.htm">https://biblehub.com/topical/z/zaphnathpaaneah.htm</a>. Accessed May 15, 2020.

Not known then, but will be the Name the world will come and bend their knee.

# 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.

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 ignored. 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 come into perfection before 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, unequaled 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 the Great Tribulation 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 Judeo-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).

The Apostle Paul said, "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).

Many of the Jews today, do not acknowledge Jesus as the Son of God or their Saviour. Many Christians, too, have left the faith. 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 two-thousand years, Christ has urged his churches in the book of Revelation to overcome.

"Where do you come from? You are spies!" Joseph said.

Jesus said, "I know your deeds" (Revelation 3).

He has shown them their mistakes and offered them his hand to bring change and commitment to establish a strong foundation in God's word and pure teaching in how to live God's ways of righteousness.

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 for grain 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 held them in contempt for their waywardness and imprisons Simeon, the most brutal of the family, as ransom. The remaining nine returned home with, their money, grain, and having disclosed that they have a younger brother who is with their father. Christ will feed the 21<sup>st</sup> century Israelites, but he too, will hold them accountable for their waywardness.

When Joseph's brothers returned home, they told their father what happened and their disclosure of their youngest brother. Jacob had lost his beloved wife, Rachel and Joseph, the son he loved more than the others who he believed to be dead. He wasn't about to lose Benjamin, the son he brought under his protective care. Joseph's brothers knew how their father felt and they were afraid.

## FORESHADOWS: BENJAMIN, A MYSTERY PEOPLE

"Benjamin shall ravin as a wolf: in the morning he shall devour the prey, and at night he shall divide the spoil"

(Genesis 49:27).

"About Benjamin he said: 'Let the beloved of the LORD rest secure in him, for he shields him all day long, and the one the LORD loves rests between his shoulders"

(Deuteronomy 33:12).

A mystery people remain hidden today because Almighty God shelters them. They will appear at a critical point, during the Great Tribulation. The 21<sup>st</sup> century nations of Israel will recognize them as part of them, but wonder why they are favoured and given authority.



Benjamin was the youngest of the twelve sons of Jacob. He is one of the most intriguing characters in the Bible. His mother, Rachel named him, Benoni, which means "son of my sorrow." Rachel died after giving birth to him. She knew she was dying in child birth.

The only child whose name was changed by Jacob was Benoni. He changed it to Benjamin, meaning "son of my right hand." Jacob often mirrored the special moments of Almighty God. This boy would in time, prove to be a group of men and women who will become righteous leaders with great strength.

When Jacob blessed all of his sons, he characterized Benjamin to be like a ravenous wolf devouring the prey in the morning and sharing the spoils at night. The blessings ripple in and

out of time to surface with full understanding, in the latter days of this evil age. They were known to be left-handed, distinguished archers, and slingers.

The blessing Moses gave to Benjamin reflected the name that his father, Jacob gave to him. He is a son cherished, loved, and resting on his father's chest protected in his arms.

Benjamin mirrors a mystery people who were birthed last in the family, hinting to a last-days people. Not having a mother at birth, Jacob brought him very close, protecting him with extra care more so than his brothers.

Joseph's brothers kneeled before Joseph, revealing 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, Joseph's brothers still perpetuated their lie that their brother, Joseph was dead. Many of God's people today have reduced 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 Jesus 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 in what they are doing. They image Joseph's brothers who believe that their brother is dead.

Two years later, Joseph's brothers were forced to return to Egypt to buy food. They had no choice if they wanted to live.

"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 took the leadership role cautioning his father, "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 similar 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 is the patriarch of the Jews. Their 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.

Benjamin was the only brother of Joseph who did not betray him. He was Joseph's blood brother. Joseph demanded that his brothers bring Benjamin to him, if they want to live. Christ will do the same. He will demand to have his faithful people brought near—the ones in the direct care of the Father. Jacob, like God our Father in heaven, is very protective of His

'preserved ones' so He, like Jacob, will be reluctant to put those who are mirrored in Benjamin in the care of the 21<sup>st</sup> century brothers-of-Joseph type.

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 nations of Western Europe and the Jews, to protect this younger and vulnerable brother, God's tender faithful body of people, on their journey to Christ.

God uses the male gender to mirror national leadership. Benjamin mirrors a body of men and women who uphold the law of God and exercise truth and justice. They also will not deny Christ when planet earth is ruled by the Antichrist and his beastly coalition.

God's 'preserved ones' will be spared, during times when scoffers mock the faithful. "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).

These good men and women will be protected. They will rise up on the international scene during the terrifying reign of the Antichrist.

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

Finally, after Joseph continued to confront his brothers, they began to remember how they treated him, the one who is "no more." They talk among themselves admitting to 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. He turned away from them and began to weep" (Genesis 42:21-24).

This scene is a mirror of the pain our Messiah will feel when God's people awaken to their waywardness.

This ancient story images the time when Christ confronts the nations of 21<sup>st</sup> century Israel. Initially, they will not recognize the confrontation coming from Christ. They will react in the same way as Joseph's brothers. Initially, they will excuse themselves; but Christ will force their return. They will come to feel shame for their evil ways, their corruption, Christianized pagan practices, false teachings, lack of depth and sincerity. Christ will see them, as Joseph saw his brothers. He will reveal his inside knowledge of them by placing them at his table in their birth

order. "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).

Christ will do the same. These 21<sup>st</sup> century nations do not remember their identity. Christ will heal their amnesia and they will be afraid.

At the sight of his brother, Benjamin, Joseph was brought to tears. "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—his blood brother, who did not take part in his betrayal. Joseph has his silver cup placed in Benjamin's sack, intentionally. It mirrors future events when the faithful people of God are given authority from Jesus that causes them grief from their own family.

The sons of Jacob return to Egypt by the command of the Egyptian soldiers. They are terrified. In this return, Joseph reveals himself. "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).

Benjamin mirrors a special group of people who remain faithful, strong, and dear to both Almighty God and Jesus Christ. God is forming a kingdom of holy, 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). Repentant people from all twelve tribes of Israel will be saved.

Judah brings Joseph to tears through his genuine humility, his leadership, and life-time servitude to Joseph in exchange for the safe return of Benjamin 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, before and during the great famine of misinformation and disinformation, the 21<sup>st</sup> century house of Joseph will teach the world the word of God and His law. This imagery will become clear soon, but the story is clear that the Jews will be prepared to lay down their life to protect God's cherished people—their youngest brother. The house of Judah at that time, 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 *all* 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 distrusted 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" (John 1:11).

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

#### **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 to:

- 1. Preserve for you a remnant on earth
- 2. Save your lives by a great deliverance" (Genesis 45:7).

Christ understood his two-fold purpose:

- Preserve the Benjamin-type of men and women. "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, even the ten tribes who were once divorced by God, as well as, all of mankind.

All will become evident when the resurrections take place. "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" (I Corinthians 15:22-23).

Almighty God wants to save everyone. He longs for all of mankind to recognize their Saviour. "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).

Almighty God knew from before creation began that His beloved Son would have to be tested and put his eternal life on the line before creation on earth could be saved. This act of great love of the Saviour of mankind weaves an eternal gratitude filled with wonder and amazement. God's love to allow His beloved Son to die and the life-saving sacrifice of mankind's Saviour both exhibit the greatest and deepest elements of love that exist.

"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 and the faithful remnant that God protects and holds dear to his heart.
- To save all who come to buy food as Christ saves all who come to him and believe.

#### JOSEPH'S SILVER CUP

Joseph's cup goes missing and is found in Benjamin's bag! "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," Joseph said to his brothers (Genesis 44:16).

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

Initially, Joseph's plan was to keep only his younger brother with him—the brother who did not betray him, his blood brother. 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 the Jews, the descendants of Judah, will again demonstrate an unrelenting promise to God that will change Christ's heart and the prophecy recorded in Romans 11 will be fulfilled, "All of Israel [that is all 12 tribes] will be saved."

When Paul quoted that scripture, he was reminding the Jews that their brothers, the ten tribes will be saved. The Jews thought that only they would be saved. Today, the meaning of the same scripture is reversed. The Christians who have accepted Christ as their Saviour and follow him wherever he goes, will be saved. The wait is for the Jews to accept Christ as their Saviour and then, they will be saved. Only then, can scripture be fulfilled stating, "All of Israel [that is, all twelve tribes of Israel] will be saved (Romans 11:26).

Five years remaining in the famine, Joseph reveals himself. His brothers were terrified, but he asked them to come close and he comforted them by not reprimanding them for their betrayal. 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 Judeo-Christians, they will be terrified. Their relationship will be distant and immature. 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 for all of mankind. It establishes forever, Christ's pre-eminence that will never be contested. His achievements are too great to be minimized and challenged.

#### 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." Benjamin was added to the family. He was Joseph's only blood brother. He represents the added body of Christ—a called-out assembly 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 loves the faithful and loyal people of God to the same degree. He has urged 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 from him.

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).

In addition, 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 followers five times more knowledge, understanding, and wisdom of God's word through an outpouring of God's Holy Spirit. Their resurrected bodies will shine five times brighter.

As Joseph put his cup into Benjamin's sack, Jesus will do the same to the Benjamin-type people. The rise in leadership of these special people will identify who Jesus has chosen to have authority prior to his return. Joseph's cup is both a cup of authority and a cup of suffering. The people in the nations of 21<sup>st</sup> century Israel will watch in amazement, the rise of men and women who were previously insignificant—protected and hidden by the Father.

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 truth and confront, with the aggression of a warrior, falsehood and destroy it. They are not afraid of death and their love for truth fortifies their loyalty to Almighty God and Jesus Christ. Alternative media today is the beginning of the Benjamin-type of people coming into view.

"Benjamin shall ravin (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**The great famine is the time of bringing all of mankind to their knees. The story of Joseph bringing all Egypt into total subjection to Pharaoh mirrors the whole world in the 21<sup>st</sup> century coming under servitude of Almighty God.

Their state of poverty is a mirror of the lies, misinformation, and disinformation fed to mankind throughout the ages by Wickedness. Truth will rise and fill the earth; lies will be exposed and a great exchange will take place. Mankind will go to 21<sup>st</sup> century Joseph for life-bringing food. They will exchange all of their beliefs with him and he will bring them into total servitude to Almighty God, to the level where they begin tithing; they will give one-fifth of their livelihood to the Supreme God.

"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... Joseph said to the people, 'Now that I have bought you and your land today for Pharaoh, here is seed for you so you can plant the ground. But when the crop comes in, give a fifth of it to Pharaoh. The other four-fifths you may keep as seed for the fields and as food for yourselves and your households and your children." The Egyptians agreed to this contract and said, 'You have saved our lives,' they said. 'May we find favour in the eyes of our lord; we will be in bondage to Pharaoh'" (Genesis 47:20-21, 23-25).

#### JOSEPH AND BENJAMIN, JESUS AND THE FAITHFUL SAINTS

The story of Joseph is the foreshadowing of Christ foretold over three-thousand years ago. A mystery people come to light through Benjamin. Their work is illusive, but it will come into full view during a time of great distress.

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.

## FORESHADOWS: JOB'S THREE DAUGHTERS

"And in all the land there were no women so beautiful as Job's daughters. And their father gave them an inheritance among their brothers."

(Job 42:15)

A surface reading of Job 42:15 would appear that in ancient times, it takes having exceptional physical beauty before daughters were valued equal to sons and receive an inheritance. The penmanship of Almighty God triggers curiosity, drives critical thinking, and demands exploration.



The story of Job that most theologians discuss is Satan's attack that caused intense suffering for Job and his incredible spiritual growth that brought him to venture where few go to see deeply into the mind of God. But casually, written in the introduction and the conclusion of Job's book is another story that unveils a shift in God's ordained practices. It is a direct result of Job's spiritual growth causing him to gasp, "My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you" (Job 42:5).

Job was a devout God-fearing and God-serving man. Each year, his seven sons held a celebration that some Bible translations state were birthday parties. They invited their sisters, though their sisters did not have annual celebrations of their own. Job did not attend these celebrations. Concerned about possible sinful behaviour at these annual celebrations, Job

would offer the next day, early in the morning, a sacrifice to God for each of them to bring atonement should any of his children have sinned or cursed God in their hearts.

One day, Satan came with the righteous angels to present themselves to God. He took the occasion to recognize the blameless and upright behaviour of Job before Satan. God foresaw the opportunity to take Job to a higher level of spiritual maturity so that he could understand God and His work through a refined lens.

As anticipated, Satan mocked Job and accredited his loyalty and righteousness to be a result of the blessings God had bestowed upon him. God was ready to write the prophecy His people need to know. He removed the hedge He had placed around Job and allowed Satan to inflict him.

The suffering, at the hands of Satan, did not cause Job to stumble rather it brought him up higher into God's world. He acquired knowledge beyond the grasp of humanity and came into understanding of the deep things of God. This spiritual growth in Job brought a change visible in the conclusion of the book of Job where the focus unexpectedly moved away from Job's seven sons to his three daughters born after his infliction.

"The LORD blessed the latter part of Job's life more than the first. He had 14,000 sheep, 6,000 camels, 1,000 yoke of oxen, and 1,000 donkeys. And he also had seven sons and three daughters. The first daughter he named Jemimah, the second Keziah and the third Keren-Happuch. Nowhere in all the land were there found women as beautiful as Job's daughters" (Job 42:12-15).

The conclusion of Job's story provides a bridge into the great spiritual future of God's people. Job was blessed with a double portion of what he had before his infliction. He received the firstborn birthright blessing. God is pointing to the people who are part of the first resurrection. They will receive the firstborn birthright blessing of rulership and wealth.

The sons in Job's story were unnamed in the introduction and the conclusion of the book because they were never the focus of the story. Their annual celebrations were the reason for their mention, which are not recorded again in the book.

Like the sons in the first chapter of Job, the names of Job's daughters are also not mentioned. However, a big change takes place after Job's affliction. The names of his three daughters born after his affliction are made known. They were the most beautiful women in all the land. God's focus appears to be misplaced giving attention to Job's daughters physical appearance.

God is always teaching on the spiritual level. Women image the church—a theological body. Job's daughters are born after Job grows spiritually to see Almighty God fully. He then becomes the image of spiritually mature, male leadership. God is prophesying the future event of three churches who will become the most righteous of all churches on earth.

The two different types of leadership roles will be fully in effect and bound to operate as one during the reign of Christ in the Millennium. Jesus Christ will hold both roles: King and Lord. The leadership of Jesus Christ will birth the rise of three most beautiful churches on all the earth.

The Apostle Paul understood the mystery of God's mirroring within 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).

Naming is very important to God. Names are mentioned when people hold a significant role valued by God. The daughters of Job image three churches known to God from ancient times. He is teaching His people about the change that will take place after the first resurrection where righteous, God-fearing and God-serving men and women are resurrected and transformed into their glorious bodies. They will receive the firstborn blessing—a double portion of riches. Through their leadership, guidance, and instruction, the three religious centres will blossom in God's word, His law, and love.

Jerusalem is the oldest of the three centres within the kingdom of ancient Israel. Jerusalem, into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, remains an important centre for Israel. In ancient times, it became a city of debauchery.

God said, "Son of man, confront Jerusalem with her detestable practices" (Ezekiel 16:1).

He added, "You, adulterous wife! You prefer strangers to your own husband!" (Ezekiel 16:32)

Jesus said, "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" (Matthew 23:37).

In ancient times, both the national leaders and the priesthood became corrupt and in total rebellion against God. He refused to acknowledge the names of Job's sons and daughters because they imaged the badly behaving national and religious leaders of ancient Israel, where blameless and upright Job felt the need to atone for them.

A change is still to come. The resurrection and transformation of the firstborn and their rulership with Jesus Christ will bring the necessary conversion that will amaze the world. Jerusalem will be reborn and her beauty will be breathtaking.

**Jemimah** *means* "dove" a symbol of peace. Jerusalem, in the millennium, will be the lawabiding centre, living God's law of love and at peace with God and mankind. Finally, God will rest from the rebellion of His people.

Jerusalem had two sisters; the churches of the house of Israel and the house of Judah.

"Like mother, like daughter... Your older sister was Samaria [the capital city of the kingdom of Israel of the ten tribes], who lived to the north of you with her daughters; and your younger sister, who lived to the south of you with her daughters, was Sodom [God is identifying the kingdom of Judah to be no different from the deplorable Sodomites]. [God continued] You [Jerusalem] not only walked in their ways [the ways of Samaria and Judah] and copied their detestable practices, but in all your ways you soon became more depraved than they... Samaria did not commit half the sins you did. You have done more detestable things than they, and have made your sisters seem righteous by all these things you have done" (Ezekiel 16:44, 46-47, 51).

What lured these three churches: Jerusalem, Samaria and Judah to enter into the worship of rebel sons of God and practice their detestable rituals is difficult to understand. Carnal nature is a significantly limiting spirit that struggles to reach any level of holiness.

God prophesied the first will be last and the last will be first. The faithful and blameless people of God will be resurrected first and ancient Israel will be resurrected last.

A change will come. The second oldest daughter's name is **Keziah**. Another spelling of the word is *cassia*. *Cassia oil is like frankincense oil*. It has an unmistakable fragrance and calming aromatic properties. It is similar to one of the gifts given to Jesus at his birth. It is expensive, rare, and beautiful.

Cassia bark oil is one of the oldest known spices derived from steam distillation of the cassia bark, leaves, and twigs. It has a highly prized aroma very similar to cinnamon bark in both fragrance and in chemistry. It is like frankincense with healing properties. Reborn Christians will learn God's healing ways and become a living model of compassion, enduring patience, eternal love, and genuine care for all of mankind. Their beauty will exude the warmth of God's love and His eternal grace.

The third daughter's name is **Keren-Happuch**, which means *the horn of adornment*. It is a reference to the outward beauty that comes from inward character through the keeping of God's laws perfectly. The church of the house of Judah, will in the near future, be a synagogue of experts keeping God's law, freed from the old traditions of the elders. This is what the LORD Almighty says: "In those days *ten people* from all languages and nations will take firm hold of one Jew by the hem of his robe and say, 'Let us go with you, because we have heard that God is with you'" (Zechariah 8:23).

They understand that touching the hem of the Jew's robe, where the reminder of keeping God's law has been placed, communicates to God their commitment to keeping His law and establishing order. It is no coincidence that God has ten people from all languages and nations because the number ten is a symbol of God's ten commandments.

The house of Judah, known into the 21st century as the Jews, have a history of honouring God's law, however over time, they added the traditions of the elders, which eventually displaced the law of God. Jesus tried to correct their mistake.

"So, the Pharisees and teachers of religious law asked him, 'Why don't your disciples follow our age-old tradition? They eat without first performing the hand-washing ceremony."

"Jesus answered them, 'Isaiah prophesied correctly about you hypocrites, as it is written: "These people honor Me with their lips, but their hearts are far from Me. They worship Me [God] in vain; they teach as doctrine the precepts of men. For you ignore God's law and substitute your own tradition." He went on to say, 'You neatly set aside the command of God to maintain your own tradition'" (Mark 7:5-9).

The symbolism of a "horn" is having authority. Job's third daughter will be adorned with authority. Her name identifies the royal authority of the keepers and protectors of God's law. The future Jewish synagogues will reflect the glistening beauty of a crown that will attract the world's attention.

God provided reminders for His people to remember His plan for them and all of mankind. Included in these reminders, was a daily reminder to keep His commandments. He instructed the everyday Israelites to hem their outer garment and at the corners put a blue thread in the tassels. It was symbolic of God's law and a reminder that every Israelite from every tribe had the responsibility to obey God's commandments. The colour blue and type of fabric reminded every man and woman of their royal calling to be a nation of holy priests.

"Speak to the children of Israel: Tell them to make tassels on the corners of their garments throughout their generations, and to put a blue thread in the tassels of the corners. And you shall have the tassel, that you may look upon it and remember all the commandments of the LORD and do them, and that you may not follow the harlotry to which your own heart and your own eyes are inclined, and that you may remember and do all My commandments, and be holy for your God" (Numbers 15:37–40).

Job's three daughters image the transformation of the wayward kingdom of ancient Israel who will, still in the future, transform their three religious centres into three God-fearing, God-serving, God-loving churches. Their beauty will be seen all around the world. They will be a holy kingdom living God's way and a kingdom of royal priests modeling for all to see the way of God.

With the sacrifice of Christ and the receiving of God's Holy Spirit, a new birth is forecasted in the story of Job: the rebirth of Jerusalem, Israel—the Christians, and Judah—the Messianic Jews all walking in the ways of God. They will fulfill their calling. "But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession" (I Peter 2:9).

These daughters who image the three religious centres of the future kingdom of Israel will receive an inheritance (Job 42:15b). Traditionally, the family inheritance was given to the sons

with a double-portion blessing going to the oldest. In ancient Israel, daughters received an inheritance only when there wasn't a son to receive it. In the case of Job, he gave his daughters an inheritance along with his seven sons.

God's holy, royal family, now in the making, will be a ruling church-kingdom. Job's three daughters received an inheritance—rulership. So, as Job's story reveals, God will give an inheritance—rulership to the three religious centres of the future reunited kingdom of Israel. This is a move, taking the focus of honour away from the national leaders of countries, to three religious centres. Their names will be renown throughout all creation because of their spiritual beauty: their devotion to righteousness, their gracious love, and their protection of God's law.

Job's story is simple. It is all about the transformation of God's firstborn men and women into eternal life and the three religious centres they conceive, nurture, and bring into maturity. God will elevate them to take centre stage and the nations of the world will marvel.

Christ's bride will be comprised of these three churches. She will rule as Queen with her husband. She will have rulership and lordship with him. God is the Master Potter. His plans for creation in heaven and on earth are generous and marvelous. His family is coming together. When everything has been restored, a new heaven and a new earth will be created. The God family will rule and the ever-expanding family will populate the vast, limitless space for all eternity. The Great God will then rest.

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## GOD'S CODED LANGUAGE BRINGS TRANSPARENCY

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

God is transparent to those who search through His word. Nothing has been hidden from those who obey God and follow Christ wherever he goes. For it has been written, "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him" (I Corinthians 2:9). But, for those who love the word of God and relentlessly search out the deep things of God, "these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God" (I Corinthians 2:10).

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

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

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

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

God's coded language is the key for greater understanding, forging a journey closer to the great Almighty God and building an intimate, ever-lasting relationship. The Apostle Paul discovered the mysteries and he taught them. "This is a great mystery, but it is an illustration of the way Christ and the church are one" (Ephesians 5:32).

Every aspect of God's creation on earth is a revelation of eternity for those with eyes to see, ears to hear and a willing heart of flesh.

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