

God's Full Plan of Redemption has Three Elements

Notes: The **Scriptures** refers to the Hebrew Old Testament and Greek New Testament (both Matthew & Hebrews were likely first written in Hebrew). The God of Israel uses the **Hebrew word Elohim** for "God" (His Title) and revealed His Name as **Yahweh**. **Isaiah 42:8 (LSB) *I am Yahweh, that is My name; I will not give My glory to another, Nor My praise to graven images.*** Common translations arbitrarily replaced the **Hebrew name Yahweh** with "*the LORD,*" and the **Hebrew name Yahshua** was replaced with "*Jesus.*"¹ Two versions faithful to the original text are: **Restoration Study Bible (RSB)** and **Institute for Scripture Research (ISR)**. The **Legacy Standard Bible (LSB)** also uses **Yahweh** as the God of Israel's revealed name. Both **Kingdom of Elohim** and **Kingdom of Heaven** were used in Matthew; other Books refer to the "**Kingdom**". The Hebrew word **Messiah** means "*anointed one*" - referring to priests, prophets, and kings. **Messiah** was translated into the Greek Septuagint as **Christ**. It should be noted: most common English New Testament versions will arbitrarily translate the Greek word **lêsoun** (Strong's g2424), as **BOTH "Jesus"** and as "**Joshua**" (see Luke 3:29; Acts 7:45 & Hebrews 4:8).

A. Overview of God's Promised Plan – Initially, the created world was perfect. But sin came and Satan's curse infected everything. The Living God, the Elohim of Israel promised to rescue His creation. **Genesis 3:14-15 (LSB) *Yahweh God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you more than any of the cattle, and more than every beast of the field; on your belly you will go, and dust you will eat all the days of your life; And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise him on the heel."*** Yahweh, the God of Israel, promised to destroy evil with a coming **Messiah** (*anointed one*). A Messiah from the nation Israel, Who would shine into all nations. **Isaiah 42:6 (LSB) *I am Yahweh, I have called You in righteousness; I will also take hold of You by the hand and guard You, And I will give You as a covenant to the people, As a light to the nations.*** Yahweh's plan was to destroy Satan's curse and take back all the world's kingdoms with a new righteous Kingdom. **Daniel 2:44 (LSB) *In the days of those kings the God of heaven will cause a kingdom to rise up which will never be destroyed, and that kingdom will not be left for another people; it will crush and put an end to all these kingdoms, but it will itself stand forever.*** Israel's prophets continued to add details about His redemption plan. A New King (Messiah) would rule God's Kingdom forever. **Isaiah 9:6-7 (NKJV) *Unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever.*** A powerful prophet and ruler would come out of Israel. **Jeremiah 30:21-22 (LSB) *Their mighty one shall be one of them, and their ruler shall come forth from their midst; and I will bring Him near, and He shall approach Me; for who would dare to give his heart as security to approach Me?*' declares Yahweh. *You shall be My people, and I will be your God.*' Yahweh also promised to give us a new heart and spirit so ***He could dwell within us!*** **Ezekiel 36:26-27 (NKJV) *I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.*** The disciples, like all Jews, understood a New Kingdom would arrive; but were**

¹ "**Your Father's Name**", Yahweh Restoration Ministry, October 10, 2016, <https://yrm.org/your-fathers-name/> (accessed February 18, 2025).

ignorant about the mystery of a 2,000-year Church Age with an UNSEEN Kingdom that would precede Christ's VISIBLE Kingdom on earth. **1 Corinthians 15:50-52 (RSB) *Flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of Yahweh; neither does corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we will be changed.*** Many details of God's Kingdom were ignored by the Jews (Southern Nation of Judah); and likewise ignored by Churches today. The True Gospel of Yahshua Messiah (Jesus Christ) has three distinct elements:

1. Element #1: A New Kingdom of Yahweh with a New Messianic Ruler, Yahshua.

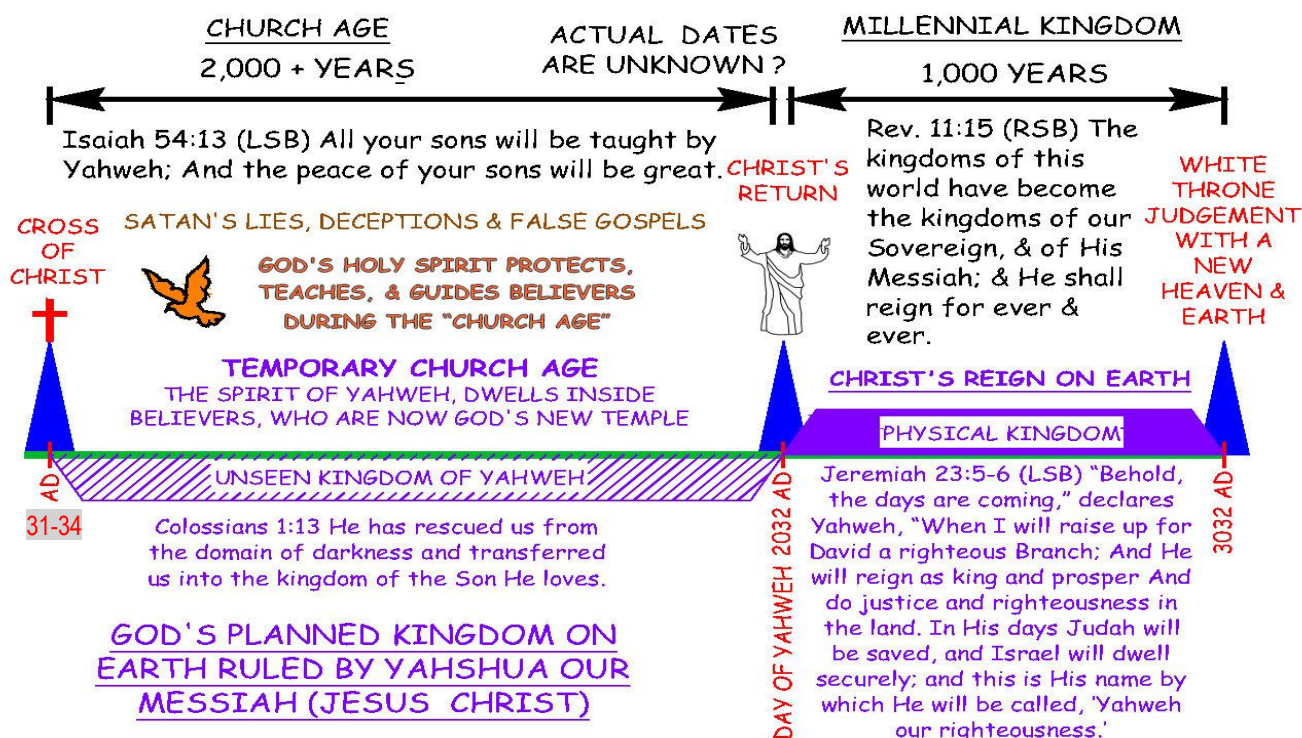
- The Kingdom of Yahweh is Battling Satan's Kingdom in both the VISIBLE and UNSEEN realms.
- Yahshua's crucifixion and resurrection broke Satan's Curse of Evil (sin); offering freedom from sin.
- In Yahshua (Christ), we are cleansed by His blood as we repent and receive a Reborn Spirit and New Heart from Yahweh. We are reborn into the Kingdom of God, ruled by Yahshua our Savior.

2. Element #2: God's new relationship with Believers by His Spirit dwelling inside us.

- We learn to listen to the Spirit of Yahweh from our reborn Spirit - as we are taught to follow the guidance received through our new spirit instead of following our Soul (Mind, Will and Emotions).
- We experience the Power of Yahweh's Spirit and are given Keys to the Kingdom; when we repent, surrender, obey, learn to humbly love others with kindness, and learn to live in the "fear of Yahweh."
- God's Love Language is obedience, and like Christ, we learn obedience through suffering. It is in our suffering and affliction that we are purified, and grow into vessels to be used for God's purpose

3. Element #3: An eternal priesthood of surrendered Believers connected with Yahshua.

- As we become surrendered vessels, Yahshua our Messiah (Jesus Christ) abides in us with His Power. Christ's power and light shines out from His UNSEEN Kingdom into THIS VISIBLE world.
- Yahshua will take over the Kingdoms of THIS world. He makes us into His priests (Rev 1:6), to join Him in administering His UNSEEN Kingdom in THIS world - soon to be VISIBLE when He returns.
- Satan was defeated but still attacks us. We are warned to be on guard against false teachings, human traditions, religious ceremony, and our own Outer-Man logic that leads to disobedience.



B. Element #1: A New Eternal Kingdom & Messianic King – Since the World fell under Satan’s Curse, an ongoing battle continues with heaven and earth (good and evil). Between the Kingdom of Yahweh and the Kingdom of Satan. ***Revelation 12:9 (LSB) The great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world. He was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.*** Christ’s crucifixion, death, and resurrection broke Satan’s Curse of Evil, and gave us a door to be rescued. We can now connect with the True and Living God of Israel, Yahweh. ***John 10:9 (LSB) I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.*** As we turn to Christ in repentance, we are given a Reborn Spirit and a New Heart; *and translated into the unseen Kingdom of God ruled by Christ* - experiencing the healing power of Christ. ***Colossians 1:12-14 (LSB) Thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. Who rescued us from the authority of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.*** The God of Israel, Yahweh, prophesied He would *Father a New King*. A *begotten Son* who will be given the nations as an inheritance and the earth as a possession. ***Psalms 2:6-8 (LSB) I have installed My King Upon Zion, My holy mountain. I will surely tell of the decree of Yahweh: He said to Me, ‘You are My Son, Today I have begotten You. Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance, And the ends of the earth as Your possession.*** The Ruler of the New Kingdom is referred to as *one like the Son of Man*, with an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and a Kingdom that would never be destroyed. ***Daniel 7:13-14 (ESV) I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and He came to the Ancient of Days [Yahweh] and was presented before Him. And to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him; His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.*** This *Gospel of the Kingdom* was announced by Christ as He preached the Kingdom of Elohim was at hand. He called everyone to repent and believe the Good News (Gospel). ***Mark 1:15 (RSB) The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of Elohim is at hand: repent you and believe the good news.*** Christ did not even begin to teach about his death and resurrection until late in His ministry. ***Matthew 16:21 (RSB) From that time forth began Yahshua to show unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day.*** The disciples were well aware of the *Gospel of the Kingdom* to be ruled by their Messiah, but ignorant about their Messiah’s death. His disciples rejected the idea that Yahshua, the promised Messiah, would be crucified. ***Matthew 16:22 (RSB) Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Master: this shall not be unto thee.*** The disciples believed the prophet’s promises. They expected Yahshua would NOW rule over His *New VISIBLE Kingdom* on earth. ***Acts 1:6-8 (LSB) “Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?” But He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has set by His own authority; but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses...to the end of the earth.”*** The Good News (Gospel) is the Kingdom of God brought into THIS world by Yahshua our Messiah. ***Galatians 5:24 (NET) Those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.*** By our Spiritual Rebirth in Christ, Yahweh transfers us into His New Kingdom, ruled by His Son our Messiah.

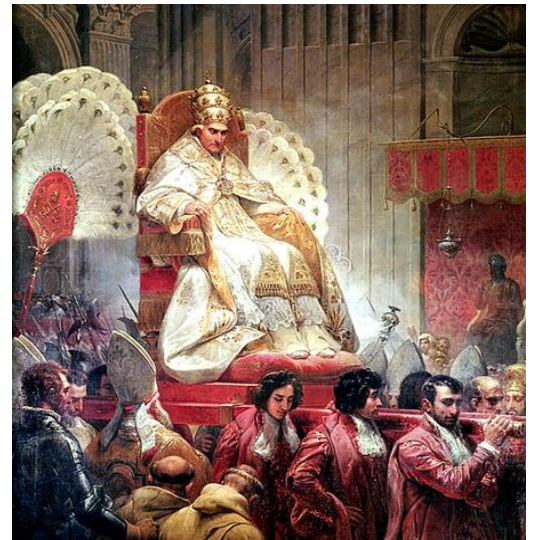
1. The Gospel Taught by Jesus Christ (Yahshua Messiah) – Christ declared *He was sent to preach the Good News (Gospel) of the Kingdom. Luke 4:43 (RSB) He said unto them; I must preach the kingdom of Yahweh to other cities also: for therefore am I sent.* Christ sent His disciples out with power to heal the sick, raise the dead, and cleanse the lepers, while proclaiming that the kingdom of heaven is at hand. *Matthew 10:7-8 (RSB) As you go, preach, saying, the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons: freely you have received, freely give.* The kingdom of God (or kingdom of heaven) is now on earth. It is real and present, though UNSEEN. Believers become citizens of God's UNSEEN kingdom here on earth and transferred from the Power of Satan to the Power Yahweh, the Living God of Israel. *Acts 26:18 (NET) To open their eyes so that they turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a share among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.* The VISIBLE kingdom will appear to all, when Christ returns at the sound of the final, seventh trumpet. *Revelation 11:15 (RSB) The seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, “The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Sovereign, and of his Messiah; and He shall reign for ever and ever.”* After being resurrected from the dead and before leaving this world, Yahshua spent 40 days (about 6 weeks) teaching His disciples about the Kingdom of Yahweh – Not Religious Traditions! *Acts 1:2-3 (RSB) Until the day in which He was taken up, after that He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments unto the apostles whom He had chosen: To whom also He showed Himself alive after His passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of Yahweh.* Yahweh told the disciples they would be rewarded for leaving everything and following Him. *Matthew 19:27-28 (RSB) Then answered Peter and said unto him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore? And Yahshua said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That you which have followed Me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of His glory, you also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.* Believers from every nation will become priests to reign with Christ in the Millennial Kingdom on earth. *Revelation 5:9-10 (RSB) You were slain, and have redeemed us to Elohim by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; And have made us unto our Elohim kings and priests; and we shall reign on the earth.* Yahshua (Jesus) will reign on earth in the new Kingdom as King of kings and Lord of lords. *Revelation 19:16 (RSB) He hath on His vesture and on His thigh a name written, King of Kings, and Sovereign of Sovereigns.* All Kingdoms of THIS World will become part of the Kingdom of Yahweh, when His Son, Yahshua returns as supreme ruler and King. *Revelation 11:15 (RSB) The seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Sovereign, and of His Messiah; and He shall reign for ever and ever.* We do not find Christ in our own human wisdom. It is by the Spirit of Yahweh, that He calls us by His grace. *John 6:44 (RSB) No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draws him: and I will raise him up at the last day.* We put on our Messiah as we are baptized in Him. *Galatians 3:27 (RSB) As many of you as have been baptized into Messiah have put on Messiah.* It is only in Christ that we can know Yahweh His Father. *John 1:18 (RSB) No man hath seen Yahweh at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, He hath declared Him.*

2. The Gospel Taught by the Apostles and The Early Church – The message taught by the Apostle Paul, declared we entered the Kingdom of Yahweh through tribulation. *Acts 14:21 (RSB) Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of Yahweh.* When the apostle Paul was at the lecture hall in Ephesus, he taught the Kingdom of Yahweh for three months. *Acts 19:8 (RSB) He went into the synagogue, and spoke boldly for the space of three months, disputing and persuading the things concerning the kingdom of Yahweh.* As Paul was returning from his third journey, he stopped in Ephesus and recounted the Gospel message – *preaching the Kingdom of Elohim (God of Israel).* *Acts 20:24-25 (RSB) The ministry, which I have received of Sovereign Yahshua, is to testify the good news of the grace of Elohim. And now, behold, I know that you all, among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of Elohim, shall see my face no more.* While prisoned in Rome, Paul taught the *Gospel of the Kingdom* from morning to evening. *Acts 28:23 (RSB) There came many to him into his lodging; to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of Yahweh, persuading them concerning Yahshua, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets, from morning till evening.* Paul continued living in Rome and proclaimed the *Kingdom of Elohim* for Two years. *Acts 28:30-31 (RSB) And Paul dwelt two whole years in his own hired house, and received all that came in unto him, Preaching the kingdom of Yahweh, and teaching those things which concern the Sovereign Yahshua Messiah, with all confidence, no man forbidding him.* Paul’s message reflected the message of Christ, Repent, the Kingdom of God is here! *Matthew 4:17 (RSB) Yahshua began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.* Although we are called to surrender our lives to Messiah, we DO NOT choose Him – *He chooses us!* *John 15:16 (RSB) You have not chosen Me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that you should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever you shall ask of the Father in My name, He may give it you.* We are blind to the things of God, but God’s Spirit enlightens us from our *UNSEEN Inner-Man.* *Mark 10:43-45 (LSB) Whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant; and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.* In contrast to many religious traditions, Christ came to serve - in obedience to His Father (As in the picture to the right ²). *John 13:3-5 (NIV) Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under His power, and that He had come from God and was returning to God; so He got up from the meal, took off His outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around His waist. After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash His disciples’ feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around Him.*



² Painting by Albert Edelfelt - Bodil Karlsson / Nationalmuseum, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=52122916>

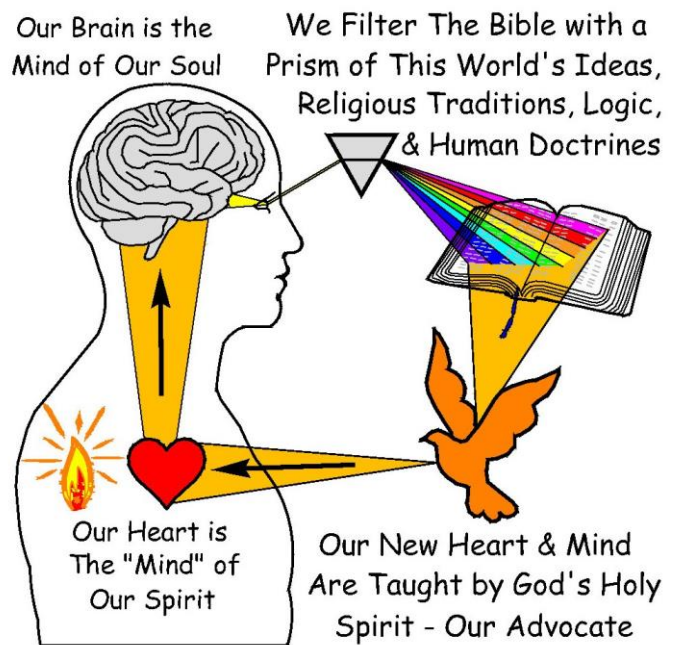
3. Today's Compromised Gospel – The Jews ignored much of the Scriptures *in favor of their religious traditions* - not realizing their Messiah would suffer and die. *Isaiah 53:3-5 (RSB) He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and we hid as it were our faces from Him; He was despised, and we esteemed Him not. Surely He hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem Him stricken, smitten of Elohim, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed.* We experience Christ's love in church fellowships by those who encourage and support us with kindness during difficult times. *Ephesians 4:2-3 (LSB) In all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, being diligent to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.* The true church works as a single body to grow and shine Christ's light into our darkened world. Christ's true church doesn't want your money or property; *its goal is to have you to discover Christ personally.* His true church is all believers, who are united together by God's Spirit. *1 Corinthians 3:16-17 (LSB) Do you not know that you are a sanctuary of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If any man destroys the sanctuary of God, God will destroy him, for the sanctuary of God is holy, and that is what you are.* The world's religious organizations are in sharp contrast to the early church created by Christ and His followers – as depicted in the picture to the right.³ God does not dwell in a temple built with human hands. *Acts 17:24-25 (LSB) The God who made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands; nor is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all people life and breath and all things.* Our new life is in Christ alone – NOT in a building or set of church doctrines. *2 Peter 1:3 (LSB) His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the full knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.* We cannot resist Satan with the self-efforts of our *visible Outer-Man*. The power of Christ from our *unseen Inner-Man* gives us freedom from sin. *Romans 6:18 (LSB) Having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.* In Christ, we are free to reject the desires and delusions of our world. *Romans 8:2 (LSB) For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.* Only in Christ can we rest from the trials, pain, and fear of death in our world. *Matthew 11:28 (LSB) Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.* The message of the early church is in sharp contrast to the marketing and promotion of churches today. *Acts 2:43-44 (RSB) Fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles. And all that believed were together and had all things common.* The early Church was surrendered and relied on the power of Yahweh's indwelling Spirit. Today, many attempt to imitate the early church with *Outer-Man* processes of building programs, marketing, and world systems. Yet, the success of the Acts 2 Church came from the power of God's Spirit *ALONE!* *1 Corinthians 4:20 (RSB) The kingdom of Yahweh is not in word, but in power.*



³ Painting by Horace Vernet - Pius VIII brought to the Basilica of Saint Peter, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=12130223>

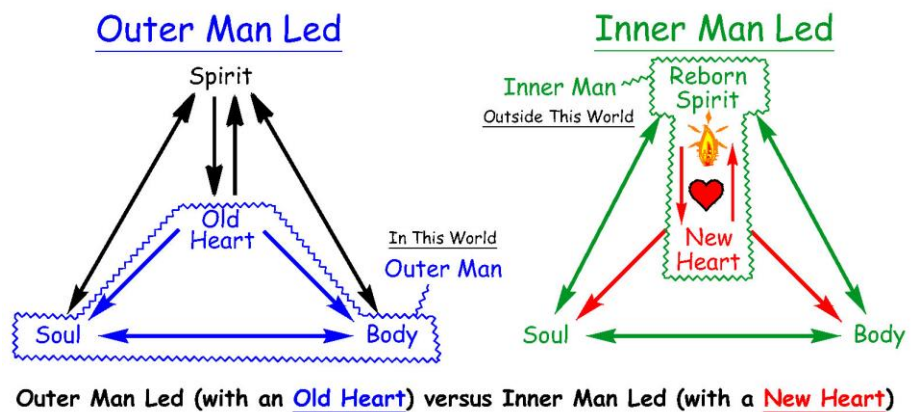
C. Element #2: Believers Receive a New Heart & Reborn Spirit – Yahweh, the Living God of Israel, foretold He would place His Law in the minds of His people and write His Law on their hearts. *Hebrews 8:10 (RSB) This is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith Yahweh; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them an Elohim, and they shall be to me a people.* When God referred to Israel as His people, He included the *sojourners* (non-Israelites) with His promises and blessings. *Leviticus 19:34 LSB) The sojourner who sojourns with you shall be to you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt; I am Yahweh your God.* There was NO genetic, DNA, racial distinction, or prejudice between a natural born Israelite and a foreigner living with them. *Leviticus 24:22 (LSB) There shall be one standard of judgment for you; it shall be for the sojourner as well as the native, for I am Yahweh your God.* Christ declared all Nations (Gentiles) were grafted into the Nation of Israel when they become Believers. The nation of Israel is portrayed as an olive tree, and Jesus Christ (Yahshua Messiah) as the root. The tribes of Israel are the *natural branches*, while the Gentiles (non-Jews) are the *grafted branches*. *Romans 11:16-18 (NKJV) f the first piece of dough is holy, the lump is also; and if the root is holy, the branches are too. But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive, were grafted in among them and became a partaker with them of the rich root of the olive tree, do not boast against the branches. But if you do boast against them, remember that it is not you who supports the root, but the root supports you.* All peoples are called to become Believers and connect to the only True God, Yahweh, through His Only Begotten Son, Yahshua (Jesus Christ). *Jeremiah 31:33 (LSB) This is the covenant which I will cut with the house of Israel after those days,” declares Yahweh: “I will put My law within them, and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.* Yahweh promised to give His people *one heart* (both the natural branch Jews and the wild grafted branch Gentiles), and make an everlasting covenant to always be with them. *Jeremiah 32:38-40 (LSB) They shall be My people, and I will be their God; and I will give them one heart and one way, that they may fear Me always, for their own good and for the good of their children after them. And I will cut an everlasting covenant with them that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; and I will put the fear of Me in their hearts so that they will not turn away from Me.* The True God, Yahweh, planned to dwell with Israel. *Exodus 25:8 (LSB) Let them make a sanctuary for Me, that I may dwell among them.* This promise was made by God’s prophets to His Nation Israel – this includes *everyone grafted in through Christ*. *Isaiah 56:6-8 (LSB) “Also the foreigners who join themselves to Yahweh, to minister to Him, and to love the name of Yahweh, to be His slaves, everyone who keeps from profaning the sabbath and takes hold of My covenant, even those I will bring to My holy mountain and make them glad in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be acceptable on My altar; for My house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.”* Lord Yahweh, who gathers the banished of Israel, declares, *“Yet others I will gather to them, to those already gathered.”* Through Christ, all people have the opportunity to know the Living God, Yahweh, personally. *John 14:6-7 (LSB) Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father but through Me. If you have come to know Me, you will know My Father also; from now on you know Him, and have seen Him.”* All those who belong to Christ, receive a *reborn Spirit* and a *new Heart*. The Spirit of Yahweh now dwells within us, *communicating directly to our Reborn human spirit.*

1. Our Reborn Spirit is Taught by the Spirit of Yahweh Dwelling Within Us – We connect with the Living God, Yahweh, through our *Reborn Human Spirit*. **Proverbs 20:27 (LSB)** *The spirit of man is the lamp of Yahweh, searching all the innermost parts of his body.* Our *reborn human spirit* now *listens directly to the Spirit of Yahweh*. **John 14:26 (LSB)** *The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.* Since we have a *new reborn human spirit*, we now learn how to *wait and listen* for the Spirit of Yahweh to communicate with us directly. **John 4:24 (LSB)** *God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.* There is no *cook-book formula*. We are all unique and work directly with Christ and the Spirit of His Father, Yahweh, teach and enlighten us personally. **Philippians 2:12-13 (RSB)** *Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. It is Elohim Who works in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure.* All Believers are guided individually. Each of us *learns* how to listen with *our new spirit and new heart (Inner-Man)*, instead of our *human mind, will and emotions (Outer-Man)*. We are ALL distinctive and different! Other Believers can encourage, advise, support, and help us; but we need to let Yahshua (Christ), and Yahweh's Spirit (Holy Spirit) teach and guide us individually. **Psalm 32:8 (LSB)** *I will give you insight and teach you in the way which you should go; I will counsel you with My eye upon you.* The Apostle Paul warned us to follow our *new spirit and new heart (Inner-Man)*, and **NOT** our *human mind, will and emotions (Outer-Man)*. **Galatians 3:2-3 (LSB)** *This is the only thing I want to learn from you: did you receive the Spirit by the works of the Law, or by hearing with faith? Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit [Inner-Man], are you now being perfected by the flesh [Outer-Man]?* As we learn from our *Inner-Man Heart and Spirit*, God enlightens us with His Truth in the power of God's Spirit. **John 6:45 (LSB)** *It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me.* There is more to Christianity than following a religious creed or belief. Christians are given the gift of personally knowing and connecting with the true and living God (Yahweh) of the universe. **1 Corinthians 2:12 (LSB)** *Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the depths graciously given to us by God.* God's ways and thoughts do not follow ours, and are contrary to, the ways and wisdom of the world. **Isaiah 55:9 (LSB)** *As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts.* Believers focus on guidance from outside of *THIS* world and rely on the Power of Christ, in the *UNSEEN* Kingdom of God. **1 Corinthians 2:13-14 (LSB)** *We also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual depths with spiritual words. But a natural man does not accept the depths of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually examined.*



2. Spirit Led versus Soul Led – We are given a Reborn Human Spirit and connect to the Spirit of Yahweh, the Living God of Israel, through this Spirit. *Ezekiel 11:19-20 (LSB) I will give them one heart and give within them a new spirit.....Then they will be My people, and I shall be their God.* Although Christ left THIS world, He remains joined to us by Yahweh’s Spirit. *Romans 8:11 (LSB) The Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.* There is only one way to accept the gift of Salvation; *turn to Christ in humble repentance.* *Isaiah 30:15 (LSB) Yahweh, the Holy One of Israel, has said, “In repentance and rest you will be saved, In quietness and trust is your might.”* As we turn to Christ, we become surrendered vessels for His purpose and experience His power working in our lives. *Galatians 2:20 (LSB) I have been crucified with Christ, and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. And the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of [Yahweh], who loved me and gave Himself up for me.* Believers live in the power of Christ and learn to WAIT and LISTEN. As they depend on Christ to work in their surrendered bodies and souls. *2 Timothy 1:7 (LSB) God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and self-discipline.* As we follow Christ, we can still be distracted, deceived, and discouraged by THIS world. *1 John 2:16-17 (LSB) All that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. And the world is passing away, and also its lusts, but the one who does the will of God abides forever.* As we listen to our Reborn Human Spirit, we are given the freedom to turn away from Satan’s lies and follow the light of Christ’s guidance. *2 Corinthians 4:4 (LSB) The god of this age has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.* When we find Christ, we become new creatures. *2 Corinthians 5:17 (LSB) If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.* We are no longer slaves to sin and have the freedom to follow Christ or follow our flesh. *Romans 6:6 (LSB) Our old man was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so we would no longer be slaves to sin.*

Choosing between our *Inner-Man* or *Outer-Man*, depends on which one we choose to feed. *Galatians 6:8 (LSB) The one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.* As we confess our sins and repent, Christ leads us in turning from the desires of *this world* to the *true life in God’s Kingdom*.



We learn to live from our Reborn Spirit instead of our Soul. *1 Corinthians 2:4-7 (LSB) My preaching was not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith would not be in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God. We do speak wisdom among those who are mature, a wisdom, however, not of this age nor of the rulers of this age, who are being abolished. But we speak God’s wisdom.*

3. **Afflictions – A Catalyst to Purify and Lead us to Follow Christ** – The Scriptures tell us that Christ learned obedience through His suffering. *Hebrews 5:8 (LSB) Although He was a Son, He learned obedience from the things which He suffered.* We also learn obedience by following Christ in His Suffering. *1 Peter 2:20-21 (LSB) What credit is there if, when you sin and are harshly treated, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it, you endure, this finds favor with God. For to this you have been called, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example that you should follow in His steps.* Our Goal is to be like Christ, and it is in our suffering and affliction that we are purified and become vessels for God's purpose. *Isaiah 48:10 (LSB) I have refined you, but not as silver; I have tested you in the furnace of affliction.* From suffering we develop an attitude of kindness and compassion towards others, and within us we learn to persevere, develop a depth of character, and learn to focus on the future hope we have in Christ. *Romans 5:3-5 (LSB) And not only this, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction brings about perseverance; and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; and hope does not put to shame, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.* Some people have experienced afflictions, abuse, and tragedies that cannot be easily understood or even comprehend by another person. Yet, the scriptures tell us that Believers can overcome these trials or afflictions through the fruit that grows with our connection in Christ. *Galatians 5:22-24 (LSB) But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such things there is no law. Now those who belong to Christ Jesus crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.* As we learn to abide in Christ, Believers learn to grow through (*or in*) affliction - as described in the Bible:

Affliction drives us to God in prayer - *Psalm 107:6 (LSB) Then they cried out to Yahweh in their trouble; He delivered them out of their distresses.* *James 5:13 (LSB) Is anyone among you suffering? Then he must pray.*

a. **Affliction humbles us** - *2 Corinthians 12:7 (LSB) To keep me from exalting myself, there was given me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me—to keep me from exalting myself!*

b. **Affliction makes us depend and rely on Christ's power** - *2 Corinthians 12:9 (LSB) “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.” Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast in my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.*

c. **Affliction displays Christ's Power to others** - *Psalm 34:17-20 (LSB) The righteous cry, and Yahweh hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. Yahweh is near to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. Many are the evils against the righteous, but Yahweh delivers him out of them all. He keeps all his bones, Not one of them is broken.*

d. **Affliction drives us to read God's Word** - *Psalm 119:70-72 (LSB) Their heart is covered with fat, but I delight in Your law. It is good for me that I was afflicted, That I may learn Your statutes. The law of Your mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver pieces.*

e. **Affliction shows us God's faithfulness as He sustains us in persecutions** - *Romans 8:35-39 (LSB) Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction, or turmoil, or*

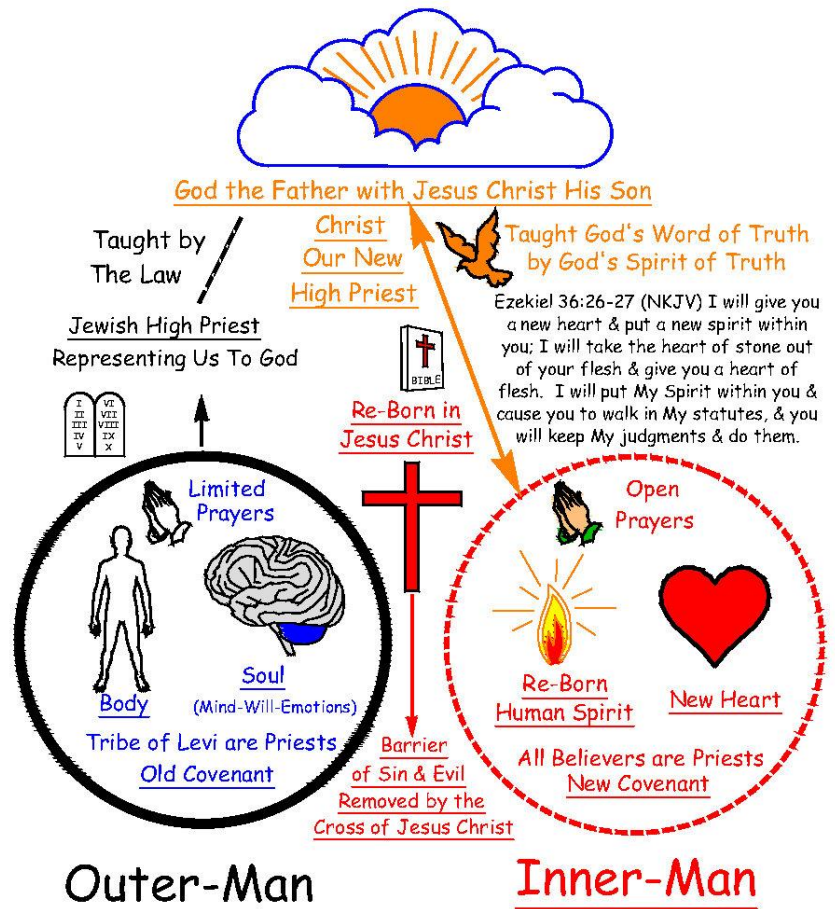
persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? Just as it is written, “For Your sake we are being put to death all day long; We were counted as sheep for the slaughter.” But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- f. **Affliction brings us comfort and mercy from God our Father, Yahweh** – 2 Corinthians 1:3 (LSB) *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort.*
- g. **Affliction gives us compassion, sympathy, and mercy towards others** – 2 Corinthians 1:4 (LSB) *The Father of mercies and God of all comfort, Who comforts us in all our affliction so that we will be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.*
- h. **Affliction produces endurance and patience within us** – Colossians 1:10-12 (LSB) *Bearing fruit in every good work and multiplying in the full knowledge of God; being strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience; joyously giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.*
- i. **Affliction reminds us THIS world is temporal and not our home** – Hebrews 13:14 (LSB) *For here we do not have a lasting city, but we are seeking the one to come. Philippians 3:20-21 (RSB) *For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Savior, the Master Yahshua Messiah: Who shall change our humble body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.**
- j. **Affliction shows us and delivers God's grace in our lives** – John 16:33 (LSB) *These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world. 1 Peter 5:10 (LSB) *And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself restore, strengthen, confirm, and ground you.**
- k. **Affliction make us thankful and praise God when He heals or delivers us** - Psalm 50:15 (LSB) *Call upon Me in the day of distress; I shall rescue you, and you will glorify Me.”*
- l. **Affliction produces unique spiritual fruit that doesn't grow in the ordinary soil of our heart** – Romans 5:3-5 *We also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction brings about perseverance; and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; and hope does not put to shame, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.*
- m. **Affliction make us like Christ** – 1 Peter 4:12-14 (LSB) *Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you. But to the degree you are sharing the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing, so that also at the revelation of His glory you may rejoice with exultation. If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. Hebrews 5:8 (LSB) *Although He was a Son, He learned obedience from the things which He suffered.**

D. Element #3: A Church Age to Develop Eternal Priests to Rule with Christ – Yahweh, the True God of Israel, promised a new eternal priesthood. *Psalm 110:4 (LSB) Yahweh has sworn and will not change His mind, “You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek.”* A promise fulfilled as Yahweh’s new eternal priest and hope. *Hebrews 6:19-20 (LSB) This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a hope both sure and confirmed and one which enters within the veil, where a forerunner has entered for us—Jesus, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.* It is in Yashua our Messiah (Jesus Christ) that Believers become members of a new royal priesthood, revealing Christ to the nations. *1 Peter 2:9-10 (LSB) But you are a chosen family, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; for you once were not a people, but now you are the people of God; you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.* As we become surrendered vessels, Yahshua abides in us with His Power. Christ shines His Light from the UNSEEN Kingdom of God into our VISIBLE world. Yahshua will take over the Kingdoms of THIS world. *Philippians 2:14-15 (LSB) Do all things without grumbling or disputing, so that you will be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world.* As a Christian, it is normal to have doubts about our commitment to Christ, but our assurance comes from Christ’s promises NOT from the doubts that originate within our insecure soul. *1 John 1:9 (LSB) If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.* Believers are priests of Christ and join Him in managing His Kingdom in THIS world – both the UNSEEN present Kingdom and soon to be VISIBLE Kingdom. *1 Peter 2:4-5 (LSB) Coming to Him as to a living stone which has been rejected by men, but is choice and precious in the sight of God, you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.* Satan was defeated, but he still attacks us. We are warned to be on guard against false teachings, human traditions, religious ceremony, and our own Outer-Man logic. Understanding the Scriptures is imperative. *2 Timothy 2:15 (LSB) Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth.* Yet Yahweh’s Love Language is obedience NOT beliefs. *1 John 5:3 (RSB) For this is the love of Elohim, that we keep His commandments: and His commandments are not grievous.* How tragic to be seduced into a belief system and practices that ignore obeying the Word of God! *1 Timothy 4:1 (RSB) In the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils.* Pagan ideas have filtered into Bible translations, creating religious traditions that violate Elohim’s Word of Truth. *Christianity conquered Paganism, but Paganism corrupted Christianity.* Christianity is rooted in love – love for God and love for others. *Mark 12:30-31 (LSB) You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.* We love God in obedience and love others in kindness. In the words of John Wesley, *Without kindness there is no love.* *John 13:34-35 (LSB) A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.* Loving other Believers brings unity; as we share the light of Christ to the world.

1. Believers are Emptied Vessels – Rescued for God’s Purpose – The purpose and plan for our life comes from Christ ALONE. *Ephesians 2:8-10 (LSB)* **By grace you have been saved through faith, and this not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not of works, so that no one may boast. We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.** It is by the Blood of Christ and the power of God’s Spirit that we become vessels; used for God’s purpose. Obedience is Elohim’s Love Language – *we are called to obedience, not sacrifice: 1 Samuel 15:22-23 (RSB)* **Has Yahweh as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of Yahweh? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of Yahweh, He has also rejected you from being king.** Rebellion is equated to witchcraft (demonic power, occult objects, or drugs) to control and manipulate others. Stubbornness is equated to idolatry - worshiping our own image of a false god. In today’s world, witchcraft and idolatry seem obscure and unrelated to a church; yet Satan uses control and manipulation (witchcraft) to deceive us. As a form of idolatry, we may stubbornly follow our own distorted image of God. King Saul justified his motive and reason to disobey. *1 Samuel 15:24 (RSB)* **Saul said to Samuel, “I have sinned; I have indeed trespassed against the command of Yahweh and your words because I feared the people and obeyed their voice.** Saul feared and followed people, not Yahweh. *Proverbs 1:7 (LSB)* **The fear of Yahweh is the beginning of knowledge; Ignorant fools despise wisdom and discipline.** Many of us can relate to King Saul’s struggle and his lack of power to develop his character. Under the New Covenant (New Contract or New Testament) of Christ, we now have the power of Yahshua dwelling within us. As we become surrendered and obedient vessels, Yahshua (Jesus) abides in us by His Power so we can walk by our New Reborn Spirit and not follow the desires of our flesh. *Galatians 5:16-17 (LSB)* **Walk by the Spirit and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another.** We are called to bear fruit and warned that apart from Yahshua our Messiah, we can do nothing. *John 15:4-5 (LSB)* **As the branch cannot bear fruit from itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.** Christ is the vine, His followers are branches, and the spirit of Yahweh is the sap nourishing the fruit. The fruit of the spirit grows within us (the branches). *Galatians 5:22-23 (LSB)* **The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, KINDNESS, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such things there is no law.** Spiritual fruit is the result of love. There are two types of fruit – (1) Love for God and (2) Love for others. The first four fruits of the spirit relate to our attitude, developed by our love for God and Christ in Obedience. *John 14:15 (LSB)* **If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.** Love for Christ and His Father are shown only by our Obedience. The last four fruits of the Spirit relate to our love for others; shown only by Kindness (*in the words of John Wesley, without kindness there is no love*). We grow spiritual fruit that contain seeds. These seeds reproduce fruit in the lives of others. Bad fruit is not an option – ONLY good fruit or NO fruit. Our Father, Yahweh, takes away the branches that fail to grow the fruit of Christ. *John 15:1-2 (LSB)* **My Father is the vine-grower. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He cleans it so that it may bear more fruit.**

2. We Are Warriors in A Battle to Destroy Satan’s Curse of Evil – Christ is now process of taking over the Kingdoms of THIS world with God’s Kingdom. A Kingdom that will not be destroyed. *Daniel 7:25-27 (LSB)* He [Satan] will speak words against the Most High and wear down the saints of the Highest One, and he [Satan] will intend to make changes in seasons and in law; and they will be given into his [Satan’s] hand for a time, times, and half a time. But the court will sit for judgment, and his [Satan’s] dominion will be taken away, annihilated and destroyed forever. Then the reign, the dominion, and the greatness of all the kingdoms under the whole heaven will be given to the people of the saints of the Highest One; His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom, and all the dominions will serve and obey Him. We are no match for Satan’s deceptions, distractions, and discouraging lies. We need to wait and trust in Christ’s power to battle Satan. *Colossians 2:8 (LSB)* Let no one takes you captive with hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ. Christ is the head over every power and authority. *Luke 10:22 (LSB)* All things have been handed over to Me by My Father, and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, and who the Father is except the Son, and anyone to whom the Son wills to reveal Him. Christ’s teachings are not from THIS world. We need Christ’s Power to obey and comprehend them. *1 Thessalonians 1:5 (LSB)* Our gospel did not come to you merely in words, but in power and in the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction. Christ cleanses us with His power and recreates us in His image, as He purges the evil from us. Yielding our life can be difficult if we are in love with THIS temporary world. Our life battles are in an unseen world with eternal consequences. *Ephesians 6:12* We struggle not against flesh and blood, but against rulers, against authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. As the spirit of Yahweh indwells us, the power of Christ recreates us in His image. *1 Peter 2:11-12 (LSB)* Keep away from fleshly desires that do battle against the soul, and maintain good conduct among the non-Christians, so that though they now malign you as wrongdoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God when He appears. Our love for Christ is shown by obedience, not by emotions, human knowledge, or church doctrines. Our temporary body in THIS world may be afflicted with illness, or may have been violated by some form of evil. Everyone will die and their body decays. But our hope is in Christ, as we look forward to His Kingdom and an Eternal Life with a new and glorified body.



3. Satan’s Deception – Corrupted Teaching & Human Traditions – Satan was defeated but still uses deception to blind us, so we might ignore the *True* gospel. **2 Corinthians 4:4 (LSB)** *The god of this age [Satan] blinds the minds of the unbelieving so they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.* An example of being blind to the Gospel was Saul, who persecuted Christians. **Acts 26:14 (LSB)** *I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.’* When Christ said to Saul (Paul’s pre-Christian name), you “*kick against the goads,*” He was referring to Paul rejecting the Spirit of Yahweh (*Holy Spirit*), calling him to repent! Most Believers desire to follow Christ, but the Gospel of the Kingdom (*Good News*) can be corrupted by *Religious Dogma* and *False Narratives*. We are warned about turning away and pursuing false gods. **Deuteronomy 11:16** *Be careful, or you will be enticed to turn away and worship other gods and bow down to them.* We are to be on guard against false teachings, human traditions, religious ceremonies, and worldly wisdom. It is too easy to ignore the *True Gospel* and Replace it with *human logic or traditions* that nullify the power of God’s word. **Mark 7:13** *You nullify the word of God by your traditions that you have handed down.* Demons deceive us with *corrupted or false teaching*. **1 Timothy 4:1** *In later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons.* How easily we can fall away. **Revelation 2:5** *Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first.* Our faith is rooted in repentance, surrendering our self-efforts, and waiting on God’s Spirit for direction and guidance. We learn to trust from our *unseen Inner-Man* rather than our *visible Outer-Man*. **Proverbs 3:5-6 (LSB)** *Trust in Yahweh with all your heart [unseen Inner-Man] and do not lean on your own understanding [visible Outer-Man]. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make your paths straight.* As we learn to surrender our lives and depend on the power of Christ, we display the light of Christ with loving kindness towards others, and loving unity with other Believers. **John 15:12 (LSB)** *This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you.* Satan can lead us astray with false teaching and human logic. As stated by Richard Halverson, Presbyterian Minister and US Senate Chaplain from 1981 to 1995: “*First the church was a fellowship of men and women centered on the living Christ. Then the church moved to Greece where it became a philosophy. Then it moved to Rome where it became an institution. Next, it moved to Europe, where it became a culture. Finally, it moved to America where it became an enterprise.*” Fortunately, evil also expose itself, causing us to be enlightened by the power of Christ. Iran is an example, where one million Iranians to Christ after experiencing Iran’s religious evil beginning in 1979.⁴ One of the biggest influences on the church has been the development of modern-day marketing and public relations. Whether it’s called *marketing* or *propaganda*, it is rooted in *False Narratives*. Derek Prince referred to marketing as, *getting others to buy something they don’t need with money they don’t have*. In 1928, Edward Bernay, a nephew of Sigmund Freud, wrote the book **Propaganda**. Joseph Goebbels (*Hitler’s chief propagandist for the Nazi party*) was an avid admirer of Bernay’s book and his other writings – even though that Bernay was a Jew. Bernay later rebranded the term **Propaganda** to **Public Relations**. He is now called *the father of public relations*. In the 1920’s Bernay was credited for breaking the taboo on women smoking cigarettes (*rebranded as Torches of Freedom*) in marketing Lucky

4 “**Good News from Iran: A Million New Christian Believers**” by Lela Gilbert, The Washington Stand, June 15, 2023, <https://www.hudson.org/religious-freedom/good-news-iran-million-new-christian-believers-lela-gilbert> (accessed March 10, 2025).

Strike; and for the changing the American Light Breakfast (toast, orange juice, & coffee) to a Hearty Breakfast (bacon & eggs).⁵ Truth is easily replaced with self-serving goals of profit, political success, radical ideals, or religious agendas. **1 John 3:18 (LSB) Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth.** Even today's churches have fallen into the trap of Public Relations and Marketing rather than faithfulness to the True Gospel. We need to practice humility and confidence in God, rather than depending on our Outer-Man self-efforts. It is the Living Spirit of Yahweh that teaches and guides us, as we learn to wait, hope and rest in Christ. Likewise, the True Church relies on the power of Yahweh's Spirit for guidance and direction. **Acts 1:8 You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me...to the end of the earth.** The Acts 2 Church was fully surrendered and dependent on the unseen power of God's Spirit. It had no building programs, marketing agendas, or administrators presiding over its formation. **2 Corinthians 2:17 (LSB) For we are not like many, peddling the word of God.** The Outer-Man Church may attempt to imitate the Acts 2 Church with VISIBLE human efforts, but the success of the TRUE Church comes from the UNSEEN power of God's Spirit alone! Yahweh's Spirit = Yahweh's Power.

False narratives and religious dogma are more dangerous than evil. Dietrich Bonhoeffer stood up against the Nazis in World War 2 and was executed at Flossenbürg concentration camp two weeks before its liberation. He watched his country turn to fascism and ignore the truth. Bonhoeffer addressed political and religious dogma in his **Theory of Stupidity** - explaining how Nazis were accepted under Hitler's rule. Bonhoeffer's key points include:⁶

- Greater caution is called for when dealing with a stupid person than with a malicious one.
- Stupidity is not an intellectual defect but moral. Less psychological than sociological.
- The stupid person is stubborn; not dealing at all with him as a person, but with slogans, catchwords, and the like take possession of him; he is blinded, misused, and abused in his very being; become a mindless tool, capable of any evil – NOT seeing it is evil.
- Only an act of liberation, not instruction, overcomes stupidity. The fact that in most cases a genuine internal liberation becomes possible only when external liberation has preceded it.
- The Bible reveals **the fear of God is the beginning of wisdom** – declares the liberation of humans to live a responsible life before God is **the only genuine way to overcome stupidity.**

Sadly, Bonhoeffer's Theory of Stupidity applies in both politics and religion. Stalin followed a similar agenda with communism, referring to his supporters as Useful Idiots. Those who followed his slogans and agendas with blind devotion – the same root drive in many political or religious movements today. Many Christians today, who profess to Believe the Bible, have never read the Bible. They may use false slogans and catch phrases: such as "**You are not under law but under grace.**" This is taken from Romans 6:14, but most do not bother to read the full chapter of Romans 6 – to become enlightened. When it comes to religious or political dogma, many of us hear only what we choose to believe and filter out the truth. **2 Timothy 4:3-4 (RSB) The time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.**

5 "The manipulation of the American mind: Edward Bernays and the birth of public relations" by Richard Gunderman - Body & Soul a Doctor's View, The Conversation, July 9, 2015, <https://theconversation.com/the-manipulation-of-the-american-mind-edward-bernays-and-the-birth-of-public-relations-44393> (accessed 3/16/2025).

6 "Bonhoeffer's Theory of Stupidity" Sprouts, Oct 15, 2021, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ww47bR86wSc&list=PL6QYUOcHU_TLeRQ3Od69o-cGmiN5MIEST&index=103 (accessed 3/16/25).

E. Our Internal Faith Displays Our External Behavior – Our desire to know the True and living God of Israel may begin by asking: What is important to God versus what is importance to me? *Isaiah 55:7-9 (LSB) Let the wicked forsake his way And the unrighteous man his thoughts; And let him return to Yahweh, And He will have compassion on him, And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon. For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,” declares Yahweh. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways And My thoughts than your thoughts. As we seek the True God, we should also evaluate our own expectations – as in ANY relationship. God’s Truth is not from human thoughts, church doctrines, or religious ceremony. The early Christians were eager to hear the Good News and would verify what they heard with the written Scriptures. *Acts 17:11 (ESV) They received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so. The Prince of THIS world, Satan, is disguised as an Angel of Light to deceive us. *2 Corinthians 11:14 (ESV) Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. God’s Truth comes from God’s Word of Truth (the Bible). It is taught to us personally by God’s Spirit of Truth (Holy Spirit). *1 John 2:26-27 (LSB) I have written to you about those who are trying to deceive you. As for you, the anointing you received from Him abides in you, and you have no need for anyone to teach you. As His anointing teaches you about all things, and is true and is not a lie, and as He has taught you, abide in Him. The only mediator between God (Yahweh) and man, is His Son our Messiah (*Yahshua* = Yahweh’s Salvation). *1 Timothy 2:5 (RSB) For there is one Elohim [God], and one mediator between Elohim [God] and men, the man Messiah Yahshua [Jesus Christ]. When we repent, Christ gives us a New Heart and Reborn Spirit. *1 Corinthians 3:16 (LSB) Do you not know that you are a sanctuary of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? We are assured of our salvation and a new life because God’s Spirit is in us. *1 John 4:13 (LSB) By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit. We are cleansed by Christ’s Blood and He teaches us to follow Him in the crucifixion of our desires. *Galatians 5:24-25 (LSB) Those who belong to Christ crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk in step with the Spirit. Believers sacrifice the desires of their Outer-Man as they learn to obey Christ out of love for Him and love for His Father, Yahweh. *Colossians 3:5 (LSB) Consider the members of your earthly body as dead to sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which is idolatry. We follow Christ in His crucifixion and death, by crucifying the desires of our Outer-Man flesh. *Romans 8:12-14 (LSB) For if you are living according to the flesh, you must die, but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the practices of the body, you will live. For as many as are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. As we turn from the desires of THIS world, we are recreated into the image of Christ – as promised by His Father, Yahweh. *Romans 8:29 (LSB) Those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son. In becoming conformed to the image of Christ we develop a love for Christ and love for others. Our love for Christ leads to Obedience to Christ and His Father, Yahweh. *John 14:21 (LSB) He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him.” Loving others is shown by our kindness and unity with other Believers. *John 13:34-35 (LSB) A new commandment I give you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.*************

1. Christ's Power for Growth Requires a Receptive Heart – Our faith in Christ is described as a seed that grows within our new hearts – as part of our New Inner-Man Human Spirit. *1 Peter 1:23 (LSB) You have been born again not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, that is, through the living and enduring word of God.* Our Heart is the spiritual soil for the seed of Christ to grow. We connect to God from our heart; but only after God's Spirit convicts us of our need for repentance and salvation. *John 16:8-11 (LSB) He will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me; concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you no longer see Me; and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged.* The Parable of the Sower describes four types of soil: representing the nature of our hearts. It describes the Gospel being rooted or rejected from within our Heart. *Matthew 13: 3-9 (LSB) The sower went out to sow; and as he sowed, some seeds fell beside the road, and the birds came and ate them up. And others fell on the rocky places, where they did not have much soil; and immediately they sprang up, because they had no depth of soil. But when the sun had risen, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away. And others fell among the thorns, and the thorns came up and choked them out. And others fell on the good soil and were yielding a crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty.* Christ's disciples did not understand the message and asked why He spoke in parables. *Matthew 13:10-11 (LSB) The disciples came and said to Him, "Why do You speak to them in parables?" And Jesus answered and said to them, "To you it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. For whoever has, to him more shall be given, and he will have an abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has shall be taken away from him.* There are mysteries to the Kingdom of Heaven (Kingdom of God), not intended for non-believers. There are also some with hardened and calloused hearts that cannot accept or receive the Gospel of the Kingdom. *Matthew 13:14-15 (LSB) In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah: "You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving. For this people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes." This is a picture of us understanding or rejecting God's Kingdom Gospel.*

- Not everyone understands the Kingdom of Heaven – understanding is from our New Heart
- Only the power of God's Spirit gives us understanding and teaches our Open New Heart
- Signs of a person with a Calloused or Hard Heart (They do not see and do not hear.)

Matthew 13:19-23 (LSB) When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one [Satan] comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is the one on whom seed was sown beside the road. And the one on whom seed was sown on the rocky places, this is the man who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet he has no root in himself, but is only temporary, and when affliction or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he falls away. And the one on whom seed was sown among the thorns, this is the one who hears the word, and the worry of the world and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful. And the one on whom seed was sown on the good soil, this is the man who hears the word and understands it; who indeed bears fruit and brings forth, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty." In this parable, the soil refers to the Heart of a person. There are different types of soils, just as there are different types of Hearts. A person's Heart is not fixed. The receptivity of our hearts can change through prayer.

2 Peter 3:9 (LSB) The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some consider slowness, but is patient toward you, not willing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance. We are encouraged to pray for ourselves and others, that both us and those we care about, would have hearts and minds that would desire to receive the Good News (the Gospel) of God's Kingdom. It is difficult for fallen human creatures to see life from God's perspective. Only God's Spirit can enlighten our minds and hearts; that we would have a desire for Christ to heal and direct our lives. **John 6:44 (RSB) No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draws him: and I will raise him up at the last day.** Christ rebuilds us from God's perspective, and we become a living letter in THIS world. **2 Corinthians 3:2-3 (LSB) You are our letter, having been written in our hearts, known and read by all men, being manifested that you are a letter of Christ, ministered to by us, having been written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of hearts of flesh.** Our attitude towards God changes with our increased sensitivity to God's Spirit. God is the only one who knows our heart and the only one who can soften our heart. The Gospel of Jesus Christ provides the power to give us a new heart that is sensitive to His calling. **Ezekiel 36:26 And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.**

Our Attitude Towards God is the Soil that Feeds Our Heart - God changes our worldly desires to Godly desires, with a conviction to seek Him. **2 Corinthians 7:10 Godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.** The Parable of the Sower describes the attitude of four types of Hearts towards God.

- **Unaware & Closed Towards God** – The Gospel Seed falls on Hard Path or Hard Soil. The birds (Satan) take the seed causing our Heart to lack understanding and reject the Gospel. **2 Corinthians 4:4 (LSB) The god of this age blinds the minds of the unbelieving and they do not see the light of the gospel - the glory of Christ, the image of God.**
- **Impressionable & Lacking Conviction** – The Gospel Seed falls on Rocky Soil. There is apparent growth, but the plant lacks roots and is scorched by the sun. A Heart with initial joy in the Gospel, but falls away when problems, troubles or oppression appear. **Revelation 2:3-5 (LSB) You have perseverance and endured for My name's sake, you have not grown weary. But I have this against you, you have left your first love. Therefore remember from where you have fallen, repent and do the deeds you did at first. If not, I am coming to remove your lampstand out of its place, unless you repent.**
- **Distracted by both Worries & Pleasures of the World** – The Gospel Seed falls on Thorny Soil. The plant growth is choked by competing thorny plants. This Heart accepts the Gospel of Christ but becomes distracted by the worries and pleasures of this world. **1 John 2:16-17 (LSB) All that is in the world, lust of the flesh and lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. And the world is passing away, and also its lusts, but the one who does the will of God abides forever.**
- **Open & Committed to God** – The Gospel Seed falls on Good Soil. Plant growth thrives with deep roots. This Heart responds to the Gospel and yields an abundant and fruitful harvest. It is a heart surrendered fully to the power of God's Spirit from our Unseen Inner-Man. **John 12:25-26 (LSB) He who loves his life loses it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it to life eternal. If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also; if anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him.**

2. Delusions, Distractions & Discouragement of the World – Satan is described as *the Father of Lies*. Although he was defeated by Christ and lost his power and authority, Satan is a master of lies and deceptions. His goal is to have us give up on our *hope, faith, and trust in our Savior, Yahshua Messiah (Jeus Christ)*. In Christ alone we are given freedom to turn from the *corruption and evil of THIS world*. An evil that permeates the world, our very DNA, and the *roots of our earth-born souls*. ***Galatians 5:1 (LSB) It was for freedom that Christ set us free. Therefore, stand firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery.*** Instead of waiting for Christ to meet our needs, deliver us from trials, provide a divine cure, or heal our wounded souls, Satan wants us to rely on any kind of alternative answer or counterfeit deliverance. Satan specializes in counterfeit solutions, false religions, false messiahs, and corrupted truth. ***Galatians 5:19-21 (LSB) Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions, envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.*** In Christ, we are free to escape the delusions of our world. Today, even much of our science is a slave to a belief that *the universe and humans are one big unconscious accident*. This idea violates the laws of science (*Law of Biogenesis, First and Second Laws of Thermodynamics, etc.*), yet evolution is taught and presented as a fact. As stated by Dr. Rupert Sheldrake in *The Science Delusion*: “*The science delusion is the belief that science already understands the nature of reality.*” ... “*As my friend, Terence McKenna used to say, ‘Modern science is based on the principle: give us one free miracle and we’ll explain the rest.’ And the one free miracle is the appearance of all the matter and energy in the universe and all the laws that govern it from nothing in a single instant.”⁷ As we near the end of this age and Christ’s return is imminent, the delusions of our world are being exposed. The truth about our origins and earth history is being clarified and revealed. God’s truth is shining forth from science, archeology, and the fulfillment of prophecies. We also see an increase of evil as *the delusions of Satan infiltrate every corner of THIS world*. But as evil becomes more rampant and insidious, the hope we have in the Gospel of Christ shines brighter. The power and grace of God’s Spirit is making one last call for everyone to repent and be saved. ***Hebrews 10:25 (LSB) Encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.*** As evil continues, we know Yahweh’s promised judgments are coming upon our world, as He promises to protect those who call on Him. ***Isaiah 54:17 (LSB) No weapon that is formed against you will succeed; and every tongue that accuses you in judgment you will condemn. This is the inheritance of the slaves of Yahweh, and their righteousness is from Me, declares Yahweh.*** God’s Spirit *enlightens His followers about false teachings and the delusions of human traditions* that have infiltrated many Churches. ***1 Peter 4:17-19 (LSB) It is time for judgment to begin with the house of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? And if it is with difficulty that the righteous is saved, what will become of the godless man and the sinner? Therefore, those also who suffer according to the will of God must entrust their souls to a faithful Creator in doing good.*** It is time for Christians *of all denominations to turn to Christ in true repentance*. ***James 4:8 (LSB) Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.****

⁷ Rupert Sheldrake, *The Science Delusion*; YouTube, Mar 15, 2013, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JKHUaNAxsTg&t=137s> (access 3/17/2025).

- 3. Our Weapons to Defeat Satan's Evil** – We are told to not be discouraged by evil that confronts us, because the battle belong to Yahweh, the True God of Israel. *2 Chronicles 20:15 (LSB) Thus says Yahweh to you, 'Do not fear or be dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours but God's.* Yahweh protected Israel, and today our Messiah, Yahshua, works through His Church save us from the evil of Satan's Kingdom. *Romans 8:31 (LSB) What shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us?* Since we are no match for Satan, how do we activate the power of Christ to protect ourselves and our lived one? *Revelation 12:11 (LSB) And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their witness, and they did not love their life even to death.* Satan is defeated by three *spiritual tools*: (1) Blood of the Lamb (*the Blood of Christ*), (2) Word of their witness (*testimonies about blessings from Christ and His Father – a form of praise*), and (3) We do not love our life - even to death (*Saints have No Fear of Death*).
- 1. The shed blood of the Lamb of God** – The *shed blood of Yahshua our Messiah* (Jesus Christ) takes away and cleanses us from our sin and *fellowship with Christ and other Believers*. *1 John 1:7 (LSB) If we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.* Through Christ we have been *rescued from Satan's Kingdom of Darkness* and transferred into the *UNSEEN Kingdom of God*. *Colossians 1:12-13 (LSB) Give thanks to the Father, who qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. Who rescued us from the authority of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of the Son of His love.*
- 2. Our praise and testimony of Yahweh's goodness to us in Christ** – We are called to *express the goodness, gracious compassion, and lovingkindness* of our *pure and holy Father, Yahweh*. *Psalms 145:7-8 (LSB) They shall pour forth the memory of Your abundant goodness and will shout joyfully of Your righteousness. Yahweh is gracious and compassionate; Slow to anger and great in lovingkindness.*
- 3. Exhibiting we have No Fear of Death, because we Belong to Christ** – Believers can confidently proclaim they *have no fear of death* and *live a confident life in THIS Visible world*, knowing *their true citizenship is in the Unseen Kingdom of God*. *Luke 12:4-5 (LSB) But I say to you, My friends, do not fear those who kill the body and after that have no more that they can do. But I will show you whom to fear: fear the One who, after He has killed, has authority to cast into [destruction]; yes, I tell you, fear Him!*
- Our confidence is in the power that raised Christ from the dead and is present in us today. *Ephesians 1:18-20 (LSB) The eyes of your heart having been enlightened - will know the hope of His calling, the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and the greatness of His power toward all who believe according to the working of His strength, which He worked in Christ, by raising Him from the dead and seating Him at His right hand in the heavenly places.* Christ warned us about false teachers and corrupted doctrines taught by demons. *2 Peter 2:1-3 (LSB) False prophets arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves. Many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of truth will be maligned. In their greed they will exploit you with false words.* The world's system of manipulation with public relations or marketing, may be seen in religious rhetoric and self-serving agendas of some ministries. *1 Peter 5:2 (LSB) Shepherd the flock of God among you, overseeing not under compulsion, but willingly, according to God; and not for dishonest gain.*

F. Summary - The Good News (Gospel) of Christ according to the Bible – The Good News (Gospel) of the Kingdom of God was promised by Israel’s prophets. *Daniel 7:27 (LSB) The reign, dominion, and greatness of all kingdoms under the whole heaven will be given to the people of the saints of the Highest One; His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom, and all the dominions will serve and obey Him.* Christ declared His purpose was to preach and declare the Kingdom of God – initially as an Unseen Kingdom of God during the 2,000-year Church Age, and finally as a Visible Kingdom of God during His Millennial reign on Earth. *Luke 4:43 (RSB) He said unto them; I must preach the kingdom of Yahweh to other cities also: for therefore am I sent.* The Good News (Gospel) of Christ has three clear elements:

- #1: A New Kingdom of Yahweh with a New Messianic Ruler, Yahshua (Christ).
- #2: Yahweh’s (God’s) new relationship to Believers with His Spirit dwelling inside us.
- #3: An eternal priesthood of Surrendered Believers connected with Yahshua (Christ).

We can have an intellectual understanding of the True Gospel: The Kingdom of God that destroys Satan’s Curse of Evil and Christ rescuing lost souls from destruction. But the result of the Gospel of the Kingdom is shown by our love for Christ and His Father (through Obedience), and our love for others (through Kindness); evidenced to the World (by Church Unity). *Matthew 22:37-40 (LSB) He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the great and foremost commandment. And the second is like it, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang the whole Law and the Prophets.”*

In Isaiah 42 from God’s Word of Truth (the Bible), the Supreme Being of the created, world and universe, reveals (1) His Identity, (2) His Personal Name, (3) His Chosen Servant - to Implement His Intentions, (4) His Purpose, (5) His Goal, (6) His Plan, and (7) His Objectives.

1. His Identity (Who He is): Isaiah 42:5 (LSB) Thus says the God, Yahweh, Who created the heavens and stretched them out, Who spread out the earth and its offspring, Who gives breath to the people on it and spirit to those who walk in it.
2. His Personal Name: Isaiah 42:8 (LSB) I am Yahweh, that is My name; I will not give My glory to another, Nor My praise to graven images.
3. His Chosen Servant - to Implement His Intentions: Isaiah 42:6-7 (LSB) I am Yahweh, I have called You in righteousness; I will also take hold of You by the hand and guard You, and I will give You as a covenant to the people, as a light to the nations, to open blind eyes, to bring out prisoners from the dungeon and those who inhabit darkness from the prison.
4. His Purpose: Isaiah 42:2-4 (LSB) He will not cry out or raise His voice, nor make His voice heard in the street. A crushed reed He will not break and a faintly burning wick He will not extinguish; He will bring forth justice in truth. He will not be faint or crushed until He establishes justice in the earth; as the coastlands wait expectantly for His law.
5. His Goal: Isaiah 42:9-10 (LSB) Behold, the former things have come to pass; now I declare new things; before they spring forth I cause you to hear them. Sing to Yahweh a new song, sing His praise from the end of the earth! You who go down to the sea, as well as its fullness. You coastlands, and those who inhabit them.
6. His Plan: Isaiah 42:1 (LSB) My Servant, whom I uphold; My chosen one in whom My soul is well-pleased. I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the nations.
7. His Objective: Isaiah 42:12-13 (LSB) Give glory to Yahweh and declare His praise in the coastlands. Yahweh goes forth like a warrior; He awakens His zeal like a man of war. He makes a loud shout, He will raise a war cry. He will prevail against His enemies.