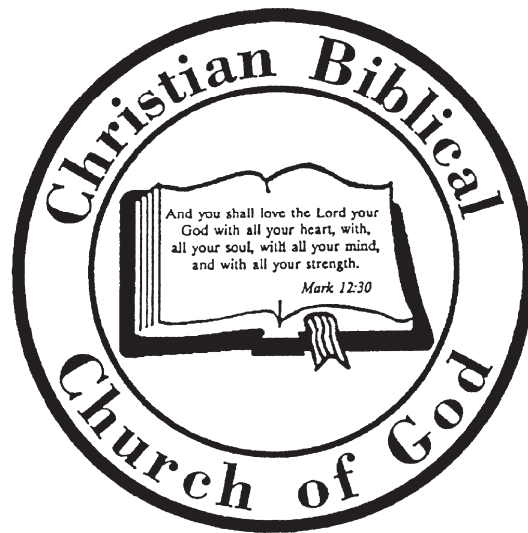


Fall Feasts 2022



Transcript Book

By Fred R. Coulter

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Fred R. Coulter
Christian Biblical Church of God
P. O. Box 1442
Hollister, California 95024-1442

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2022 Fall Feasts

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Compact Disc

Feast of Trumpets 2022 - The Awesome Fulfillment of The Feast of Trumpets

Day of Atonement 2022 - How Satan Works to Deceive

Welcome Message 2022 – Opening Night

Day 1 -- Restoration of All Things!

Day 2 -- The Dwelling Place of God I

Day 3 -- The Dwelling Place of God II

Day 4 -- The Dwelling Place of God III

Day 5 -- The Dwelling Place of God IV

Day 6 -- How the Kingdom of God is Going to Work

Day 7 A Picture of the Thousand Years Being Fulfilled

The Great Harvest of God

The Awesome Fulfillment of The Feast of Trumpets

Fred R. Coulter—September 26, 2022

Greetings, brethren! Welcome to the Feast of Trumpets!

We're certainly in tumultuous times like never before. That's exactly what's been prophesied. There will be perilous times:

- all kinds of sins
- all kinds of problems
- wars and rumors of wars

Just go through the first part of Matt. 24 and everything is being fulfilled to the letter *today!*

The Feast of Trumpets pictures the direct intervention of God into world affairs! That's why it's called the *Feast of Trumpets* or *the blowing of rams' horns*, which are always *the sound of alarm for war!*

So, the Feast of Trumpets is a *War Feast!* Lev. 23 gives us the command. It's interesting as we look at it, it's not very long. But the fulfillment of it is awesome, as we will see!

Leviticus 23:23: "And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 'Speak to the children of Israel saying, "In the seventh month... [according to the Calculated Hebrew Calendar] ...in the first *day* of the month... [that's today] ...you shall have a Sabbath, a memorial of blowing of ram's horns, a Holy convocation. You shall do no servile work *therein* but you shall offer an offering made by fire to the LORD'" (vs 23-25).

Well, we don't make an offering by fire today, but we make it according to our means as God has provided for us. God has promised that if we will give, that He will bless! And in proportion to what we give, He also says that He will bless.

But remember the two mites of the widow. What did Jesus say to the disciples as they looked down and saw this widow throw in her two mites? *He said:*

You see all these rich people throwing in the money, they give of their abundance, but she gave of her poverty! Even her living!

So, she had done more than all the rich people! It's not a matter of how much. It's also a matter of our heart!

You see, the New Testament is to *change and convert the heart and the mind!* We're going to see that the Day of the Lord is a magnificent day

indeed, and one that the whole world is waiting for. But they don't even understand it!

(pause for the offering)

Isa. 40—here is a perfect example of what we've discussed on how God has constructed the Old Testament, especially in prophecy. It's not in chronological or sequential order, though the verses follow one after the other. The only way to understand them is to know the Sabbath and the Holy Days.

That's why we have the big, thick book: *God's Plan for Mankind Revealed by His Sabbath and Holy Days!* Without the Calculated Hebrew Calendar to know how these things come about, people can't understand it. *But it's all there!*

- knowledge of the Calculated Hebrew Calendar
- knowledge of the Bible
- knowledge of the prophecies

are all there! But people in the world just don't get it, even if they are suffering!

Isa. 40 is a very interesting chapter, because it starts out with quite a wonderful verse, which is the opening of the Messiah by Handel.

Isaiah 40:1: "'Comfort ye, comfort ye, My people,' says your God. 'Speak comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned; for she has received of the LORD'S hand double for all her sins'" (vs 1-2).

Look at all the trouble that Jerusalem has had down through history: *wars, wars, wars and being carried off into captivity!*

Then you come to more modern times and there has always been war around Jerusalem. Look at the time of the Crusades; that's what they were fighting for. The fighting between the so-called Christians and so-called Muslim for control of Jerusalem. Many of them in those days thought that if they would get there and capture Jerusalem, that Jesus would come.

That's been over 500 years ago, and He still hasn't come! What we see is the first two verses are for when all the wars are over and Christ comes on the earth with all the saints and we take over the government.

Verse 3 goes to John the Baptist who was the messenger before the face of the Lord.

Verse 3: “A voice is calling out in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.’”

One verse and that’s true. Jesus came and where did He start His ministry? *In the wilderness to meet Satan the devil!*

Verse 4: “Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low; and the crooked places shall be made straight, and the rough places plain.”

Think about that! Every valley, every mountain, every hill!

Verse 5: “And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see *it* together... [Christ’s second coming as He’s coming to the earth] ...for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

Remember that whenever God says something, it’s going to happen! The only difficulty is that it’s not going to happen the way that men think! It’s going to happen the way that God has purposed!

Verse 6: A voice says... [John the Baptist calling out *repentance*] ‘Cry!’ And he said, ‘What shall I cry?’ ‘All flesh *is* grass, and all the beauty of it *is* as the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades because the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people *are* grass” (vs 6-7).

So, here’s the mingling of the first and second coming. Also it’s telling us about the nature of human beings. It’s like Solomon wrote: *Vanity of vanities!*

Psa. 39 says that ‘man at his very best is altogether vanity!’ that’s an amazing thing to understand! Let’s make sure that our lives are not in vain.

Verse 8: “The grass withers, the flower fades; **but the Word of our God shall stand forever.**”

That’s one thing we need to learn, *it will stand forever!*

Now let’s see in Isa. 2 again how it blends into the meaning of the Feast of Trumpets, the coming of Jesus Christ and the saints to the earth. The first five verses are the beginning of the Millennium; then it comes down to how it came about.

This is something; I want you to think about this, because men today think that they’re able to do

so many things and that they are nearly invincible. Those who are preparing for war are believing that they are invincible and the first one to win will rule the world! ***But it isn’t going to happen that way!***

Isaiah 2:9: “And men will be brought low, and humbled—forgive them not.”

Why? *Because we will see a little later that they didn’t repent of their sins!*

Verse 10: “Enter into the rock and hide in the dust for fear of the LORD, and for the glory of His majesty.”

Comes right down to the sixth seal! See how amazing that the Bible is? It has to be put together properly, and this is what we’re going to do today.

Verse 11: “The lofty looks of man shall be humbled, and the pride of men shall be bowed down, **and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day.**”

That’s quite a thing to contemplate! We will read about it. Today it’s not that way.

Verse 12: “For the Day of the LORD of hosts...”

Now we are talking about a specific time, ***the Day of the Lord is the last year of Trumpets to Trumpets*** as we find in the book of Revelation written 900 years after this! Amazing!

Remember our In-Depth Study on Daniel/Revelation. Daniel is like the lock to prophecy and Revelation is like the key that you put into the lock and it opens up everything! It gives us a timeframe for a lot of these prophecies.

Verse 12: “For the Day of the LORD of hosts *shall be* upon every proud and haughty one, and upon every exalted one; and they *shall be* brought low, and it shall be upon all the high and lifted up cedars of Lebanon... [this is likening strong, powerful men with their armies to trees] ...and upon all the oaks of Bashan, and upon all the high mountains, and upon all the hills *that are* lifted up, and upon every high tower, and upon every fortified wall; and upon all the ships of Tarshish, and upon all pleasurable craft. And the pride of man shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be made low, **and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day**” (vs 12-17).

Then it goes right into the Millennium. What’s the first thing that God is going to do?

Verse 18: “And the idols He shall utterly abolish. And they shall go into the holes of the rocks, and into the caves of the earth for fear of the LORD and for the glory of His majesty, when He arises to shake *terribly* the earth” (vs 18-19).

God's going to get the attention of everyone when He shakes the earth. It's going to be the whole earth everywhere from top to bottom all the way around.

There are going to be some men who realize that all of their idols mean nothing. That their idols can't save them in the face of what God is doing.

Verse 20: "In that day a man shall cast his idols of silver, and his idols of gold, which they made *each one* for himself to worship, to the moles and to the bats; to go into the clefts of the rocks, and into the tops of the ragged rocks, for fear of the LORD and for the glory of His majesty, when He arises to shake *terribly* the earth" (vs 20-21).

What is that going to be like? That's going to be something indeed; isn't it?

Here's the thing, all the way through the Old Testament we have all of these things concerning the return of Christ. So, you can see why some of the scribes and Pharisees did not want to accept Him. *They wanted **Him*** to join them and setup a world government. *But Christ wanted **them*** to repent of their lies and false religions and repent and receive the Holy Spirit so they could truly develop the character that at His second coming they would be able to do that, but not His first coming!

God is going to shake the heavens and earth. And I hope you enjoyed the pictures that we showed you a couple of months back from the James Webb Telescope that reached out, they say, 13-billion light years away. That ought to tell you that God exists!

Haggai 2:6: "For thus says the LORD of hosts, 'Once *again*—it is yet a little while—I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land. And I will shake **all the nations**; and the desire of all nations shall come...' (vs 6-7)—*that's Christ!*

They don't know that He's their desire; they just want peace. But the leaders want war; the armies want war, so they're going to get it!

"...and I will fill this house with glory,' says the LORD of hosts" (v 7).

When Christ returns, as we have seen and will see during the Feast of Tabernacles, He's not going to build a temple. Ezek. 40 to the end of Ezek. is not the Millennial Temple. That's the second temple. The Millennial Temple is going to be a great and marvelous tabernacle! We'll look at it then.

Verse 20: "And a second time the Word of the LORD came to Haggai in the twenty-fourth day of the month, saying... [24th day of the 7th month,

which is just after the Feast of Tabernacles] ... 'Speak to Zerubbabel, governor of Judah, saying, 'I will shake the heavens and the earth. And I will overthrow the throne of the kingdoms...' (vs 21-22).

Who is sitting on the throne of the kingdoms? *None other than the beast who is possessed by Satan the devil!*

"...and I will destroy the strength of the kingdoms of the nations. And I will overthrow the chariots and their riders. And the horses and their riders shall come down, each one by the sword of his brother" (v 22).

Now Zerubbabel—son of Shealtiel—is a type of Jesus Christ. How bad is this going to get. Let's look at it. Here again is quite a tremendous and fantastic thing that's going to happen:

Isaiah 24:1: "Behold, the LORD makes the earth empty and makes it waste, and turns it upside down, and scatters its inhabitants."

How is that going to work? *Because of all the hills that are brought low, the mountains that are brought low, the valleys that are exalted, that's turning it upside down without literally turning it upside down!*

However, it has been known that the North and South Poles have switched. So, in a sense that would be like turning the earth upside down.

Verse 2: "And as *it is* with the people, so it shall be with the priest; as with the slave, so with the master; as with the handmaid, so it is with her mistress; as with the buyer, so with the seller; as with the lender, so with the borrower; as with the creditor, so with the debtor. The earth shall be completely laid waste..." (vs 2-3).

Empty of what? *Everything that man has done!*

"...and utterly stripped; for the LORD has spoken this word.... [notice what it says that He does to the earth, and the earth's response to God]: ...The earth mourns *and* languishes; the world withers *and* languishes; the proud people of the earth wither. And the earth is defiled under its people; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, and have broken the everlasting covenant" (vs 3-5).

What do you think the Protestants are going to feel about this time? They, their ministers and all the people down through history who do away with the Laws of God, and those in the end-time that are actively doing it in the face of God are going to really understand what's happening.

Verse 6: “Therefore, the curse has devoured the earth, and they who dwell in it are desolate; therefore, the people of the earth are burned, and few men are left.”

This is why the book of Isaiah is such an amazing book, because there are so many things in it, but it’s like a puzzle, like a thousand piece puzzle that is dumped on a table and all mixed up, and all of the parts look almost identical. The only way you can put the puzzle together is to understand the Word of God; to understand the key of the Holy Days.

So, with the Feast of Trumpets this tells us what God has to do to straighten out the world.

Isaiah 13:1: “The burden of Babylon, which Isaiah the son of Amoz saw.”

Remember that there’s Babylon in the days of Judea, toward the end of the 600s; Israel taken into captivity by Babylon, and *after 70 years they come back!* Without the book of Revelation to understand there is a Babylon the Great—which describes the whole world—you wouldn’t understand this chapter here.

Verse 2: “Lift up a banner upon the high mountain, exalt the voice to them, wave the hand so that they may go into the gates of the nobles. I have commanded My Holy ones, I have also called My mighty ones for My anger, *even* those who rejoice in My triumph” (vs 2-3).

Verse 4: “The noise of a multitude in the mountains, as of a great people; a tumultuous noise of the kingdoms of nations gathered together; the LORD of hosts gathers an army for the battle.”

Those are the battles of Rev. 8 & 9 and the last Battle of Armageddon.

Verse 5: “They come from a far country, from the end of heaven, the LORD and the weapons of His indignation, to destroy the whole earth. How! For the Day of the LORD *is* at hand; it shall come as a destruction from the Almighty” (vs 5-6).

That’s going to be a time! In spite of all of this, in addition to the 144,000 and the great innumerable multitude—which we covered on Pentecost—there will be people who will be human beings to survive through all of this.

That’s going to be an amazing thing! Think about what we’re going to have to do to help those people; help them understand. To come to them and say, ‘Now be healed!’ *And they are healed!* We tell them that Christ is ruling in Jerusalem and He has sent us to help you so that you can recover from all

of these terrible things that have come upon the earth. It’s going to be an amazing thing indeed!

Verse 6: “How! For the Day of the LORD *is* at hand; it shall come as a destruction from the Almighty. Therefore, all hands shall be faint, and every man’s heart shall melt; and they shall be afraid. Pangs and sorrows shall take hold of them. They shall be in pain like a woman who travails. They shall be amazed at one another, their faces are *like* blazing fire” (vs 6-8).

Don’t know exactly what that means, but I can’t imagine that!

Verse 9: “Behold, the Day of the LORD comes, cruel both *with* wrath and fierce anger, to make the earth a desolation; and He shall destroy the sinners out of it.”

It’s going to be quite a thing when that happens and God shakes the heavens and the earth.

Verse 10: “For the stars of the heavens and their constellations shall not give light; the sun shall be darkened in its going forth, and the moon shall not reflect its light. ‘And I will punish the world for *their* evil, and the wicked for their iniquity; and I will cause the arrogance of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the tyrants. I will make man more scarce than gold; even man more than the fine gold of Ophir. Therefore, I will shake the heavens, and the earth shall move out of its place, in the wrath of the LORD of hosts, and in the day of His fierce anger” (vs 10-13).

That’s breathtaking to read all of those things. When you understand that it’s going to happen exactly that way. We also need to understand something else.

Jer. 25—here’s a prophecy that Jeremiah was never able to fulfill in the journey that He was told to take.

Jeremiah 25:13: “And I will bring on that land all My words which I have spoken against it...”

You take all the words of the Old Testament and you line all of them up concerning the wars that are going to happen at the end. Then, as we will do, you go the book of Revelation and see how it comes to pass.

- every word will be fulfilled
- everything that God has said will take place

Verse 13—*God says*: “And I will bring on that land all My words which I have spoken against it, all that is written in this book... [the whole Bible] ...which Jeremiah has prophesied against all the nations.”

So, you start with the book of Jeremiah and you go to the other books of the Bible!

Verse 14: “For many nations and great kings shall make them slaves, also. And I will repay them according to their deeds, and according to the works of their own hands.’ For thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, to me [Jeremiah], ‘Take the wine cup of this wrath at My hand...’” (vs 14-15).

When we get to the book of Revelation, we’re going to see that wrath comes out in seven vials!

“...and cause all the nations to whom I shall send you to drink it. And they shall drink, and reel to and fro, and be crazed because of the sword that I will send among them” (vs 15-16).

Verse 17: “Then I [Jeremiah] took the cup at the LORD’S hand...” *and then in vision Jeremiah goes to all the nations of the world!*

Verse 26: “And all the kings of the north, far and near, one with another, and all the kingdoms of the world, which *are* on the face of the earth... [everyone; no one is going to escape this] ...and **the king of Sheshach** shall drink after them.”

That is *the coming Beast Power* of the book of Revelation! Let’s see what God is going to do and see how it’s going to be done.

Verse 27: “Therefore, you [Jeremiah] shall say to them, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, ‘Drink and be drunk, and vomit, and fall, and rise no more because of the sword which I will send among you.... [that will happen] ...And it shall come to pass **if they refuse** to take the cup at your hand to drink, **then** you shall say to them, “Thus says the LORD of hosts, **‘You shall certainly drink.** For, lo, I begin to bring evil on the city, which is called by My name... [remember where we started in Isa. 40] ...and shall you go unpunished? **You shall not go unpunished. For I will call for a sword on all the inhabitants of the earth,**’ says the LORD of hosts” (vs 27-29).

Verse 26: “...and all the kingdoms of the world...”

Verse 30: “And prophesy against them all these words, and say to them, ‘The LORD shall roar from on high, and utter His voice from His Holy habitation. He shall mightily roar over His dwelling place.... [Jerusalem] ...He shall give a shout, like those who tread out *grapes*, **against all the people of the earth.**... [that’s something to consider] ...A noise shall come to the ends of the earth; for the LORD has a controversy with the nations; He will plead with all flesh...” (vs 30-31)

- Will you now turn from your sins?
- Will you now forsake them?
- Will you now worship the true God Who is coming on this earth and causing all of these terrible things to occur?
- What is that you will do?

Verse 32: “Thus says the LORD of hosts, ‘Behold, evil shall go forth from nation to nation, and a great whirlwind shall be stirred up from the farthest corners of the earth. And the slain of the LORD shall be at that day from *one* end of the earth even to the *other* end of the earth; they shall not be mourned, nor gathered, nor buried. They shall be *as* dung on the ground” (vs 32-33).

Look at what’s going to happen to the leaders; v 34: “**Howl, you shepherds, and cry;** and wallow yourselves in the ashes, you lords of the flock! For the days of your slaughter and of your scatterings are fulfilled; and you shall fall like a choice vessel. And **the shepherds shall have no way to flee, nor the lords of the flock to escape**” (vs 34-35).

It’s not going to be that anyone will escape any of this! *That’s something!* We know that the 144,000 and the great innumerable multitude will be protected.

We will go to the book of Revelation and see how all of these things will be fulfilled, because it will!

(break@40:15)

Rev. 6 is where we see the fulfilling of the words that we have read from the Old Testament, the beginning of it. But it’s spread out from here all the way through the seven last plagues. This world is going to come to the point of war and frenzy and just everything that we read in the Old Testament! Here is where all of this is going to begin, and it’s overlapped with Pentecost.

Let’s back up to the Pentecost that this happens on. This is Christ opening from heaven to let the world know that He is God! God is coming to the earth!

Revelation 6:12: “And when He opened the sixth seal, I looked, and behold, there was a great earthquake...”

If you’re going to raise every valley and lower every hill, guess what you’re going to have? *Earthquakes!* There are number of earthquakes, and we’ll see them in the book of Revelation from here going forward in the fulfilling of all of these prophecies of the return of Christ and the destruction

of Babylon the Great, which is the whole world. As we saw with the prophecies in the Old Testament, it includes ***all nation, all people, all kingdoms, the whole world!***

- every eye is going to see Him
- every eye is going to see this

Verse 12: “And when He opened the sixth seal, I looked, and behold, there was a great earthquake and the sun became black as *the hair of sackcloth*, and the moon became as blood; and the stars of heaven fell to the earth, as a fig tree casts its untimely figs when it is shaken by a mighty wind” (vs 12-13).

God said that He’s going to shake terribly the heavens and the earth. There it is right there!

Verse 14: “Then *the* heaven departed like a scroll that is being rolled up...”

As we covered on Pentecost, this opens up the heavens and then all of a sudden the sign of the Son of Man—tie in Matt. 24—appears as it shines from the east to the west. In Mal. 4 says ***the Sun of Righteousness shall come upon you!*** So, it’s going to show what looks like a second sun.

When that first happens, the whole world is going to think that, yes, the return of Christ. ***But*** that ***Sun*** out there, that the sign of the coming of the Son of man does not come any closer to the earth.

Since Satan is leading the whole world, he convinces them that this is an invasion from outer space, which it will be. When we get to the seven last plagues, **why would they fight against such odds?**

Verse 16: “And they said to the mountains and to the rocks, ‘Fall on us, and hide us from *the* face of Him Who sits on the Throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb, **because the great day of His wrath has come...**” (vs 16-17).

When this happens it opens up all of a sudden there’s a great calm! Then God selects the 144,000—12,000 from every tribe of the 12 tribes of Israel—and a great innumerable multitude. Even though they are saved at this point, they will still be on the earth.

As we found out in Hosea 5 & 6, that the Tribulation will end in 2 day—two years—and that leaves a year and a half to finish all the events with Christ returning. ***The first event to take place is sealing the 144,000 and the great innumerable multitude!***

We know, because it tells us—these are living—that the dead in Christ shall rise first. We’re

told that we are not going to be raised until the seventh trump sounds, the last trump sounds.

These who have been saved here will remain alive as human beings until the last trumpet has sounded—the seventh trumpet of the seven trumpets—and they will be changed from flesh to spirit.

From the time of this taking place on Pentecost to the time when these great wars are unleashed, it’s about four months plus. It runs from Pentecost to Trumpets. During that space of time, the 144,000 and great innumerable multitude are saved and sealed by the angel. The world gets a chance to get everything straightened out as much as possible from the way that the earth has been shaken and everything upside down. Everything has to be put in order.

Now then, the battle between the angels of God and men against Satan and the demons and men (Rev. 8 & 9).

Rev. 8 begins with the Trumpet plagues. That starts on the Feast of Trumpets. So, you have that space of time from Pentecost to Trumpets where it looks like nothing further is going to happen. ***But the kings of the earth are planning war!***

Revelation 8:1: “Now, when He opened the seventh seal, *there* was silence in heaven *for* about a half hour. Then I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them” (vs 1-2).

They have to sound them! Something happens every time that they do! We will read that. Here is the only place in the Bible where we have numbered the succession of trumpets and the number is *seven!* So, the seventh trump is the last trump, and that’s when the resurrection takes place. ***But that does not take place on the Feast of Trumpets!*** That takes place on Pentecost, because the next Pentecost is the Pentecost of the resurrection!

Verse 3: “And another angel, who had a golden censer, came and stood at the altar; and much incense was given to him, so that he might offer *it* with **the prayers of all the saints...**”—*the 144,000 and the great innumerable multitude, and those few in a place of safety!*

All of the rest have been martyred because of the fifth seal.

“...**the prayers of all the saints** on the golden altar that *was* before the Throne” (v 3). ***Think about that!***

Sidebar: Your prayers go straight to God!

That's the whole purpose of grace! God's connection with you *with* His Spirit, and your connection with God *because of* His Spirit!

Verse 4: "And the smoke of the incense went up before God from *the* hand of the angel, ascending with the prayers of the saints. And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire from the altar, and cast *it* into the earth; and there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings, and an earthquake" (vs 4-5)—*another earthquake!*

- Rev. 6—the sixth seal—*earthquake*
- Rev. 8—*earthquake*

Verse 6: "Then the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound *their* trumpets."

Here comes the first four trumpet plagues, and they come in rapid succession. Then the last three are broken down into two and one.

Verse 7: "And **the first angel** sounded *his* trumpet; and there was hail and fire mingled with blood, and it was cast upon the earth; and a third of the trees were burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up. Then **the second angel** sounded *his* trumpet; and *there* was cast into the sea as *it were* a great mountain burning with fire, and a third of the sea became blood; and a third of the living creatures that *were* in the sea died, and a third of the ships were destroyed" (vs 7-9).

Doesn't pay to be a sailor at that time, does it?

Verse 10: "And **the third angel** sounded *his* trumpet; and *there* fell out of heaven a great star, burning like a lamp; and it fell on a third of the rivers, and on the fountains of waters. Now, the name of the star is Wormwood; and a third of the waters became wormwood; and many men died from *drinking* the waters because they were made bitter" (vs 10-11).

Verse 12: "Then **the fourth angel** sounded *his* trumpet; and a third of the sun was smitten, and a third of the moon, and a third of the stars; so that a third of them were darkened; and a third part of the day did not shine, and likewise *a third part of the night.*" *Turning everything upside down!*

That is the result of sin and the punishment that is coming. All of those who are caught up in it are receiving the full wrath of God.

Verse 13: "And I looked; and I heard an angel flying in the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, '**Woe, woe, woe** to those who are dwelling on the earth, because of the voices of the

remaining trumpets of the three angels who *are* about to sound *their* trumpets.'"

It's going to be something! Then we have the fifth angel, and this is quite a thing, because the wars of Rev. 9 are the worst wars in the whole history of the world up to that time!

Revelation 9:1: "And **the fifth angel** sounded *his* trumpet; and I saw a star *that* had fallen from heaven to the earth, and there was given to him the key to the bottomless abyss."

That's the person of the Satan and the demons! But Satan is not there, yet! We will see that when Christ returns they will all be put into the prison for a thousand years.

Verse 2: "And he opened the bottomless abyss; and there went up smoke from the pit, like *the* smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by the smoke from the pit. Then locusts came onto the earth from the smoke; and power was given to them, as the scorpions of the earth have power" (vs 2-3).

This is interesting: is this the secret weapon where no one could make war against the beast. It's now brought out in its full demonic posture.

Verse 4: "And it was said to them that **they should not damage the grass of the earth...**"

Remember that it said that the grass was all burned up (Rev. 8:7). What happens when it's all burned up? *Grass doesn't think! If it gets water it grows!* So, with all the things going on and the darkness taking place, and the clouds so there must have been a lot of rain, so the grass comes back. Now they're told:

"...they should not damage the grass of the earth or any green thing, or any tree, but only the men who did not have the seal of God in their foreheads" (v 4).

So the 144,000 and great innumerable multitude are protected!

Verse 5: "And it was given to them that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months; and their torment *was* like *the* torment of a scorpion when it stings a man. And in those days men will seek death but will not find it; and they will desire to die, but death will flee from them" (vs 5-6).

This is an excruciating weapon coming against all of the armies. These are probably the armies of the beast! The armies from the east will come in the next one, when the next trumpet is sounded, the sixth trumpet. This is going to be

awesome!

Verse 7: “And the appearance of the locusts *was* like horses prepared for war; and on their heads *were* crowns like *those* of gold; and their faces *were* like *the* faces of men; and they had hair like women’s hair; and their teeth were like *those* of lions. And they had breastplates like iron breastplates; and the sound of their wings *was* like *the* sound of chariots *drawn* by many horses running to war” (vs 7-9).

This is a phenomenal weapon that they have, going out and paralyzing everyone who gets it. They can’t do anything for five months!

Verse 10: “And they had tails like scorpions, and stingers; and they were *given* power to injure men with their tails *for* five months. And **they have over them a king, the angel of the abyss...**” (vs 10-11).

Who is the angel of the abyss? *None other than Satan the devil!*

“...his name in Hebrew *is* Abaddon, but the name he has in Greek *is* Apollyon. **The first woe is past. Behold, after these things two more woes are still to come.**” And **the sixth angel sounded his trumpet;** and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar that *is* before God; *and* it said to the sixth angel, who had the trumpet, **‘Loose the four angels who are bound in the great River Euphrates’**” (vs 11-14).

Imagine that! Four demons bound somewhere in the great River Euphrates! They’re there now, but they can’t get out until this time in the future when it’s time for them to come out.

Verse 15: “Then the four angels, who had been prepared for the hour and day and month and year...”

Does God fulfill things according to **His** schedule? *Yes, indeed! It’s going to happen!*

“...were loosed, so that they might kill a third of men” (v 15).

That is going to be the greatest slaughter up until that time that has ever been in the history of the world!

As we go through how bad and how terrible these things are, let’s look back at the time ***when the world was so bad that everyone’s thoughts were only evil continually!*** That’s why the Flood had to come and destroy everything on the earth except what God saved with Noah and his family in the ark.

When it comes time for God to act, He’s going to act! He will have all the armies, all the

mechanisms, everything all ready to go! The angels ready to go! Notice how huge that these armies are going to be. If you think China is rising to the height right now, you have seen nothing, yet! It’s going to get greater and bigger and more powerful than anything has ever been, along with the different nations of the East.

Think about this a minute: these armies are so many that they will be strung back from the River Euphrates all the way to the East!

Verse 16: “And the number of *the* armies of the horsemen *was* two hundred thousand thousand... [200-million] ...and I heard the number of them.”

It says *armies*; you can’t have ***an army*** of 200-million, you have an army here, and here and here. You need millions of soldiers and millions of those backing up with supplies and everything ready to go, all the implements of war. The only place that this can come is from the East.

Verse 17: “And so, I saw the horses in the vision, and those sitting on them, who had fiery breastplates, even like jacinth and brimstone. And the heads of the horses *were* like heads of lions, and fire and smoke and brimstone shoot out of their mouths.”

People have wondered if these are going to be like robots. No, I don’t think so. Robots can be done in very easily. Men, if they’re highly protected, can endure quite a few things.

Joel 2 talks about this is ***God’s*** army! They come and they’re powerful and everything before them is subdued and destroyed.

Verse 18: “By these three a third of men were killed...”

A total of two-thirds of men being killed up to this point. So the earth is going to be decimated of people; stacks of corpses and bodies everywhere.

“...by the fire and the smoke and the brimstone that shoot out of their mouths. For their power is in their mouths; for their tails *are* like serpents, *and* have heads, and with them they inflict wounds” (vs 18-19).

This is going to be an awesome thing when all of them have this power and it’s released on the earth. Notice that it’s talking about men, not robots:

Verse 20: “But the rest of the men who were not killed by these plagues **still did not repent of the works of their hands...**”

So, through all of this God is looking for any to repent!

- Are they going to turn from their evil?
- Are they going to recognize that God is involved in this?

“...that they might not worship demons, and idols of gold and silver and brass and stone and wood, which do not have the power to see, nor to hear, nor to walk. And they did not repent of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornications, nor of their thievery” (vs 20-21).

Rev. 10 is a very short, but very interesting chapter, because the angel who had the seven thunders was ready to release them and John was ready to write it down. Then a voice came from heaven and said, ‘Don’t write them down.’ ***This means that no one knows what the seven thunders will be!***

There are some men who claim that they know, but they don’t! they go back into the seals and the trumpet plagues and draw from that and say that that’s what the seven thunders will be. ***We don’t know!***

John didn’t know, but he had to take a little book from the hand of the great angel who stood with one foot on the earth and one foot in the ocean. He was told to take an eat it, that it will be sweet in your mouth and bitter in your belly. So he did! The message was this:

Revelation 10:10: “Then I took the little book out of the angel’s hand, and ate it; and it was sweet as honey in my mouth; but after I ate it, my belly was bitter. And he said to me, ‘You must again prophesy against many people, and nations, and languages and kings’” (vs 10-11).

Whoever is left! Two-thirds of men will die up to this point. That means—if there are at that time 9-billion people on the earth—3-billion are still left. The message of repentance must go out! How that will happen, *we do not know!* But it will happen!

Rev. 11—the two witnesses. The key to this is that the two witnesses prophesy for 1,260 days. They’re the first two raised on the last Pentecost. The seventh trumpet sounds when they’re being raised. All the rest of the dead are resurrected and we who are alive are carried up and we’re taken to the Sea of Glass!

When we get on the Sea of Glass we’re going to see a marvelous thing! We’ve already covered everything that’s going to happen on the Sea of Glass.

There are the seven angels with the seven last plagues:

Revelation 15:1: Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and awesome: seven angels having the seven last plagues, for in them the wrath of God is filled up.”

They are the assigned the seven last plagues, but they don’t get them until you come to v 5; they have to be given the plagues in the vials so they can pour them out.

Verse 5: “And after these things...”—*everything on the Sea of Glass!*

Tie in Rev. 19 and the three hallelujahs of celebration that we’re born into the Kingdom of God, that the wedding supper of the Lamb is taking place and the marriage of the Lamb and His wife takes place. Everybody makes themselves ready. That will last from Pentecost to Trumpets.

Verse 6: “And the seven angels who had the seven *last* plagues came out of the temple; they were clothed in linen, pure and bright, and girded about the chest with golden breastplates. And one of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden vials, full of the wrath of God, Who lives into the ages of eternity” (vs 6-7). *That’s the seven last plagues!*

Verse 8: “And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God, and from His power; and no one was able to enter inside the temple until the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled.”

Now here is the last devastation of the earth. All of these plagues that come are devastating! It’s going to be a finality of war. Yes, there will be some of the 200-million who don’t die of these things. When we come down from the Sea of Glass ***then we’re all going to fight against all of them, and the beast and false prophet will be taken!*** But first all the seven last plagues come out”

Revelation 16:2: “And **the first angel went and poured out his vial onto the earth;** and an evil and grievous sore fell upon the men who had the mark of the beast, and upon those who were worshiping his image. And **the second angel went and poured out his vial into the sea;** and it became blood, like *that* of a dead man; **and every living soul** in the sea died” (vs 2-3)—*souls die!*

Verse 4: “And **the third angel poured out his vial upon the rivers,** and into the fountains of waters; and they became blood.”

Go back to the other ones and it was poured out there, but then the waters started flowing again and it cleared up. Now we have the same thing here. Everything cleared up and now they’re going to be

turned into blood.

Verse 5: “Then I heard the angel of the waters say, ‘You are righteous, O Lord, Who are, and Who was, even the Holy One, in that You have executed this judgment. For they have poured out *the* blood of saints and of prophets, and You have given them blood to drink; for they are worthy.’” (vs 5-6).

Verse 7: “And I heard another *voice* from the altar say, ‘Yes, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous *are* Your judgments.’”

Verse 8: “And **the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun**; and *power* was given to it to scorch men with fire...[extreme heat blasting from the sun] ...Then men were scorched with great heat; and they blasphemed the name of God, Who has authority over these plagues, and did not repent to give Him glory. And **the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the throne of the beast**; and his kingdom became full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues because of the pain, and blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores; **yet, they did not repent of their works**” (vs 8-11).

Verse 12: “And **the sixth angel poured out his vial into the great River Euphrates**; and its waters were dried up, so that the way of the kings from the rising of *the* sun might be prepared.”

So that they could come, and he’s going to gather them to Armageddon. But because of everything that happened, they’ve got to be convinced that they can win. That they can turn back this invasion of the aliens to take over the earth. This means that all the Chinese, all the Indians, all the remnant of the armies of the 200-million—we don’t know how many that will be—are going to come and have to be persuaded. So, here’s what Satan does:

Verse 13: “Then I saw three unclean spirits like frogs *come* out of the mouth of the dragon... [Satan the devil] ...and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet; for they are spirits of demons working miracles, going forth to the kings of the earth, even of the whole world... [how long that takes we don’t know, but it’s going to happen] ...to gather them together to *the* battle of that great day of the Almighty God” (vs 13-14).

Here’s a little inset verse for all of us to take warning and take heed!

Verse 15: “Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed *is* the one who is watching and is keeping his garments, so that he may not walk naked and they *may not* see his shame.”

Tie that in with the Laodiceans; poor, blind and naked! So, here’s a warning! Now it comes back to the gathering of the armies:

Verse 16: “And he gathered them together to the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon. Then the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and a loud voice came out of the temple of heaven, from the Throne, saying, ‘IT IS FINISHED.’ And there were voices and thunders and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were on the earth, so mighty an earthquake, *and* so great” (vs 16-18).

Think about what we’re going to have to do to help clean up this world:

- with all these dead people
- with all these broken buildings
- with everything shattered and tuned upside down
- with everyone’s mind and emotions absolutely shot because of the shock that is coming upon the whole world

Verse 19: “And the great city was divided into three parts; and the cities of the nations fell; and Babylon the Great was remembered before God to give her the cup of the wine of the fury of His wrath. And every island disappeared, and no mountains were found... [right there in the area] ...and great hail, *each stone* the weight of a talent, fell down from heaven upon men; and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail, for the plague was exceedingly great” (vs 19-21).

Everything is all done in heaven; we’ve all been instructed. We know what we’re going to do, we’re given our white horses and we’re to follow Christ down for the final battle that is going to finish off the battle there.

Revelation 19:11: “And I saw heaven open; and behold, a white horse; and He Who sat on it *is* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He does judge and make war. And His eyes *were* like a flame of fire, and on His head *were* many crowns; *and* He had a name written that no one knows except Him. And *He was* clothed with a garment dipped in blood; and His name is The Word of God” (vs 11-13)—*tie in John 1:1!*

Verse 14: “And the armies in heaven were following Him on white horses...”—*that’s us!*

It’s not some old nag; it’s a brand new white horse ready to go. We’ve learned how to ride it. Here we come with Christ down to the earth.

“...*and* they were clothed in fine linen,

white and pure. And out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He might smite the nations; and He shall shepherd them with an iron rod; and He treads the winepress of the fury and the wrath of the Almighty God. And on *His* garment and on His thigh He has a name written: King of kings and Lord of lords” (vs 14-16).

We’re kings and priests under Christ. Here comes the Government of God on earth. Jesus Christ and all of the saints direct from God the Father from heaven above; right from the Temple of God right down to the earth. ***Here we come!***

Verse 17: “Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried out with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in *the* midst of heaven, ‘Come and gather yourselves together to the supper of the great God.’”

We’re going to see what’s going to happen to the flesh of all of those that come to fight this last thrust of Christ, as Christ and the saints come to the earth.

Verse 18: “So that you may eat *the* flesh of kings, and *the* flesh of chief captains, and *the* flesh of mighty *men*, and *the* flesh of horses, and of those who sit on them, and *the* flesh of all, free and bond, and small and great.”

In other words, God’s going to clean up the mess with all of these birds eating the flesh. Can’t you just hear the noise? We’re coming down this way, and here come all the buzzards, vultures and ravens from everywhere in the world gathering. They come down and look down on the earth and see all of these corpses and the flesh and they say, ‘Let’s go eat!’

Verse 19: “And I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies, gathered together to make war with Him Who sits on the horse, and with His army. And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet who worked miracles in his presence, by which he had deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. **Those two were cast alive into the Lake of Fire, which burns with brimstone;** and the rest were killed by the sword of Him Who sits on the horse, *even the sword* that goes out of His mouth; and all the birds were filled with their flesh” (vs 19-21).

Zech. 14: Here we are coming back to the earth; here is a prophecy of it over 2,000 years before it occurred.

Zechariah 14:1: “Behold, the Day of the LORD comes, and your spoil shall be divided in your midst, ‘For I will gather all nations to battle

against Jerusalem...” (vs 1-2).

Where did we begin? *Speak unto Jerusalem, that her warfare is accomplished!*

“...and the city shall be taken, and the houses plundered, and the women raped. And half of the city shall go into exile, and the rest of the people shall not be cut off from the city.’ And the LORD shall go out and fight against those nations, as when He fought in the day of battle.... [tie in Rev. 19] ...And **His feet shall stand in that day upon the Mount of Olives...**” (vs 2-4).

The same mountain from which He ascended to go to God the Father after He was resurrected and went to present Himself to the Father.

“...which *is* before Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives shall split in two, from the east and to the west, and make a very great valley. And half of the mountain shall move toward the north, and half of it toward the south” (v 4).

This is whole change in geography there; something you would never expect, but it’s going to take place.

Verse 5: “And you shall flee to the valley of My mountains; for the valley of the mountains shall reach to Azal. And you shall flee as you fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah.’ And the LORD my God shall come, and all the saints with You. And it shall come to pass in that day, that the light shall not be clear, nor dark. And it will be one day, which shall be known to the LORD, neither day nor night; but it shall come to pass that at evening time it shall be light. And it shall be in that day, that living waters shall go out from Jerusalem; half of them shall go toward the eastern sea, and half of them toward the western sea. In summer and in winter it shall be. **And the LORD shall be King over all the earth; in that day there shall be one LORD, and His name shall be one**” (vs 5-9).

Now here’s the plague that is going to come on all of those in Rev. 19:

Verse 12: “And this shall be the plague with which the LORD will smite all the people who have fought against Jerusalem. Their flesh shall consume away while they stand on their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their sockets. And their tongue shall consume away in their mouth. And it shall be in that day *that* a great panic from the LORD shall be among them. And they shall each one lay hold of his neighbor, and his hand shall rise up against the hand of his neighbor. And Judah also shall fight at Jerusalem; and the wealth of all the

nations all around shall be gathered—gold, and silver, and clothing in great abundance” (vs 12-14).

Yes, indeed! Everything is going to be made right at that time.

Verse 15: And likewise shall be the plague of the horse, the mule, the camel, and the donkey, and of all the beasts which shall be in these camps— *it shall be as this plague.*”

Then it gets into they’re going to start keeping the Feast of Tabernacles. What does the Feast of Tabernacles picture? *The Government of God and the Church of God on the whole earth!* But there’s one thing yet that has to happen before this can be fulfilled.

That one thing comes on the Day of Atonement. So, we will continue the rest of the story on that day!

Scriptural References:

- 1) Leviticus 23:23-25
- 2) Isaiah 40:1-8
- 3) Isaiah 2:9-21
- 4) Haggai 2:6-7, 20-22
- 5) Isaiah 24:1-6
- 6) Isaiah 13:1-13
- 7) Jeremiah 25:13-17, 26-29, 26, 30-35
- 8) Revelation 6:12-14, 16-17
- 9) Revelation 8:1-13
- 10) Revelation 9:1-21
- 11) Revelation 10:10-11
- 12) Revelation 15:1, 5-8
- 13) Revelation 16:2-21
- 14) Revelation 19:11-21
- 15) Zechariah 14:1-9, 12-15

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Matthew 24
- Psalm 39
- Ezekiel 40-48
- Malachi 4
- Hosea 5; 6
- Joel 2
- Revelation 11
- John 1:1

Also referenced:

- Book: *God’s Plan For Mankind Revealed by His Sabbath and Holy Days* by Fred R. Coulter
- In-Depth Study: *Daniel/Revelation*

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How Satan Works to Deceive

(Day of Atonement)

The true meaning of the Day of Atonement, and the mystery of the two goats!

Fred R. Coulter—October 5, 2022

Greetings, everyone! Welcome to the Day of Atonement!

This is a fast day, as you know, and is one of the most important Feast days of God, because this takes place just before the Millennium begins.

So, we have the meaning of Atonement that is given here in Lev. 23 and Lev. 16, and we will cover that. However, just like all the Holy Days, all of them have prophetic meaning, which is not in display in Lev. 23 or Lev. 16.

We will see that the understanding of the main part of Lev. 16 is clear at the end. So, there are a lot of things that have to be put together.

Leviticus 23:26: “And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying.”

Another thing that’s always important: *The Words of God are true!* The words of God, as we speak them in teaching, have got to be according to what God has given. So, we need to keep this in mind as we go through the Day of Atonement.

Verse 27: “Also, on the tenth *day* of this seventh month is the Day of Atonement. *It shall be a Holy convocation to you. And you shall **afflict your souls** and offer an offering made by fire to the LORD.*”

“...**afflict your souls**...” also means *to fast!* We will see that **afflict, humble, fast and cleanse are all part of the Day of Atonement!**

Verse 28: “And you shall do no work in that same day, for it *is* the Day of Atonement, in order to make an atonement for you before the LORD your God.”

Listen to the next verse very carefully, because this fasting applies to everyone individually, and to the whole congregation collectively. This we do together! God says that this is so important in fasting:

Verse 29: “For whoever is not afflicted in that same day, he **shall be cut off** from among his people.”

To be cut off means that **God’s blessings have been withdrawn!**

Verse 30: “And whoever does any work in that same day, the same one **will I destroy** from among his people.”

Those are some pretty strong words! We have no other place in the Bible that it comes on quite as strong as this in declaring it twice!

Verse 31: “You shall do no manner of work. *It shall be a statute forever throughout your generations in all your dwellings.*” *Everywhere!*

That’s going to apply to the whole world before the Millennium begins.

Verse 32: “*It shall be to you a Sabbath of rest, and you shall afflict yourselves. In the ninth day of the month at sunset, from sunset to sunset, you shall keep your Sabbath.*”

Of course, from sunset to sunset means *every Sabbath is kept from sundown to sundown; sunset to sunset!*

The Day of Atonement is particularly important! The timing is particularly important because God emphasizes it in the way that He does here so that everyone, all of Israel and for us—each of us individually and the whole Church combined—**will be fasting together for God!**

So, it becomes very important! He also said that you shall “...offer an offering made by fire to the LORD” (v 27).

Today, you know that we take up offerings instead!

(pause for the offering)

Thank you, brethren, for your offering, and your tithes and offerings in every instance that you send them. We use them to serve the brethren, to preach the Truth and to make God’s Word clear and available to everyone.

Let’s come to a detailed explanation of what was to happen on the Day of Atonement. We will see some very important things as we go along. Then we will also see a mystery and none of those are explained in Lev. 16.

This is really important, because this is the only day of the year that the high priest went into the Holy of Holies in the tabernacle or temple. He could not approach God until he offered a sin offering for himself and all the rest of the priests and a burnt offering, which shows complete dedication to God. So, God starts with the high priest and then goes down the line to all the rest of the children of Israel.

But you cannot cleanse the people until you cleanse first the high priest and all the Levites. So, the first part of Lev. 16 covers that.

Leviticus 16:1: “And the LORD spoke to Moses after the death of the two sons of Aaron, when they offered before the LORD and they died.”

What did they offer? *Strange fire!* Here’s a big lesson for us to learn: **We must adhere to the words of God!** There is no room for a substitute. There is no room for personal opinion! The Word of God must be preached ***in truth and honesty always!***

Verse 2: “And the LORD said to Moses, ‘Speak to Aaron your brother, that he does not come at all times into the sanctuary within the veil before the mercy seat, which is on the ark, **so that he does not die...**’”

Think about that for a minute! What is the wages of sin? *Death!* If you come into the presence of God ***without doing it His way***—especially on the Day of Atonement—***it will be death instantly!***

The priest had another practice: on the Day of Atonement the priest would also be bound around his waist with a rope, and the rope would extend out past the entrance of going into the Holy of Holies. They did this in case the priest did something wrong in the Holy of Holies and was killed by God for his sin.

That’s one thing that’s missing today! ***People do not take God for what He says***; they want to have ***their own*** ideas, ***their own*** interpretations. Here on the Day of Atonement we must follow everything exactly and see what they did at the temple. Then we will see:

- how this applies ***to us***
- how it applies ***to the Church***
- how it applies ***to the world***
- how it applies ***to the whole problem of sin***

“...for I will appear in the cloud over the mercy seat. Aaron shall come into the sanctuary this way... [he’s not to come any other way] ...with a young bull, for a sin offering, and a ram for a burnt offering. He shall put on the Holy linen coat, and he shall have the linen breeches on his flesh, and shall be girded with a linen girdle, and with the linen miter he shall be dressed. ***These are Holy garments.*** And he shall wash his flesh in water and put them on” (vs 2-4).

We will see that this is for the forgiveness of sin for the priest and priesthood so that God could deal with them and that they could deal with the people.

Now, here’s the thing that has caused a lot of problems: ***the two goats!*** Let’s read about them

and read what it says ***according to God’s instruction*** and find out how they were to approach God. This is very unusual, so let’s read on:

Verse 5: “And he shall take from the congregation of the children of Israel two kids of the goats for a sin offering, and one ram for a burnt offering. And Aaron shall offer his young bull of the sin offering, which is for himself, and make an atonement for himself and for his house. And he shall take the two goats and present them before the LORD **at the door of the tabernacle** of the congregation” (vs 5-7).

This is the first door. You don’t go into the Holy place, which is next or into the Holy of Holies, which is the inner part.

Verse 8: “And Aaron shall cast lots on the two goats; **one lot for the LORD** and **the other lot for Azazel.**” *That’s where the mystery comes!*

- What is Azazel?
- Who is Azazel?

Since many people believe that both of these goats represent Jesus in the prophetic and literal fulfillment:

- Why is there a casting of lots?

If they both represented symbolically Jesus Christ, and what He would do:

- Why cast lots?

We will get to Azazel in a little bit! It’s not only a name of a high-ranking demon, it’s probably a name of Satan the devil and Azazel means *the one to depart!* There’s a special reason why it has it that way, and we will see. The answer we find in the rest of the Bible.

Verse 9: And Aaron shall bring the goat on which the LORD’S lot fell, and offer it for a sin offering.” ***All offerings for sin are sacrificed!*** But notice this:

Verse 10: “But the goat on which the lot fell for Azazel shall be presented alive before the LORD...”

- Why alive?
- What is the meaning of that?

“...to make an atonement upon it and sent away into the wilderness for Azazel” (v 10).

When it was removed, it was removed away from all people. We will see the significance of that a little later. After he makes atonement for himself and for his household:

Verse 15: “Then he shall kill the goat of the

sin offering that is for the people, and **bring its blood inside the veil...**”

That’s the only time that the sin offering for the people is brought is brought inside the Holy of Holies.

“...And he shall do with that blood as he did with the blood of the young bull, and sprinkle it on the mercy seat and before the mercy seat. And he shall make an atonement...” (vs 15-16).

Listen carefully! Let’s understand what happens with this offering of the goat as a sin offering and the sprinkling of the blood.

Verse 16: “And he shall make an atonement **for the sanctuary...** [everything at the temple area] ...because of **the uncleanness of the children of Israel...** [for all of their sins] ...and because of **their transgressions in all their sins...**”

IF the sin offering is offered and the blood is sprinkled in the Holy of Holies for the remission of these sins—or covering these sins—**and all their transgressions...**

We’re going to see that this goat with the sacrifice is a type of Christ. When we have our sins forgiven before God the Father in heaven above through Jesus Christ and His sacrifice, our sins have been forgiven!

“...And so he shall do for the tabernacle of the congregation, which remains with them in the midst of their uncleanness. And there shall be no man in the tabernacle of the congregation when he goes in to make an atonement in the sanctuary until he comes out and has made an atonement for himself, and for his household, and for all the congregation of Israel” (vs 16-17).

Clean sweep of all sin! All laid upon the goat that was slain!

Now we come to the other goat. How do we answer that?

- we need to understand about sin, so we will examine about sin
- we need to understand about Satan the devil
- we need to understand how even today we’re confronted with things that are sin

Though we’re not directly participating in them, we are affected by them!

Verse 20: “And when he has made an end of reconciling the sanctuary and the tabernacle of the congregation and the altar, he shall bring the live goat.”

The only place where a live goat is brought to have sins confessed over it!

*Since all the sins have already been forgiven to the priesthood, the high priest, the Levites and the people, **covered by the blood of the goat that was slain** and the blood was sprinkled in the Holy of Holies, **directly to God!***

- Why the live goat. *This is the mystery!*

Some people say that it’s Jesus who takes our sins away. Well, if our sins have been forgiven, they’ve already been removed!

- Why lay upon the live goat—and not kill it for a sin offering—for all the sins of the people, too?
- Are there sins that we do that Satan interferes in our life and we sin? *He’s the author of sin we will find out, and yes there are!*

Here’s what Aaron was to do with the live goat:

Verse 21: “And Aaron shall lay both his hands on the head of the live goat, and confess over him all the sins of the children of Israel, and all their transgressions in all their sins, putting them on the head of the goat, and shall send *it* away by the hand of a chosen man into the wilderness. And the goat shall bear upon him all their iniquities to a land in which no one lives. And he shall let the goat go in the wilderness” (vs 21-22).

Let’s talk about sin for a little bit. Where does sin come from? *Sin is the transgression of the Law!* Sin is also not obeying the voice of God! So, it has to do with whatever He says, as well. If God speaks, ***it is!***

Let’s go back to Adam and Eve in the Garden. How long Adam and Eve were taught by God before the serpent was let loose, *we don’t know!* But God had to have instructed them completely so they could make a choice. You can’t make a choice unless you know the facts. So, we’re not told how long.

Satan becomes the author of all sin!

Genesis 3:1: “Now, the serpent was more cunning than any creature of the field, which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, ***‘Is it true that God has said,*** “You shall not eat of any tree of the garden?”” **Isn’t that the way it always comes along?**

- people question God
- don’t believe God
- reject God
- then blame Him for everything else

The woman answered correctly:

Verse 2: “And the woman said to the serpent, ‘We may freely eat the fruit of the trees of the garden, but of the fruit of the tree which *is* in the middle of the garden, God has *indeed* said, “You shall not eat of it, neither shall you touch it, lest you die”’” (vs 2-3). *The wages of sin is death!* **IF** God has said it:

- that’s the voice of God
- that’s the Law of God
- that’s the commandment of God

Verse 4: “And the serpent said to the woman, ‘In dying, you shall not surely die!’” *Contradicting God!*

When you sin, do you die immediately? *No, you don’t!* So, Satan is lying in saying that you shall not surely die! It doesn’t matter how long you live, when you come to a certain point where you die, you die! So, God set *no time parameters* on this.

Verse 5: “For God knows that in the day you eat of it, then your eyes shall be opened, and you shall be like God, deciding good and evil.”

This tells us that Adam and Eve had to have enough knowledge of good and evil, right and wrong, of what to do and what not to do. They were free moral agents and could choose to follow God, believe God and keep His Word. If they chose to go their own way that’s a different thing. Let’s understand how this transpired, because this affects all of us today.

“...deciding good and evil”—*you can make up your own mind what’s good and evil, you don’t have to listen to God!*

How many people do that today? *I don’t believe in God, the Bible is full of lies!* The reason it’s full of lies is because you don’t obey the God to have understanding! There are no lies in it! **But they’re lies to the ungodly because they don’t believe it!** They want to live their way, do their way and do their thing!

Now, looks can be deceiving! Things that sound good to start with may not end up being good in the long run!

Verse 6: “And when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, and that it was pleasing to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make *one* wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.”

At the point that she picked it, Adam could have said, ‘Eve! Drop that fruit, don’t touch it! Get

away from it!’ **Then we would not have the penalty of Adam passed on to all his descendants!** It says, ‘By one man, sin entered into the world! So, Eve was deceived and she picked the fruit and ate. **But Adam could have stopped it right at that point, because he was the head of his wife!**

Verse 7: “And the eyes of both of them were opened...” *Not opened to see good, but opened to see evil!*

“...and they knew that they *were* naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves. And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day. Then Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden” (vs 7-8). **You can’t hide from God anywhere!**

Notice that God knew what happened! He understood what was going on.

Verse 9: “And the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, ‘Where *are* you?’ And he said, ‘I heard You *walking* in the garden, and I was afraid because I *am* naked, and *so* I hid myself.’ And He said, ‘**Who told you that you were naked?....**’” (vs 9-11).

Isn’t that something? *Spiritually, that means no protection from sin!*

“...Have you eaten of the tree, which I commanded you that you should not eat?’ And the man said...” (v 11-12).

Rather than repent; like everything else, blame someone else. So, in effect, Adam **blamed God!**

Verse 12: “And the man said, ‘The woman whom You gave *to be* with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate.’ And the LORD God said to the woman, ‘What *is* this you have done?’ And the woman said, ‘The serpent deceived me, and I ate’” (vs 12-13).

The moral of this whole lesson is that ***we are responsible when it comes to the words of God, the Laws of God, to do them properly!***

Verse 14: “And the LORD God said to the serpent, ‘Because you have done this, you *are* cursed above all livestock, and above every animal of the field. You shall go upon your belly, and you shall eat dust all the days of your life.’”

- Does God judge Satan? **Yes!**
- Was this sin inspired by Satan? **Yes!**
- Did Adam and Eve have the responsibility to make the right choice? **Yes!**

- Did they make the right choice? **No!**
- Who is involved in the sin? **Satan, Eve and Adam!**

That helps us to begin to unlock the mystery of the goat for Azazel!

Verse 15: “And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed... [a prophecy of Christ coming as the Sacrifice for the sins of the world] ...He will bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.”

Look at the world today! Is the world suffering from the penalty of sin because they're going their own way? *We will see who is responsible for that!*

Verse 16: “To the woman He said, ‘I will greatly increase your sorrow and your conception—in sorrow shall you bring forth children. Your desire shall be toward your husband, and he shall rule over you.’”

Verse 17: “And to Adam He said, ‘Because you have hearkened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree—of which I commanded you, saying, “You shall not eat of it!”—the ground is cursed for your sake. In sorrow shall you eat of it all the days of your life.’” **Sorrow for both!**

Verse 18: “It shall also bring forth thorns and thistles to you, and *thus* you shall eat the herbs of the field; in the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for dust you *are*, and to dust you shall return” (vs 18-19). *That's the same that happens to all!*

It says that ‘in Adam’ we all die! It also says that we're going to be judged! Let's begin to answer the question about the lies of Satan that affects humanity, and they sin. He sins in causing people to sin. When they choose to sin, they're responsible for their choices. Is Satan going to get off scot-free? **No!**

This is why we need the whole Bible, because not everything is contained in one place. The explanation of some of these things are very detailed, and some of them are not explained until you get to Rev. 20.

Listen! **Satan**—whether we know it or not—**is involved in all human sin!** If people don't repent and commit the unpardonable sin lose their life, what's going to happen to Satan who started it all?

1-John 3:8: “The one who practices sin **is of the devil...**”

The devil is involved! That's what we're going to see the live goat of Lev. 16 takes care of.

- **It does represent Satan!**
- **It does have connection with sin!**

Verse 8: “The one who practices sin is of the devil **because the devil has been sinning from the beginning...**”

What was the devil's first sin? **To cause a third of the angels to rebel against God and follow him, who wanted to be like the Most High!** We will find some other things about Satan here in just a minute.

“...For this purpose the Son of God appeared that **He might destroy the works of the devil**” (v 8).

What are the works of Satan?

- causing the angels to sin
- causing mankind to sin

1-John 5:17: “All unrighteousness is sin, and there is **a sin not unto death.**” *In other words, a sin that can be repented of!*

Verse 18: “We know that anyone who is begotten by God does not *practice* sin...” *Notice that it **doesn't say does not sin!***

- does not practice it
- does not live in it

“...for the one who has been begotten by God keeps himself *by the power of God*, and **the wicked one** does not touch him” (v 18).

Who is the wicked one? *Satan the devil!*

Brethren, this is why we pray every day! What do we say? *Deliver us from the evil one!*

Verse 19: “We know that we are of God, and that **the whole world lies in the power of the wicked one.**”

- Is he responsible for all the sins in the world, everywhere in the world? **Yes!**
- Are all the people sinning and have their own responsibility in the sins that they sin, the choices that they make? **Yes!**

Let's read a verse that we have probably read many, many times over to show that Satan is the author of sin, and is involved in all the sins of everybody from the time of Adam and Eve clear down to the return of Jesus Christ. We need to understand that. God is righteous and judge, **and all of those sins will be put on Satan the devil! That's what the goat of Azazel is all about,** as we will see!

Revelation 12:9: “And the great dragon was

cast out... [tie in with serpent in Gen. 3] ...the ancient serpent who is called the Devil and Satan, who is **deceiving the whole world...**”

That means *the whole world at any one time, but the whole world down through time*, as well.

- Do you think God is not going to judge for the sins of Satan?
- Do you not think that God is going to lay those on Satan the devil?

Some people say that the goat of Azazel has nothing to do with Satan! Well, the answer is comes from reading the prophecies and understanding. Here’s part of it right here. Notice what God does:

“...he [Satan] was cast down to the earth, and his angels were cast down with him. And I heard a great voice in heaven say, ‘Now has come the salvation and the power and the Kingdom of our God, and the authority of His Christ because **the accuser** of our brethren...

Satan accuses us! Satan has access to God! That’s why ***the goat is brought to the door!*** He’s not brought inside; he’s is brought to the door, because he has access to God!

“...**the accuser** of our brethren has been cast down, **who accuses them day and night before our God**” (v 10)—*think on that!*

This is what Satan is actively doing all of the time! How many times do we go about our business and we don’t understand the difficulties and problems of the things that are there. How many times that we come along and we do things that are not really right with God, because:

- it looks right
- sounds right
- appears right

But it’s not right! We find out afterward that’s sin and we have to repent!

(break@45:13)

We will see that Satan has access to God, and gets permission from God to do things.

Job 1:5: “And when the days of feasting were concluded, Job sent and sanctified them, and rose up early in the morning and offered burnt offerings *according to* the number of them all. For Job said, ‘It may be that my sons have sinned and cursed God in their hearts.’ Thus Job continually did so.”

Let’s understand that ***you cannot forgive someone else’s sins!*** Even if you offer offerings for them, ***if there is no repentance by the person***

involved in confessing his own sins! When a sin offering is made the sinner had to make the offering and lay his hand on the goat that was the ‘atonement goat’ for his sins, and confess his sins!

Just like with us today. ***If we don’t confess our sins, there’s no forgiveness!*** Lot’s of times we do things that are sins and really don’t understand that they are sins until after we have done them. ***We still repent!***

Verse 6: “Now, there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD. And Satan also came among them. And the LORD said to Satan, ‘From where do you come?’ Then Satan answered the LORD and said, ‘From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it’” (vs 6-7).

Yes, Satan is going around seeing who he can get to sin!

Verse 8: “And the LORD said to Satan, ‘Have you considered My servant Job, that *there is* none like him in the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and turns away from evil?’”

Why did God try him in the way that He did? ***Because Job was so righteous that he didn’t give God the credit for righteousness!*** Job worshipped himself and his works, ***and thought that he was more righteous than God!*** This is why God did it.

But the point here is that ***God and Satan converse!*** What does it say in Rev. 9:10? ***Satan accuses us day and night before God!*** So, this is what Satan did here; you know the rest of the story. Now, let’s see what else Satan does; Satan can do a lot of things!

Mark 4:14: “The sower sows the Word. Now the ones by the way, where the Word was sown, **these are the ones who hear, but Satan comes at once and takes away the Word** that was sown in their hearts” (vs 14-15).

- Is that not a sin against those people?
- Is Satan not going to have bear His own sins?

It was a sin for the person to turn away from God, but Satan was the one who inspired it! Let’s see what else Satan does that is *his sin!* And the people who follow along with it are sinning, because Satan has interfered in their life and caused them to sin.

2-Cor. 4 tells us a lot of what has to be with the ministry and what we do. I’m here to tell you brethren, and all of the elders altogether, ***we all have a responsibility to God to:***

- ***uphold the Truth***
- ***preach the Truth***
- ***teach the Truth***

Not our own ideas! That's why as I've shown you that I have a cowbell. Because if you think about something ***it may or may not be right!***

When I preach and I think of something that I don't understand or whatever, I ring the cowbell to let people know that this is not the dogma of the Word of God! Here's what Paul says along that line:

2-Corinthians 4:1: "Therefore, having this ministry, according as we have received mercy, we are not fainthearted. For **we have personally renounced** the hidden things of **dishonest gain**..." (vs 1-2).

Where did *dishonest gain* come from? *Satan the devil!*

"...not walking in **cunning craftiness**... [that's from Satan the devil] ...nor **handling the Word of God deceitfully**... [that comes from Satan the devil] ...but by manifestation of the Truth..." (v 2).

We must be strong for the Truth; not our ideas, not our thoughts—none of those matter.

- **Who are we to tell God what to do?**
- **Who is anyone to tell God what to do?**
- **Who is anyone to take the Word of God and make it into something that it isn't?**

"...we are commending ourselves to every man's conscience before God. But if our Gospel is hidden, it is hidden to those who are perishing" (vs 2-3).

How is it hidden? *By the sin of Satan the devil in the lives of those who were doing that!*

Verse 4: "In whom the **god** of this age..." *Here Satan is called 'theos'; same word for God!*

- that's why we have two identical goats
- that's why ***God makes the choice for His sacrifice*** for the sins of the people

He lays that upon the head of the goat for the sacrifice for sin, and that's a type of Christ Who... we will see that in a minute

Verse 4: "In whom the **god** of this age **has blinded the minds of those who do not believe**..."

If you don't believe the Word of God, and if you change the Word of God, and ***if you manufacture something out of the Word of God***—which is not true—***you are sinning!*** I don't care:

- who you are

- where you are
- what's your position is

It makes no difference!

"...lest the Light of the Gospel of the glory of Christ, Who is *the* image of God, should shine unto them. For we do not preach our own selves, but Christ Jesus *the* Lord, and ourselves your servants..." (v 4-5).

There's how Satan works! He blinds and that's sinning!

Eph. 2 is important! Remember that it says that ***Satan has deceived the whole world***, and that the whole world is in the power of the evil one: ***Satan the devil!***

- How does he do that?
- How does that still affect our lives even today?

Think about it for a minute!

- How much do we have in our mind, especially today with all digital, visual and all of the things that we have today?

*That's why Satan is called **the prince of the power of the air!***

- What is he busy doing?
 - ✓ it says that the whole world lies in the power of the wicked one
 - ✓ it says that the whole world is deceived by him
- How about us? *He wants to come after us!*

Ephesians 2:1: "Now, you were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you walked in times past according to the course of this world, according to **the prince of the power of the air**... [Satan the devil] ...**the spirit**... [a spiritual operation] ...**that is now working within the children of disobedience**" (vs 1-2).

What is Satan doing? *He's broadcasting things!* He's appealing things! Look at what he has to work with:

- television
- internet
- face book

All of these things, and we have so much sin surrounding us, it's amazing that we can keep the commandments of God.

Verse 3: "Among whom also we all once had our conduct in the lusts of our flesh, doing the things willed by the flesh..." *Oh, that's a good idea!*

Just because you think of it doesn't mean that it's anything.

“...and by the mind, and were by nature *the* children of wrath, even as the rest of *the world*” (v 3). *That’s how Satan works!* That’s what we are to be on guard against!

I want you to remember that in Rev. 2 & 3 that Satan is involved in coming after every single Church!

- that’s why we have the Day of Atonement
- that’s why we fast
- that’s why the goat for Azazel is Satan

So, his final judgment will be upon him for all his sins!

Ephesians 6:10: “Finally, my brethren, be strong in *the* Lord...”

That’s what we need to do. What age do we have today. Oh we have the compromised Laodiceans. How many of them are really converted, only God knows.

“...be strong in *the* Lord and in the might of His strength. **Put on the whole armor of God** so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil” (vs 10-11).

- Is he there trying to make us sin? *Yes!*
- Is the sacrifice of Christ going to cover the sins of Satan the devil? *No!*

Verse 12: “Because we are not wrestling against flesh and blood, but against principalities *and* against powers, against the world rulers of the darkness of this age, against the spiritual *power* of wickedness in high *places*.” *That’s what’s going on right now in the world, BIG TIME!*

Verse 13: “Therefore, take up the whole armor of God **so that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having worked out all things, to stand.**” *Don’t be giving in!*

Can Satan put it in people’s hearts and minds to sin? *Yes, that’s what he does, and has a lot of helpers!*

Acts 5—this is about Ananias and Sapphira. They lied to Peter! Let’s notice what Peter said and then we’ll look at some of the experiences of Peter. He experienced some of these things before the crucifixion and resurrection.

Acts 5:3: “But Peter said, ‘Ananias, why did **Satan fill your heart to lie** to the Holy Spirit...?’”

Can Satan put things into your mind? *Yes!* That is his sin *against you!* Unless you resist and get rid of it then you will sin.

Let’s see how he worked with Peter. This is quite interesting because of what occurred here:

Matthew 16:13: “...Jesus questioned His disciples, saying, ‘Whom do men declare Me, the Son of man, to be?’” *And they gave the various answers!*

Verse 15: “He said to them, ‘But you... [all of them there] ...whom do you declare Me to be?’ Then Simon Peter answered *and* said, ‘**You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.**’ And Jesus answered *and* said to him, ‘Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jona, for flesh and blood did not reveal *it* to you, but My Father, Who *is* in heaven’” (vs 15-17).

Here he is inspired of God the Father. Then Jesus said He was going to build His Church upon Himself, and the whole thing of binding and loosing is another subject, but not as the Catholics teach.

Now let’s see what happened just a little bit later; v 21: “From that time Jesus began to explain to His disciples that it was necessary for Him to go to Jerusalem, and to suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and to be killed, and to be raised the third day.”

Now notice that here’s a good thought of Peter. *He’s going to defend Jesus!* He probably thought that was a really good thought. But we’re going to see where that thought came from. A lot of things that come to us **that sound like good thoughts are not from God!** Let’s see what Jesus said.

Verse 22: “But after taking *Him* aside, Peter personally began to rebuke Him, saying...” **Rebuking the Son of God?!** Telling Him that:

You shouldn’t really think that, they’re not going to do that to You!

“...‘*God will be favorable to You, Lord. In no way shall this happen to You*’” (v 22).

Peter is going to try and make it not happen when every prophecy in the Bible is there saying that it will happen? Notice Jesus’ response:

Verse: 23: “Then He turned and said to Peter, ‘**Get behind Me, Satan!**...’”—*right there where the disciples were, Satan the devil inspiring a thought of how good it would be!* I (Peter) will protect the Lord!

We’ll see in another place where *Peter had a problem with his own ego!* God still used him after he was converted!

“...You are an offense to Me, **because your thoughts are not in accord with the things of God...**” (v 23).

Especially when it comes to preaching and teaching and to explaining the Word of God. **It must be in accord with the Word of God!** If it's not, it's going to lead to trouble.

"...because your thoughts are not *in accord* with the things of God, **but the things of men**" (v 23).

Luke 22 is very interesting; read it. This is why we need to really hold fast to the Word of God. This He told them on the Passover night. Let's see what happened:

Luke 22:31: "Then the Lord said, 'Simon, Simon, listen *well*. **Satan has demanded to have all of you...**'" *Think about that!*

Satan wanted the Apostle Peter! Wouldn't that be convenient to setup the false system in Rome? To have the real Peter? Whoa!

"...**to sift as wheat**. But I have prayed for you, that your faith may not fail; and when you are converted, strengthen your brethren" (vs 31-32).

Notice how Peter responded; he's going to learn a real lesson here. When people do certain things, they may have to have certain lessons they need to learn, which are really difficult indeed, because they didn't follow what God wanted.

Verse 33: "And he [Peter] said to Him, **'Lord, I am ready to go with You both to prison and to death.'**" True loyalty? ***NO!***

Verse 34: But He [Christ] said, 'I tell you, Peter, *the* cock shall in no wise crow today... [in that very night] ...before you have denied knowing Me three times.'" *That's how Satan works!* Right? Is that not true?

With all of that said, let's come back to Lev. 16 and then we will see the beginning of the fulfillment of the banishment of Azazel in Rev. 20.

Lev. 16—let's see what was to happen here. We've covered everything so that you know for sure, that you understand that your sins are not just yours alone. There was another power involved in it, and that power was Satan the devil! You and I and everybody else, when we repent our sins are forgiven through the blood of Jesus Christ.

To answer another question and you can read this in 1-Peter 2, ***the goat for Azazel does not represent Christ taking our sins away!*** Christ bore them to the cross! All sin of human activity comes to the cross and the sacrifice of Christ and His shed blood and scourged and mutilated body for the forgiveness of sin. When it's forgiven, it is removed as far as the East is from the West!

So, with the children of Israel and the goat of the sacrifice for their sins and all their transgressions, that forgave and covered those sins. But all sin has another source, ***and that is Satan the devil!*** That's why the goat of Azazel! Here is why that it happens this way.

Leviticus 16:20 "And when he has made an end of reconciling the sanctuary and the tabernacle of the congregation and the altar..."

- they've all been sanctified
- they've all been forgiven
- they've all been cleansed

through the sin offerings that were given! Now then, here's what Aaron does to the live goat:

"...he shall bring the live goat. And Aaron shall lay both his hands on the head of the live goat, and confess over him all the sins of the children of Israel..." (vs 20-21).

- Why?
- Was it because they weren't forgiven with the blood that was sprinkled by the priest in the Holy of Holies?

they were forgiven at that point, but:

- What is the meaning of this to confess the sins of the children of Israel?

The only answer is that Satan the devil and his involvement in our lives and our sins!

"...and all their transgressions in all their sins, putting them on the head of the goat, and shall send *it* away **by the hand of a chosen man into the wilderness**" (v 21).

*Here's a key; v 22: "**And the goat shall bear upon him all their iniquities...**"—because he caused them!*

When we repent they are forgiven, but Satan's part is upon him and since he will not die he must be disposed of in another way!

Verse 22: "**And the goat shall bear upon him all their iniquities** to a land in which no one lives..."

There's no way you can, at this point in the Word of God, show that Satan's going to be removed into the blackest darkness of nothing forever! But this is the closest you come to it. Satan is a spirit being, living, and caused all sin everywhere!

"...And he shall let the goat go in the wilderness. And Aaron shall come into the tabernacle of the congregation, and shall strip off the linen garments, which he put on when he went into

the sanctuary, and shall leave them there. And **he shall wash his flesh with water in the Holy place...**” (vs 22-24)—*because he had the sin of all Israel in his hands on the head of the goat!*

“...and put on his garments, and come forth and offer his burnt offering and the burnt offering of the people, and make an atonement for himself and for the people” (v 24).

Now all the sins are covered, Satan’s part is removed and now we are there before God.

Verse 25: “And the fat of the sin offering shall he burn upon the altar.” *That finishes the sin offering for the remission of sins, which God forgives!*

Verse 26: “And he that let go the goat for Azazel shall wash his clothes and bathe his flesh in water, and afterward come into the camp.”

What they did with all the sin offerings; v 27: “And the young bull for the sin offering and the goat for the sin offering, whose blood was brought in to make atonement in the Holy place, shall they carry forth outside the camp. And they shall burn their skins in the fire, and their flesh and their dung.”

Where was Jesus crucified? *Outside the camp!* So, here all the sin, everything about all sin with human beings **is covered by the sacrifice and blood of Jesus Christ outside the camp!**

Verse 28: “And he who burns them shall wash his clothes and bathe his flesh in water, and afterward he shall come into the camp. And it shall be a statute forever to you: in the seventh month, on the tenth of the month, you shall afflict your souls and do no work at all, *whether it be* one of your own country or a stranger who is living among you, for on that day an atonement shall be made for you, to cleanse you, so that you may be clean from all your sins before the LORD. It *shall be* a Sabbath of rest to you, and you shall afflict your souls by a statute forever” (vs 28-31).

We need to answer one question: What does it mean to afflict your soul? Some people say that it doesn’t mean to fast. **Yes, it means to fast!**

It means to **fast** and also **yield yourself to God!** This is why on the Day of Atonement we humble ourselves with fasting for forgiveness of sin, for cleansing of sin! Follow the way that this happens:

Your sins are forgiven, but you need to be cleansed of that sin, because there’s a residual amount within you, in your mind, whatever. How does that cleansing come? **With the washing of the water by the Word!**

- that’s how it comes
- that’s how we overcome sin
- that’s how we overcome Satan the devil

Psalm 35:13: “But when they were sick, my clothing was sackcloth; **I humbled...** [the Hebrew can also mean *afflicted*] **...my soul with fasting...**”

So, when it says that we are to *afflict ourselves* on the Day of Atonement, it means **we are to fast!**

“...and my prayer returned into my own bosom” (v 13).

- God will hear
- God will answer

Leviticus 16:32: “And the priest whom he shall anoint, and whom he shall consecrate to minister in the priest’s office in his father’s stead, shall make the atonement and shall put on the linen clothes, the Holy garments. And he shall make an atonement *for* the Holy sanctuary, and he shall make an atonement for the tabernacle of the congregation, and for the altar; and he shall make an atonement for the priests and for all the people of the congregation” (vs 32-33).

Let’s add one thing here: **you cannot be at-one with God the way God wants us to be at-one with Him UNTIL Satan is put away!**

We will see in Rev. 20 that Satan bears all of his own sins! All the sins that he committed against the people, that he inspired. Here we see the fulfillment of the goat taken to the place in the wilderness.

The first part *before* the Millennium can begin **Satan must be removed!** He’s not going to be around there to inspire sin. Also, we read in Ezek. 36 that God is going to give the people a new heart and new mind. The penalty of Adam and Eve will be removed, which came from obeying Satan.

Revelation 20:1: “Then I saw an angel descending from heaven, having the key of the abyss...”

Where the abyss is and what it is, I don’t know, I couldn’t tell you.

“...and a great chain in his hand. And he took hold of the dragon, the ancient serpent, who is *the Devil* and Satan, **and bound him for a thousand years**” (vs 1-2). *That’s the first step of Satan’s carrying his own sins; to be bound!* We will have to wait until the end of the Feast of Tabernacles for the rest of the story.

Verse 3: “Then he cast him into the abyss, and locked him *up*, and sealed *the abyss* over him, so that he would not deceive the nations any longer **until the thousand years were fulfilled...**”

So, God has one more mission for Satan! We will cover that when we come to the Last Great Day!

“...and after that it is ordained that he be loosed *for a short time*” (v 3).

The God Plan shows clearly in the unveiling of prophecy that:

- the Azazel goat is not Christ
- Christ bore all our sins to the cross
- Satan’s sins must be removed
 - ✓ there is no sacrifice for him
 - ✓ no forgiveness for him
 - ✓ he must be removed

We will see that after the Great White Throne Judgment that ***he’s going to be removed to the blackest darkness forever, and all the demons with him!***

That’s the meaning of the Day of Atonement, and the mystery of the two goats! You see, as long as Satan is around mingling with people on the earth and deceiving them, there is no end of sin!

That’s why the Azazel goat is led away and let go in the wilderness, a type of Satan being removed and put somewhere in the vastness of this universe, confined in the blackest darkness forever!

Scriptural References:

- 1) Leviticus 23:26-32, 27
- 2) Leviticus 16:1-10, 15-17, 20-22
- 3) Genesis 3:1-19
- 4) 1 John 3:8
- 5) 1 John 5:17-19
- 6) Revelation 12:9-10
- 7) Job 1:5-8
- 8) Mark 4:14-15
- 9) 2 Corinthians 4:1-5
- 10) Ephesians 2:1-3
- 11) Ephesians 6:10-13
- 12) Acts 5:3
- 13) Matthew 16:13, 15-17, 21-23
- 14) Luke 22:31-34
- 15) Leviticus 16:20-31
- 16) Psalm 35:13
- 17) Leviticus 16:32-33
- 18) Revelation 20:1-3

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Revelation 2; 3
- 2-Peter 1
- Ezekiel 36

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Welcome to the Feast of Tabernacles

(Opening Night)

Fred R. Coulter—October 9, 2022

Greetings, brethren! Welcome to the Feast of Tabernacles!

My oh my, how time flies! I guess the old saying is true: 'The older you get the faster time goes.' I look back on my first Feast of Tabernacles in 1961, how about that? That's 61 years ago! Every year when we keep the Feast of Tabernacles, we learn and more about what we are to do.

It's very interesting that Jesus said, 'It sufficient that the disciple become as his teacher.' I want you to think on that! That's what God wants us to do.

Let's look at some Scriptures. We will cover the things of the commands of the Feast of Tabernacles tomorrow in the message. But we know we are to keep it on the 15th day of the 7th month for seven days, and the Last Great Day is the 8th day.

- Why are we here?
- What does this have to do with Christianity and God's plan?

There's hardly anyone in the world who knows anything about the plan of God!

- Why?
 1. they don't keep the Sabbath
 2. they don't keep the Passover and Holy Days
 3. they don't have the Spirit of God so they are not taught of God

Let's go back and I want you to think about when you first came into the Church. Then I want you to look at what your situation is today. When you first came into the Church, when God first starts dealing with you, we know that in Rev. 1, 4 & 5 that there are *seven spirits of God* that go to and fro on the earth. 2-Cor. 16 tells us that these are **the eyes of the Lord** looking for:

- those who fear Him
- those who want Him
- those who cry out to Him

to help them in their troubles and difficulties!

Also, they come directly from Jesus Christ through God the Father to this. This one verse and the one after it we have gone over how many, many times?

Think about this: the more you go over the Scriptures and study all the Scriptures, and come back and study them again and again, which you do

in a lifetime. That's necessary, because every time you learn more and you make more connections.

This is important because we're going to be given the most important jobs ever! Think about that! All of those who are encompassed by the plan of God, beginning with the patriarchs, the ones before the Flood and then after the Flood beginning with Abraham.

Abraham didn't know very much at all. He just told God. 'You haven't given me any children, so how about Eleazar being my heir.' God said, 'No, you will have a child from your own loins.' Here he is 75-years-old at this point!

Then God took Abraham outside at night and told him to look at the stars. He said, 'So shall your seed be.' So we have Isaac the physical seed, and *the spiritual seed*, which is most important for what God is doing, *and that's who we are, because we have the Spirit of God!!*

John 6:44: "No one can come to Me unless the Father..."

Let's understand something about our calling. We're not dealing with a religious experience, though there may be a religious experience connected with it. We're not dealing with angels dealing with us. *We're dealing with God the Father! He is the One Who is doing it along with Jesus Christ!*

Verse 44: "No one can come to Me unless the Father, Who sent Me, draws him..."

What made you interested in God in the first place, and wanted to know about His Word in the second place? Then when you find out about it, desiring to do the things that God says? **God! The Father draws you!** Here's the ultimate goal between the time that you're called and the time that you live however long you're going to live and the resurrection. *That's what's important in this life!*

"...and I will raise him up at the last day" (v 44).

See how it jumps completely forward to the whole goal that we're going to have, and that goal will be succeeded.

When we study, pray and read the booklets and materials explaining the Word of God in the books that we have, and those are very important that you know and read them. You can't skim along

and learn very much by doing that.

Verse 45: “It is written in the prophets, ‘And **they shall all be taught by God.**’....”

- Who made you the way that you are?
- Who gave you the mind that you have?
 - ✓ where you can think and put things together?
 - ✓ where you can understand the Word of God?

Then God gives His Spirit to you on top of that so that you will be able to discern things. That’s important because Jesus add this:

Verse 63: “**It is the Spirit that gives Life...**” *Without the Spirit the body is dead; the Spirit:*

- gives Life
- gives understanding
- connects you with God
- is the begettal by God the Father for you be a son or daughter of God

All of that is the action of the Holy Spirit!

“...**the flesh profits nothing**...” (v 63).

Think about all the religious rituals that people have in Catholicism, Protestantism, Judaism, in all the religions of the world:

- they’re all *fleshly*
- they’re all *carnal*

They have idols, statues, and things like this, as if that will make them more righteous! It doesn’t! All of that is flesh. “...the flesh profits nothing...”

“...**The words that I speak to you**...” (v 63).

Not only what He spoke to them during His ministry, but since He was God manifested in the flesh, also in the Old Testament; the O.T. is not old in the sense that it’s outdated. It is old in the sense that it was written before the New Testament, but the two Testaments connect together; **you need both!**

“...**they are Spirit and they are Life**” (v 63)—*that is if you yield to God!*

It can’t be done without loving God and obeying God, and so forth. This is why we keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

Let’s look at the quote that *we will all be taught of God!* This is New Testament doctrine in the Old Testament! Imagine that! I want you to also understand that with the Feast of Tabernacles *there’s more about Feast of Tabernacles and:*

- what’s going to happen
- how it’s going to be
- who is going to lead it
- what’s going to be done

in the Old Testament than there is in the New Testament!

Isaiah 54:11_[transcriber’s correction]: “O afflicted one...”

Whoever has troubles, problems and difficulties if you’re a begotten son or daughter of God—and *we do!*

“...storm-tossed *and* not comforted, behold, I will lay your stones among colorful gems, and lay your foundations with sapphires” (v 11).

Think about that! Where does that go to? *New Jerusalem!*

Verse 12: “And I will make your high towers of ruby, and your gates of carbuncles, and all your borders of pleasant stones. And **all your children shall be taught of the LORD**...”

Brethren, listen! **We are the children of God the Father; His sons and daughters!** God the Father direct! They **shall all be taught of the LORD!**

“...and great *shall be* the peace of your children” (v 12).

That is talking about the peace that *the children of God are going to bring to the whole world!* That’s the whole thing of the Feast of Tabernacles.

Jesus kept the Feast of Tabernacles, and He did some teaching during the Feast of Tabernacles that is very important. Not only are we to be taught of God, but remember that when Jesus was in the flesh, how was He taught? *By God the Father!* We’ve covered that! *He [the Father] awakens Me [Jesus] morning by morning* (Isa. 50).

Jesus didn’t go up the Feast of Tabernacles with His mother and brothers. He wanted to go up on His own and wanted to be at the Feast and no one know that He’s there until about the middle of the Feast. People were asking:

John 7:11: “As a result, the Jews were seeking Him at the Feast, and said, ‘Where is He?’.... [they were looking for Him] ...Now there was much debating about Him among the people. Some said, ‘He is a good Man.’ But others said, ‘No, but He is deceiving the people’” (vs 11-12).

Bringing the Truth of God and people so ignorant that they were thinking He was deceiving

the people. Isn't that told of us today in relationship to the Protestants and the Catholics? *Yes!*

Verse 13: "However, no one spoke publicly about Him for fear of the Jews. But then, about the middle of the Feast, Jesus went up into the temple and was teaching" (vs 13-14).

Remember the phrase: ***We'll all be taught of God!*** Jesus was taught of God! There was nothing that He said, and nothing that He did that was not the will of God, and the express commands of God.

Verse 15: "And the Jews were amazed, saying, 'How does this Man know letters, having never been schooled?'" *Never went to any of the schools of the rabbis!*

No, you don't get in with a bunch of lying religious people stuck on tradition and ritual and learn the Truth of God! *Never happen!*

Verse 16: "Jesus answered them and said, ***'My doctrine is not Mine, but His Who sent Me.'***"

- Who sent Him? *The Father!*
- Who taught Him? *The Father!*

Now here is something important in what we do:

Verse 17: "If anyone desires to do His will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it is from God, or *whether* I speak from My own self."

You have to check it up with the Word of God! What does it say in the New Testament? *Prove all things; hold fast to that which is good!*

One thing we need today, as never before, is more knowledge and understanding of the Word of God. That means:

- by studying and re-studying and putting it together
- by loving God with our heart, mind, soul and being
- by keeping His commandments
- by yielding to God

That's how we learn! All of this is preparing us for the fulfillment of the Feast of Tabernacles!

What is that fulfillment going to be for us? *To be priests of God, and kings and rulers over the nations!* So, we've been called to the greatest thing possible!

- that's why we keep the Feasts of God
- that's why we do the things that God wants us to do

Verse 18: "The one who speaks of himself is seeking his own glory; but He Who seeks the glory

of Him Who sent Him ***is true, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.***"

Think about that! Our standing before God is that way, ***IF*** we yield to God every day! Walk in His way and keep His commandments!

Jesus went on to say; v 19: "Did not Moses give you the Law, and not one of you is practicing the Law? Why do you seek to kill Me?"—because the Law said you shall not murder!

Verse 20: "The people answered and said, 'You have a demon. Who is seeking to kill You?'"

Isn't that what carnal people always do? *They don't want to believe it, so they accuse you of being demon possessed!* There is a such a thing as 'demon possession,' that is true, that's not to deny that.

Verse 21: "Jesus answered and said to them, 'I did one work, and you were all amazed. Now then, Moses gave you circumcision—not that it was from Moses, but from the fathers—and on *the* Sabbath you circumcise a man. If a man receives circumcision on *the* Sabbath, so that the Law of Moses may not be broken, ***why are you angry with Me because I made a man entirely whole on the Sabbath?*** Judge not according to appearance, but judge righteous judgment'" (vs 21-24).

Judgment is going to be given to us! Judgment of the world, the people, under Christ! Christ is going to be King! Christ is going to be Ruler! This is going to be amazing!

Revelation 20:4: "And I saw thrones; and they that sat upon them, ***and judgment was given to them;*** and *I saw* the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus, and for the Word of God, and those who did not worship the beast or his image, and did not receive the mark in their foreheads or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years." ***Rulership!***

That's why we're called! Think about that! We're going to be, as we found out on Pentecost, ***a crown of life!*** We're going to rule the nations with 'a rod of iron.' This is why we're here; *we're here*

- to learn
- to love God
- to love His way
- to prepare for the coming of Christ
- to prepare for the resurrection
- to prepare for the rulership of the world

You can't have any higher calling than that!

I just tell you this: When you get down and discouraged, you get on your knees and repent and

ask God to help you connect with the Truth and inspiration *that we're going to be the sons and daughters of God and rule the world!*

You can look out here and see that the whole world is going crazy! Well, we're the ones, and all the saints, the patriarch—all *those in the first resurrection*—to straighten out the world and bring the Truth of God. *That's the message of the Feast of Tabernacles!*

Verse 5: "...This *is* the first resurrection. **Blessed...** [of God the Father and Jesus Christ] **...and Holy...** [because you have been changed from flesh to spirit and now a son or daughter of God] **...is the one who has part in the first resurrection...**" (vs 5-6).

Think about that; that's where we're headed, but there are a lot of difficult times ahead of us. But we can go through them and have courage and strength, and it doesn't matter what people try to do to us, *because we believe in the true God and the true Jesus Christ!* And the things that are right, good, true, Holy and the Word of God! Everything in this world is of Satan the devil and of death and destruction!

"**...over these the second death has no power. But they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years**" (v 6)—*and then on into eternity!*

As we have seen some of these awesome pictures from the James Webb Telescope up in space that reaches out so far into the universe. In the past even with the Hubble telescope up there, it was blank space. But now it's illuminated with this new telescope that there are literally trillions and trillions of stars and galaxies out there.

What did Jesus say when we are in glory, how will we look? *We will shine like the sun and the stars in heaven, as Daniel wrote!*

That's why we are here and this is what we are doing. This is why we need to grow in grace and knowledge and everything we need to do!

I want you to have a great and wonderful Feast! Those who can gather together in fellowship groups, do so. Help one another, love one another and encourage one another.

If you're alone, remember that you're not really alone, because God the Father and Jesus Christ are there to help you. This is what we are to do. It's one of the most important things that God wants us to do, right here. That's why we want to spend the time fellowshiping:

- going over the Scriptures

- going over the messages
- talking with one another
- encouraging one another
- praying for one another

This is what we are to do! We can make this Feast of Tabernacles a wonderful experience that will:

- add to our growth
- add to our understanding
- give us encouragement
- give us knowledge
- give us Truth

to go forward in this evil wicked world that we're going to be facing!

Philp. 2—Paul is writing; he's in jail in chains! Everything to be discouraged about! But He has his mind on the goal and what needs to be done!

Philippians 2:1: "Now then, if *there be* any encouragement **in Christ...** [that's where it comes from] ...if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of *the Spirit...* [from God the Father] ...if any *deep* inner affections and compassions, **fulfill my joy that you be of the same mind,** having **the same love...** [which comes from God the Father and Jesus Christ] ...being joined together in soul, **minding the one thing**" (vs 1-2)—*the goal of the Kingdom of God and our calling!*

Verse 3: "*Let* nothing *be* done through contention or vainglory, but in humility, **each esteeming the others above himself.**" *That's what it has to be!*

Verse 4: "Let each one look not *only* after his own things, but *let* each one also *consider* the things of others."

Remember what we have covered that Jesus said? *The flesh profits nothing, but the Spirit gives Life! The words that I speak to you are Spirit and Life!* And you can add to it: *Truth, power, knowledge and understanding!*

Verse 5: "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus..."

Think about what He did to come to this earth and go through what He did. **Willingly laying down His life!** He said:

No one takes it from Me. I lay it down. I have commandment from the Father to receive it back.

Here's what He gave up:

Verse 6: "Who, although He existed in *the* form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal

with God, but emptied Himself..." (vs 6-7—**gave up being God to save His creation!**)

Whatever God asks us to give up, whatever it is, it's nothing compared to what Jesus gave up to become a pinpoint of life to be born of the virgin Mary!

"...and was made in *the* likeness of men, and took the form of a servant; and being found in *the* manner of man, He humbled Himself, and **became obedient unto death...** [that's what we need to do] ...even *the* death of *the* cross. Therefore, God has also highly exalted Him and bestowed upon Him a name, which *is* above every name; that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow took the form of a servant, of *beings* in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord to *the* glory of God *the* Father" (vs 7-11).

Verse 12: "So then, my beloved, even as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, **but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God Who works in you both to will and to do according to His good pleasure**" (vs 12-13). *That's what God wants!*

Brethren, have a great and wonderful Feast of Tabernacles. For those of you who gathered in the evening as the Holy Day began, we will see you tomorrow in the morning. **Have a wonderful time of fellowship and love and growing in grace and knowledge!**

Scriptural References:

- 1) John 6:45-46, 63
- 2) Isaiah 54:11-12
- 3) John 7:11-24
- 4) Revelation 20:4-6
- 5) Philippians 2:1-13

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Revelation 1; 4; 5
- 2 Corinthians 16
- Isaiah 50

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The Restoration of All Things!

(Day 1—FOT)

Fred R. Coulter—October 10, 2022

Greetings, brethren! Welcome to the Feast of Tabernacles!

We're closer to the Kingdom than we have ever been! It's an amazing thing, isn't it? This is why God has His Feast every year; so that we can keep our mind focused on:

- what we're doing
- where we're going
- what God is doing
- what He has planned
- how we fit into that:

That's going to really be something! It says that *the eye has not seen nor the ear heard what the Lord has planned for those who love Him!* It an amazing thing!

Let's begin by going to Lev. 23 where we start off every Holy Day, because this is where they're all listed in order according to the timing of the Calculated Hebrew Calendar for us to keep them.

When you look at Lev. 23, these are the longest commands of all the Feasts right here. Just like we need to understand the Word of God and study it and re-study it and re-study it, we're going to read everything here about the Feast of Tabernacles. Then we're going to understand from the rest of the Bible how God is going to do it, and how we fit into it.

What God has for us is absolutely amazing, and breathtaking, and so fantastic that we cannot appreciate it until we are really a spirit being. We can get a glimpse of it. Like Paul has written: *we are looking through a glass darkly!*

Leviticus 23:34: "Speak to the children of Israel, saying, 'The fifteenth day of this seventh month *shall be* the Feast of Tabernacles for seven days to the LORD. On the first day *shall be* a Holy convocation. You shall do no servile work *therein*. Seven days you shall offer an offering made by fire to the LORD. On the eighth day shall be a Holy convocation to you....'" (vs 34-36).

So, right at the end of it God has the most important day of all, *but the least mentioned in the Bible!* That's amazing of itself, isn't it?

Verse 37: "These *are* the Feasts of the LORD, which you shall proclaim to be Holy convocations to offer an offering made by fire to the LORD, a burnt offering and a grain offering, a

sacrifice, and drink offerings, everything on its day."

Since we don't have the tabernacle, and we don't offer animal sacrifices or the other sacrifices, we take up and offering.

We know that in Deut. 16 it tells us that we are to keep these three Feasts and all the males are to come. Lots of times people wonder why just the males. Well, there's a lot that can happen where the women are not able to come:

1. childbirth
2. caring for those who are sick and unable to go

Those are the two main things!

Deuteronomy 16:16: "Three times in a year shall all your males appear before the LORD your God in the place which He shall choose: in the Feast of Unleavened Bread, and in the Feast of Weeks, and in the Feast of Tabernacles. And they shall not appear before the LORD empty." *All of these things are for our benefit so we can learn:*

- 1) to love God
- 2) to serve God
- 3) to love the brethren
- 4) to serve the brethren
- 5) to look forward to the fulfillment of this in our life when Christ returns

Verse 17: "Every man *shall give* as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God, which He has given you."

Whatever your blessing is! You look back and see the blessings that God has given you, and you consider that in your offerings.

(pause for the offering)

Thank you very much for the offering that you have given. As you know, we will always put it to use for what we do for serving the brethren, preaching the Gospel and doing the things that we need to do. Because of all the offerings down through the years and tithes that brethren have given, it's all been put to a good use.

We have more booklets and books, and things to study of the Bible than any other Church of God! This is not to put ourselves forward and make ourselves exalted above them. No, we wish them the best, pray for all of them and their brethren, as well. We are all going to be in the Kingdom of God.

However, we have had had the time and we use the funds for the things that are necessary to get everything out to the brethren. That's what's important!

Leviticus 23:38: "Besides the Sabbaths...[that is plural] ...of the LORD, and besides your gifts, and besides all your vows, and besides all your freewill offerings, which you give to the LORD. Also, in the fifteenth day of the seventh month when you have gathered in the fruit of the land, you shall keep a Feast to the LORD seven days.... [He repeats it; this is the only Feast that is repeated] ...On the first day *shall be* a Sabbath, and on the eighth day *shall be* a Sabbath" (vs 38-39). *Well, that's something!*

Verse 40: "And you shall take the boughs of beautiful trees for yourselves on the first day, branches of palm trees, and the boughs of thick trees, and willows of the brook. And you shall rejoice before the LORD your God seven days."

Why did God have them take these branches? On Feast of Tabernacles when we were up at Twain Harte we decided that we were going to bring in a few branches and keep them here and we're going to see every day what's happening to them. There's a lesson that Jesus taught in John 15. He is the vine and we are the branches, and we must be attached to Him!

If you're not attached to Him, what happens? Every day it dries up a little bit, and at the end of eight days they're nearly dead. So, the whole lesson is that **the whole way of God is to bring us life!** Anything less than that is not going to work.

Verse 41: "And you shall keep it a Feast to the LORD seven days in the year. *It shall be* a statute forever in your generations. You shall keep it in the seventh month. You shall dwell in booths seven days...." (vs 41-42).

We don't have booths to dwell in seven days right now, but remember that wherever you are that dwelling is temporary. When Christ returns everything is going to be new. When the whole plan of God is finished, what's going to happen to the earth? *He's going to take the Lake of Fire and first the wicked go into it and then it consumes everything on the earth!* It even does away with the sea.

I'm getting a little ahead of myself here, but the whole point is that everything physical now is temporary. This is one of the things that we are to learn: *life is temporary!*

Verse 43: "So that your generations may know that I made the children of Israel dwell in booths when I brought them out of the land of

Egypt. I *am* the LORD your God.' And Moses declared the appointed Feasts of the LORD to the children of Israel" (vs 43-44). *Compare that to:*

Verse 1: "And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 'Speak to the children of Israel and say to them, "*Concerning* the appointed Feasts of the LORD..."'" (vs 1-2).

These are appointed times by God for us to come before Him so we can learn of His way and His Truth!

"...which you shall proclaim *to be* Holy convocations... [and we do, all of the Feasts; even the Sabbath] ...even these are My appointed Feasts (v 2).

Let's understand something very important with everything that we do: ***When God sets the appointment, we are to come!*** The first appointed Feast is the Sabbath, *the weekly Sabbath!* God does something special in all of His Feasts! He puts His spiritual presence there so that we can draw close to God, draw close to each other and learn of God's way. *In all of this:*

- What is it going to do?
- What did the Apostle Peter say about the time ahead of us and what God is going to do?

Acts 3—this is after they—Peter & John—healed the man. Let's understand something else, ***everything that we have comes from God!*** There is nothing that you can show, or any man can show, that he made it without using something that God made.

Here in the healing of the man; Acts 3:12: "And when Peter saw *it*, he answered to the people... [all the people coming because they healed the man] ...'Men, Israelites, why are you wondering at this? And why are you looking upon us so intently as if by *our own* power or Godliness *we* have made him to walk?'"

A good lesson for all of us elders, when we anoint people, ***it's God*** Who does the healing. Here Peter said that 'it's not from us.'

Verse 13: "The God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified His Son Jesus, **Whom you delivered up, and denied Him in the presence of Pilate,** after he had judged to release *Him*. But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and requested that a man *who was* a murderer be granted to you" (vs 13-14).

It shows something else: ***human nature can never choose what is right of and by itself!*** If you

don't believe that, look at the world today!

Verse 15: "And you killed the Author of life... [Peter is telling them that Jesus was God manifested in the flesh] ...Whom God has raised from *the* dead, whereof we are witnesses."

This is the hope that have pictured by Pentecost, being raised from the dead! Then the Feast of Tabernacles tells us what we're going to be doing after we're spirit beings.

Verse 16: "And through faith in His name, this *man* whom you see and know was made strong in His name; and the faith that *is* through Him gave this complete soundness to him in the presence of you all. And now, brethren, I realize that you acted in ignorance, as *did* your rulers also; but what God had before announced by the mouth of all His prophets, **that Christ should suffer, He has accordingly fulfilled**" (vs 16-18).

Now listen! This is something true for every day that we live. You read the model prayer and it says, 'Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.' ***Repentance is a daily thing!*** You will come to understand that more as you come to understand how deceitful and evil your own human mind is, especially in this wicked world today!

Verse 19: "Therefore, repent and be converted in order that your sins may be blotted out, so that *the* times of refreshing may come from *the* presence of the Lord; and *that* He may send Him Who was before proclaimed to you: Jesus Christ **Whom the heaven must indeed receive until the times of restoration of all things...**" (vs 19-21).

That's what the Feast of Tabernacles pictures: **the restoration of all things, everything on the planet! All human beings and the heavens around us!**

"...of which God has spoken by *the* mouth of all His Holy prophets since the world began" (v 21). *That's quite a thing!*

We need to realize what these things are. Let's see a prophecy that we've covered before, but we need to cover it here now.

Isa. 9 is a good lesson on how God has put things together. Just by reading them they are not in a chronological sequence in which they will occur. But you have to have the chronological sequence pattern of the Sabbath and Holy Days so you can put all of the different things in the prophecies of God in the proper perspective.

Isaiah 9:6: "For unto us a Child is born..."

Who would have ever thought that God

would have done what He did? *Remember that Jesus was God before He came in the flesh!* We know what He did (Philip. 2). He reduced Himself to a pinpoint of life to be begotten in the womb of the virgin Mary. But of the Jews, who among them... They still don't believe it, many of them, to this day that God would actually do that. That He would be born as a baby and grow up as a man.

"...unto us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulders..." *That's the Government of God on the earth!* Later when it expands out to the universe it is God the Father and Jesus Christ!

"...and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God..." (v 6). *You don't call a physical man **Mighty God!*** Some men have thought that that's what they were. But you know what happened to them.

"...The Everlasting Father..." (v 6).

Sidebar: It is during the time of the fulfilling of the 1,000 years, which the Feast of Tabernacles pictures—that all of those coming into the Kingdom of God to become spirit beings come through Jesus Christ and the saints. That's when Jesus becomes an "...Everlasting Father..."

We have come into the situation with God the Father! Then Jesus will be a Father.

Verse 7: "**Of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end,** upon the throne of David, and over His Kingdom, to order it and to establish it with judgment and with righteousness from henceforth, even forever. **The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.**"

That's why we need to understand how true the Word of God really is! ***He will do it!***

Isaiah 33:14: "The sinners in Zion are afraid; terror has seized the ungodly. 'Who among us shall dwell *with* the devouring fire? Who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings?'"

That means that as spirit beings we can be right there and that will not harm us at all. We look at the Sea of Glass and it looks sometimes like it has fire on it. **Who is going to do it?**

Verse 15: "He who walks righteously and speaks uprightly; he who despises the gain of oppressions, who shakes his hands free from holding bribes, who stops his ear from hearing of blood, and shuts his eyes from looking upon evil; **he shall dwell on high...** [that's quite a thing to understand] ...his refuge *shall be* the strongholds of rocks; bread *shall be* given him; his waters shall be sure" (vs 15-

16).

Now, take this spiritually: Water is type of the Holy Spirit. Bread is the Word of God. We're going to feed on the Word of God and grow in knowledge forever! That is an amazing thing to comprehend!

Verse 17: "Your eyes shall see the King in His beauty... [both Christ and the Father] ...they shall behold the land that is very far off.... [that's the New Heaven and the New earth] ...Your heart shall muse on the terror.... [look back on it and see and say]: ...Where *is* the scribe? Where *is* the one who weighed? Where *is* the one who counted the towers?' You shall no longer see a fierce people, a people of a deeper speech than you can understand; of a foreign tongue that no one understands" (vs 17-19).

Verse 20: "Look upon Zion, the city of our Holy gatherings... [that's where we will be] ...your eyes shall see Jerusalem a quiet home, a tabernacle that shall not be taken down; not one of its stakes shall ever be removed, nor shall any of its cords be broken. But there the glorious LORD *will be* to us a place of broad rivers *and* streams, in which no galley with oars shall go, nor shall a mighty ship pass by it. For the LORD *is* our Judge, the LORD *is* our Lawgiver, the LORD *is* our King; He will save us" (vs 20-22).

That's quite a salutation to God and what He's going to do! Let's look and see who God tells us is going to be there and what we need to do:

Psa. 15 is a very encouraging Psalm and this tells us why what we do in loving God and keeping His commandments and everything about it is worth it all, even though we may have trials and troubles as we go along. We have the trials and troubles for what purpose? *To see if we're going to:*

- believe God
- trust God

or

- do it our own way

Psalm 15:1: "LORD, who shall dwell in Your tabernacle?... [Feast of Tabernacles] ...Who shall dwell upon Your Holy hill? **He who walks uprightly, and works righteousness, and speaks the Truth in his heart**" (vs 1-2).

That means that it's in your heart and your mind! That's the whole purpose, ***to get the Truth of God in our mind so we:***

- think that way
- reason that way

- understand that way

Verse 3: "He does not slander with his tongue, nor does evil to his neighbor, nor takes up a reproach against his neighbor, in whose eyes a vile person is despised, **but he honors those who fear the LORD**; he who swears to his own hurt and does not change it" (vs 3-4).

That's an important part we all need to understand. If you pray and tell God that you're going to do 'thus and such' you better do it! One good example. People who have been addicted—drunkards or any drugs: cocaine, amphetamines, heroin, whatever—when you tell God 'I'm never going to touch it again' ***you better keep your word!*** Or whatever thing it may be, ***you better keep your word because God is going to hold you accountable for it!***

Verse 5: "He who has not put out his money at usury, nor has he taken a bribe against the innocent. **He who does these things shall never be moved.**"

Now let's see what God is going to do. We know that one of the worst things possible is war. We're told in Isa. 59 that today there is no peace.

- there's no peace in the world because there's war
- there's no peace between people because they're fighting and oppressing each other

But that peace has to come from God!

Let's see what God is going to do; this is quite a thing! We are going to see how everything is going to flow together here:

Psalm 46:1: "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." ***As we go through this life we're going to have trouble, but God will be there to help us!***

Verse 2: "Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth should change and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea."

Have you ever seen an earthquake that powerful and live through it? ***You will know that this is true!***

Verse 3: "Though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains shake with the swelling of it. Selah. There is a river whose streams make the City of God rejoice, the Holy dwelling place of the Most High" (vs 3-4). ***Out of Zion is going to flow pure water to the east and to the west, and heal the whole world!***

Verse 5: "God is in the midst of her; she

shall not be moved; God shall help her at the approach of the morning. The nations raged, the kingdoms were shaken; He uttered His voice, the earth melted” (vs 5-6). *That’s showing the return of Christ and bringing all war to an end!*

Verse 7: “The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah. Come, behold the works of the LORD who makes desolations upon the earth” (vs 7-8).

He has to do that to get rid of everything that men have done. Then in the Millennium the first thing is lots of work; got to repair everything!

Verse 9: “Who makes wars to cease to the ends of the earth; He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two; He burns the chariots in the fire.”

That’s going to be one of the biggest things we’re going to do. Think about how much money, resources, manpower, labor and factories—everything like that—that go into war making; destructions making. It’s an amazing thing!

I wonder how many—I don’t know who could ever count it—artillery shells of all sizes have been made and used in wars since they invented canons, small and large, that could fire them? Just to give you an example: for the war in Ukraine, guess how many artillery shells that the United States has sent to the Ukraine, along with all of the artillery hardware to fire them? Just the shells: 400,000! That’s breathtaking! Think about how many bombs, artillery shells, machinegun shells, hand-grenades, bazookas, rockets were in WWII, the Korean War, Vietnam War and the Iraqi Wars.

Just those! We’re not talking about anything going backward from that. Think about all the money! There wouldn’t be a poor person around if that money had not been used to make all those weapons. *So, God makes wars to cease!*

If there’s going to be *a restoration of all things*, all of those have to be gotten rid of. When you get a little depressed and down, and you think ‘Oh, woe is me’ read Psa. 37 because it tells you all the way through that *the righteous shall inherit the earth!* That’s what Jesus promised (Matt. 5).

Psalms 37:9^[transcriber’s correction]: “For evildoers shall be cut off, but those who wait upon the LORD, **they shall inherit the earth.**”

Right here in the meeting hall we have a nice big globe. Most of it is a dark, dark blue, because there’s water all over the earth; more than land.

Verse 10: “It is but a little while, and the wicked shall be no more; yea, you shall diligently

consider his place, *but* he shall not be *there*. But **the meek shall inherit the earth...**” (vs 10-11). *There are several other places that it says the same thing!*

“...and shall delight themselves in the **abundance of peace**” (v 10)—*because Christ is the Prince of Peace!*

There will be peace, prosperity, calmness, love, and correction of those who are evil. It’s going to be something! Picture this: the whole world keeping the Sabbath, Passover, Unleavened Bread, Pentecost, Trumpets, Atonement and the Feast of Tabernacles!

- all for the glory of God
- all for the blessings that God will pour out upon all people

Think about that! It’s not going to be like it is today!

I feel sorry for those of you who live in some of these more dangerous cities. But it shows you that one thing for sure that is true: *when Satan rules everything is evil!* That’s what we’re seeing, and that will be gone!

Verse 28: “For the LORD loves justice and does not forsake His saints; they are preserved forever, but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off”—*because there will be proper justice!*

Do you know what the best constitution of governing people is? *The Bible! The Word of God!* Not the U.S. Constitution!

Verse 29: “**The righteous shall inherit the earth and dwell in it forever.**”

Verse 22: “For those blessed of Him shall inherit the earth; and those cursed of Him shall be cut off.”

All of those things are right there! That’s why we need to go over these things: *to know them and learn them so that we know that the blessings and promises of God are sure and they are coming!*

Verse 32: “The wicked watches the righteous and seeks to kill him.”

They won’t be able to do that during the Millennium! If anyone has murder in his heart, he’s going to be told *no, no, no!* If they get out of the Way, we’re going to tell them, ‘Here is the Way, walk in it!’ If they sin they will be given an opportunity to repent! If they really dig down in and get their life straightened around they need to go for a special place where they can study and pray and draw close to God and repent. *There won’t be any jails!*

Verse 34: “Wait on the LORD and keep His

way, and He shall exalt you to inherit the earth; when the wicked are cut off, you shall see it.” *My! My, my, my!*

That’s why I said that when you’re feeling down or depressed, read this Psalm and other Psalms, too.

Verse 39: “But the salvation of the righteous is from the LORD; He is their strength in the time of trouble. And the LORD shall help them and deliver them...” (vs 39-40).

Claim this promise anytime you have a difficulty; turn right here and claim this promise. Don’t come with a presumptuous attitude toward God. Come to Him and say:

O Lord God Almighty, how righteous are You; how merciful are you! This is a time of trouble and You have promised that You will help us in times of trouble. Help us, O Lord!

If you’re really down to the very last nubs then you have to pray and say:

O Lord, heal my soul!

That’s why God let’s people come to those places!

“...He shall deliver them from the wicked, and save them **because they take refuge in Him**” (v 40).

(break@43:25)

Let’s see how we are going to operate in teaching the people and the brethren at that time. All during that time people are going to be having children and think about this: no more wars! God causes wars to cease! For childbearing, no more sorrow!

Isaiah 30:18: “And therefore, will the LORD wait, that He may be gracious unto you... [in other words, God is going fulfill His will at His time for you] ...And therefore, He will be exalted, that He may have mercy upon you, for the LORD *is* a God of justice; blessed *are* all those who wait for Him.”

Do you always wait on God? *You will be blessed!* That’s what’s going to happen during the Millennium. Everybody is going to believe God and wait on God.

Verse 19: “For, O people, who dwell in Zion at Jerusalem, you shall weep no more; He will be very gracious to you at the voice of your cry. When He hears it, He will answer you.” *We’ll be the ones to carry out the answer!*

Verse 20: “And though the LORD gives you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction...”

Yes there will be difficulties that will come along. I don’t know how severe they will be, **but in order to prove anyone’s faith, you have to have some kind of adversity where you must trust in the Lord!** You must overcome the sin that is within so that you love God and continue in His way.

“...yet, your teachers shall not be removed into a corner anymore, but your eyes shall see your teachers” (v 20).

Isn’t that going to be something? We can appear and disappear. Think about how that’s going to be. From our point of view in helping them, and their point of view in knowing that they can’t get away with sin. *That’s why we have to be perfect!*

Verse 21: “And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, ‘This *is* the way, walk in it,’ when you turn to the right hand and when you turn to the left.”

Think how many crimes could be stopped today if we had that kind of government. You can’t have that kind of government with just people because it would become oppressive. **You have to have it with the sons and daughters of God who:**

- have been perfected
- have righteous judgment
- have love
- have understanding
- know how do these things the right way

So that there will be peace all during the Millennium!

If we’re going to restore all things, the first thing that God has to do is bring human nature back to where it was before Adam and Eve had sinned. Human nature that Paul calls *the law of sin and death* is what happened to the nature of Adam and Eve after they sinned.

Think about Adam and Eve, created by God. They talked to God and saw God. Obviously not in His glory, because no one can see God in His glory and live. So, when they were talking to God, He was more in the form of a man.

When the serpent said, ‘If you eat of this fruit you will become like God to decided for yourself good and evil.’ We don’t know what other words he may have said; he may have said:

Look, you’re smart! You’re intelligent! You have ability! You want to become more wise? You want to become like God so you can decide what is right and wrong? You can eat the fruit of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. I know that God said that you shouldn’t eat of it,

lest you die, but I tell you you're not going to die.

So, they took it!

Ezekiel 36:21: “‘But I had pity for My Holy name, which the house of Israel had profaned among the nations where they were exiled. Therefore, say to the house of Israel, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD...’” (vs 21-22).

There's going to come a time when all these difficulties are going to end! That's what the Feast of Tabernacles pictures.

“...I do not do *this* for your sake, O house of Israel, but for My Holy name's sake... [because He has proclaimed it] ...which you have profaned among the nations where you went. And I will sanctify My great name, which was profaned among the nations, which you have profaned in their midst. **And the nations shall know that I am the LORD,** says the Lord GOD...” (vs 22-23).

That's something none of the nations know today; they don't know the Lord. They're going to know the Lord through us, because we're going to be the teachers and the ones to help them. That's why God has saved the great innumerable multitude.

How are you going to deal with those people when the Millennium begins? *You have to have those who understand the language!*

“...‘when I shall be sanctified in you before their *very* eyes. For I will take you from among the nations and gather you out of all countries... [scattered everywhere] ...and will gather you into your own land” (vs 23-24). *That doesn't mean just there in the Middle East!*

- Where did God send all the 12 tribes of Israel?
- Are they not nations today? *Like in:*
 - ✓ Europe
 - ✓ America
 - ✓ Canada
 - ✓ Australia
 - ✓ New Zealand
- Are they not going to go back to that part of Israel? *That's actually Israel in God's eyes!*

There will be a lot go back to the Holy Land, and it will be Holy then. Today it's anything but Holy!

Verse 25: “And I will sprinkle clean waters upon you, and you shall be clean. I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from your idols.”

Notice v 26 because you have to take away the hostility of the carnal mind. That was the result of Adam and Eve eating of the Tree of the

Knowledge of Good and Evil. That is passed down genetically to all human beings. God has to intervene and change that.

Verse 26: “And I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit within you. And I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh.”

You have to do that first! Get rid of all the carnality, all the sin and this shows that there has to be repentance and forgiveness and the wiping away of sin.

In order for the Millennium to work, in order for us to be kings and priests and to bring the Truth the way that it has to be brought, God has to do this so that the people will be receptive! They will want to learn and that we're not going to have any more rebellion. We're not going to have any more secret sins.

They will be offered salvation, and this will be the first time it will be offered to the whole world! That's going to be something! Can you imagine what that's going to be like with human beings having a nature that is not vehemently sinful against God? But then having God's Spirit and being converted:

Verse 27: “And **I will put My Spirit within you** and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you shall keep My ordinances and do *them*.”

They're going to keep all the Holy Days! Doesn't Zech. 14 say that they're going to keep the Feast of Tabernacles? *Yes!*

Verse 28: “And you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers. And you shall be My people, and I will be your God.” *We're going to be there to help cause this to be done; that's why:*

- we're here doing what we are doing
- we are learning God's Word
- we need to grow in grace and knowledge
- we need to have understanding in everything that we do

So, I encourage you this Feast of Tabernacles that if you have anything against anyone of the other brethren, go to them and you resolve it.

Remember that you can never have true peace with God when you have still hatred or antagonism in your heart. *You can't do it!*

Now is a good time to do it! *Heal the breach!* Isn't that what we're going to do in the Millennium? Well, here at the Feast of Tabernacles if you have a difficulty with anyone, now is a good time to do it peaceably, and love each other!

Verse 28: “And you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers. And **you shall be My people, and I will be your God.**”

Think about that! All the people of the children of Israel. Of course, who is going to be there, as well? *Abraham, Isaac and Jacob!*

Think about what Abraham is going to be thinking all during this time. The promise that God gave to Abraham is so absolutely overwhelming that it is almost unreal to contemplate it. ***In you all the families of the earth shall be blessed!***

That cannot happen unless God’s plan is fulfilled as we know through the Passover and Holy Days. Think about what this is going to be right here. Look at what He says it’s going to be.

Verse 29: “I will also save you from all your uncleannesses, and I will call for the grain, and will increase it, and will lay no famine upon you. And I will multiply the fruits of the tree and the increase of the field, so that you shall never again receive the curse of famine among the nations” (vs 29-30).

What a promise! But in order for them to receive that they have to repent! Every single one individually!

Verse 31: “And you shall remember your own evil ways, and your doings that *were* not good, and shall loathe yourselves in your own sight for your iniquities and for your abominations.”

They began to understand with depth the spiritual understanding how great sin is and what abominations really are, and how they got carried away with these things. Of course, this is going to be something!

Now, as we will see on the Last Great Day, this will again be repeated. So, we will be reading these Scriptures again on the Last Great Day, and we’ll get a glimpse of the magnitude of what that is going to be.

Verse 32: “I do not do *this* for your sake,’ says the Lord GOD, ‘be it known to you. Be ashamed and confounded for your ways, O house of Israel.’ Thus says the Lord GOD, ‘In the day that I cleanse you from all your iniquities, I will also cause *you* to dwell in the cities, and the waste *places* shall be rebuilt. And the wasteland shall be tilled, instead of being desolate before all who pass by. And they shall say, ‘This land that was desolate has become like the Garden of Eden....’” (vs 32-35)—***the restoration of all things!***

We are going to be principle, instrumental workers and shepherds of God to make it happen!

““...And the wasted, desolate and ruined cities now *are* fenced and inhabited.” And the nations that are left all around you shall know that I the LORD build the ruined *places* and planted that which was desolate. ***I the LORD have spoken it, and I will do it***” (vs 35-36).

How great is this going to be. Down deep inside of every human being, it doesn’t matter how superficially righteous or how evil that they are, there’s a place there that yearns for what I’m reading, but they don’t know how to find it, because they have been cutoff from God. Now God is going to change all of that!

Verse 37: “Thus says the Lord GOD, ‘I will yet be sought by the house of Israel to act for them. I will increase them with men like a flock. As a Holy flock, as the flock of Jerusalem in her appointed Feasts, so shall the waste cities be filled with flocks of men. And they shall know that I *am* the LORD” (vs 37-38).

Those are the most astounding and wonderful words of the Bible that we could ever imagine. What is it going to be like?

Isa. 2—remember that this was given in the 800_{S.B.C.}; so by the time that this is being fulfilled it will be pretty close to 4,000 years. So, this also tells us how far in advance that God thinks. The way we measure time are short little particles of time. The way God measures time is by ions and ions. Remember those beautiful pictures from the James Webb Telescope that we showed and we have online? Stars and galaxies 13-billion light years away! ***God made it all!***

This helps us to understand why we need to yield to God and do things the way God wants them done. After all, ***only He is truly righteous!***

Isaiah 2:1: “The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz ***saw***... [interesting; it was probably a picture with words] ...concerning Judah and Jerusalem. And it shall come to pass, in the last days the mountain of the LORD’S house shall be established in the top of the mountains...” (vs 1-2).

Above every other nation in the world; we saw how that’s going to be Zech 14, that the Mount of Olives is going to raise up and split in two, to the north and to the south. Then we see in Isa. 4 a great beautiful tabernacle. No temple and no sacrifices! ***The tabernacle of God!*** Whoever is going to be in it, and I’m sure that it’s going to be of the patriarchs, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and the apostles and of the prophets.

Can you imagine what it’s going to be like when Isaiah, Jeremiah and Ezekiel and all of the

prophets—Hosea, Joel, Amos, Micah and so forth all the way down to be right there in Jerusalem. The very things that they prophesied of to happen.

“...and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow into it” (v 2). *Everybody is going to come to Jerusalem, all the heads of nations.*

Verse 3: “And many people shall go and say, ‘Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. And He will teach us of His ways...’”

That’s everything that we’re going to be doing during the Millennium. Generation after generation! It’s going to be multiplying of men and women, boys and girls, and it’s going to be a fantastic thing, indeed!

“...and we will walk in His paths.’ For out of Zion shall go forth the Law, and the Word of the LORD from Jerusalem” (v 3)—*everything from there!* That’s going to be absolutely marvelous!

Verse 4: “And He shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares...” *There will be a lot of scrap metal after all the wars that take place right at the end!*

“...and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, **neither shall they learn war anymore**” (v 4).

Kids learn war early! Especially today! We have television—war, fighting, hatred, greed—going right into the minds of our little children while we dilly-dally away and let the television or smart-phone baby-sit them! You ought to take both of those away from little kids and give them real toys and spend some time with them.

Verse 5: “O house of Jacob, come and let us walk in the Light of the LORD.’ *That’s what we have to do!*

- Jesus is the Light
- the Word of God is the Light

Now remember that we saw that they’re going build the waste places again in the cities. Just think about what that’s going to be like.

Here we have the announcement of Jesus that He was the Savior (Luke 4):

Isaiah 61:1: “The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon Me because the LORD has anointed Me to preach the Gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound.”

That’s what Christ did when He was here at His first coming! This is what we are going to do on a mammoth scale when the Millennium begins.

Verse 2: “To preach the acceptable year of the LORD and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to appoint to those who mourn in Zion, giving to them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the mantle of praise for the spirit of heaviness; so that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that He might be glorified”(vs 2-3). *That’s the mission for the Millennium! The first thing to do:*

Verse 4: “And they will build the old wastes, they will raise up the desolations of former times. And they shall repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations.” *That’s going to be an absolutely magnificent time! Think about that!*

Verse 5: “And strangers will stand and feed your flocks, and the sons of the stranger *will be* your plowmen and your vinedressers. But **you shall be called the priests of the LORD...**” (vs 5-6).

Doesn’t that tie in with Rev. 20, that we shall be priests and kings and reign with Him a thousand years! *There it is, right there!*

“...it will be said of you, ‘The ministers of our God’; you will eat the riches of the Gentiles, and you will boast in their glory. For your shame *you will have* double; instead of dishonor they will rejoice in their portion; therefore, in their own land they will possess double; everlasting joy will be theirs” (vs 6-7).

This is the only way that the fulfillment of all people is going to happen. Think about that **God has called us to prepare now to do this when He returns!** That is going to be marvelous beyond anything that we can imagine!

Verse 8: “‘For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery for burnt offering; and I will direct their work in truth, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.’”

Just think about how long all of these words have been here. How God has hidden this by the way He caused the Bible to be written and put together, and that only those who love God and keep His commandments, His Sabbath and Holy Days, will understand. *This is why the Feast of Tabernacles is so great!*

Let’s see how the New Testament confirms every bit of this. This is something! ***Brethren, I hope you really grasp the magnitude of what God is showing us here!*** This is why we keep the Sabbath and Holy Days. Just think where we would be if we

didn't do it. Think how much that the poor Protestants don't know! But in their deception think that they do know! *But they don't comprehend!*

Romans 8:14: "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, **these are the sons of God.**"

That's why we pray and study every day and walk in God's way every day, so that we may be the sons of God. In 2-Cor. 6 it says *sons and daughters of the Almighty!*

Verse 15: "Now, you have not received a spirit of bondage again unto fear, but you have received the Spirit of sonship, whereby we call out, 'Abba, Father.' The Spirit itself bears witness conjointly with our own spirit, **testifying that we are the children of God.** Now, if *we are* children, *we are* also heirs... [meaning you are going to inherit] ...truly, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if indeed we suffer together with Him, so that we may also be glorified together with Him" (vs 15-17).

With the things we're going to have to face in the world when we leave here and go back to our own homes, back into the world again, here's what we need to remember:

Verse 18: "For I reckon that the sufferings of the present time **are not worthy to be compared with the glory that shall be revealed in us.**... [part of our very being] ...For the earnest expectation of the creation..." (vs 18-19).

See how important it is for us? Think about **the whole creation of God is waiting for the resurrection of the children of God!** They don't know it, but God has His time-schedule!

"...itself is awaiting the manifestation of the sons of God, because the creation was subjected to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of Him who subjected *it* in hope, in order that the creation itself might be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God." (vs 19-21).

I tell you that Revelation is really alive today, when you look at it and all the events that are talking place in the world.

Revelation 20:4: "And I saw thrones; and they that sat upon them, and judgment was given to them; and *I saw* the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus, and for the Word of God, and those who did not worship the beast or his image, and did not receive the mark in their foreheads or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years." *And after that on into the ages of eternity!*

Out in the universe wherever God wants us

to go, with beauty, splendor and living forever and loving God and all the saints and all the people converted and brought in by the plan of God. That is going to be the glorious time, indeed!

Verse 6: "Blessed and Holy is the one who has part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power. But they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years."

That's what the Millennium means; the Feast of Tabernacles! The great Feast of God for the great harvest, the great influx of those coming into the Kingdom of God. Remember: **of the increase of His Government there is no ending going out into the ages of eternity!** Amen!

Scriptural References:

- 1) Leviticus 23:34-37
- 2) Deuteronomy 16:16-17
- 3) Leviticus 23:38-44, 1-2
- 4) Acts 3:12-21
- 5) Isaiah 9:6-7
- 6) Isaiah 33:14-22
- 7) Psalm 15:1-5
- 8) Psalm 46:1-9
- 9) Psalm 37:9-10, 28-29, 22, 32, 34, 39-40
- 10) Isaiah 30:18-21
- 11) Ezekiel 36:21-38
- 12) Isaiah 2:1-5
- 13) Isaiah 61:1-8
- 14) Romans 8:14-21
- 15) Revelation 20:4

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- John 15
- Philippians 2
- Isaiah 59
- Matthew 5
- Zechariah 14
- Isaiah 4
- Luke 4
- 2 Corinthians 6

FRC:bo
Transcribed:

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The Dwelling Place of God I

(Day 2—FOT)

Fred R. Coulter—October 11, 2022

Greetings, brethren! Welcome to the Day 2 of the Feast of Tabernacles!

- Why are we here?
- Why is it called the Feast of Tabernacles?
- What is going to be the purpose in it?
- How is this going to affect our lives?
- How is this going to affect the whole world?

It will, because let's begin at the ending. Then we will go to the beginning. This is going to be exciting and fulfilling!

Ephesians 3:14—*Paul writes*: “For this cause I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ... [to the Father and the Son, both] ...of Whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named.” *That's the ending!*

Let's look at another thing, the promises given to us by God.

- why we're here
- why we study
- why we pray
- why we live our lives according to the Word of God and His commandments and laws

Because of the Family of God and the dwelling place of God is the whole purpose of why we're here!

Let's see what Peter wrote, because he understood God's plan in great detail.

2-Peter 1:1: “Simon Peter a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to those who have obtained the same precious faith...” *That faith and that belief comes from God and His Spirit!*

“...as ours by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ” (v 1)—*Christ in our lives!* That's an amazing thing; we'll talk about that a little later!

Verse 2: “Grace and peace be multiplied to you...” *Not just give to us, but multiplied over and over and over again!*

“...**in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord**” (v 2). *We're going to learn more of God's way today!*

Verse 3: “According as His Divine power has given to us all things that *pertain* to life... [this

life and eternal life] ...and Godliness, through the knowledge of Him Who called us by *His own* glory and virtue.” *Think of that!* Think about ***the calling that God has given*** to each one of us!

Verse 4: “Through which **He has given to us the greatest and most precious promises...** [three can't be anything greater anywhere on earth or in heaven] ...that through these you may **become partakers of the Divine nature...**”

Becoming a son or daughter of God and living with God! Imagine that! Yes, that's what God's plan pictures!

“...having escaped the corruption *that is in the world through lust*” (v 4)—*then Peter gives the steps on how to do it!*

We're going to look at some overall things that are going to help us understand what God is doing.

Titus 1—It's very interesting that God did not reveal this to Paul until the very end. The very last when he was in prison, just before he died. This is the capstone that he understood, and he wants us to understand, as well, that we're not just dealing with a religion:

- to make you better people in the world
- to make us more acceptable
- to make us more delightful

Hopefully, we will be better that way, but that's not the whole plan. ***God has something greater than that!***

Titus 1:1: “Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, **according to the faith of God's elect...**”

- the faith that He gives to us
- the belief
- the strength
- the intervention
- the knowledge

“...**and the knowledge of the Truth...**” (v 1).

That's what we need, brethren, and that's what's missing in the world! They have the knowledge of good and evil and they can't discern good from evil today! They're so evil and captivated in this world that Satan rules profoundly today.

“...that *is* according to Godliness; **in the**

hope of eternal life...” (vs 1-2)—*to live forever!*

That’s what all religion pretends to give, a substitute for the real thing that God has already promised: *eternal life!*

“...which **God Who cannot lie promised before the ages of time**” (v 2).

So, we are reaching way back beyond. Let’s see some of that, and let’s see how that fits into the Feast of Tabernacles, because it’s so important. So important was this, that Paul also wrote it in 2-Timothy. Paul wrote 2-Tim. and Titus at the same time. This was the last time Paul wrote to Timothy; he knew that he was going to die.

There are some insights here that we have covered before, but let’s go over them again, because this adds to our understand *for the Feast of Tabernacles and the plan of God!*

2-Timothy 1:6: “For this reason, I admonish you to **stir up the gift of God that is in you** by the laying on of my hands.” *That’s the receiving of the Holy Spirit!*

In this age, and in this time, we need to do that, as well; “...**stir up the gift of God that is in you...**” **How do you do that?**

- through prayer
- through study
- through understanding the Word of God
- through looking in at the world and seeing the vast chasm that is opening up between the world and the people of God

Verse 7: “For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of sound-mindedness. Therefore... [based on that] ...you should not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner; but jointly suffer with *me for the sake of the Gospel, according to the power of God*” (vs 7-8).

Things were going so bad for the Church at that time that it looked like it was going to be exterminated and removed from the face of the earth. But it wasn’t, because this is God’s work!

Verse 9: “Who has saved us and called us with a Holy calling—not according to our works, **but according to His own purpose and grace...**”

That’s quite a thing to understand and really put it together. Let’s understand something about grace.

Sidebar: Grace is not the ‘escape hatch’ so you can continue to live in sin while you profess faith and belief in Christ! Grace is *the*

foundation of the knowledge and the relationship that we have with God the Father and Jesus Christ! That we have *direct connection to Them spiritually, with the Spirit of God through prayer, study and yielding to God!* Add to that *the power of faith, meditation and fasting* to draw close to God.

“...which was given us in Christ Jesus **before the ages of time**” (v 9).

Isn’t that amazing! You look at everything that there is and you see that it’s all planned out, all designed and that also tells us that God has greater overall plan! Let’s see what that is; let’s understand what God is doing! We will see some other things that fill in the blanks that are not filled in Genesis but are in other places.

Genesis 1:1: “In *the* beginning God... [there was God and Christ before the ages of time] ...created the heavens... [full stop] ...and the earth.”

We’ve seen some awesome and fantastic new pictures of the heavens going out 13-billion light years through the James Webb Telescope. In between creating the heavens and the earth was the creation of the angels.

Job is quite an interesting book, and it’s awfully hard to understand for some people. It is because Job was so righteous and good. But a quick summation of Job’s problem:

Job 35:1: “And Elihu answered and said”—*he’s talking to Job*, because Job was so righteous that he wanted to have a judge setup that would come down and he would judge between him and God. Elihu saw Job’s sin; Job’s other three friends didn’t see it. So, Elihu asked him this question:

Verse 2: “Do you think this to *be* right, you *that* say, ‘My righteousness is more than God’s?’” *That can never be!*

I want you to read all of Job 35-37! Job pleaded that ‘*Oh that God would come down and talk to me!*’ God answered his request and came and talked to him. Here’s where we find out that between the creation of the heavens and the earth, God created the angels. It’s the only place in the Bible that really shows it clearly.

Job 38:1: “Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said, ‘Who *is* this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Now gird up your loins like a man; for I will demand of you, and you shall answer Me’” (vs 1-3).

That was quite a conversation! In order to let Job see—read all of Job 38-39, and that will give you an overall picture of it—God asked Job

this:

Verse 4: “Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth?... [You’re so righteous, Job]: ...Declare it if you have understanding! Who has determined its measurements if you know?... [What are the measurement of the earth? *Pretty big!* And the universe? *Awesome!*] ...Or who has stretched the line upon it? On what are the foundations fastened to? Or who laid its cornerstone” (vs 4-6).

Verse 7 talks about angels. *Here is God laying the foundation of the earth and:* “When the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy?”

Why? *Because God originally gave the earth the angels!* That’s why! We will see that this helps answer the question of some of the difficult verses in Gen. 1.

What happened? In order to understand what happened, we have to come all the way back to Rev. 12. This is quite a thing, and why we need to put the Scriptures together to understand what they’re telling us; what the meaning is.

Rev. 12 reaches back in time before the angels of God—some of them—rebelled with Satan. How long a time were they on the earth before they rebelled? *We answered some of those questions on the Day of Atonement* before we came to the Feast of Tabernacles.

Revelation 12:1: “Then there appeared a great wonder in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and *having* the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.” *This is the plan of God as pictured by a woman!*

Verse 2: “And being with child, she cried in travail, and was in pain to deliver.” *That’s a forward projection to the birth of Jesus Christ!*

Verse 3: “And another sign was seen in heaven: and behold, a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns on his heads; and his tail swept away **a third of the stars of heaven**... [a third of the angels] ...and cast them to the earth...” (vs 3-4).

Let’s put this together with Job: When God created the earth and laid the foundation, they all rejoiced! But when God revealed His plan that all of the angels now would be beneath the coming sons and daughters of God—through the creation of man and woman—***Satan rebelled and took a third of the angels with him!***

Then it goes clear forward to the birth of Christ. Let’s put those two things together and come

back to Gen. 1. We see with the earth that now God is renewing the surface of the earth for human life.

Genesis 1:1: “In *the* beginning God created the heavens... [and then as we saw with the other Scriptures, the angels] ...and the earth”—*and they were all happy and rejoicing!*

But then they rebelled and left their habitation and they left the creation of God that God gave to them and Lucifer was the one who wanted to be ***as the Most High!*** He was cast down and a third of the angels went with him to the earth. What happened to the earth when they were cast down? *Right here it tells us:*

Verse 2: “And the earth was... [or became, meaning it was created before it became this]: ...**without form and void**...” *Hebrew: ‘tohu’ & ‘bohu’—chaos and confusion! God never created anything in chaos and confusion!*

“...and darkness *was* upon the face of the deep...” (v 2). *So, there was a first flood!* Even science today can see by the strata that there were two floods. This one and the one of Noah.

“...and the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters” (v 2).

This is when God began to ***renew the earth for mankind***, and all of the things that go on the earth ***to make it a complete habitation for man!***

Verse 3: “And God said, ‘Let there be light.’ And there was light”—*and darkness, and called it day and night* (v 5). Then we go through everything that God made.

He made the waters, brought forth dry land, the herbs and grass and things. Then He set the sun and moon in their proper positions ***for the appointed times, appointed seasons!*** (vs 14-16).

Then we find in v 20: “And God said, ‘Let the waters abound with **swarms of living creatures**...”

All of the creatures that God has made that are in the waters and oceans. They’re absolutely astounding! There is life in the deepest parts of the ocean that men did not know anything about until we have had the modern equipment that we have today that can go seven miles down into the depths of the abyss of the ocean. They find that there is *life!*

“...and let fowl fly over the earth on the face of the firmament of heaven” (v 20). *That’s an interesting statement there!*

Since birds and fish and different creatures live their lives being guided by the sun, *God set the sun its proper place and the moon in its proper*

place before He created the fish and the fowl and certain of the other animals that had to go by the use of the sun. So, it's all in perfect order as God created it.

Verse 21: “And God created great sea-animals, and every living creature that moves *with* which the waters swarmed after their kind, and every winged fowl after its kind. And God saw that *it was* good. And **God blessed them**, saying, ‘Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters of the seas, and let the fowl multiply in the earth’” (vs 21-22).

Is that not amazing? Sometimes when a lot of the birds get together in one place it's an amazing thing! God has made all of them and for the purpose to take care of the earth:

- get rid of insects
- clean the water
- provide food for mankind

That was the fifth day (v 23).

Verse 24: “And God said, ‘Let the earth bring forth living creatures after their kind—livestock, creeping things, and beasts of the earth—each after its kind.’ And it was so. And God made the beasts of the earth after their kind, and the livestock after their kind, and every creeping thing upon the earth after their kind. And God saw that it was good” (vs 24-25).

Here comes the creation of man—and that means *mankind*—and woman. Nothing in all the creation of God has been in the image and likeness of God as man has been.

Verse 26: “And God said, ‘Let **Us**...’”

We know that this means God the Father and Jesus Christ in the New Testament and the Most High and Jehovah in the Old Testament. It doesn't mean angels, the angels have no creative power.

“...make man in **Our** image, after **Our** likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the fowl of heaven and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that crawls upon the earth” (v 26).

What a statement that is; this is quite a thing! This is why human beings have the abilities that they do. Everything was to reproduce *after its kind!* Let's read this again:

Verse 26: “...‘**Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness...**’”

The untold phrase that the rest of the Bible shows is this: *and after Our kind!* That's what God devised before the ages of time!

Verse 27: “And God created man in His *own* image, in the image of God He created him. He created them male and female.”

It's always been male and female! All of the animals are male and female, all of the birds are male and female. ***Satan's way is to destroy it! Satan's world is what's going on today!*** Trying to say that men can give birth! They're working feverously for scientific ways in order to make that happen. But they will never be able to do it without using what God created in woman first! They're never going to be able to replicate God's creation!

In their rebellion they want to destroy the male and female creation of God and mix the genders and have transgenders and all the lying deception that goes with it. They're all going to suffer the penalty from God for defying God, for trying to replace God *with their own way!*

That's inspired by Satan the devil; that's what Satan wanted to do when he rebelled against God. He didn't like the thing of seeing God make human beings. *No, no, no!* because he rebelled and because he went against God, God made man after His own image and after His own likeness and gave man the dominion of the whole earth so that He (God) could be with man and they could dwell together.

We will see that Adam and Eve were in ***the dwelling place of God*** called *The Garden of Eden!*

So, *after God made them male and female*, v 28: And God blessed them. And God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the fowl of heaven and over every living thing that moves upon the earth’—*and it is so! That's exactly what has happened!*

Verse 31: “And God saw everything that He had made, and indeed, *it was exceedingly* good. **And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.**”

It says He made male and female, and that had to happen on the sixth day, because God made the most important day of the earth for all mankind: ***the Sabbath!***

Genesis 2:1: “Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And by *the beginning* of the seventh day...” (vs 1-2).

That's what it means; it doesn't mean *on the seventh day*, because He would have been working on the Sabbath.

Verse 2: “And by *the beginning* of the seventh day God finished His work, which He had made.” *That means that He also made Eve on the*

sixth day!

Verse 3: “And He rested on the seventh day from all His work, which He had made. And God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it... [made it Holy] ...because on it He rested from all His work, which God had created and made.”

Verse 7—*this backs up to the sixth day, and the rest of Gen. 2 covers the sixth day*: “Then the LORD God formed man *of the* dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.”

Breathing in the breath of life He breathed in the ***spirit of man*** as we know in 1-Cor. 2 there is a ***spirit in man that gives him***:

- consciousness
 - life
 - power of thought
- and with his mind*
- the power of choice—***free will choice***

But remember with that—we all have it; there is none of who do not have it—in order to know right from wrong, ***we have to know the Word of God! That knowledge has to come from God! No other place!***

- Gen. 1:27 it tells us that God made them
- Gen. 2:7 also including Eve a little later—tells us *how* He made man

Verse 8: “And the LORD God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there He put the man whom He had formed. And out of the ground the LORD God caused to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The Tree of Life also was in the middle of the garden, and the Tree of *the* Knowledge of Good and Evil” (vs 8-9). ***Then comes the rest of the creation of God!***

Verse 15: “And the LORD God took the man and put him into the Garden of Eden to dress it and keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, ‘You may freely eat of every tree in the garden, but you shall not eat of the Tree of *the* Knowledge of Good and Evil, for in the day that you eat of it in dying you shall surely die.’” (vs 15-17).

So, Adam were told right off! Of course Adam had no consciousness of what death was.

Verse 18: “And the LORD God said, ‘*It is* not good that the man should be alone. I will make a helper compatible for him.’ And out of the ground the LORD God *had* formed every animal of the field and every fowl of the air, and brought *them* to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called *each* living creature that *became* its name” (vs

18-19).

Apparently God made Adam early in the morning and put him in the garden, brought these animals and things all past him. Here they came, all the animals—male and female—the birds and creeping things, also male and female.

What was missing? Here was Adam, a male, but there was no female! So, here’s what God did after Adam names all the living things:

Verse 20: “And Adam gave names to all the livestock, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field, but there was not found a helper compatible for Adam. And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall over Adam... [sometime on the sixth day] ...and he slept. And He took one of his ribs, and *afterward* closed up the flesh underneath” (vs 20-21).

Verse 22: “Then the LORD God made the rib (which He had taken out of the man) into a woman, and He brought her to the man. And Adam said... [he knew what was going on; he knew what God was going to do] ...‘This *is* now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh. *She* shall be called Woman because *she* was taken out of Man.’ For this reason shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and they were not ashamed” (vs 22-25).

We’ll get through the rest of the story, ***and the dwelling place for God!***

(break@42:30)

Before we get into Gen. 3, there are certain things that we know that we don’t know. We know that God lived in the Garden of Eden. Adam and Eve lived in the Garden of Eden. Obviously, God had His place and Adam and Eve had their place. How long they lived that way before we come to Gen. 3 we don’t know.

But we do know that God never subjects a person to the trial that they went through here without knowledge of the Truth first. This didn’t mean that they received the full knowledge of God’s plan and everything like that; no they didn’t. But they were certainly taught the Law of God. Whatever God commanded them to do was the Law. So, that was before the serpent—Satan the devil—was let into the Garden of Eden to test Adam and Eve.

Since God gives free moral agency, we need to have some circumstances to substantiate and prove that we will choose what is right and do what is right. There is good and there is evil! There is right and there is wrong.

We can see—from the generation that we’re living in today—when you have a generation that is not taught right from wrong and good from evil. They are taught to love themselves and each individual becomes an entity unto himself. In other words, he becomes in his own mind ‘God,’ because **he decides** what’s right and wrong and good and evil.

We will see that’s exactly what happened to Adam and Eve. So, **God would not let the serpent in there until they had full knowledge!**

The point is that it doesn’t matter how long the time was, **it matters what they chose!** Just like with our own children growing up. We tell them ‘don’t do that!’ If they don’t do that, then everything is well. But if they do that, and they get themselves in trouble, then what happens? *Everything becomes a fight!* Then discipline must come for the infraction of what was done.

That’s a basic common tenet that we find in everything, because God is the One Who has established right and wrong *and* good and evil. God is the One Who is to decide what is right and what’s wrong *and* what is good and what’s evil.

So therefore, what is good, He made it His Law to do! What is evil is to not obey His Law! The three words we need to remember though all this episode is: **Obey My Voice!** As we go through and see this in the survey of what we’re going to do: **The Dwelling Place of God!**

Here we are, *the dwelling place of God* and He appeared to Adam and Eve pretty much like a human being. We find later on when God was talking to Moses and Moses was pleading with God to see His glory, God said, ‘No man can see My face and live.’ That is **no one can see God in His glory and live!**

IF God reduces Himself down to a appearing as a human being, **THEN** you can talk with God and He can talk with you; that’s what we have with Adam and Eve.

Genesis 3:1: “Now, the serpent was more cunning than any creature of the field, which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, ‘Is it true...’”

Why did Satan pick on the woman? *We don’t know!* She was there, and we will see Adam could have stopped the whole thing, but didn’t!

“...‘Is it true that God has said... [now he challenges God] ...‘You shall not eat of any tree of the garden?’” (v 1)—*making a false statement!*

If you know right from wrong, good from evil when you hear something false, what do you do? *You correct it, which Eve did!*

Verse 2: “And the woman said to the serpent, ‘We may freely eat the fruit of the trees of the garden, **but** of the fruit of the tree which *is* in the middle of the garden, God has *indeed* said, **“You shall not eat of it, neither shall you touch it, lest you die”**” (vs 2-3).

The phrase there, “...**neither shall you touch it...**” was probably additional instruction from God! Some have said that Eve added that to it. We have no substantiation that that was true. God told them!

Evil always has a comeback, so if you’re not prepared and grounded you can easily get trapped, which is what happened to Eve.

Verse 4: “And the serpent said to the woman, ‘In dying, you shall not surely die! For God knows...’”

Satan is accusing God and saying that God is hiding something from you that you need to know. This tells us that when anyone brings up any accusation against the Word of God, be careful because you can get yourself in trouble.

“...For God knows that in the day you eat of it, then your eyes shall be opened... [everyone wants new knowledge; everyone wants the secret thing known] ...and you shall be like God...” (vs 4-5).

God appeared to them more like a human being. So, it wasn’t that you will be like God in glory, power and things like this. You will be like God:

“...**deciding good and evil**” (v 5). *In other words, instead of following the commands of God and the rules of God, **you make your own rules!** **You decide what is good and evil!***

Look what has happened to the world since that time, because of that very same thing that is here, **and nothing has changed!**

Eve was curious; v 6: “And when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, and that it was pleasing to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make *one* wise, she took of its fruit and ate.... [nothing happened to her] ...She also gave to her husband **with her**, and he ate.” *There he was right there with her!*

It shows that whenever the head of the family sees something wrong that should not be, he should not go along with it. That carries all the way down in time, all the way down through everything

of history that we know.

Verse 7: “And the eyes of both of them were opened... [to see evil and closed to see good] ...and they knew that they *were* naked...”

Everything involved of what caused this to be this way, we don't know! The only way we can have some understanding of it is, look at this generation that we have today that believes that anything with sex goes! Well, that's not true! It's not true today, and it wasn't true back then. So, we don't know what happened, *but we do know that Satan always, always perverts sex!* What he's done today is probably what he did back then.

“...and they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves” (v 7).

Whenever you do something wrong, you always try and cover your bases; here it was to cover their nakedness.

- Did that do away with what they did? *No!*
- Did that change the circumstances of what they were in? *No!*

But the eating of the fruit changed the circumstances, and God knew!

Verse 8: “And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day....”

That means that God was coming from where His abode was in the Garden down to them. He knew what they had done. Obviously, He knew!

“...Then Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden” (v 8).

We know that nothing can be hidden from God; *nothing!* Every secret is going to be known, shouted from the housetop, exposed to show the ignominy of their sin. So, God knew!

Verse 9: “And the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, ‘Where are you?’” *Because they were hiding!*

You cannot hide from God! You can never, never hide from God! Everything you do is recorded on the spirit of man that you have, so God knows anyway!

Verse 10: “And he [Adam] said, ‘I heard You walking in the garden, and I was afraid because I am naked, and so I hid myself.’”

Verse 11: And He [God] said, ‘Who told you that you were naked?... [you might add in there, *and afraid*] ...**Have you eaten of the tree,**

which I commanded you that you should not eat?” *God wanted to find out if Adam would tell the Truth!*

- What happens when you get caught and you don't want to admit that you did it?
- Or that you we're responsible?
- What does human nature always do? What does Satan always cause people to do? *To blame someone else!*

But the truth is, each one of us from Adam and Eve down through all human beings, ***we're responsible for our own choices and decisions!***

Adam didn't say that he ate of it because 'I was weak.' He didn't say that! Since he didn't answer the question, God asked him: “...**Have you eaten of the tree, which I commanded you that you should not eat?**”

Verse 12: “And the man said, ‘The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate.’”

The question to Adam is: Why didn't you refuse? *He could have!* But he didn't!

Verse 13: “And the LORD God said to the woman, ‘What is this you have done?’... [she wasn't willing to admit what she did] ...And the woman said, ‘The serpent deceived me, and I ate.’”

That was true, she was deceived. So, here comes the judgment of God! Every sin requires a judgment, and there is a penalty. In this case this was so profoundly important that it affected all of mankind down through all history to this very day and beyond.

Think about that! That's why it's important that we understand how the Church got taken down internally? ***Men did things they knew weren't right!*** God had to bring a penalty and punishment upon them! Just like Adam and Eve were trust out of the Garden of Eden, ***God took away***—many times down through history—***the Church because of sin that came from Satan the devil!*** That's why this is important!

God brings His judgment beginning with the serpent! His judgment—as we will find out toward the end of the Feast of Tabernacles and the Last Great Day—and final punishment of Satan ***will be known!*** This is the beginning of it right here!

Verse 14: “And the LORD God said to the serpent, ‘Because you have done this you are cursed above all livestock, and above every animal of the field. You shall go upon your belly, and you shall eat dust all the days of your life. And I will put enmity between you and the woman, **and between**

your seed and her Seed...” (vs 14-15).

There has been aversion of serpents and snakes by human beings. For those who are Satan-lovers, the love and embrace snakes. *Quite a thing!*

“...**between your seed and her Seed...**” is a prophecy of Jesus Christ. This projects all the way forward 4,000 years. That’s why these early chapters of the Bible are important. Who was it that actually killed Christ? Was it not Satan? *Yes, indeed, it was! When he did he thought he has won!* But Christ was raised from the dead, because God’s plan is going forward and going to work out for the best for everyone!

“...He will bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel” (v 15). *That’s a sign of the crucifixion!*

Verse 16: “To the woman He said, ‘I will greatly increase your sorrow and your conception...’”

This is why mothers need to be especially alert, strong, loving, and teaching their children from infancy on up, *what is right!* If you don’t, you’re going to have enough sorrow and pain when the child is born, and you’re going to have enough sorrow and difficulties in them growing up. But if you don’t correct them and teach them, you’re going to have sorrow and misery just like this generation that we have today.

“...in sorrow shall you bring forth children. Your desire shall be toward your husband, and he shall rule over you” (v 16). *The husband is the head of the wife!* That’s the way God made it.

Verse 17: “And to Adam He said, ‘Because you have hearkened to the voice of your wife... [instead of to Me, to obey My voice] ...and have eaten of the tree—of which I commanded you, saying, “You shall not eat of it!”—the ground is cursed for your sake. In sorrow.... [women are going to have sorrow and men are a going to have sorrow] ...shall you eat of it all the days of your life.’”

Now we will see how long they lived in just a minute.

Verse 18: “It shall also bring forth thorns and thistles to you, and *thus* you shall eat the herbs of the field; in the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for dust you *are*, and to dust you shall return” (vs 18-19).

It doesn’t tell us how long Eve lived, but it tells us how long Adam lived.

Genesis 5:1: “This *is* the book of the

generations of Adam. In the day that God created man, He made him in the likeness of God. He created them male and female and blessed them, and He called their name Adam... [Mr. and Mrs. Adam] ...in the day when they were created” (vs 1-2).

It doesn’t tell about their sins here because they’re in Gen. 3.

Verse 3: “And Adam lived one hundred and thirty years and begat *a son* in his own likeness, after his own image, and he called his name Seth.”

The death of Abel was when they were 135-years-old. That’s a long time. Think about everything that may have gone on in that 135 years. We’re not told it, but the main thrust of everything we find in Gen. 4. *But let’s first finish off Gen. 3!*

Genesis 3:20: “And Adam called his wife’s name Eve because she was the mother of all *the* living.” *All the children!*

How many children they had, well the best we know of it is what Josephus wrote in his history of the people of Israel; that they had 56 children.

At that time, since all the genes were variant, what God undoubtedly did then was cause whatever race or color of the children to be born, He would cause the male and female to be born. Then they would marry. That’s how He established all the races of people and why Adam and Eve probably had 56 children. We can only surmise that. We can’t actually prove it. But I had to be something like that.

Verse 21: “And for Adam and his wife the LORD God made coats of skins and clothed them.”

That may have been made from goats, and it may have been a sin offering for what they had done.

They were mostly cutoff from God from that time forward. Before that, they lived in the Garden of Eden and had access to God every day. After that, here’s what God did:

Verse 22: “And the LORD God said, ‘Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to decide good and evil; and now, lest he put forth his hand and take also of the Tree of Life, and eat, and live forever—’”

Even to this day we don’t completely understand this verse. But we know that when we get to New Jerusalem, that there’s going to be the Tree of Life. How does that work as a spirit being? God hasn’t told us!

We have enough to take care of our lives right now, than to know what that’s going to be. So, we will know what it will be at the time.

Verse 23: “Therefore, the LORD God sent him out from the Garden of Eden to till the ground from which he had been taken. And He drove out the man, and He placed cherubim at the east of the Garden of Eden, and a flaming sword, which turned every way to guard the way to the Tree of Life” (vs 23-24).

I’ll just give you a little hint of everything. The whole layout of the Tabernacle and Temple of God is based upon the Garden of Eden and the East Gate. That’s a separate topic in itself.

Gen. 4 tells us that they knew of the Laws of God. God probably met Adam and Eve outside of the gate of the Garden of Eden to teach them various things of what they needed to know. They also had a sacrificial system, which probably began with the two goats that were undoubtedly used to make their coverings after they had sinned.

Genesis 4:1: “Then Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, and said, ‘I have gotten a man from the LORD.’” *Because of the prophecy that was given after they had sinned!*

Eve thought that here was the one that God promised. But it wasn’t!

Verse 2: “And she bore again, his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.”

There’s nothing wrong with being a tiller of the ground. There were certain laws about animals and animal sacrifice, and tithing and firstlings that we see given to the children of Israel. So, God probably gave the same laws back here. We’re not told, because we don’t need to take up the whole Bible for that information. We can rightly deduce it from what God gave to the children of Israel.

What were the laws concerning what was grown in the ground? *The laws given to Israel were that you would bring the first of the firstfruits, the very first ripe you would bring and offer it to God, giving it to the priest!* Then of what the crop would produce, ten percent would also go to God. That’s what we find with the children of Israel.

So, when Cain did not do what was right, he had to break a Law of God concerning what he should have brought, but he **decided** to bring whatever **he wanted!**

Remember a principle from this: whenever **we decide** that we do what we think is right, **in place of what God says is right**, we’re going to get ourselves in trouble.

Verse 3: “It came to pass that Cain brought

to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground. And Abel also brought of the firstlings of his flock *and* of the fat of it... [it shows the law of the firstlings and offerings] ...And the LORD had regard unto Abel and his offering” (vs 3-4). Why? *Because he did according to the command of God!*

Verse 5: “But He did not have regard unto Cain and his offering. And Cain was extremely angry and his countenance fell.”

Notice that God was right there wherever the offering was, and Cain became jealous of Abel, because God accepted his offering, but refused Cain’s offering.

Because you sin, because God says it’s not right, and you get angry, does that make it right? What are you supposed to do when you sin? *Repent!* Things would have been entirely different **if** Cain would have repented and corrected and brought the right offering of the ground.

Verse 6: “And the LORD said to Cain, ‘Why are you so angry? And why has your countenance fallen? If you do well... [correctly] ...shall you not be accepted?... [of course] ...But if you do not do well, **sin lies at the door**...’” (vs 6-7). *That’s an interesting statement!* Let’s examine that a minute. What is sin?

1-John 3:4: “Everyone who practices sin is also practicing lawlessness, for sin is lawlessness.” *Or transgression of the Law!*

There was a Law here, because there couldn’t be sin without a Law. **Where there is no Law, there is no sin!** So, the Law was in effect! This also shows that those who claim there was no Law from Adam and Eve until the children of Israel at Mt. Sinai, **are completely wrong!** God cannot bring a punishment if there is not a Law!

Genesis 4:7 “...But if you do not do well, **sin lies at the door**. Its desire *is* for you, but **you must rule over it!**”—*showing that every human being, when they sin, must overcome it!* That starts with *repentance!* We have to rule over

- our own mind
- our own emotions
- our own feelings

Cain did not do it!

Verse 8: “And Cain talked with his brother Abel. And it came to pass that when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him.”

Isn’t that the way that those dedicated to evil always do? *They come after those who are*

righteous, to get rid of them! That's what we're seeing today!

This 'woke' movement is a 'religion'! They want to enforce it on everyone else. Who is the power behind it? *Satan the devil!*

Verse 9: "And the LORD said unto Cain, 'Where *is* your brother Abel?' And he said, 'I do not know. *Am I* my brother's keeper?'" *Of course you are!*

Verse 10: "And He said, 'What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood cries to Me from the ground.'"

Why did it do that? *Because God knew where the blood was shed, and the life is in the blood, and the life was fleeting out, in a sense crying out to God!* Cain did not repent.

Here's something else that happens, and we can see it in the world today: there are some countries that are just absolutely cursed because of:

- their civilization
- their religion
- their laws
- the way that they live

The ground is cursed!

Verse 11: "And now you *are* cursed from the earth, which opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. When you till the ground, it shall no longer yield its strength to you, and you shall be a wanderer and a fugitive upon the earth" (vs 11-12). *A nomad, going from place to place!* Staying for however long the few resources would last.

Verse 13: "And Cain said to the LORD, 'My punishment *is* greater than I can bear.'"

Oh yes, those who perpetrate terrible crimes don't like the punishment coming upon them. Well, let's see:

Verse 14: "Behold, You have driven me out from the face of the earth today..." *Cain could no longer come to the east end of the Garden of Eden to meet with God!* he was driven out!

"...and I shall be hidden from Your face. And I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer in the earth, and it shall be *that* anyone who finds me shall kill me" (v 14), *Oh, poor little baby!*

Verse 15: "And the LORD said to him, 'Therefore, whoever kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold.' And the LORD set a mark upon Cain so that anyone who found him should not kill him;"

What was the mark? *We don't know!* We can guess! (speculation): Was it a cross? *Everyone would see it!* They would know that this is Cain; he killed his brother Abel.

Verse 16: "And Cain went out from the presence of the LORD and lived in the land of Nod, to the east of Eden." *Clear away!*

Verse 17: "And Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bore Enoch; and he built a city, and called the name of the city after the name of his son, Enoch." *So, he built a city instead of wandering!*

All of this has to do with ***the dwelling place of God!*** God wants to be with His people. But people don't want to be with God Who gives them His Laws.

I want you to think on that and see what it is that today is a curse and bane on the people of America in a 'religious' sense of the same pattern that we have here. That they make their own rules and regulations ***and claim that they're from God!*** ***They're not!***

Scriptural References:

- 1) Ephesians 3:14
- 2) 2 Peter 1:1-4
- 3) Titus 1:1-2
- 4) 2 Timothy 1:6-9
- 5) Genesis 1:1
- 6) Job 35:1
- 7) Job 38:1-7
- 8) Revelation 12:1-4
- 9) Genesis 1:1-3, 20-22, 24-28, 31
- 10) Genesis 2:1-3, 7-9, 15-25
- 11) Genesis 3:1-19
- 12) Genesis 5:1-3
- 13) Genesis 3:20-24
- 14) Genesis 4:1-7
- 15) 1 John 3:4
- 16) Genesis 4:7-17

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Job 35-37; 39
- Genesis 1:5; 14-16; 23

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The Dwelling Place of God II

Lessons from the calling of Abraham to his test of faith
(Day 3—FOT)

Fred R. Coulter—October 12, 2022

Greetings, brethren! Welcome to Day 3 of the Feast of Tabernacles!

Hope you're having a great Feast, having a good time fellowshiping with the brethren. If you happen to be at home alone, you're not alone because God is with you—God the Father and Jesus Christ—and the Word of God and the Spirit of God is there!

That's the important thing because people can be in midst of many, many people, yet, be alone! Whatever our circumstances are, let's thank God for it and continue on with the Feast of Tabernacles.

This is day 3 for *The Dwelling Place of God!* We saw that in the beginning that God was living with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. Then after they were expelled from the Garden, they couldn't go back in there. It's very likely that they would meet God at the East entrance. There they would get instruction from God.

As we saw, after the death of Abel, by his brother Cain killing him, then we see that sin multiplies. But we also see that when sin takes place, first there is an exile. That's what happened to Adam and Eve. They couldn't go back into the Garden of Eden.

Then there was judgment against them because of their sin. *Judgment in the way:*

- that they would live
- that they would have children
- that the children would be
- of the environment

which was changed because of their sin! There would be weeds, thorns and things like this that Adam would have to put up with. He would have to work 'in the sweat of his brow.' *All of this because they wanted to go their own way!*

Let's fast forward to today! We are seeing the same thing exactly as Jesus said.

Matthew 24:32: "Now, learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branches have already become tender, and it puts forth its leaves, you know that summer *is* near. In like manner also, when you see all these things... [transpiring] ...know that it is near..."

How near is *near*? *To us it's a lot farther than it is to God!*

"...even at *the* doors. Truly I say to you, this generation shall in no wise pass away until all these things have taken place" (vs 33-34).

The next verse is something that if people would take this for exactly what He's saying, and live their lives accordingly, we wouldn't have a world full of sin like we have now. But God knows the beginning from the ending.

Verse 35: "The heaven and the earth shall pass away, but My words shall never pass away." *But they won't perish until the New Heaven and the New Earth!* But God's Word extends beyond that!

- the Word of God is sure
- the Word of God is true
- the Word of God is righteous
- the Word of God will always take place in the time that He has determined

Verse 36: "But concerning that day, and the hour, no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only."

While Jesus was on the earth, He didn't know! The Father had put all of this under His authority!

Verse 37: "Now, as *it was in* the days of Noah, so shall *it* also be *at* the coming of the Son of man. For as in the days that *were* before the Flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage..." (vs 37-38).

It also shows in Luke 17 that they were planting and building and life was seemingly to be going on normally! But it was normal perversion, ***just like it is today! Every man/woman doing what is right in his/her own eyes, and the whole society is given over to Satan the devil, like it is right now!***

"...until the day that Noah entered the ark; and they were not aware until the Flood came and took *them* all away; so shall *it* also be *at* the coming of the Son of man" (vs 38-39).

Jesus is going to return in His time and in His way! He's going to setup the Kingdom of God! That's why we're here at the Feast of Tabernacles.

- to learn how this is all going to take place
- to learn what we are going to do
- how human beings will be learning how to live

It won't be like today!

Remember this truism: ***Whenever you get rid of the laws and commandments of God, and you substitute them for:***

- *your own* words
- *your own* laws
- *your own* commandments

THEN you are making yourself a god! When that happens to the whole society everything comes unglued!

Gen. 4—let's see a pretty powerful verse when you bring it down to our day and add in the words that Jesus said that, 'In the days of Noah, so shall it be in the days of the coming of the Son of Man.'

Genesis 4:20: "And Adah bore Jabal... [this is the lineage from Cain] ...he was the father of those who dwell in tents and have livestock. And his brother's name *was* Jubal; he was **the father of all those who corruptly** play the lyre and the pipe" (vs 20-21).

Corrupted music! Not many people know that there are laws of music so you can have a proper understanding of music and the effect of music. God wants us to have music:

- He made us to sing
- He made us to play instruments
- He made us to praise Him in song

But the corrupt music that we have today with the rock music, rap music, rebellious music twists the mind and the emotions of people!

It twists so much that they are really unable to think. People who have music *pounded* into their very being... I know that's why I have experienced and that was when I went to a movie with Dolores, I remember the music was so loud and so penetrating that it literally went through your whole body. When you have that kind of music you cannot think; you cannot make rational statements! This is how there is so much perversion in the world today! The perversion starts at the kiddy level with Walt Disney and others like it.

Now they have TikTok; thank you China for all the perversions you're bringing upon us! But they know TikTok in China is entirely different than TikTok in America, which is to pervert the minds of our children. If you have children don't let them have TikTok and don't let them have their electronic devices in their bedrooms alone. That can lead to trouble!

We have the generations of Noah down through Enoch and Methuselah and down to Noah. Let's see what happens when the whole society is run amok ***and everyone doing what is right in his own eyes!***

This is for us to learn, because it won't be that way during the Millennium. *We will be there:*

- to teach the people
- to help the people
- to watch over them
- to make sure that *God's way* is to them a blessing

God is going to take away the human nature that is evil and replace it with something that is good, called *a mind of flesh and a heart of flesh!* That's interesting! What do most people have today? *Most people today have degrees of the mind of Satan the devil!* Let's see what happens when that occurs. While you're at it:

- analyze the news
- analyze what is given on television
- analyze all the ads

Every single one of them is an indoctrination to enter into your mind, for you to become part of this world's society! God has called us out of it! That's why we're here keeping the Feast of Tabernacles! Here is what God saw:

- What do you think God is seeing today?
- What did Jesus say it would be like? *Like it was in the days of Noah!*

Genesis 6:5: "And the LORD saw that the wickedness of man *was* great on the earth, and **every...** [each and every one] ...**imagination...** [whatever is going on in your mind] ...**of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.**"

- Is that not what we have today?
- Is that not what we have on television?

Remember that **no one can ever make sin righteous! It's impossible!** Where do we find that today but in the churches!

Verse 6: "And the LORD repented that He had made man on the earth, and He *was* grieved in His heart."

To see the power that He gave to man and woman—so that they would be able to worship Him and they would be able to do great things—was turned over to Satan the devil! It got so evil that God was completely upset about it.

So, here's what He had to do, and this is coming on our society today. Not with a flood like it

was with Noah, **but destruction is coming!** We see progressively!

Verse 7: “And the LORD said, ‘I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, and the crawling thing, and the fowl of the air; for I repent that I have made them.’”

Here’s another great lesson of the Bible: **One man can change everything!** That’s important to realize! We will see that again later.

Verse 8: “But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.”

What do you know about that? *There’s grace in the Old Testament!*

Verse 11: “Now the earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. And God looked upon the earth, and behold, it was corrupt, for all flesh had corrupted its way upon the earth. And God said to Noah, ‘The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them. And, behold, I will destroy them *with* the earth’” (vs 11-13).

Now we see that afterward God promised not to do it again with a flood. But when it gets to the point that it is so corrupt, **it must be destroyed!** That’s why you have the rise and fall of nations, empires, states, provinces and now we’re seeing it in cities in America! They are so perverse and so corrupt that people who were what we would call *normal people* in society move out of there and let all the wicked have it alone and they completely tear it down!

That’s why God has called us to learn those lessons! Once the heart and mind of a human being becomes perverted, evil and wretched they can think of nothing but evil all the time! Notice what Jesus said:

Mark 7:21: “For **from within...**”

This is why there’s repentance, forgiveness, baptism and the receiving of the Holy Spirit and the renewing of the mind! **Here is what it is cutoff from God:**

“...out of the hearts of men go forth evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders” (v 21).

Learn something true and right: **Whenever you leave the true God and His laws and commandments, you then join the ranks of Satan the devil!** Then in short generations the whole society becomes perverse! This is what we see in the world today; **all of this magnified!**

Verse 22: “Thefts, covetousness,

wickednesses, guile, licentiousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness; **all these evils go forth from within, and these defile a man**” (vs 22-23).

Look at it today! Look at how much homosexuality there is, transgender there is, **trying to change the gender of children** without the permission of the parents! *If that is not evil, I don’t know what is!* They ruin and destroy the lives of those children for their own sexual perversion! That’s just the way that it is today.

Let’s look at what happened *after* the Flood! They had a chance to start again and a chance to do it right! They had a chance to obey the commandments of God. But did they do it? *NO!* Even the grandson of Noah committed on Noah himself—when he was sleeping—a perverted sex act! So, it couldn’t even go one generation without it referring back to what it was before the Flood.

God promised He would never do a Flood again to destroy the earth. He gave the rainbow as a sign! God blessed everything after the Flood, and God withdrew Himself from living on the earth, and now operated from heaven down to the earth. God gave the promise:

Genesis 8:22: “While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.”

That’s true, that’s happened all the way down!

Genesis 9:1: “And God blessed Noah and his sons, and He said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply, and replenish the earth. And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth, and upon every bird of the air, upon all that moves on the earth, and upon all the fish of the sea. Into your hand they are delivered’” (vs 1-2). *Same thing He gave to Adam and Eve!*

Everything was good for a while, and then we come to Gen. 10. Noah lived for 350 years after the Flood. So, Gen. 10 is something!

Genesis 10:8: “And Cush begat Nimrod....”

Book: *The Two Babylons* by Alexander Hislop {truthofGod.org} You need to get that book and read it. This tells the history of the world from that time—350 years later—beginning with Nimrod.

Verse 8: “And Cush begat Nimrod He began to be a mighty one in the earth. He was a mighty hunter **against the LORD.** Therefore, it is said, ‘Like Nimrod—**the mighty hunter against the LORD.**’ And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel and Erech and Accad and Calneh, in the land

of Shinar” (vs 8-10)—*then he built Nineveh and other cities!*

His wife’s name was Semiramis; she became the original queen of heaven. We have a very interesting book that preserved the history of the world after the Flood in artwork. How that the evil ones took over and ***pushed back against Shem and Japheth and got rid of the children who obeyed God!*** Shem and Japheth had to live separately from where the Cushites were. ***Everything was starting to go the way it was before the Flood!*** Let’s see what happened and just like today:

- Where do we want to go? *Mars!*
- Really??
- How are you going to live there? *We’ll figure out some way!*

Genesis 11:1: “And the whole earth was of one language and one speech. And it came to pass, as they traveled from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar. And they settled there. And they said to one another, ‘Come, let us make bricks and burn them thoroughly.’ And they had brick for stone, and they had asphalt for mortar. And they said, ‘Come, let us build us a city and a tower, *with its top reaching into the heavens....*’” (vs 1-4).

Does this mean that they were figuring out how to get out into space? *Could be!*

“...And let us establish a name for ourselves, ***lest we be scattered upon the face of the whole earth***” (v 4).

They knew that God was going to place each in their own part of the earth. The fledgling nations of people would have their own nations. They didn’t want that! So they rebelled and here they are rebelling again against God!

Verse 5: “And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men had built. And the LORD said, ‘Behold, the people *are* one and they all have one language. And this *is only the beginning of* what they will do—now nothing, which they have imagined to do, will be restrained from them” (vs 5-6).

Remember the *days of Noah* continued 350 years *after* the Flood!

Verse 7: “Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, so that they cannot understand one another’s speech.’ So, the LORD scattered them abroad from that place upon the face of all the earth. And they quit building the city. Therefore, the name of it is called Babel, ***because the LORD confused the language of all the earth there....***” (vs 7-9).

Think about this: *God made all languages!* Hebrew is ***not*** a sacred language! It is a human language that the Hebrews speak. They have the Bible written—the Old Testament—in the Hebrew language. But it’s not a sacred language that carries over to the New Testament. There’s plenty of proof in the New Testament to show that sacred names should not be in the N.T. The reason is:

All the apostles knew Hebrew and could write it; the Apostle Paul did, but:

- Did he put any sacred names in his 14 Epistles? *No, he did not!*
- Did any of the other apostles put sacred names in what they wrote—James, Peter, John and Jude, Matthew, Mark and Luke? *No!*

Sidebar on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2): All of them heard the apostles speak in the different languages and they said, ‘We heard them speak of the wonderful things of God in our own language.’ So, the language that came out, inspired of the Holy Spirit, for the people to hear, and the name of God that they heard was in the language that they were born in.

Verse 9: “Therefore, the name of it is called Babel, because the LORD confused the language of all the earth there. And from there the LORD scattered them abroad upon the face of all the earth.”

The genealogy and the rest of Gen. 10 comes down to Abraham. We will see that Abraham is the beginning of what all the rest of the Bible will be based upon. This will extend into the Millennium, into the time that we are teaching the people God’s way. Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all of the patriarchs and prophets will all be there along with all of us.

We’re going to teach the people God’s way! At that time God will restore the language to the people that He wants. So, all will speak the same language! We don’t know what that will be, and probably will not be Hebrew; but something entirely different!

Gen. 12—here we come to Abraham, and let’s see that this is the key for us to understand. When we come to the calling of Abraham, ***everything else in the rest of the Bible flows from here!*** This is important to understand, because ***God will not dwell with anyone who disobeys Him!*** We see that beginning with Adam and Eve and all the way down to here. That goes all the way down to our day and on into the Millennium, on into the second resurrection! *That’s the whole lesson:*

- Will you *love* God?
- Will you *obey* Him?
- Will you *listen* to Him?

This is why we're here at the Feast of Tabernacles, so that we can understand in order for us, when we enter the Kingdom of God, to help all of the people learn about God. We have got to understand ourselves, human nature, what it's all about, and God's way that He wants us to live! Let's read about the calling of Abraham. We will see that this is the same requirement as the New Testament.

Genesis 12:1: "And the LORD said to Abram, 'Get out of your country, and from your kindred, and from your father's house into a land that I will show you. And I will make *of* you a great nation. And I will bless you and make your name great. And you shall be a blessing'" (vs 1-2).

Go clear back to what Adam and Eve had; God blessed them! If they would have obeyed, the whole thing of how the world had turned out would be different. But they didn't! After that, who obeyed God? *Seth, Enoch and Noah! Only three!* After the Flood, the only one to obey God besides Noah was Abraham! Here's the requirement, and God said that He would bless them!

Verse 3: "And I will bless those that bless you and curse the one who curses you. And in you **shall all families of the earth be blessed.**"

Think about down through history how many people that's going to be! But because of one man: *Abraham!* Here what we see:

Verse 4: "Then Abram departed, even as the LORD had spoken to him. And Lot went with him. And Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their substance that they had gathered, and the people that they had gained in Haran. And they went forth to go into the land of Canaan. And they came into the land of Canaan" (vs 4-5).

Ten Years Later: Abraham was 85-years-old

Genesis 15:1: "After these things the Word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, 'Fear not, Abram, **I am your shield and your exceedingly great reward.**'"

Same way with us! God is your shield and your exceedingly great reward! Abraham at age 85 and having no children, but trusting God and going wherever He led Abram to go:

Verse 2: "And Abram said, 'Lord GOD, what will You give me since I go childless, and the

heir of my house *is* this Eliezer of Damascus?'"

Abram could have made legally Eliezer his heir. But God said, 'No!'

Verse 4: "And behold, the Word of the LORD *came* to him saying, 'This man shall not be your heir; **but he that shall come forth out of your own loins shall be your heir.**'"

God did it this way to show the importance of it. How that God would keep His word in His time! Same way with us. We're told in Gal. 3 that *if you are Christ's, you are Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise!* So, this goes clear back to Gen. 12.

Verse 5: "And He brought him outside and said, 'Look now toward the heavens and number the stars—if you are able to count them.' And He said to him, 'So shall your seed be.'"

You've seen the recent pictures from the James Webb^[transcriber's correction] Telescope; it's awesome! Abraham didn't see any of those, but when God said to look at the stars, He included all of them. That's quite a promise to be as the stars. From this we get two seeds:

1. physical seed—Isaac
2. spiritual seed—Jesus Christ

Sidebar: This is why you have all the genealogies in the Old Testament, so that this measures all the generation down to Christ!

The last book of the Old Testament is 1st & 2nd Chronicles and they have all the genealogies. So, when the New Testament begins in the book of Matthew it starts out with the ***genealogies of Christ***, the Son of Abraham, the Son of David. Amazing to show that God kept His promise and the legal descendants down to the Christ! They're both contained right here in Gen. 15. So, Abraham believed God and had the sacrifice and so forth.

14 Years Later: Abraham was age 99-years-old

Then we come to Gen. 17; remember that in Gen. 12 Abraham was 85-years-old, and God still had not given a physical heir. God was ready to do it.

Genesis 17:1: "And when Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him... "

He appeared personally like a human being, and He also appeared in vision; now He's going to fulfill the promise: This is really something when you put it all together!

“...‘I am the Almighty God! Walk before Me and be perfect.’” (v 1). *That’s a New Testament requirement for us!*

Verse 2: “‘And I will make My covenant between Me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly.’ And Abram fell on his face. And God talked with him, saying, ‘As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, and you shall be a father of **many nations**. Neither shall your name any more be called Abram, but **your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you a father of many nations**’” (vs 2-5).

Think about this: God speaks of the things that are not as thought they are! It wasn’t until a year later that Isaac was born. It was one son! Think on that! That’s why when we look at the promises of God and when He tells us He’s going to do, we have to understand that they’re going to come in the way that **God** determines, and *not in the way that we think!*

We will also learn another lesson, that they come in a greater way and in greater magnitude than we suppose.

(break@47:05)

Let’s understand something else about how God looks at things. He looks at them as though they’re already done, because He knows what He’s going to do. Sometimes, because it doesn’t look like that God is keeping His word, and after 14 years someone could say that God hasn’t kept His word. **But His timetable is always different than ours!**

Let’s see how God expands this; Genesis 17:6: “‘And I will make you exceedingly fruitful... [but Abraham only had one son; never forget that] ...and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you’—down through generations! But it’s from Abraham!

Does that give you a little better understanding of:

Galatians 3:29 “‘And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise’”? *Yes, it does!*

Genesis 17:7: “‘And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your seed after you in their generations **for an everlasting covenant**...’”

This means that down through Christ, down through the return of Christ, the resurrection of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the saints, all the patriarchs, everybody in the first resurrection. **Most of them will be because of what God did for Abraham!**

That’s something! And this is what we need to understand and realize: that the Kingdom of God is coming and God is going to bring it. Christ is going to return and setup the Government of God and the government shall be upon His shoulders. **Right next to Him will be Abraham!** Let’s continue to see how this expands!

Verse 7: “‘And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your seed after you in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your seed after you. And I will give the land to you in which you are a sojourner, and to your seed after you, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession. And I will be their God’” (vs 7-8).

Not only is Abraham the father of many nations, but listen to what it says here referring to Abraham:

Romans 4:12: “‘And *that he* might become the father of the circumcision—not to those who are of the circumcision only, but also to those who walk in the footsteps of the faith of our father Abraham, which he had during *his* uncircumcision.’” *He believed God!* Now, here is the promise:

Verse 13: “‘For the promise to Abraham, or to his seed, **that he should be heir of the world**...’

When God gives a promise of a blessing, it goes way beyond what we think!

“...**the world** was not given through law; rather, *it was* through the righteousness of faith; because if those of the law be the heirs, then faith is made void, and the promise is made of no effect. For the Law works out wrath; because where no law is, there is no transgression. For this reason *it is* of faith...” (vs 13-16). *Now it goes over to us!*

- Are we going to be in the Kingdom of God?
- Is that not the greatest Kingdom that is going to be?
- Is not Abraham the one who is the progenitor of all of that for all that enter into it? *Yes!*

Yes!

Verse 16: “‘For this reason *it is* of faith in order that *it might be* by grace, to the end that the promise might be certain to all the seed—not to the one who is of the law only, **but also to the one who is of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all**. (Exactly as it is written: ‘I have made you a father of many nations.’) before God in Whom he believed, Who gives life to the dead, and calls the things that are not as though they are” (vs 16-17).

This is the kind of faith, the kind of hope that we need to have. We are the recipients of it to bring it into the world at the return of Jesus Christ. Then at that time we will see Christ and all the saints will be dwelling on the earth. That's quite a thing!

We need to think way much more broadly than we've ever thought! Much more deeply about what God has promised than we have even considered. This is tremendous!

Verse 21: "For he was fully persuaded that what He has promised, He is also able to do."

Sometimes there are circumstances that come along that we don't trust in the promises of God the way that we should, or hope in the promises of God the way that we should, because our circumstances are the exact opposite. That's what it was with Abraham. He went 25 years without a child. From age 75 to age 100. How long have we been waiting? That's why we need to keep believing!

Verse 19: "And he, not being weak in the faith, considered not his own body, already having become dead, being about one hundred years old, nor *did he consider* the deadness of Sarah's womb; **and he did not doubt the promise of God through unbelief...**" (vs 19-20). *He was overwhelmed by it, but he didn't doubt it!*

"...rather, he was strengthened in the faith, giving glory to God; **for he was fully persuaded...**" (v 21).

This is what we need to understand here, especially during the Feast of Tabernacles. What God has promised with the coming Kingdom of God, **are we fully persuaded that He is going to do it?**

It doesn't matter what the timeframe is, because the timeframe is in the hands of God. It doesn't matter what the circumstances may look like, because God can change all of that in an instant!

Verse 20: "...he was strengthened in the faith, giving glory to God; for he was fully persuaded **that what He has promised, He is also able...** [or had the power] **...to do**" (vs 20-21).

Verse 22: "As a result, it was also imputed to him for righteousness. But it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him; rather, *it was also written* for our sakes, to whom it shall be imputed—to those who believe in Him Who raised Jesus our Lord from *the* dead; Who was delivered for our offenses and was raised for our justification" (vs 22-25).

See how all of these things come back to the New Testament. It's important for us to understand. Gen. 17 is where God gave the promise for the physical nations.

Genesis 17:9: "And God said to Abraham, 'And you shall keep My covenant, you and your seed after you in their generations. **This is My covenant, which you shall keep, between Me and you and your seed after you.** Every male child among you shall be circumcised'" (vs 9-10).

That's for the physical lineage, the physical lands and physical children. All the males!

Verse 11: "And you shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin. And it shall be a sign of the covenant between Me and you." *Circumcision is not of the Jews!*

Jesus said that it's *of the fathers; Abraham, Isaac and Jacob!* Here's what God told Abraham concerning his own physical seed:

Verse 15: "And God said to Abraham, 'As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but her name *shall be* Sarah. And I will bless her, and give you a son also of her. Yes, I will bless her, **and she shall be a mother of nations—kings of people shall be from her**'" (vs 15-16).

Here's Abraham 99-years-old, he had been walking now for 24 years believing God, following His instructions. Here's how he reacted to that at that age. Remember, he will be 100-years-old and his wife 90-years-old.

Verse 17: "And Abraham fell upon his face and laughed, and said in his heart, 'Shall *a child* be born to him that is a hundred years old? And shall Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear?'" *Not only that, the child was born and she nursed him for three years!*

God does things that for human beings that are impossible! This is what we need to know!

Verse 18: "And Abraham said to God, 'Oh, that Ishmael might live before You!' And God said, 'Sarah your wife shall bear you a son indeed. And you shall call his name Isaac. And I will establish My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him. And as for Ishmael, I have heard you. Behold, I have blessed him...' (vs 18-20).

Gen. 18 is something, too. This is why we need to understand the things in the Old Testament. All the promises and all the covenants are there, and the New Covenant—the New Testament—is just expanded out. The return of Christ expands it out,

and after everything is all done it expands out to the New Heaven and the New Earth. From a little seed that is nothing—that you cannot see—everything flows from this!

Genesis 18:1: “And the LORD appeared to him in the plains of Mamre, and he sat at the tent door in the heat of the day. And he lifted up his eyes and looked, and lo, three men stood by him. And when he saw *them*, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed himself toward the ground. And he said, ‘My LORD, if now I have found favor in Your sight, do not pass away, I pray, from Your servant. Let a little water, I pray, be brought, and wash Your feet, and rest under the tree. And I will bring a bite of bread, and will comfort your hearts. After that You shall pass on, for this is why You have come to Your servant.’ And they said, ‘Do so, as you have said.’” (vs 1-5).

Verse 6: “And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, ‘*Make ready* quickly three measures of fine meal; knead *it*, and make cakes.’ And Abraham ran out to the herd and brought a calf, tender and good. And he gave *it* to a young man. And he hurried to dress it. And he took butter and milk, and the calf...” (vs 6-8).

Sidebar: Jews say that you can’t have meat and milk and butter together. *God did! Abraham did!*

“...which he had dressed, and set *it* before them. And he stood by them under the tree, and they ate. And they said to him, ‘Where *is* Sarah your wife?’ And he said, ‘Behold, in the tent.’ And He said, ‘I will certainly return to you according to the time of life, and lo, Sarah your wife *shall have* a son.’ And Sarah heard at the tent door, which was behind Him. Now, Abraham and Sarah *were* old, *well* advanced in days, and it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. Therefore, Sarah laughed within herself, saying, ‘After I have become old, shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?’ And the LORD said to Abraham, ‘Why did Sarah laugh, saying, ‘Shall I, who am old, truly bear a child?’ **Is anything too hard for the LORD?**....” (vs 8-14).

Great lesson! No, nothing is too hard for the Lord! The question is: what is God’s timetable? It may be different from what we perceive, as it was here.

“...At the time appointed I will return again, according to the time of life, and Sarah *shall have* a son.’ Then Sarah denied, saying, ‘I did not laugh’; for she was afraid. And He said, ‘No, but you did laugh’” (vs 14-15).

After that we have the account of Sodom and Gomorrah! Then we have in Gen. 21, Isaac was born.

When we look at what God is doing for us, and what God is doing to us, how it should be, God will fulfill it.

- it doesn’t matter how old we get
- it doesn’t matter how weak we become
- it doesn’t matter if we die and are buried

God’s will and purpose is going to be fulfilled in the life of every single one! **The ultimate purpose is that God will have a dwelling place on earth!** In all of this God Himself had no place to live on the earth. He would go back to heaven and then come back to the earth and make whatever trips He had to make.

Genesis 21:1: “And the LORD visited Sarah as He had said. And the LORD did to Sarah as He had spoken... [kept His word and promise] ...for Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, **at the set time** of which God had spoken to him” (vs 1-2).

- we look at the return of Christ, ***it’s going to be at the set time***
- we look at the establishment of the Kingdom of God on earth, ***and it will be at the set time***

In spite of the impossibilities that make it look like it isn’t going to be!

Verse 3: “And Abraham called the name of his son that was born to him (whom Sarah bore to him) Isaac. And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac, when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. And Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. And Sarah said, ‘God has made me laugh, so that all who hear will laugh with me.’.... [not at her] ...And she said, ‘Who could have said to Abraham *that* Sarah would suckle children? For I have borne a son to him in his old age’” (vs 3-7). *Then it talks about the child grew and so forth!*

Gen. 22—***here is a test of faith!*** Every one of us are going to have a test of faith. I want you to understand and see if we can grasp how much did Abraham and Sarah love Isaac. Their only son, and in their old age. The requirement of what God was going to do was a precursor of what God would do with His only Begotten Son: Jesus Christ!

We know that Gen. 15 happened on the Passover. It’s very likely that Gen. 22 happened on the Passover. God came to Abraham and said, ‘Take your son and you go to one of the mountains of

Moriah that will show you and there offer your son as a burnt offering.

Abraham got everything ready and took a three-day journey, and he saw the mountain and he told the young man that was him helping to bring the wood, the donkey and so forth. Isaac was there with him. And he told the young man to ‘wait here until Isaac and I go make an offering to God.’

What was in Abraham’s mind? We don’t know because we’re not told here, but we’re told in Heb. 12. Abraham was willing to do it because he believed God and God said to do it, and He had a reason for doing it, to say to offer your son for a burn offering. That’s a hard thing to take after waiting all those years for a son. Then as 100, and now probably 115 years! The best we can figure is that Isaac was about 15-years-old at this point.

Abraham took the wood and placed it on Isaac who was a type of Christ. That was a type of Christ carrying his own cross. They went up on the mountain. I don’t know if this was the mountain where Christ was crucified. He was crucified on the Mount of Olives, so it could be; we don’t know.

In going up there, Abraham took the pot of coals and Isaac was carrying the wood, and he asked: ‘My Father, I see the fire and the wood, but where is the offering that we’re going to offer? What did Abraham say? *My son, God will provide!*

Do we have that kind of faith? *We’re going to face a lot of difficulties! God will provide, but we have to trust Him!* We have got to use our common sense *and full belief that exactly as Abraham, what God has promised he is able to do!*

They got up there, Abraham made the altar and took his son Isaac and bound him and laid him on the altar and was ready to cut his throat. We’re told in Heb. 12 that he was doing this *because he knew that God could raise him from the dead!*

He received him through procreation from his own dead body, and the dead body of Sarah. That is, dead sexually! So, he had the faith and he offered Isaac. As we know, here is the test. All of us will have a test like this. We don’t know how it will come about, we don’t know what the circumstances will be. This is why we need to always be ready and stay close to God in prayer, study and in everything that we do.

Genesis 22:10: “And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. And the angel of the LORD called to him from the heavens and said, ‘Abraham! Abraham!’ And he said, ‘Here I am.’” (vs 10-11). *I bet he was glad to hear that!*

Verse 12: “And He said, ‘Do not lay your hand upon the lad, nor do anything to him, **for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me.**”

- Do we love and fear God that much?
- Are we ready?

We’re going to face a lot of circumstances!

Verse 13: “And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind *him* a ram was entangled in a thicket by its horns....”

There are two ways that it would come:

1. it came and got caught in the thicket while they were preparing to offer Isaac *after the angel calling out ‘don’t do anything to your son, now I know you fear God’*
2. God supernaturally created a ram right there for the sacrifice

Think about that!

“...And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son” (v 13).

Verse 15: “And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham out of heaven the second time, and said, ‘By Myself...’” (vs 15-16).

Let’s understand that God is so interested in us, and us being in the Kingdom of God, and us to takeover the world with all the other saints, and Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, everything together to rule the world. That’s something that we need to really, really understand!

“...‘By Myself have I sworn,’ says the LORD, ‘because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son; that in blessing I will bless you, and in multiplying I will multiply your seed like the stars of the heavens...’” (vs 16-17).

All the spiritual sons of God; that’s why it’s important that today we have these awesome pictures of the universe! We can see them and be inspired of what God has for us! He’s done that for us and to know that everything on the earth and during the Millennium is just the finality of everything on the earth. Then we have New Jerusalem and all of the universe! That’s something!

“...and as the sand, which is upon the seashore.... [physical seed through Jacob and the 12 sons and all the tribes of Israel] ...And your seed shall possess the gate of his enemies. And in your seed...” (v 17-18).

The same promise, because God gave it to

Abraham and He passes it right on to Isaac.

Verse 18: “And in your seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, **because you have obeyed My voice.**”

That’s what we’re going to teach all the people during the Millennium. It’s important that we learn these lessons! We need to ask ourselves the same thing:

- Do we obey the voice of God?
- Do we do the things that God really wants?
- Are we really deeply engaged in our lives with God and what He’s doing?
- Are we fellowshiping with each other, loving each other?
- Are we loving God?
- Are we anticipating the Kingdom?

That’s why we keep the Feast of Tabernacles! All of these things are part of it. So, it’s good that we go back and see it and not remove ourselves from it and think that we have something different and separate. That’s not so!

- rejoice in the goodness of God
- rejoice in His blessings
- rejoice in this Feast of Tabernacles

See you tomorrow!

Scriptural References:

- 1) Matthew 24:32-39
- 2) Genesis 4:20-21
- 3) Genesis 6:5-8, 11-13
- 4) Mark 7:21
- 5) Genesis 8:22
- 6) Genesis 9:1-2
- 7) Genesis 10:8-10
- 8) Genesis 11:1-9
- 9) Genesis 12:1-5
- 10) Genesis 15:1-2, 4-5
- 11) Genesis 17:1-6
- 12) Galatians 3:29
- 13) Genesis 17:7-8
- 14) Romans 4:12-17, 21, 19-21, 20-25
- 15) Genesis 17:9-11, 15-20
- 16) Genesis 18:1-15
- 17) Genesis 21:1-7
- 18) Genesis 22:10-13, 15-18

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Luke 17
- Acts 2
- 1st & 2nd Chronicles
- Hebrews 12

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The Dwelling Place of God III

Lessons from God's way of Judges vs man's way of Kings (Day 4—FOT)

Fred R. Coulter—October 13, 2022

Greetings, brethren! Welcome to Day 4 of the Feast of Tabernacles!

What and where is the shortest most succinct statement of God and Christ about His plan? The Millennium, as we know is a big part of it!

It's good that we're going through the history and seeing how the people of Israel did not really submit to God. This is why Christ came, and we'll get to that a little later.

Let's read the first person words of Jesus about the whole purpose of God's plan, because it's summarized right here in John 17. This is quite a prayer! This is the Lord's Prayer. The prayer in Matt. 6 is not the Lord's Prayer, that's an outline of how we are to pray to God.

John 17 is the Lord's Prayer, His prayer just before He was arrested, and taken off at midnight to begin the ordeal leading to the crucifixion. When you read these words, it is amazing how John wrote these down. Christ had to give them to him at a later time. John was with Christ along with Peter and James, as well, when Christ prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane. This is His prayer, but I don't think that John was close enough to really hear the whole prayer.

So, God gave it to him so it would be in John's Gospel so we would have it and to give us inspiration and hope. Let's understand why our calling is so good, so great, so marvelous! Yet, living in this world that is so perverted and upside down is a challenge to really maintain our perspective, commitment and everything that is necessary for us to enter into the Kingdom of God. So we can be in the first resurrection and come back with Christ to the earth and reign on the earth and help bring in *the great harvest of God!*

If there's any one thing that Jesus Christ had, it was that His mind was always on the plan of God and how God was going to bring it about!

John 17:13: "But now I am coming to You; and these things I am speaking *while yet* in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in them."

When is the joy going to come? *At the resurrection!* Remember Matt. 25 that those who used the talents and gained. What did Jesus say? *Well done good and faithful servant, enter into the*

joy of the Lord! Jesus also told us that He has overcome the world! Yet, we're in the world! He said that *in the world that we will have Tribulation!* That is, *it's going to be difficult!*

He also said through Peter that it's difficult to bring *the just* into the Kingdom of God! Why? *Because of all the things going on in the world and in our lives!*

Verse 14: "I have given them **Your words...**"

It's amazing thing, we have all the words of God, the whole Bible! Think down through the history of time from Abraham.

Even though Abraham submitted to God, and obeyed His voice and kept His laws, statutes and commandments, therefore the covenant was passed onto Isaac and He was obedient to God, that was just the very start of the nation of Israel. Now then, **God is building His spiritual nation through Jesus Christ!** So, this is what Jesus is focused on!

"...and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. I do not pray that You would take them out of the world, **but that You would keep them from the evil one**" (vs 14-15).

That's why prayer and study is necessary every single day!

Sidebar on study: You read of the seven churches in Rev. 2 & 3 and Satan is there after all seven of them. **That's why we need Christ and keep our guard up!**

Verse 16: "They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. **Sanctify them in Your Truth...**" (vs 16-17). *To make them Holy! That's the whole purpose of:*

- the experiences that we go through
- the trials that we go through
- the successes that we enjoy

So that we are sanctified in the Truth of God!

"...Your Word... [Jesus said of the Father] ...is the Truth" (v 17).

Always remember that *every word that Jesus spoke was what the Father wanted Him to speak!*

Verse 18: “Even as You did send Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world.... [here we are over 1900 years later] ...And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, **so that they also may be sanctified in Your Truth**” (vs 18-19).

Every single one of us from the time of Christ down to His return and the time of the resurrection. You can't be made Holy if you don't study the Word of God. You can't be spiritual unless you have the Spirit of God.

This also has to do with *a dwelling place for God! God wants to live with His people!*

Verse 20: “I do not pray for these only, but also for those who shall believe in Me through **their** word.”

This is why all elders, teachers, ministers, whatever are to teach the Truth of God! That all the brethren—through the Spirit of God, through the Word of God—can be sanctified and be made ready for the resurrection!

Here's what Jesus prayed, and this will happen, but we have to yield to God:

Verse 21: “That they all may be one, **even as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us...**”

Remember where we started? *The Family in heaven and in earth!*

“...in order that the world may believe that You did send Me” (v 21).

The only voice that's going to be out there really preaching the way that it should be, and it should be from the Churches of God. We ought to have the Spirit of God and Truth to explain to the world what is happening!

Right now the world is in the grips of Satan the devil and it's much harder for everything, for us to do what we need to do. But we need to remain faithful!

Verse 22: “And I have given them the glory that You gave to Me... [that is receiving the Holy Spirit; that's what's important:

- having the Spirit of God
- sanctified by the Word of God
- made Holy through the Truth
- prepared for the resurrection

So that we can rule and reign with Christ! That's what the whole Feast of Tabernacles is about! How is God going to do this?

“...in order that they may be one, in the

same way that We are one” (v 22).

- in love
- in Truth
- in joy
- in happiness
- in understanding
- in every great and good desire in life

*In this life will be magnified **when we're resurrected to such a degree that it will be as Jesus said, 'Enter into the joy of the Lord!'***

Notice that everything circles around this, everything in the Bible right here:

Verse 23: **“I in them...”**

Paul wrote that if you do not have the Spirit of Christ you are none of His!

“...and You in Me... [we have to have the Spirit of the Father] ...that they may be perfected... [perfection is a process] ...into one; and that the world may know that You did send Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me” (v 23).

That's quite a statement! How has God loved us? Christ volunteered to come and lay down His life in the sacrifice that He gave so that we might live! Think about that!

Now let's look at a warning for us in 1-Cor. 10. then we will go back and survey some more of the Old Testament and see that with them it was always when there was never a judge that is righteous, or a king that was righteous, all the children of Israel would go astray. Paul knew that we would go through all of these things, so he says:

1-Corinthians 10:1: “Now, I do not wish you to be ignorant *of this*, brethren, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea. And all were baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea. And *they* all ate the same spiritual meat. And *they* all drank *of* the same spiritual drink... [the Word of God and the Truth of God] ...for they drank from *the* spiritual Rock that followed *them*. **And that Rock was Christ.** But with many of them God was not pleased... [we've seen that] ...for their dead bodies were strewn in the wilderness. Now these things **became examples for us...** [that's why we need to study them and learn the examples and see] ...so that we might not lust after evil things, as they also lusted” (vs 1-6).

Verse 7: “Neither be idolaters, as *were* some of them; as it is written, ‘The people sat down to eat and to drink, and rose up to play.’”

As soon as it looked like God wasn't

around, in kicked Satan the devil and carnality, and look what happened.

Verse 8: “Neither should we commit sexual immorality, as some of them committed, and twenty-three thousand were destroyed in one day.”

You would think they would have learned the lesson from that!

Verse 9: “Neither should we tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted *Him*, and were killed by serpents.”

- How do you tempt Christ? *By doing pagan, satanic things in the name of God!*
- Where does that leave the world?

You figure it out!

Verse 10: “Neither *should we* complain against *God*, as some of them also complained, and were killed by the destroyer. Now all these things happened to them as examples... [that’s why we have the Old Testament, so we can

- learn from it
- see the examples
- know what the commandments of God are

Then in the New Testament we can apply them spiritually!

“...and were written for our admonition, on whom the ends of the ages are coming” (v 11).

This is why we’re going through during the Feast of Tabernacles!

Verse 12: “Therefore, let the one who thinks he stands take heed, lest he fall. No temptation has come upon you except what is common to mankind. For God, Who *is* faithful, will not permit you to be tempted beyond what you are able *to bear*; but with the temptation, He will make a way of escape, so that you may be able to bear *it*” (vs 12-13). *That’s why prayer and study is important!*

Let’s come back and see some things concerning what we just read. **God wanted a dwelling place!**

God brought the Israelites to Mt. Sinai and He knew what He was going to do at Mt. Sinai, giving His Law. He spoke the Ten Commandments and then He began to give all of the instructions to Moses on how to make the tabernacle and everything in it. What He did, like He always does, He tells the purpose as to why He wanted it done. We will see what God Himself said.

Exo. 25:8 is the one verse tells everything we need to know as to why God did what He did.

- Did the people really believe Him?
- Did they trust in Him? *No!*

Even after God took them out of Egypt; took them away from everything that we would call the known world to them, and He brought them to Him at Mt. Sinai. He spoke the Ten Commandments to them, and gave His laws, statutes (Exo. 21-24) ***and sanctified them and sealed the covenant with them for what purpose?***

Exodus 25:8: “And let them make Me a sanctuary **so that I may dwell among them.**”

Today, we have it: ***dwell in us!*** So, the dwelling place was where the tabernacle was. So, the tabernacle was finished and everything completed. Then we come to Exo. 40.

Moses got everything ready, he had it all set up and everything all ready to go. God showed all of Israel, because they were all gathered around to see what the tabernacle was going to be like.

Exodus 40:33: “And he set up the court all around the tabernacle and the altar, and set up the screen of the court gate. And **Moses finished the work.**”

Now notice what happened, and we will see this happen again when the temple was made:

Verse 34: “And the cloud covered the tabernacle of the congregation, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.”

God put His presence called the ‘shekinah’ in the Holy of Holies, right there in the tabernacle that they had just made and just dedicated!

All of Israel saw it! What a wonderful thing! For a while they followed God, but they started moving away from there, when things had all been taken care of in bringing all the offerings and everything (Num. 1-8). Leviticus describes making it. Then in the book of Numbers is the dedication of it. Every tribe had their leader of the tribe come with a special offering and that was given to the Levites, who would use those things for the offerings, incense, and everything for the operation of the tabernacle.

This is an important thing concerning the Passover, because we know that the Passover is the important thing that we do in our relationship with God year-by-year. Also, it’s the first thing to start off the sequence of the Holy Days. So it was with the children of Israel. They had the tabernacle set up, the Levites were all ready to go, everything was there.

Numbers 9:1: “And the LORD spoke to Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the first month of the second year after they had come out of the land of Egypt, saying, ‘Let the children of Israel also keep the Passover at its appointed time’” (vs 1-2).

That’s the same phrase that is used in Lev. 23 concerning the Sabbath, the Passover and all the Holy Days. *Appointed by God on His calendar!*

Verse 3: “In the fourteenth day of this month, between the two evenings, you shall keep it in its appointed time. You shall keep it according to all its statutes, and according to all the ceremonies of it.’ And Moses spoke to the children of Israel to keep the Passover” (vs 3-4). *So they did!*

Then as you read in the book of Numbers, in traveling they rebelled against God *ten times!* When it came time for them to go into the ‘promised land’ God was going to bring them in *during the Feast of Tabernacles!*

Num. 14—God told Moses to send scouts into the ‘promised land’ to check it out. They brought back evidence of how fantastic it was! The grapes were so large that they had one bundle of grapes hanging down on a pole carried by two men on their shoulders.

Ten of the spies said that ‘the people were tall and the cities are fenced, we just don’t know how we’re going to do it.’ Joshua and Caleb said, ‘No! God will fight for us!’

But they refused to listen! So, God said to them, ‘You’re not going to go in! You’re going to be 40 years wandering in the wilderness until everyone over 20 is dead! *A lesson for all of us from this:*

- you must do what God says
- you must believe what God says

They came into the land and conquered it beginning with Jericho! They finally had it all conquered and Joshua setup the tabernacle at Shiloh. After everything was settled and they were in their land, the people followed Joshua and the elders.

This is why we have to understand that the generation that follows *must be taught what they need to do so they won’t fall into the same trap!* They weren’t satisfied with it. The Israelites didn’t put out all of the people of the lands that they should have. Let’s also understand the importance of the one who is teaching them. Joshua was the first judge.

Judges 2:7: “And the people served the LORD all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders that outlived Joshua, who had seen all the great works of the LORD that He did for Israel. And

Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died, being a hundred and ten years old. And they buried him on the border of his inheritance... [and so forth] ...And also all that generation was gathered to their fathers...” (vs 7-10).

Right now here in the Churches of God we are in a generational change. You have on the one hand a lot of us who have been in the Church for decades!

- we know the things of God
- we know the Laws of God
- we’ve kept the Sabbath
- we’ve kept the Passover
- we’ve kept the Holy Days

Along comes a new generation! Look what happened when Herbert Armstrong died! Same thing that happened here; the leaders and the people went after Baal, the sun-god! Same thing!

That’s why it’s important for us to go through this and understand. *For the new generation that is coming, we have got to leave them all the Truth, everything written down and published and ready to go!*

We need the elders that transist over to the new generation to have the knowledge, understanding and Truth so they can teach them, so that they don’t fall into the trap that the children of Israel fell into!

Verse 10: “And also all that generation was gathered to their fathers. And there arose another generation after them who did not know the LORD, nor even the works which He had done for Israel. And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and served Baalim. And they forsook the LORD God of their fathers, Who brought them out of the land of Egypt. And they followed other gods, even the gods of the people who were around them, and bowed themselves to them, and provoked the LORD to anger” (vs 10-12).

Did that happen with the Church of God? *Yes, it did!* So, it’s important that we know! That’s why we have to:

- know the Word of God
- believe the Word of God
- live by the Word of God
- teach the Word of God
- be faithful and remain yielded to God

We pray that the generation that follows us will be strong enough for the task!

Verse 13: “And they forsook the LORD and

served Baal and Ashtaroth. And the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel, and He delivered them into the hand of spoilers who spoiled them. And He sold them into the hand of their enemies all around, so that they could not any longer stand before their enemies. Wherever they went out, the hand of the LORD was against them for evil, as the LORD had said, and as the LORD had sworn to them. And they were greatly distressed. Nevertheless... [because God wants to continue on with His plan] ...**the LORD raised up judges...**" (vs 13-16).

- the judges that followed God, the people again followed God
- the judges that did not follow God, then the people were evil

This came all the way down to the time of Samuel!

Samuel was much like Moses, because he was the son of priest, dedicated to God when he was a young child, and he served Eli the priest.

But Eli—the old priest—did not keep his sons from corrupting things right at the tabernacle in Shiloh. God raised up Samuel and then at the proper time told Samuel what He was going to do, because of the sins of Eli's sons. Eli the priest knew it was from God.

Eli's two sons—Hophni and Phinehas—were desecrating the sacrifices to God. It came time to fight against the Philistines! They went out to fight and they were defeated. So, they said, 'Let's go back and get the Ark of God and God will fight for us.'

We learn a lesson from this, because what happened? Remember the prophecy was against Eli, that he and his two sons would all die on the same day. That was fulfilled when the sons of Eli took the Ark of the Covenant and went out to fight a battle to win for them **when they had not repented!** When they had not stopped doing their evil!

What did God do, and this is a lesson for all of us! We've seen it in our age, as well. What happened? God caused the Philistines to win and to take the Ark captive and they killed the two sons of Eli—Hophni and Phinehas—when the message came back and it was told to Eli that they died and the Philistines took the Ark of the Covenant, he fell backward and died, fulfilling the prophecy that they would die in one day.

God then let the Philistines virtually destroy the tabernacle and, of course, Samuel escaped and continued to lead the people of God the best that he could. We're going to learn some lessons here, because this is good.

Finally, after what happened with the Ark of the Covenant, it's very interesting. Samson^[transcriber's correction] was there and he was held as prisoner because he told the woman that the strength was in his hair so it was cutoff and was held captive in the temple. All the people gathered there because the Ark was there. Then Samson prayed to God for the strength to cause him to be able to move the two large pillars of the temple of Dagon and destroy everyone in there.

Then the Ark was taken after that and ended up in Kirjath Jearim where there was a Levite who took care of it until later when David brought the Ark back to his own house.

How did Israel get a king instead of a Judge? This is important. Israel *never, never, never* learned the lesson! It's hard for people to learn the lesson: the people who follow the leader instead of God never succeeds! That's what happened.

1-Samuel 8:1: "And it came to pass when Samuel was old, he made his sons judges over Israel. And the name of his firstborn was Joel, and the name of his second was Abiah, judges in Beersheba. Yet, his sons..." (vs 1-3).

How often has this happened? *The next generation!* That's why all of us in the eldership are trepidatious about what's going to happen. **When** there is a change of generation, and where there is a time that I will no longer be here, **then:**

- What is going to happen?
- Will the brethren and the people continue to follow God?
- Will the next generation degenerate?

We don't know, because it hasn't happened, yet! But here's an example:

Verse 3: "Yet, his sons **did not walk in his ways**, but turned aside after dishonest gain and took bribes and perverted judgment."

They didn't learn the lessons of the sons of Eli—Hophni and Phinehas—that they were killed because of what they did in taking the Ark out expecting to God to win the battle for them, even though they never repented.

Verse 4: "And all the elders of Israel gathered themselves and came to Samuel to Ramah. And *they* said to him, 'Behold, you are old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now **make us a king to judge us like all the nations**'" (vs 4-5).

What happens when you get the wrong leadership? Or a different kind of leadership? *The same thing, **as long as the king followed God** the people would follow God for the most part!*

Verse 6: “But the thing was evil in the eyes of Samuel when they said, ‘Give us a king to judge us.’ And Samuel prayed to the LORD.”

Here’s another lesson that we can learn: *be careful what you ask for*, because if it’s not right, you’re going to be in trouble, *because the Lord will give it to you!*

Verse 7: “And the LORD said to Samuel, ‘Hearken to the voice of the people in all that they say to you, **for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me, that I should not reign over them.**”

Think about that for a minute, it’s a good lesson! All the elders, all the brethren, all of us together needed to stay close to God and do what is right, not be looking for something different in the hopes that God will make it right. We will see that God did not make it right for very long.

What happens when the leader sins? *Look what happened in our day!* Quite a thing to understand.

- Do we want God to reign over us?
- Do we want to submit to God ourselves?

So during this time of the Feast of Tabernacles we’re going to see that we will also have, to a small degree, some of the same problem with the people that we are going to serve and rule over from the point of view that free moral agency everyone is going to have. That doesn’t mean that they’re going to use it in the right way, as we will see later.

- Then what do we do?
- How do we handle it?
- How do the people learn?

Let’s see what else God told Samuel:

Verse 8: “According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt even until this day—*works* with which they have forsaken Me and served other gods—so they do also to you.... [quite a lesson] ...And now hearken to their voice. Only, you shall surely protest solemnly to them, and show them the kind of king who shall reign over them” (vs 9-10).

So, Samuel did, and now God chose Saul who was tall, head and shoulders above all, and he was made king. Notice what God said in 1-Sam. 10. Let’s see about Saul and then we will learn of the fall of Saul and then we’ll take a quick look at David and Solomon. What we see is the pattern of *obedience and love, then apostasy; obedience and love, then sin and apostasy!*

Even David himself—a man after God’s own heart—sinned grievously with Bathsheba! Here’s another lesson for all of us to learn today. You can never bring righteousness with sin. Or look at it the other way around: *you can never make sin righteous!* You must have to repent of sin and get rid of it.

(break@47:15)

KING SAUL:

Let’s look at Saul *the first king of Israel!* Wouldn’t it be nice if he would have succeeded? Here is another lesson: because God has chosen us, which He has; He’s chosen us out of this world and has given us His Holy Spirit. That’s true and right, and uses us to do whatever He wants us to do. But we can never get complacent and start going against God thinking we’re doing the will of God. We see that repeated over and over.

Let’s see what Samuel probably added to the Word of God concerning a king. God wanted it to be a system of judges. But this had to be put in there because there would be a succession of kings. We know that Samuel had to have put this in there, even though it sounds like it was in there prior to that, because those elders who came to Samuel to ask for a king did not say that this Scriptures show what we were to do when we got a king. So, it’s very evident that Samuel wrote it.

Deuteronomy 17:14: “When you come to the land, which the LORD your God gives you, and shall possess it and shall live in it and shall say, ‘I will set a king over me, like all the nations that *are* around me.’”

God wanted His nation to be different! To be righteous, so that the rest of the world could see that, and would want to emulate it. Remember, the whole purpose of Israel (Exo. 19) was that all of Israel to the world would be like a kingdom of priests to show them God’s way.

See how much God gives into our hands that we make the choices of whether it’s going to be according to the will of God and His blessing. Or that we not do it the way that God says, thinking we’re doing good! That’s precisely what happened with the king.

Verse 15: “You shall surely set a king over you whom the LORD your God shall choose. You shall set a king over you from among your brethren. You may not set a stranger over you who is not your brother. Only he shall not multiply horses... [we’re going to see a little later what happened with that] ... to himself, nor cause the people to return to Egypt...” (vs 15-16).

That doesn't mean go live in Egypt, that means to return to the practices of Egyptian religion.

"...so as to multiply horses because the LORD has said to you, 'You shall not return that way again.' Nor shall he multiply wives to himself... [remember that] ...so that his heart does not turn away. Nor shall he greatly multiply silver and gold to himself. And it shall be, when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, he shall write for himself a copy of this law in a book from that which is in the custody of the priests the Levites. And it shall be..." (vs 16-18)

Here is a lesson for us as to why we need to study the Word of God. God did not want some great royal family that's untouchable! Here is direct instruction to the future king:

Verse 18: "And it shall be, when he sits on the throne of his kingdom, he shall write for himself a copy of this Law in a book from that which is in the custody of the priests the Levites"—***write down the Word of God!***

How many hundreds and maybe even thousands of times have you heard *prayer and study! Prayer and study!* Why do we need that? *Because we're going to be kings and priests* (Rev. 20).

How are we going to enter into the Kingdom and start ruling if we haven't shown to God that we love Him, keep His commandments and do everything according to His Word. Same thing here with the king!

Verse 19: "And it shall be with him, and **he shall read it all the days of his life...**"

- For what reason?
- Why do we study and restudy? Study and restudy? Study and restudy?
- Why are we at this Feast of Tabernacles going through the sequence of everything that happened with Israel and their judges and kings?

Because we're going to be kings and priests, as we just noted, ruling under Christ! So, we need to learn! Here's why:

"...so that he may learn..." (v 19).
Remember where we started?

John 6:45: "It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.'...."

How are we taught by God? *Though His Word!* As it was back then and as it is today!

Deuteronomy 17:19: "...so that he may **learn to fear the LORD his God,** to keep all the

words of this Law and these statutes, to do them."

That's why it's important! Here's another lesson, indeed, that follows in the next verse, which is what we need to keep in mind.

Note our booklet: *Is the Ministry the Government of God?* Here's what happened in the Church of God at Pasadena and every place else. They didn't do what the instructions were here and they didn't follow it, so they ended up with a hierarchy where that if anyone spoke against the ministers that was evil.

Well, what if you were seeing something that the minister was doing that wasn't right, and it needed to be corrected?

Verse 20: "**So that his heart may not be lifted up above his brethren...** [What happens then?] ...and that he does not turn aside from the commandment, to the right or the left, to the end that he may prolong *his* days in his kingdom, he and his children, in the midst of Israel."

Quite a lesson, isn't it? *Yes!* Here we have the dedication of Saul by Samuel. Let's look at this.

1-Samuel 10:18: "And he said... [to all the people gathered for the coronation] ...to the children of Israel, 'Thus says the LORD God of Israel, "I brought up Israel out of Egypt, and delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of all kingdoms of those who oppressed you. And **you have this day rejected your God Who Himself saved you out of all your calamities and your tribulations...**"'" (vs 18-19).

There's another lesson for us, too. What happens when we don't have faith for God? Remember what we have said in our prayer outline: *Your will be done!* What if it's God's will that we have a trial and then we get angry because we think we ought to have a blessing. Maybe God wants you to have a trial before He will bless you! He wants to see what you're going to do in the trial!

Verse 19: "And **you have this day rejected your God Who Himself saved you out of all your calamities and your tribulations.** And you have said to Him, 'But set a king over us.' And now present yourselves before the LORD by your tribes and by your thousands."

Verse 20: "And when Samuel had caused all the tribes of Israel to come near, the tribe of Benjamin was taken. When he had caused the tribe of Benjamin to come near by their families, the family of Matri was taken, and Saul the son of Kish was taken. And they looked for him, but he could not be found" (vs 20-21). *They finally found him*

because he was hiding someplace.

Verse 24: “And Samuel said to all the people...”

Here he is in front of all the people, tallest man around, probably very good looking. We will see that Saul really had an opportunity to do well, but we'll see what happened.

“...‘Do you see him whom the LORD has chosen, that *there is* none like him among all the people?’ And all the people shouted, and said, ‘Long live the king!’ Then Samuel told the people the manner of the kingdom, and wrote *it* in a book and laid it up before the LORD. And Samuel sent all the people away, each to his house” (vs 24-25).

Let's see the fall of Saul, and another good lesson for us! We also get a good lesson from God concerning how He's going to solve a problem that maybe we have lived through, or maybe we have experienced. Sometimes God waits a long time before He brings it about. He also gives the enemy a chance to change their ways, and not have God's judgment come upon them. You find in Jer. 18 how God judges all nations, which means the king. You can see what happened in the book of Daniel with King Nebuchadnezzar.

1-Samuel 15:1: “And Samuel said to Saul, ‘The LORD sent me to anoint you to be king over His people, over Israel. **And now listen to the voice of the words of the LORD.**’” *Listen to them carefully and rightly!*

Verse 2: “Thus says the LORD of hosts, ‘I will punish Amalek for *that* which he did to Israel, how he set against him in the way when he came up from Egypt.’” *About 400 years!*

Verse 3: “Now, go and strike Amalek, and completely destroy all that they have, and do not spare them. But kill both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and donkey.” ***Everything!***

Verse 4: “And Saul gathered the people together and numbered them in Telaim, two hundred thousand footmen and ten thousand men of Judah. And Saul came to a city of Amalek and lay in wait in the valley. And Saul said to the Kenites, ‘Go! Depart!’....” (vs 4-6). *This is not your battle, get away!*

Let's see what Saul did, thinking he was doing the will of God, but he modified it with his own thoughts. That's an interesting thing, too.

Verse 7: “And Saul struck the Amalekites from Havilah, as you come to Shur, which *is* over across from Egypt. And he took Agag the king of the

Amalekites alive. And he completely destroyed all the people with the edge of the sword. But **Saul and the people spared Agag and the best of the sheep and of the oxen and of the fatlings and the lambs, and all *that was good, and would not completely destroy them.*** But everything *that was* vile and feeble they completely destroyed” (vs 7-8).

Verse 10: “And the Word of the LORD came to Samuel saying, ‘It repents Me that I have set up Saul *to be* king, **for he has turned back from following Me and has not performed My commandments.**’....” (vs 10-11).

Think about that, brethren, think of that in relationship to where we are today, and how the Church can go forward serving God in a way that it ought to, by yielding to God and being faithful in every Word of God!

“...And it grieved Samuel, and he cried *out* to the LORD all night” (v 11).

Verse 13: “And Samuel came to Saul. And Saul said to him, ‘You *are* blessed of the LORD. I have performed the commandment of the LORD.’ And Samuel said, ‘What then *is* this bleating of the flock in my ears? And *what is* the sound of the herd which I hear?’ And Saul said, ‘They....’” (vs 13-15)

- Who was responsible?
- Saul as king and the word of Samuel to Saul to do what he should do? *Yes!*

“...‘They...’—*always blame someone else!*

Sounds like what we see politically today, everything around us. All the evil people being in charge when they're caught doing things then they point to those who are innocent and accuse them!

The people did do it, but the blame laid with Saul, not with the people, because if he would have told them to destroy all the animals, and he would destroy Agag the king himself. *But he didn't do it!*

Verse 15: “And Saul said, ‘They have brought them from the Amalekites, for the people spared the best of the sheep and of the oxen **to sacrifice to the LORD your God.**....’”

Notice that he didn't say *the Lord our God!* Can you do something evil and bring it to God and expect it to be accepted in righteousness by God? *Never happen!*

“...And the rest we have completely destroyed.’ And Samuel said to Saul, ‘Stay and I will tell you what the LORD has said to me tonight.’ And he said to him, ‘Speak on’” (vs 15-16).

See why, brethren, that we have the Old Testament and why Paul wrote in 1-Cor 10 that

these are examples for us.

Saul was well-intended, but he knew the commandment of God. You can't go against the commandment of God because you're well-intentioned; it's still sin! You can't make God accept that. That's why *we are to do the Word of the Lord!*

Verse 17: "And Samuel said, 'When you were little in your own sight, did you not become the head of the tribes of Israel? And the LORD anointed you king over Israel. And the LORD sent you on the way and said, "Go and completely destroy the sinners, the Amalekites, and fight against them until you destroy them." Why then did you not obey the voice of the LORD?... [here we are to those three words: **obey My voice!**] ...Why did you fly upon the spoil and do evil in the sight of the LORD?'" (vs 17-19).

Verse 20: "And Saul said to Samuel, 'Yes, I have obeyed the voice of the LORD, and have gone the way which the LORD sent me, and have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and have completely destroyed the Amalekites. But **the people took** from the spoil, of the flock and herd, the best of the things devoted to destruction, to sacrifice to the LORD your God in Gilgal.'" (vs 20-21). *Well-intentioned!*

Just think how the people felt when Saul said not to kill them, 'let's take them for a sacrifice to God.' They're taking all these nice things to God for a sacrifice. They think they're doing right and good, but they weren't!

Verse 22: "And Samuel said, 'Does the LORD have as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as in obeying the voice of the LORD?....'"

Where did we begin this message today?
John 17 the words of Christ!

"...Behold, **to obey is better than sacrifice! To hearken...** [listen and do] **...is better than the fat of rams, for rebellion...**" (vs 22-23).

We need to understand that, because rebellion can come along with something that looks oh so good! **But it's rebellion!** That's why it has to be the words of God!

- not our thoughts, but God's thoughts
- not our way, but God's way

Verse 23: "**For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry....** [notice what Samuel said to Saul]: **...Because you have rejected the Word of the LORD, He has also rejected you from being king!**"

It did not happen instantly! So, another

lesson to learn: *if the correction of God does not come instantly, don't think everything is well, because it's coming later in God's time!* Probably in a way that we wouldn't expect! "**...Because you have rejected the Word of the LORD, He has also rejected you from being king!**"

Apply that to us entering into the Kingdom of God! *Great lessons!*

Verse 24: "And Saul said to Samuel, 'I have sinned, for I have disobeyed the commandment of the LORD and your word because I feared the people and obeyed their voice. And now please pardon my sin and turn again with me so that I may worship the LORD.' And Samuel said to Saul, 'I will not return with you, for you have rejected the Word of the LORD, and the LORD has rejected you from being king over Israel.' And as Samuel turned around to go, *Saul* laid hold upon the skirt of his robe, and it tore. And Samuel said to him, 'The LORD has torn the kingdom of Israel from you this day, and has given it to a neighbor of yours *who is better than you*'" (vs 24-28). *Amazing! Isn't that something?*

KING DAVID

What happened? *God chose David!* (1-Sam. 16). Then David became an assistant to Saul. There was hatred of Saul toward David, because he could see that David was the one who was going to take his throne. So, there was battle between Saul and David over a prolonged period of time.

Saul dies in battle and his son dies in battle, and David becomes king. Didn't happen all at once. It was over Jerusalem first, and then the leaders of the ten tribes came to Jerusalem and talked to David.

2-Samuel 5:1: "And all the tribes of Israel came to David, to Hebron, and spoke, saying, 'Behold, we *are* your bone and your flesh. Also in time past, when Saul was king over us, you were he who led Israel out and brought them in. And the LORD said to you, "You shall feed My people Israel, and you shall be a shepherd over Israel." And all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron. And King David made a covenant with them in Hebron before the LORD. And they anointed David king over Israel" (vs 1-3)—**all 12 tribes!**

David fought good wars, a lot of good battles; he was faithful, served God and then we find the account where David was thinking about building a house or temple for God.

2-Samuel 7:1: "And it came to pass when the king dwelt in his house, and when the LORD had

given him rest round about from all his enemies, the king said to Nathan the prophet, ‘See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the Ark of God dwells within curtains’” (vs 1-2).

He had the Ark of God in a special place in his house that was in a tent like curtains. Asaph was the high priest and the other Levites with him.

Verse 3: “Then Nathan said to the king, ‘Go, do all that *is* in your heart, **for the LORD is with you.**” *That’s quite a statement, isn’t it?*

Think about that for a minute and think about what David did. After getting this tremendous blessing to go ahead and build a house for God, but not him personally, but a son that would come out of his own loins.

Verse 4: “And it came to pass that night the Word of the LORD came to Nathan saying, ‘Go and tell My servant David, “Thus says the LORD, ‘Shall you build Me a house for My dwelling? For I have not dwelt in a house since the day that I brought up the children out of Egypt until this day, but have walked in a tent, and in a tabernacle. In all *places* in which I have walked with all the children of Israel...’”” (vs 4-7).

God dwelling with them! What he did was put the ‘Shekinah’ in the Holy of Holies!

“...did I speak a word with any of the tribes of Israel, *those* whom I commanded to feed My people Israel, saying, ‘Why do you not build Me a house of cedars?’” (v 7). *No He didn’t!*

Here God blessed David and said, ‘I’m going to do it, even though I haven’t done it before up to this point.’ *What a thing that is!*

Verse 8: “Now, therefore, thus shall you say to My servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts: “I took you from the sheepcote, from following the sheep, to be prince over My people, over Israel. And I was with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies out of your sight, and have made you a great name like the name of the great ones in the earth. Moreover, I will appoint a place for My people Israel, and will plant them so that they may dwell in a place of their own, and move no more....’”” (vs 8-10).

That’s a prophecy of sending him to what we now know as Europe and the UK. *Long way down the road!*

“...Neither shall the sons of wickedness afflict them any more, as before” (v 10). *That blends into the Millennium!*

Verse 11: “And even from the time that I

commanded judges *to be* over My people of Israel, so will I cause you to rest from all your enemies. Also, the LORD tells you that He will make you a house. And when your days *are* fulfilled, and you shall sleep with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you who shall come forth from your loins. And I will make his kingdom sure. He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be to him for a father, and he shall be to Me for a son. If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the sons of men. But My mercy shall not leave him, as I took *it* from Saul whom I put away before you. And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before you. Your throne *shall be established forever*” (vs 11-16).

That’s another whole story, but it is true, it did happen!

Verse 17: “According to all these words, and according to all this vision, so Nathan spoke to David. Then King David went in and sat before the LORD. And he said, ‘Who *am* I, O Lord GOD? And what *is* my house, that You have brought me here? And this was yet a small thing in Your sight, O Lord GOD. But You have spoken also of Your servant’s house for a great while to come. And *is* this the manner of men, O Lord GOD? And what can David say more to You? For You, O Lord GOD, know Your servant. For Your word’s sake, and according to Your own heart, You have done all these great things to make Your servant know” (vs 17-21). *Then David blessed God!*

You would think with that, and that great promise that was given to David, that he would make sure that he followed God, that he was righteous, that, as God said, he would get rid of all the enemies and so forth.

But what did he do after this? *The affair with Bathsheba and the killing of her husband Uriah the Hittite in the battle against the enemy!*

The punishment of that was, that his own household would be against him the rest of his life. So, there was rebellion among his own sons as to who would take over the throne. That was a terrible time for David. He was castigated by everybody in the kingdom, because they knew that he had sinned against God in his adulterous affair with Bathsheba!

They knew, and Joab the general, he knew all the problems within the royal family. But even in spite of this, God kept His word! He did let David’s son Solomon become king and build the temple.

We will end here, and pick it up tomorrow! There are more lessons for us to learn! What’s going

to happen in the Millennium when everything is peaceful and fine, and everything is grand and glorious for 500 years?

- What are the people going to do?
- How are we going to respond?
- How are we going to rule and judge?

All of those are questions that we need to answer and look for in the Word of God. But the whole sum of all of this is in order for us to be in the Kingdom of God, and in order for us to build the Kingdom during the Millennium, the Kingdom of God under Christ!

We have got to learn the lessons of love, truth and humility, and serving God and living by every Word of God. Just look at how much the Protestants miss by saying you don't have to follow anything in the Old Testament!

Look at how this helps us in preparing for the coming Kingdom of God. That we are going to overcome human nature the way that God wants us to, so when we are resurrected and changed from flesh to spirit, that will be a grand and glorious, glorious thing!

Scriptural References:

- 1) John 17:13-23
- 2) 1 Corinthians 12:1-13
- 3) Exodus 25:8
- 4) Exodus 40:33-34
- 5) Numbers 9:1-4
- 6) Judges 2:7-16
- 7) 1 Samuel 8:1-10
- 8) Deuteronomy 17:14-19
- 9) John 6:45
- 10) Deuteronomy 17:19-20
- 11) 1 Samuel 10:18-21, 24-25
- 12) 1 Samuel 15:1-11, 13, 15-28
- 13) 2 Samuel 5:1-3
- 14) 2 Samuel 7:1-21

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Matthew 6; 25
- Revelation 2; 3
- Exodus 21-24
- Numbers 1-8
- Leviticus 23
- Numbers 14
- 1 Samuel 10
- Exodus 19
- Revelation 20
- Jeremiah 18
- 1 Corinthians 10

- 1 Samuel 16

Also referenced: Booklet:

Is the Ministry the Government of God? by Fred R. Coulter

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The Dwelling Place of God IV

Lessons from David & Solomon and the Building of the Temple (Day 5—FOT)

Fred R. Coulter—October 14, 2022

Greetings, brethren! Welcome to Day 5 of the Feast of Tabernacles!

We have been going through the history of Israel, which is very important for us to understand, so that we can see how human nature acts; what they do and the problems that take place. Also the difficulties with the king!

We saw what happened with David after God promised him that his son would build the temple. David got carried away with himself and he had the affair with Bathsheba and killed Uriah the Hittite, her husband, by having him up on the frontline of the battle.

It took quite a while for David and Israel to overcome that, because it also affected all of Israel. Remember that whatever the king did, the people also did! It creates this cycle of: *with God, sinning without God, repentance, God has mercy and brings them back!*

They come back to God for a while and as long as the king or judge, or prophet stayed with God, the people pretty much followed God, but not in a way that we do today for eternal life.

Let's see what happened with David just before he died in giving instructions to Solomon, his son. God gave to David all the plans of the temple: How to breakdown the courses of the priests, the courses of the soldiers to guard the temple area. *All of that God gave to David!*

But David was told by God—because he was 'a bloody man'—that he could not build it. So, it was left to Solomon.

Let's see a very important key chapter in the book of 2-Chronicles. Here's what David did when it was time for him to go, time for him to die and leave everything to Solomon. He made all the preparations; he had all the gold, silver, a lot of iron, a lot of cedar, a lot of things ready to go for the building of house of Solomon, and the temple.

From the time Solomon started until the time he finished was 20 years. Here was a grand propitious meeting and also a charge to Solomon. Isn't it interesting how that people, when they get a charge like we will see with Solomon...

Do they really keep it the rest of their lives? *We can apply that to us!* We have a '**Solomon charge**' from Jesus Christ:

- to remain faithful
- to love God the Father and Jesus Christ
- to serve Them

In all circumstances!

Do we follow through with it? *A good number do, but some don't!* Nevertheless, we all need this charge, and we all need to remind ourselves; this is why at this Feast of Tabernacles it is good to go over these things to learn what God wants us to learn!

When we enter the Kingdom of God, we're going to be the leaders, the rulers, the kings, the priests and administrators of the Government of God; that being the Kingdom of God!

1-Chronicles 28:1: "And David gathered to Jerusalem all the princes of Israel, the princes of the tribes, and the commanders of the divisions that ministered to the king by division, and the commanders over the thousands, and commanders over the hundreds, and the stewards over all the property and livestock of the king, and of his sons, with the officers and the mighty ones, with all the valiant men."

All the important people, all the ones who were going to make the kingdom work for Solomon.

Verse 2: "And David the king stood up on his feet and said, 'Hear me, my brethren and my people. I *had* in my heart to build a house of rest for the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD, and for the footstool of our God, and had made preparations for the building. But God said to me, "You shall not build a house for My name, because you *have been* a man of war and have shed blood"" (vs 2-3). *Yes, a lot of blood!*

Verse 4: "However, the LORD God of Israel chose me before all the house of my father to be king over Israel forever. For He has chosen Judah to be the ruler, and of the house of Judah the house of my father. And among the sons of my father's house He was pleased to make me king over all Israel."

Quite a summary of a lot of things that we have read!

Verse 5: "And of all my sons (for the LORD has given me many sons), He has chosen Solomon my son to sit upon the throne of the kingdom of the LORD over Israel."

Solomon was the second son of Bathsheba; the first son died because of the sin. So, when this took place, and Solomon started young, probably 16-years-old. This means that the affair with Bathsheba—David died at age 70—so that goes back to age 54 when that occurred. From that time, the next 16 years were really awful for all of the tribes of Israel because of what David did.

The lesson is always this: ***Whenever the king, leader, apostle, pastor goes wrong, then the people get disillusioned and go sin!*** They cannot tolerate the hypocrisy of their leader, but instead of drawing closer to God, they end up carrying their own hypocrisy and go out and do things. And, as we will see, ***leave God!***

This is why for the Millennium God has got to have the spirit sons and daughters who will do the ruling and reigning and teaching. Here's the charge to Solomon, and notice what David said and how he said it; and I imagine that he was pretty passionate when he did, because he remembered his affair with Bathsheba and what that did to all Israel.

Verse 6: “And He [God] said to me [David], ‘Solomon your son shall build My house and My courts, for I have chosen him *to be* My son, and I will be his Father. And I will establish his kingdom forever...’” (vs 6-7).

Here comes the greatest little word in the whole Bible, and there are 1,745 ***ifs*** and all of the ***ifs*** always apply to people. *Not to God, because He is perfect!* But humans beings are not, so there always has to be the world ***IF!*** Let's see what he told Solomon:

“...^[#1]***if he continues resolute in keeping My commandments and My ordinances, as he is today***” (v 7).

So, everything was on an even keel at this time. Solomon was young, he hadn't done anything evil, and now he's being selected to be king! So, David continued to say:

Verse 8: “And now in the sight of all Israel, the congregation of the LORD, and in the hearing of our God, ***keep and seek for all the commandments of the LORD your God...***—*quite a charge; look at what we have to do:*

- we have to ***keep***
- we have to ***seek***
- we have to ***do*** all the commandments of the Lord your God

...so that you may possess this good land and leave it for an inheritance for your children after you forever” (v 8).

That's why when we enter the Kingdom of God, this is what we're going to help teach the brethren. The same thing; it's going to be magnificent!

David starts talking to Solomon, so here is what he told Solomon. Imagine this great gathering of all of these people all dressed up in their best, the king dressed up in his best and the crown on his head. His close advisors are right there and the priest is there, Nathan the prophet is there and Solomon! Then David looks at Solomon and tells him:

Verse 9: “And you, Solomon my son, **acknowledge the God of your father and serve Him with a perfect heart...**”

A perfect heart is awfully difficult to maintain. That takes prayer, study, and work! Being perfected is a process. Over a period of time there are opportunities to increase that, and opportunities to decrease it. There are opportunities to really do really good things, high spiritual things, and there's the opportunity to sin and get yourself in trouble. All of that contained in ***IF!***

“...and with a willing mind...” (v 9). *This is what we're going to teach all the people during the Millennium! A perfect heart and a willing mind!*

Remember where we started? God is going to give them a heart of flesh; they will not have the deep carnality that we have today. So, it will be more possible for them to do it; yet, there will still be sin!

“...for the LORD searches all hearts...” (v 9). ***Isn't that interesting?***

The thing is, God knows all secrets. You can't have a secret that God doesn't know. When we go before Christ to give an account for everything that we have done, unless we are in a constant repentant attitude and yielded to God, and having our sins forgiven, all of those things are a going to be marks against us.

“...and understands all the imaginations of the thoughts...” (vs 9).

What was the lesson that Job learned? All the way through 42 chapters, and you talk about sticking by your self-righteousness! Everything he did was what God wanted him to do, but he was taking credit for himself that he was righteous, instead of saying:

Thank You, God, for giving all of these wonderful things and helping me to do them. Because they all come from You!

No! As we saw, he even thought that his

righteousness was as good as or more than God's! But when finally came to repentance (Job 42) what was his expression of repentance? He said:

Now I know that no thought can be withheld from You!

There was a time we know in the Church of God—Worldwide in Pasadena—that there were a lot of people there, and lot of ministers there whose hearts were not perfect with God. Look what happened!

Those who wanted to serve God had to leave to do so. They were labeled as rebellious and renegades! Some of them were, that's true. But some were not. The question is today: How many of them are still faithful, and with this kind of attitude in giving God credit for everything?

“...^[#2]**If you seek Him...**” (v 9). **How do you seek God?** *Prayer, study and in your thoughts! Asking God to help you and guide you and so forth!*

All of those conditions depend on what we choose, and with Solomon what he chose.

“...He will be found by you. But ^[#3]**if...**” (v 9). *Here's the warning; you always have to have a warning.*

Human nature with free moral agency, can be led away of itself to go it's own way and be rebellious and sin against God. *That's the nature of human nature!*

- we need God
- we need His laws
- we need His commandments
- we need His Spirit

So that we can overcome the natural nature of what we think in our heart and mind!

“...you forsake Him, He will cast you off forever. Take heed now, for the LORD has chosen you to build a house for the sanctuary. **Be strong and do it**” (vs 9-10).

That's what we need to do! This is the same command that was given to Joshua when he was to take the children of Israel into the 'promised land.' It is ***be strong and do it!*** Let's go back and look at that. This is important.

Since we're going to be kings and priests in the Millennium. We have to ***be strong, dedicated and yielded to God in everything that we do!*** Here's what God told Joshua after the death of Moses:

Joshua 1:1: “And it came to pass after the death of Moses, the servant of the LORD, that the

LORD spoke to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying, ‘My servant Moses is dead....’” (vs 1-2).

As you know, I'm 88-years-old. I'm in good health and I take care of myself, but I don't know how long I'm going to live. So, there's going to come a time when I won't be here. When that happens, what will all the elders and all the brethren do? *That's the question for the future!*

“...Now, therefore, arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people to the land, which I give to them, to the children of Israel. Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, I have given that unto you, as I said to Moses. From the wilderness and this Lebanon even to the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and to the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your border.” (vs 2-4).

Verse 5: “No man shall be able to stand before you... [against him to fight] ...all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, *so* I will be with you. **I will not fail you nor forsake you.**”

We find that same thing to us in Heb. 13, that Jesus said that ***He will not, no, He will never forsake us in any way!*** Because the big **IF** belongs to our choices! God has already made ***His choice***, so just like with Solomon, ***if*** he didn't go God's way then God wouldn't be with him.

It's the same thing with all of us in the Church; the exact same lesson. This is the whole point of going through all of the history of the children of Israel so we really grasp and understand:

- how things happen
- what we need to do
- how we need to grow and overcome
- how we need to prepare for the resurrection

So we can be the perfected sons and daughters of God to rule in the Kingdom of God! That's the whole point of it all!

Verse 6: ^[#1]**Be strong and of good courage...** *Remember that when you have difficult times!*

- ***be strong*** by going to God in prayer
- ***be of good courage*** and know that God will hear and answer and help you

That's what it's all about! The whole Bible if you could put it that way!

“...for you shall divide for an inheritance to this people the land, which I swore to their fathers to give it to them. Only ^[#2]**be strong and very courageous** so that you may observe to do

according to **all**... [each and every one] ...**the Law**, which My servant Moses commanded you. **Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left**, so that you may prosper wherever you go” (vs 6-7).

Listen to this next verse, and think about it in relationship to the whole Bible that we have today. How is it to be with us? *The same way that He says that the Law was to be with Joshua!*

Verse 8: “**This Book of the Law shall not depart out of your mouth, but you shall meditate therein day and night, so that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it**, for then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall have good success. Have I not commanded you? ^(#3)**Be strong and of good courage**. Do not be afraid, neither be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you in all places where you go” (vs 8-9).

Notice how similar that is to the charge that David is giving to Solomon. Remember—and we will see this as we go on—don’t look to the circumstances and the blessings of God that everything is right and good, because God has blessed you, **and then you start slacking off and start walking away from God!** That can happen! We’ve seen it!

- What are we going to do? *We’re here, alive and listening and learning!*
- What are we going to do?
- How are we going to live our lives?
- How are we going to grow and overcome?
- How are we going to prepare for the greatest work that there ever will be for those who are in the first resurrection since the creation of the world?
- Do you understand how great the calling is?
- Do you understand how important everything is that we do?

1-Chronicles 28:11: “And David gave to his son Solomon the plan of the porch, and of its houses, and of its treasuries, and of its upper rooms, and of its innermost rooms, and of the place of the mercy seat, and the plans of all that he had by the spirit, of the courts of the house of the LORD, and of all the rooms all around the treasuries of the house of God, and of the treasuries of the Holy things; and for the courses of the priests and the Levites, and for all the work of the service of the house of the LORD, and for all the vessels of service in the house of the LORD; even gold by weight for *things* of gold, for all instruments of every kind of service; silver for all the vessels of silver by weight, for all vessels of every kind of service” (vs 11-14). *God gave him all of that! Read the rest of it!*

Verse 19: “‘All *this*,’ said David, ‘was in writing from the hand of the LORD. He made me understand all the details of these plans.’”

All the scrolls of it, everything out there! What a thing that must have been! All the great, important people standing there watching this.

Verse 20: “And David said to Solomon his son, ‘**Be strong and of good courage, and do it...**’”

That’s what God wants us to do with everything that He’s given us to do!

“...**Do not fear, nor be dismayed, for the LORD God, even my God, will be with you. He will not fail you nor forsake** you until you have finished all the work for the service of the house of the LORD” (v 20). *Then David died and Solomon took over!*

2-Chronicles 1:1: “And Solomon the son of David was made strong in his kingdom, and the LORD his God *was* with him and magnified him exceedingly.” *Everything was prepared!*

In the next chapters he built his own house and built the temple. Let’s see how Solomon did. All of these are great lessons in human nature. To help us now in our own personal growth and overcoming, and to help us how to serve the people in the Millennium.

(break@31:35)

We see that Solomon built the temple and the dedication was tremendous. All of this was for **a dwelling place for God!**

Look at how often God said that ***He would dwell with His people!*** Then His people, beginning with Adam and Eve decided that they could do it themselves! That they didn’t need God. We have the same thing with this society today, as it has been throughout all the history of human beings.

That’s why—just projecting forward—*there is the second resurrection!* Let’s see what happened in dedicating the temple:

2-Chronicles 5:5: “And they brought up the Ark, and the tabernacle of the congregation, and all the Holy vessels that *were* in the tabernacle. The priests *and* the Levites brought these up. And King Solomon, and all the congregation of Israel that were gathered to him before the Ark, sacrificed sheep and oxen which could not be counted nor numbered for multitude. And the priests brought in the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD to its place, to the Holy of Holies in the house, into the Most Holy Place, under the wings of the cherubim” (vs 5-7).

There were cherubim carved right into the wood and overlaid with gold in the Holy of Holies!

Verse 9: “And the staves... [which were used to carry the Ark of the Covenant] ...were so long that the ends of the staves of the Ark were seen from the Holy place looking toward the Holy of Holies, but they were not seen outside. And they are there to this day”—*the day that this was written!*

We don’t know who wrote this; doesn’t tell us. Whatever prophet, whoever wrote it, **God inspired it!**

Verse 10: “Nothing *was* in the Ark except the two tables, which Moses put *in it* at Horeb, when the LORD made a covenant with the children of Israel when they came out of Egypt. And it came to pass...” (vs 10-11). *Notice how tremendous this was, because*

- God *was pleased* that they made this
- God *was pleased* with their attitude
- God *was pleased* with their sacrifices

They were all happy and joyous because now the Ark had now been placed into the Holy of Holies!

They had a great and wonderful musical tribute of trumpets and singers to get this dedicated into the House of God!

Verse 11: “And it came to pass, when the priests came out of the Holy *place* (for all the priests present were sanctified, and did not wait by course), and the Levitical singers—all of them of Asaph, of Heman, of Jeduthun, with their sons and their brethren, *being* clothed in white linen, and having cymbals and with harps and lyres—stood at the east end of the altar, and with them a hundred and twenty priests sounding with silver trumpets... [tremendous thing] ...it came to pass, as the trumpeters and the singers *were* as one...” (vs 11-13).

Right at the height of the climax of all of the singing and the trumpets sounding!

“...to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD; and when they lifted up *their* voice with the silver trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and praised the LORD, *saying*, ‘**For He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever,**’ that the house was filled with a cloud, *even* the house of the LORD” (vs 13)—*just like it was when the tabernacle was set up!*

Verse 14: “So that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, **for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of God!**”

Think about how everyone felt who was there. They watched this and heard this, **a one time**

event in all history! *Think about that!* Just like what we’re going to be in on with doing the things that God wants us to do:

- a one time event in history
- a one time in history of the first resurrection
- a one time in history of the marriage of the Lamb and the Church
- a one time in history of God coming back to the earth with all the saints and putting down the last wars

That’s something!

Brethren, we are in the category of those people who will be there from that one time event. But the same thing applies to us ***IF*** we will do according to what God wants.

Solomon made a very long prayer and God was pleased with it.

2-Chronicles 7:11: “Thus Solomon finished the house of the LORD and the king’s house, and he prospered *exceedingly* in all that came into Solomon’s heart to accomplish in the house of the LORD and in his own house.”

Then something special happened: God appeared to Solomon a second time. God was there wanting, hoping and blessing and inspiring that things would go real well. They did, ***but:***

- How long did it last?
- Did everyone forget what God asked them to do?
 - ✓ to seek God
 - ✓ to always keep His commandments
 - ✓ to always look to Him for all things

We will see that they didn’t do it!

Verse 12: “And the LORD appeared to Solomon by night and said to him, ‘I have heard your prayer... [this great long prayer (2-Chron. 6) ...and have chosen this place to Myself for a house of sacrifice.’”

Then God gives some more ***ifs, because He knows that they are going to slip from being faithful!***

Verse 13: “***If*** I shut up the heavens, and there is no rain, or ***if*** I command the locusts to devour the land, or ***if*** I send a plague among My people, ***if My people, who are called by My name, shall humble themselves and pray, and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land***” (vs 13-14).

Think about it! Think about today and

what's happening to the nations of Israel! How God is dealing with us and correcting us in so many different things.

- Will we turn to God as a nation in whatever way that they understand God that will be good enough for God to hear?
- What about us in the Church?
- Are we going to pray to God for His will to be done?
 - ✓ For us to grow, change and overcome?
 - ✓ What are we going to do?

Same thing!

Verse 14: “**If** My people, who are called by My name, shall humble themselves and pray, and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land. Now My eyes shall be open, and My ears shall be attentive to the prayer offered in **this place**” (vs 14-15)—we now know this is wherever you are! **God is there attentive:**

- to hear
- to answer
- to intervene
- to heal
- to strengthen

All of those things!

Verse 16: “For now I have chosen and sanctified this house so that My name may be there forever....”

That's where it's going to be when Christ returns (Zech. 14), and we're coming with Him at that time.

“...And My eyes and My heart shall be there perpetually. And you... [talking to Solomon] ...**if** you will walk before Me, as David your father walked, and will do according to all that I have commanded you, and shall observe My statutes and My ordinances, **then I will make the throne of your kingdom sure**, as I have covenanted with David your father, saying, ‘**There shall not fail you a man to be ruler in Israel.**’ **But if you turn away and forsake My statutes and My commandments...**” (vs 16-19).

Think about that with the Protestants. How can they possibly think they represent God and Christ when they say that you don't have to keep the Law?

“...which I have set before you, and **if you shall go and serve other gods and worship them, then I will pluck them up by the roots out of My**

land, which I have given them. And this house, which I have sanctified for My name, **I will cast out of My sight...** [Did God do that? *Yes, He did, twice!*] ...and I will make it to be a proverb and a byword among all nations. And this house, which is exalted, shall be an astonishment to everyone who passes by it, so that *they* shall be appalled and say, ‘Why has the LORD done this to this land and to this house?’” (vs 19-21).

What did Jesus say it would be? *You see these buildings, there shall not be one stone left upon another that shall not be thrown down!* So blinded are the Jews that they do not even know the correct place where to build the third temple. Think on that! That's quite a thing!

Verse 22: “And it shall be answered...” They don't like this answer; they don't like anyone standing up and saying:

- **you** have forsaken the commandments of God
- **you** have left God
- **you** have turned your back on God
- **you** are following other gods, doing other things, doing your own pleasure
- **you** think that you're right with God, but **you're not**

That's where we are today as a nation!

- look at it
- look at all the things that are happening to us
- look at the difficulties that are here

and the things that are difficulties even worse that are coming!

Will people turn to God? The Protestants are out there trying to get them back to their little singsong ways that they have. ***But that's not turning to God!*** They've got to *rend their hearts and not their garments!*

“...Because they forsook the LORD God of their fathers, who brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, and laid hold upon other gods and worshiped them and served them. **Therefore, He has brought all this evil upon them**” (v 22).

After all that Solomon had, and all the warning that he had and in building the temple, praying and offering sacrifices, and God doing so many things for him, let's see what Solomon did.

I've often wondered (speculation) how much Bathsheba influenced him toward these things. We don't find anywhere that Bathsheba came to him and said, ‘Solomon, straighten up your ways.’ *No!* Here's where Solomon ascended:

1-Kings 10:23: “And King Solomon was greater than all the kings of the earth in riches and in wisdom.”

Isn't it amazing? You would think that wisdom would give you understanding that you need to always do right. But it doesn't do it, because human nature and free moral agency says, ‘You're okay, go ahead and do what you want.’

Verse 24: “And all the earth sought Solomon to hear his wisdom, which God had put in his heart. And every man brought his presents, vessels of silver and vessels of gold, and clothing and armor, and spices, horses and mules, at a rate year by year... [taxing, taking] ...And Solomon gathered chariots and horsemen. And he had fourteen hundred chariots, and twelve thousand horsemen, whom he stationed in the cities for chariots and with the king at Jerusalem” (vs 24-26)—*scattered all through Israel!*

Verse 27: “And the king made silver like stones in Jerusalem, and he made cedars like the sycamore trees in the valley for abundance. And Solomon had horses brought out of Egypt and out of Kue. The king's merchants received linen yarn from Kue at a price. And a chariot was imported from Egypt for six hundred *shekels* of silver, and a horse for a hundred and fifty. And so, to all the kings of the Hittites, and for the kings of Syria, they were exported *to them* through their hands” (vs 27-29).

All of this was coming in, and Solomon got taken aback by all of this wealth, and all the wisdom that he had. If you want to go online and get the message: *The Solomon Syndrome* (FOT-2019, Day 6). We're summarizing it here!

Remember the instructions in Deut. 17 that you shall not multiply horses to yourself, and you shall not multiply women to yourself. So, what did Solomon do? *He broke that commandment of God!*

- just because you're king
- just because you're wise
- just because you have all the wealth
- just because you have all of the people worshipping and serving you *instead of God*

Remember the lesson of this: ***Don't ever let physical things defer you from your spiritual relationship with God!*** God can take those away in a flash!

1-Kings 11:1: “And King Solomon loved many foreign women, even the daughter of Pharaoh, Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians, Hittites; of the nations which the LORD had said to the children of Israel, ‘**You shall not go in to them, and they shall not go in to you...** [Why]: ...**surely**

they will turn away your heart after their gods.’ *But Solomon clung to these in love” (vs 1-2). An amazing thing!*

Verse 3: “And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines. And his wives turned away his heart... [from God] ...for it came to pass when Solomon was old, his wives turned away his heart after other gods. And his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God as *was* the heart of David his father” (vs 3-4).

And then go do what Solomon did! Think about this: how far can misled free moral agency go and self-justify it:

- that evil is good
- that going against the commandments of God is fine
 - ✓ because I'm smart
 - ✓ because I'm rich
 - ✓ because God has blessed me

Surely He will overlook all of this, won't He? NO!

Verse 5: “For Solomon went after Ashtoreth, the goddess of the Sidonians... [How about that? Today that's virgin Mary worship] ...and after Milcom, the abomination of the Ammonites; and Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD and did not *go* fully after the LORD like his father David” (vs 5-6).

All of his wives kept after him until he built incense places and small little temples for their gods. They probably said:

We can't go to your temple and worship our god, but Solomon you built a nice house for your God, couldn't you build a nice house for my god? I'm your wife! Don't you think that would be nice? You could make it beautiful!

Let's see what happened:

Verse 7: “Then Solomon built a high place for Chemosh, the abomination of Moab, in the hill, which *is* before Jerusalem... [just across from the temple] ...and for Molech, the abomination of the children of Ammon.”

They had child sacrifice to Molech! Read the book of Jeremiah and see what happened to the children of Israel because they did that.

Verse 8: “And likewise he did for all his foreign wives, and burned incense and sacrificed to their gods.:

Stop and think about today and what has happened to the Churches of God. There are a good number of churches fairly large, mostly small, some very small, and isolated that they're trying their best

to serve God. Some of them are doing okay. Some are not and getting carried away with false doctrine. The thing is and always remember this: ***You have to be faithful yourself to God always, regardless of what anybody else is doing!***

God does not look down an excuse evil for the sake of a few who stay with it to try and help them change. The instruction in the New Testament by the Apostle Paul for those who don't teach the true doctrines of Jesus Christ is **separate yourself from them!**

Verse 9: "And the LORD *was* angry with Solomon because his heart was turned from the LORD God of Israel who had appeared to him twice, and had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods; and he did not keep that which the LORD commanded" (vs 9-10).

Verse 11: "And the LORD said to Solomon, 'Since this has been done by you, and since you have not kept My covenant and My statutes, which I have commanded you, I will surely tear the kingdom from you and will give it to your servant. But I will not do it in your days, for David your father's sake, *but* I will tear it out of the hand of your son'" (vs 11-12)—*and He did that!*

God took it out of the hand of Solomon's son Rehoboam and gave it to Jeroboam, one of his generals who was an Ephramite.

Then you will read what God does, and you will see that that is what God is doing today to all the modern nations of Israel.

Verse 14: And it came to pass the LORD stirred up an adversary against Solomon, Hadad the Edomite...."

He grew up in Egypt and then God sent him to Israel to do what we call *terrorist's raids!* Have we had those? *Think about it!*

- Why do they come?
- Why do these things happen that way?

As a warning from God for the people!

- ✓ Will you turn to God?
- ✓ Will you repent?
- ✓ Will you forsake your sins?
- ✓ What are you going to do with your life?

I, God, have given you everything! Here in America I've given you everything from sea to shining sea! The most productive land in the world, a beautiful land full of every good thing, and I blessed you with crops, trees, cattle and everything that there is!

I've seen you through your difficulties, your Civil War and WWI and WWII, Korean War,

Vietnam War, Iraqi Wars and now here we are, and what are you doing? What are the people doing?

They're turning away from God, instead of turning to God!

Let's see what Jeroboam did:

1-Kings 12:25: "And Jeroboam built Shechem on Mount Ephraim and lived on it, and went from there and built Penuel. And Jeroboam said in his heart, 'Now, the kingdom may well return to the house of David!'" (vs 25-26).

He didn't trust God! God even sent a prophet to tell Jeroboam that if he would keep the commandments of God, He would set him up a dynasty like He did for David. But Jeroboam didn't do it! Here's what he did.

Verse 27: "'If this people go up to do sacrifice in the house of the LORD at Jerusalem, then shall the heart of this people turn again to their lord, to Rehoboam king of Judah, and they shall kill me and return again to Rehoboam king of Judah.' Then the king took counsel, and made two calves of gold and said to them, 'It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem.... [we'll make it convenient] ...Behold your gods, O, Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!' And he set the one in Bethel, and he put the other in Dan. And this thing became a sin, for the people went to worship before the one, even to Dan. And he made houses of *worship* on the high places and made priests of the lowest of the people, who were not the sons of Levi. And **Jeroboam ordered a feast in the eighth month, on the fifteenth day of the month,** like the feast that *is* in Judah. And he offered upon the altar. So, he did in Bethel, sacrificing to the calves that he had made. And he placed in Bethel the priests of the high places, which he had made" (vs 27-32).

Israel never returned to God in the rest of their history, 232 years. That's amazing! Even though God sent prophets to Jeroboam that he shouldn't do it, but they didn't listen.

Tomorrow we will see where we go with this, and how Christ was prophesied to come to turn the people to God.

Scriptural References:

- 1) 1-Chronicles 28:1-10
- 2) Joshua 1:1-9
- 3) 1 Chronicles 28:11-14, 19-20
- 4) 2 Chronicles 1:1
- 5) 2-Chronicles 5:5-7, 9-14
- 6) 2 Chronicles 7:11-22

- 7) 1 Kings 10:23-29
- 8) 1 Kings 11:1-12, 14
- 9) 1 Kings 12:25-32

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Job 42
- Hebrews 13
- 2 Chronicles 6
- Zechariah 14
- Deuteronomy 17

Also referenced: Message:

The Solomon Syndrome (FOT-2019, Day 6)

FRC:bo
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How the Kingdom of God is Going to Work

The LORD reigns for those who walk in the Way of Holiness

(Day 6—FOT)

Fred R. Coulter—October 15, 2022

Greetings, brethren! Welcome to Day 6 of the Feast of Tabernacles! Here we are getting down toward the end of the Feast.

As we have seen through the first five days, that no civilization of men will ever last. That's because of Satan the devil and the sinfulness of men. It even applies to the thousand-year reign of Jesus Christ and the saints. We will find that out today and tomorrow.

Granted, it's going to be the best time in the world. Granted, it's going to be a time unlike any in the whole world from the time of Adam and Eve down to that time. On the 8th Day we will see something even greater, *and what a climax that will be!*

- let's see what God is going to do to the world
- let's see what we're going to do to help
- let's see what's going to happen to people who come through the Tribulation and how things will be

Of course, this will be the best time that the world has ever seen up to that time!

Christ has to return, we have covered that. He comes to the earth with all the saints! We need to understand that we're all going to be teachers, administrators, some kings, some priests, and however God structures what it's going to be in the Kingdom of God, that's how it will be! We have an outline of it here:

Revelation 20:4: "And I saw thrones; and they that sat upon them, and judgment was given to them..."

We're going to judge the world, and it's all under Christ. He will be King ruling out of Jerusalem. Jerusalem is going to have that great huge *tabernacle* (Isa. 4). It's going to be a beautiful place to be. *No temple!*

If you still think that the temple of Ezek. 40-48 is the temple that will be in the Millennium, that's a misnomer. It won't be.

We have seen that out of Jerusalem will come the Law, and many nations shall come up and want to know about the Law of God. We'll be sent out to help them. That's what it means "...and judgment was given to them..."

"...and *I saw* the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus..." (v 4).

In the future right ahead of us, we're going to see some very difficult times, indeed!

"...and for the Word of God, and those who did not worship the beast or his image, and did not receive the mark in their foreheads or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years" (v 4).

That's going to be a marvelous time! This is what is called *the great harvest of God!* Then there will be another one that will be even greater, which is the Last Great Day.

Verse 5: "...This is the first resurrection."

Here's what we need to understand. Here's what makes it worth it all for all of us in this age:

Verse 6: "Blessed and Holy... [meaning we will be in the God Family; we will be spirit beings]: ...is the one who has part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power.... [we will come back to that on the 8th day] ...But they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years."

There we go; let's see what the world is going to be like. Let's see how people are going to live and how we're going to take care of sin. People will still sin! We have seen from Ezek. 36 that their vile human nature will be reduced considerably to just regular human nature. But God is still going to give them, as we will see, and see whether they will love God and serve Him.

This is quite a thing indeed, because the book of Daniel tells us, and think about this: All the prophecies of the Old Testament pointing to the establishment of the Kingdom of God go all the way back 2,500 years, 3,000 years, and all the way back to Abraham. There are even some things before Abraham.

We're going to see that's a marvelous thing! But here's the prophecy of it. Remember that King Nebuchadnezzar saw this great image, the head of gold and arms and breasts of silver. After silver come bronze then iron and iron and clay.

Nebuchadnezzar pulled a smart one on all of the religious leaders, and the ones who are supposed to be prognosticators to tell the future, he wouldn't

tell the dream to them. They said:

- How are we going to know what the dream is?
- How can we tell you what the dream is and tell you what it means if you don't tell us what the dream is?

God gave it to Daniel and then Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. They came in and told the king the meaning of it. Then Daniel gives the conclusion of it, because it was something! Remember, it's all various forms of Babylon right down to the end of human civilization before the return of Christ. What does the book of Revelation call the world? *Babylon the Great!* It fills the whole earth!

Daniel 2:43—*Daniel says to the king:* “And whereas you saw iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mix themselves with the seed of men. But they shall not cling to one another, even as iron does not combine with clay.”

That shows that at the end-time that it's going to be a temporary alliance that comes along.

Verse 44: “And in the days of these kings... [seven head and ten horns (Rev.17)] ...the God of heaven shall set up a Kingdom, which shall never be destroyed.... [the Kingdom of God will go on and on] ...And the Kingdom shall not be left to other people... [Who is it going to be left to? *The sons and daughters of God!*] ...but it... [the stone cut out without hand: Christ] ...shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, **and it...** [the Kingdom of God] ...**shall stand forever.**”

Stop and think about how great it is that God is preparing all of this for us, and that we're going to live forever! That's why we have to draw close to God, especially in these last days.

Verse 45: “Because you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold...”

All of the best of man cannot be compared to what God is going to bring. He's going to have to get rid of it all! So, Daniel says:

“...the great God has made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter. And the dream *is* certain, and its interpretation is sure” (v 45). *There's no way it's going to change!*

Sometimes, because we don't understand how things will fall in the flow in time of actual years, we wonder. I imagine that the Church, when it first started on the Day of Pentecost—and they began to understand certain things and reading the book of Daniel—that they were wondering when

this will be.

Here we are 2,000 years after the Church began and we're still moving ahead toward the end and it's going to come! ***It is going to come!***

Verse 46: “Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell upon his face and worshiped Daniel...”

For the king to worship Daniel is a big deal, because the subjects knelt and bowed the knee! And in some cases when they thought that the king was the manifestation of God in the flesh, they worshipped the king. On the earth that did not cease until the end of WWII and Japan was conquered.

That was quite interesting, because when the Japanese were ready to surrender, they didn't want to surrender the emperor for him to be taken out of position. So, the United States agreed to let him live ***IF*** he would confess that he was not a god and ***IF*** he would go out mingle among the people and let them look at him in the face. That was the only condition that the Japanese could have. So, that was granted! Look how long that lasted.

Notice what else Nebuchadnezzar did: “...and he commanded to offer an offering and sweet incense to him. The king answered Daniel and said, ‘It is true... [How many people will do this today?]: ...that your God *is* the God of gods, and the Lord of kings, and a Revealer of secrets, since you could reveal this secret” (vs 46-47).

Look at what happened to Daniel, and this came to be a great benefit for all the Jews in Babylon. Later, when the 70-year captivity was up, the majority of Jews stayed in Babylon rather than come back to Jerusalem and build the temple and live there.

Sidebar: we find in 1-Peter that Peter was in Babylon when he wrote the book of 1-Peter. How did he get there? After the angel let them out of prison (Acts 12) and he came to Mark's house, it says, ‘He left to go to another place.’

Since he was the apostle to the circumcision, the greater number of Jews were still in Babylon. That's why it says that 1-Peter was from Babylon.

Verse 48: “Then the king made Daniel great, and gave him many great gifts, and made him ruler over all the province of Babylon, and chief of the prefects over all the wise men of Babylon. And Daniel asked the king, and he appointed Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego over the affairs of the province of Babylon. But Daniel *sat* within the gate of the king” (vs 48-49).

Let's see what's going to happen. This is coming on the world, **and when the beast finally comes on the world this is going to be some great and awesome thing!** And the false prophet, and many are going to be deceived! That's why it's important **that we keep:**

- the Sabbath
- the Passover
- the Holy Days

Those people who don't do it will be deceived!

We can talk about that later, but let's see how the book of Daniel, Dan. 2 & 8, brings us to the coming of the Kingdom of God on the earth.

Daniel 8:23: "And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors have come to the full, a king, fierce of countenance and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up."

These are worshippers of Satan the devil! What does it say in Rev. 13 about the beast that's going to rise up and the whole world worships Satan and the beast.

Remember that the false prophet comes on the scene with miracles and power and calling fire down from heaven. The **whole world** is going to go after it!

Verse 24: "And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power.... [but from Satan] ...And he shall destroy marvelously, and shall prosper and *do his own will*, and destroy the mighty and the Holy people." *That's the fifth seal of Rev. 6; martyrdom of the saints!*

Verse 25: "And also through his cunning he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand...."—*bringing out all of the satanic things to control people!*

When he is healed from the deadly wound—that's when he will start killing the saints—the whole world is going to worship him. *This is talking about the Beast Power!*

"...And he shall magnify himself in his heart, and in time of security shall destroy many. He also shall stand up against the Prince of princes.... [tie in Rev. 19, the beast and the false prophet] ...But he shall be broken without a human hand" (v 25).

- Who is going to take care of the beast and the false prophet? *An angel!*
- What is the angel going to do to them? *Throw them into the Lake of Fire!*

Verse 26: "And the vision of the evening

and the morning, which was told *is true....*"

Now let's see about the Kingdom that's going to be setup. All the other prophets—Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Hosea, and all of the 12 minor prophets having things to do with the end-time—are subdivisions of the book of Daniel! The book of Revelation is the key that puts it all together!

You can't understand things with just Daniel alone, and you can't understand things with just Revelation alone. *You need both of them!*

Dan. 7:18 talks about the beast. We won't get into that, but get our In-Depth Study of *Daniel/Revelation* {truthofGod.org}

Daniel 7:18: "But the saints of the Most High shall receive the Kingdom and possess the Kingdom forever, even forever and ever. Then I [Daniel] desired to know the truth concerning the fourth beast, which *was* different from all the others, exceedingly dreadful, whose teeth *were* of iron and his nails of brass; *who* devoured, broke in pieces, and stamped the rest with his feet; and of the ten horns that were on his head, and *of* the other horn, which came up, and before whom three fell..." (vs 18-20). *This bringing the Beast Power taking them out!*

"...even *of* that horn that had eyes, and a mouth speaking very boastful things, whose appearance *was* greater than his fellows. I watched, and that same horn made war with the saints and overcame them" (vs 20-21). *That sounds like the Beast Power and the False Prophet combined!*

Verse 22: "**Until the Ancient of Days came**, and judgment was given to the saints of the Most High.... [tie in Rev. 20; judgment was give to them] ...And the time came that the saints possessed the Kingdom"—*and he explains a little bit of it.*

Verse 23: "Thus he said, 'The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be different from all the *other* kingdoms and shall devour the whole earth... [a worldwide government, and that agrees with Revelation] ...and shall trample it and break it in pieces. And the ten horns out of this kingdom *are* ten kings that shall arise. And another shall arise after them. And he shall be different from the first, and he shall subdue three kings'" (vs 23-24).

Here we have it, identifying it again, over and over again:

Verse 25: "And he shall speak words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and **think to change the set times and the laws....**"

That's a prophecy of what the Catholic Church would do. They have done it, and to this very day it's affective in everything **except the true Churches of God!**

"...And they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and one-half time. But the judgment shall sit..." (v 25).

There it is again; all those who come against us and kill the saints—martyrdom of the saints—all of those who come against Christ and fight against Him will have to come under the judgment of God and we will be there to execute it.

Verse 26: "But the judgment shall sit and his dominion shall be taken away to be consumed and to be destroyed unto the end. And **the Kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the Kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High...**" (vs 26-27).

Who is the Most High? *God the Father!* See what's going to be given to us! What I want you to do—when we leave and go home after the Feast—many of us will be confronted with some trials and difficulties. I want you to keep in mind the greatness of what God going to do for us, and give us the Kingdom!

We will be, as it says there in 1-Cor. 2, that **our eyes have not seen and our ears have heard the things that God has prepared for those who love Him!** This is to help us in times of stress and difficulties. So, we come to God and pray to Him to help us and overcome these things.

"...Whose Kingdom is an everlasting Kingdom. And all kingdoms shall serve and obey Him" (v 27).

Now let's see what's going to happen to the earth, and see how all of this is going to take place, but first of all, let's come to Psa, 15 and see Who is going to rule!

The Tabernacle of God also means the Government of God, and it also means to serve God in His Kingdom.

Psalms 15:1: "LORD, who shall dwell in Your tabernacle? Who shall dwell upon Your Holy hill? He who walks uprightly, and works righteousness... [this is how we are to conduct our life] ...and speaks the Truth in his heart" (vs 1-2).

The Truth of God and the Spirit of God—which is the Spirit of Truth—cleanses our heart and mind so that we are not living in lies.

Verse 3: "He does not slander with his

tongue, nor does evil to his neighbor, nor takes up a reproach against his neighbor, in whose eyes a vile person is despised, but he honors those who fear the LORD; he who swears to his own hurt and does not change it; he who has not put out his money at usury, nor has he taken a bribe against the innocent. **He who does these things shall never be moved**" (vs 3-5).

We're going to go out and take over the Kingdom! That's quite a thing!

Remember that in Isaiah and the Psalms there is more about the Kingdom of God than in any of the other books of the Bible.

Isaiah 12:1: "And in that day you shall say, 'I will give thanks to You O LORD; though You were angry with me, Your anger is turned away, and You do comfort me. Behold, **God is my salvation...**'" (vs 1-2).

This is how we look to God for everything; this talks about that God calls us, forgives us, and gives us His Spirit:

"...I will trust and not be afraid; for the LORD God is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation.' And with joy you shall draw water out of the wells of salvation" (vs 2-3).

That means receiving continuously the Holy Spirit. When you come Rev. 22, what is the first thing you see? *The Water of Life coming out from underneath the Throne of the Father and Jesus!* And into the River of Life with the Trees of Life on each side of the river with fruit for each month! *That's amazing!*

Verse 4: "And in that day you shall say, 'Praise the LORD!....'"

That's what we will do. We're ***not*** going to have people looking to us and we turn people to us instead of turning them to God. Think about what men do in that way to turn people away from God and turn them to themselves! ***We've seen that happen!***

- What is one of the greatest examples of that today in this world? *Adolf Hitler!*
- What did he do? *He was a false messiah, one of those ten horns that was taken down!*

Another one is going to be coming up here pretty quick!

"...Call upon His name; declare His doings among the people, make mention that His name is exalted. Sing *to* the LORD; for He has done gloriously..." (vs 4-5).

What is He going to do to the earth? *We will see here in just a minute!* He's going to make it the most beautiful place that there ever was! That's only the start!

"...this *is* known in all the earth. Cry out and shout, O inhabitant of Zion; for great *is* the Holy One of Israel in your midst" (vs 5-6).

Isn't that interesting? The next chapter talks about the destruction of Babylon. Amazing how the Bible is put together.

Let's see what God is going to do to the earth. He's going to have to do so many things to the earth to get it to produce and have men work it to rebuild everything and plant their crops and harvest them. Keep the Sabbath and Holy Days and the seven-year land sabbath. You know, the seven-year land sabbath is the key to a stable economy.

Isa, 35—Here's what's going to happen. I'm sure that most of you have flown on a jet someplace in the world. When you're up there at 35,000 feet flying along as nearly 600mph, that's quite a thing. You look down on the earth and it looks nearly empty! How much is the world going to change when God blesses it for the Millennium? Here it is:

Isaiah 35:1: "The wilderness and the desert shall be glad and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose."

Just take the Sahara Desert, the Gobi Desert, the deserts in America, wherever else there are deserts, in Australia, etc. No one lives there. Some people do in some little oasis, and they travel even to this day by camel caravan. It's hot, windy and difficult.

Verse 2: "It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even *with* joy and singing..."

I don't know how the earth is going to rejoice in singing, but it is true that the earth—when evil people work it—does not produce what it should. It affects the soil, affects the plants!

"...the glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the excellency of Carmel and Sharon, they shall see the glory of the LORD *and* the majesty of our God.... [here is what God is going to do]: ...Make the weak hands strong and make the feeble knees sure" (vs 2-3).

We're going to be dealing, at the beginning of the Millennium, with a lot of people who have come through the Tribulation. That's going to be some thing, indeed! This is what we're going to do:

Verse 4: "Say to those of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, fear not; behold, your God will come *with*

vengeance, with the full recompense of God. He will come and save you.'"

Now notice what's going to happen; this is physically and spiritually:

Verse 5: "Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing; for in the wilderness waters shall break out, and streams in the desert" (vs 5-6).

- Can you imagine that?
- What's that going to be like?

This is all necessary for supporting the great increase of human beings that is going to come on the earth!

Verse 7: "And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land shall become springs of water in the home of jackals, in its lair, it shall be a place for the reed and rush. And a highway... [it's going to be for the righteous] ...shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called **The Way of Holiness....**" (vs 7-8).

It will be literal there, *true!* But it will also be *spiritual*, because it's **the way that we will be living! The way that people will be taught by us on how they are to live!**

Think about it! No more of the gruesomeness of this world, and the sickness, disease, crime, killing, starvation, oppression and war! ***All gone!*** He will make wars to cease and they **will not learn war** ever again!

"...The unclean shall not pass over it. But it will be **for him who walks in that way...**" (v 8)—*the Way of Holiness!*

- What are the commandments of God? *Holiness!*
- What are the Sabbath and Holy Days of God? *The way of Holiness!*

We're doing it now! We're going to help the world do it! What a place that's going to be! So, this whole thing of living forever, and being in the Millennium, helping to bring these things on the earth, yes, we'll just see all of this is projecting forward to the New Heavens and the New Earth.

That's why the Feast of Tabernacles is seven days, and then we have the eighth day. ***God is going to finish it with a great climax!***

Verse 9: "No lion shall be there, nor *any* beast of prey shall go up on it, they shall not be found there. But the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to

Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away” (vs 9-10). *That’s what we’re going to do!*

We will see some more of what we’re going to do. God is going to make this earth such a wonderful place; it will be virtually unbelievable!

(break@41:40)

Let’s continue to see how the Kingdom of God is going to work! Everything is going to flow out of Jerusalem. So, it’s going to be wonderful, indeed!

Let’s look at some Psalms that talk about God reigning, because that’s the only way that the Millennium is going to work. *This is absolutely marvelous!*

Psalms 93:1: “**The LORD reigns**... [Christ is in charge, the saints are working, the apostle, patriarchs, prophets, all in harmony together under Jesus Christ.

“...He is clothed with majesty...”—*what it’s going to be like to see Jesus in His majestic form!*

Peter, James and John saw Him when He was transfigured on the Mount of Transfiguration. What’s it going to be like for all of us?

- go visit Jerusalem
- go talk to Christ
- go talk to Abraham

for whatever we need!

“...the LORD is clothed with strength. He clothed Himself and the world also is established; **it shall not be moved**”—*is will not change!*

Verse 2: “Your throne is established of old; You are from everlasting”—*what a thing that is, yes indeed!*

Psalms 95:1: “O come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise to Him with psalms, for the LORD is a great God and a great King above all gods” (vs 1-3).

In this world He is the only *true God*, but in the Millennium we all be sons and daughters of God with the nature of God. So, this may be referring to us.

Verse 4: “In His hand are the depths of the earth; the peaks of the mountains are also His. The sea is His, and He made it, and His hands formed the dry land. O come, let us worship and bow down; let

us kneel before the LORD our Maker, for He is our God...” (vs 4-7).

It’s going to apply to us, and to all the people living during the Millennium.

“...and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand...” (v 7).

Then He talks about something that will be enforced!

“...Today, **if** you would but **hearken to His voice**: ‘Harden not your heart...’ (v 8). That’s about the Sabbath; everybody is going to keep the Sabbath, it will be a wonderful time!

Psalms 96:1: “O sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.”

Think about what it’s going to be like when Sabbath begins and then rolls around to the whole earth. All the people come out to praise and worship God. Being thankful and grateful, and loving each other! No crime! No terror! No false whatever going on! It’s going to be a great time!

Verse 2: “Sing to the LORD, bless His name; proclaim His salvation from day to day.”

That’s what’s going to be all during the Millennium, proclaiming the salvation of God! Why they are here and why we are there with them!

Verse 3: “Declare His glory among the nations, His wonders among all people.” *Look at that!* All the earth and all people!

Verse 4: “For the LORD is great, and greatly to be praised; He is to be feared above all gods, for all the gods of the nations are idols... [that’s talking about those that are out there today] ...but the LORD made the heavens” (vs 4-5).

Isn’t it astonishing how much we’re able to see with the James Webb Telescope going out some 13-billion *light years*? That is amazing that **God gave that technology to those scientists and engineers to design that telescope so there would be this reflection of God as never** before seen as a witness to the whole world!

Verse 6: “Honor and majesty are before Him; strength and beauty are in His sanctuary. Ascribe to the LORD, O you kindreds of the people; give to the LORD glory and strength. **Ascribe to the LORD the glory due to His name**; bring an offering and come into His courts. **O worship the LORD in the beauty of Holiness; tremble before Him, all the earth**” (vs 6-9).

That’s showing us that there is going to be a great spiritual connection with us and God, with the

people and us and the people to God! It's going to be a marvelous thing, indeed!

Verse 10: "Say among the nations, '**The LORD reigns...**'"

There it is again! How fantastic that is that we know what that's going to be!

"...and the world shall be established; it shall not be moved; He shall judge the people with righteousness. Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea roar, and the fullness of it. Let the field be joyful, and all that is in it; then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy" (vs 10-12).

I don't know what that's going to be like; I've never heard a tree sing! But as spirit beings maybe we can!

"...sing for joy before the LORD; for He comes, for He comes to judge the earth; He shall judge the world with righteousness and the people with His Truth" (vs 12-13). *No more Satan the devil!* That's going to be some thing indeed!

Now, look at how these Psalms fit together showing the Kingdom of God and what it's going to be like. How the people are going to be. Also, revealing what we will be doing. We will be kings, priests, administrators and all of that in the Kingdom of God!

Psalm 97:1: "The LORD reigns; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of islands be glad. Clouds and darkness are all around Him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of His Throne" (vs 1-2). *A lot different than today!*

Who is going to be administering that? *We are!* Think about that! We're going to have the greatest jobs for all eternity! We don't know how that's going to increase. We don't know what God has planned with the rest of the universe. He didn't make it in vain! But He's not telling us what He's going to do with it until He's ready!

Verse 2: "Clouds and darkness are all around Him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of His Throne. A fire goes before Him and burns up His enemies round about.... [when He comes down to the earth] ...His lightnings light up the world; the earth saw and trembled. he mountains melted like wax at the presence of the LORD, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth. **The heavens declare His righteousness, and all the people see His glory**" (vs 2-6). *That's going to be something!*

These Psalms are all about the same thing. The point that is important is that we will be part of people coming into the Kingdom of God under our

rulership and then into eternal life we will also partake of it. It's going to be a great and wonderful time.

Psalm 98:1: "O sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things; His right hand and His Holy arm have worked salvation for Him. The LORD has made known His salvation; He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations. He has remembered His steadfast love and His faithfulness toward the house of Israel; **all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God**" (vs 1-3). *That's going to be something!*

Verse 4: "Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth, and rejoice, and sing praise. Sing to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre, and the voice of a psalm. With silver trumpets and sound of a ram's horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD" (vs 4-6). *That's what it's going to be!*

- very little to no crime
- no more war
- no more fighting
- people loving each other
- people loving God

Having children and the increase of the family is going to be so great. All of the people will have the ability to express their talents, their God given talents, and what they can do. Marvelous things are going to be done by them.

Just think about the many good things that people do on the earth today in spite of the evil! The evil overtakes it and destroys it. But think about what it's going to be like then.

- all of the joy
- all of the love
- all of the working together

That's going to be something! Again Psa. 99 says the same thing:

Psalm 99:1: "The LORD reigns; let the people tremble. He sits between the cherubim; let the earth quake. The LORD is great in Zion, and He is high above all the people. Let them praise Your name as great and awesome; Holy is He" (vs 1-3). *Think about how that's going to be!*

Verse 4: "The strength of the King also loves justice..."

- rightly dividing the Word of God
- rightly judging in situations where judgment must be given
- done in righteousness

Verse 4: “The strength of the King also loves justice; You established uprightness; You have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob. Exalt the LORD our God and worship at His footstool, for He is Holy” (vs 4-5). *Then it talks about Moses and Aaron!*

Psa. 100 is a short, little Psalm, but what a wonderful, wonderful Psalm. This pictures what the Millennium is going to be:

Psalm 100:1: “Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Serve the LORD with gladness; come before His presence with singing. Know that the LORD, **He is God. He has made us, and we are His; we are His...**” (vs 1-3).

Think about that! For the first time in the history of the world, beginning with the Millennium, people will know that they are a creation of God! Special! Individual! That’s something! Compare that to the world today, and there can be no comparison.

“...we are His people and the sheep of His pasture. Enter into His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise; give thanks unto Him and bless His name, for the LORD is good; His steadfast love is everlasting; and His faithfulness endures to all generations” (vs 3-5). *What a time that this is going to be all through the Millennium!*

Let’s see what else we have. Let’s see what it’s going to be in the Millennium with the people living here. Let’s come back to the beginning of the Millennium. ***The earth is in complete upheaval!*** Mountains have been lowered, valleys have been raised, seas and rivers have been changed and all of that has to be reset.

Isaiah 65:17: “For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth. And the former things will not be remembered, nor come to mind.”

What’s going to happen with the people?

Verse 18: “But be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy. I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and I will joy in My people; and the voice of weeping will no more be heard in her, nor the voice of crying” (vs 18-19).

Notice what’s going to happen, and you can guarantee this. There will be ***no abortions in the Kingdom of God!*** There will be no sex perversion like we have today, or other times in history in the past. It won’t be there!

Verse 20: “There will not be an infant who lives but a few days, nor an old man that has not filled his days...”

There will be full lives! That’s what it’s going to be for the people who come through the Great Tribulation and enter into the Kingdom of God. Then all the way down through the thousand years this will repeat and repeat!

“...for the child will die a hundred years old...” (v 20).

So, there will still be death, but what kind of death will it be? *First of all the Scriptures tell us that as in Adam all die.*

Let’s talk just a little bit about the resurrection at the return of Christ. There will be those raised from the grave, and then there will be those who are alive in the flesh, and they will be instantly transformed from flesh to spirit.

But the removal of the flesh is death! Won’t be around any longer! So, when it says that the infant will die at 100, that is how long everybody is going to live, 100 years! At the end of 100 years the time will come that they will enter the Kingdom of God.

At that time it will be just like at the first resurrection. I don’t know how we’re going to do this, but it would be something if we have a going out, or coming in, service for those who are leaving the flesh and becoming spirit beings.

That’s going to be something, whatever time it will be. Wouldn’t it be amazing if they would all transform from flesh to spirit on Pentecost? Just a thought (speculation).

Here we are at Sabbath services and everybody is there and whatever saint who is in charge of that will be there. Here we have a whole group of 100-year-old people who are ready to enter the Kingdom of God and be transformed from flesh to spirit.

So, we announce their names, they come forward. I don’t know how we’re going to do it. I don’t know if it’s going to be the laying on of hands and God changes them, I have no idea. But they’re going to be changed from flesh to spirit. At the time that the flesh is left, ***that’s dying in Adam and being made alive in Christ!***

“...but the **sinner** who is a hundred years old shall be accursed” (v 20).

This tells us that during the Millennium there still will be sin! A sinner who is 100-years-old and hasn’t repented is not going to have the chance of a sudden change at the last minute in his 100th year. As a matter of fact, we will see in just a little bit that the sinners are going to be removed and exiled away from those who are faithful.

So, when they die, they'll be buried, and they will await the resurrection to the Lake of Fire of all incorrigible wicked. That has to happen (Rev. 20).

Let's finish and then we will see what happens to the sinners.

Verse 21: "And they will build houses and live *in them*; and they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit. They will not build, and another live *in them*; they will not plant, and another eat; for like the days of a tree *are so will be* the days of My people, and My elect will long enjoy the work of their hands" (vs 21-22).

- What is the example that we have when we have someone who sins?
- What are we going to do?

We're not going to let them spread the sin, so we will be able to work with them, talk with them, pray with them, and help them to overcome their sin. That will be taken care of with the sinner having already been removed from the group of righteous people.

- What do I mean by that? *We find this in Gen. 3!*
- What happened to Adam and Eve when they sinned? *They were removed from the Garden of Eden and they were not given entrance back into it ever again!*
- What do you do with people who sin, but not a sin unto death? *You still remove them and there will probably be what we would call 'repentance centers'!*

There will be special teachers to help them:

- come to repentance
- to understand what they've done
- for them to see how wrong that they have been

so that they will have an opportunity to repent!

God isn't going to take away free moral agency from anyone. Repentance is a choice that they're going to have to make.

- What if they won't repent?
- What do you do with them?

It's says that the sinner shall die at 100!

- What do you do with them?

Just like we have with Adam and Eve, what happened when Cain killed Abel? *He was further removed!*

So, when there are unrepented sins, and people cannot choose to do right. They must be

entirely removed! Where are they going to go? They have to go someplace where they will die and be buried when they reach 100! Where will that be? We have this that we will cover in a little more detail tomorrow:

Revelation 20:7: "Now, when the thousand years have been completed, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison; and he shall go out to deceive the nations that *are* in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog..." (vs 7-8).

Gog and Magog has to refer geographically to an area of Gog and Magog where the unrepentant sinners go! During the Millennium when they go there, they will live there. We don't know if they will be able to repent from that and come back or not. We'll have to wait and see.

But they will live to be 100 and die and be buried. That's their first death. Why does this not mean the people of Gog and Magog? *Because that means that God would be a respecter of persons, and beforehand condemn Gog and Magog people to the second death.* This has to be an area, and that's where they will be exiled.

The rest of it is going to be run this way; here's how we're going to teach the people and let them know what they need to do, and give them a chance to repent from their sins:

Isaiah 30:18: "And therefore, will the LORD wait, that He may be gracious unto you. And therefore, He will be exalted, that He may have mercy upon you, for the LORD *is* a God of justice; blessed *are* all those who wait for Him. For, O people, who dwell in Zion at Jerusalem, you shall weep no more; He will be very gracious to you at the voice of your cry. When He hears it, He will answer you" (vs 18-19).

You see, when people come to repentance, they don't repent to us; they will repent to God! God is the One Who grants repentance. He will hear and answer them.

Verse 20: "And though the LORD gives you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction..."

There still will be trials during the Millennium for those people who don't do what they should do, when they reach a point that they have to be removed, they'll first go to the 'repentance centers.' We don't know how that is going to work that is just based on the knowledge of the Bible a supposition of what's going to happen.

"...yet, your teachers... [that's us] ...shall not be removed into a corner anymore, but your eyes shall see your teachers. And your ears shall hear a

word behind you, saying... [when you out there ready to sin]: ... **‘This is the way, walk in it,’** when you turn to the right hand and when you turn to the left” (vs 20-21).

So, whenever they get out of hand they’re going to be taught. Where will they learn this? *I’m sure a lot of it will be direct at the time that they commit the sin!* But it also may be when they all come together for Sabbath services to be taught.

- taught how to grow and overcome
- taught what they need to know to enter the Kingdom of God

They will have all of us as Spirit beings to be able:

- to teach them
- to lead them
- to instruct them

So that they will succeed!

Human nature is such that with free moral agency a person can make up his or her mind and *choose not* to repent, *choose not* to change! They have to be removed in exile to Gog and Magog; they have to live there. I don’t know if they will have an opportunity to repent there. But if they do, then we will have to see if they can come back.

But the incorrigible wicked are going to live to be 100 and die and be buried! Of course, they’re going to await the resurrection to the Lake of Fire.

That’s apparently how God is going to handle it. If it’s any different than that, God will reveal it to us when we enter the Kingdom of God.

That’s why we need to grow in grace and knowledge! Grow in understanding and using God’s Word! How do develop the heart and mind of loving God with everything within us!

- with all our heart
- with all our mind
- with all our soul
- with all our being

And our neighbors as ourselves! So that we can have love toward the people during the Millennium and:

- help them overcome their sins
- help them grow in grace and knowledge
- teach them

Also know that Christ is going to teach us a lot more, too, so we can teach them!

This is going to be the whole plan of God to bring great salvation to:

- all who will repent
- all who will love and serve God

- all who will walk in His commandments
- all who will do His will
- all who will glorify God

The LORD Reigns!

We have one more day for the Feast of Tabernacles, which is tomorrow; day seven!

Scriptural References:

- 1) Revelation 20:4-6
- 2) Daniel 2:43-49
- 3) Daniel 8:23-26
- 4) Daniel 7:18-27
- 5) Psalm 15:1-5
- 6) Isaiah 12:1-6
- 7) Isaiah 35:1-10
- 8) Psalm 93:1-2
- 9) Psalm 95:1-8
- 10) Psalm 96:1-13
- 11) Psalm 97:1-6
- 12) Psalm 98: 1-6
- 13) Psalm 99:1-5
- 14) Psalm 100:1-5
- 15) Isaiah 65:17-22
- 16) Revelation 20:7-8
- 17) Isaiah 30:18-21

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Isaiah 4
- Ezekiel 4-48
- Revelation 17
- 1 Peter
- Acts 12
- Revelation 13; 6; 19
- 1 Corinthians 2
- Revelation 22
- Genesis 3

Also referenced: In-Depth Study:

Daniel/Revelation {truthofGod.org}

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A Picture of the Thousand Years Being Fulfilled

*Understanding the area of Gog and Magog
(FOT-Day 7)*

Fred R. Coulter—October 16, 2022

Greetings, brethren! Welcome to the seventh day of the Feast of Tabernacles! Time has been marching on, the world has been developing toward the end and different things are starting to fall in place. We will have some updates on those things after the Feast of Tabernacles and the Last Great Day!

Today is a special day, because it has to do with all of those who have entered into eternal life through the Millennium. This has all been under the direction of God the Father, Jesus Christ and all of the sons and daughters of God in the first resurrection. This is the great harvest for a thousand years. That's quite a thing; amazing indeed!

What's going to happen? We know, as we have covered a lot of these things, *that all during the Millennium people are going to be entering into the Kingdom of God!*

We're going to look at some things showing what God is doing all during the Millennium. It all fits together! How is God going to work it so that the people will enter into the Kingdom of God?

One of the complications that comes up is that we're told in 1-Cor. 15 that *in Adam we all die!* It's given to man and woman *once to die!* How is that going to work during the Millennium? *We will see something very interesting take place in 1-Thess. 4!* Paul is writing about the return of Jesus Christ when He comes back to the earth, and the trumpet of resurrection is the seventh trump of the book of Revelation.

We're going to learn something here so that we can understand how the transformation from flesh to spirit occurs. We know what Jesus said about Himself, that He's able to appear as a spirit being or as a human being, and he called it *flesh and bone* (Luke 24). He didn't say *flesh and blood*, because *true fleshly existence needs flesh and blood!*

But when Jesus appears as a human being He comes from spirit *to the appearance of* being human! It looks just like flesh, and all flesh hangs on the bones, so it's flesh and bones.

- What happens when Jesus returns?
- How many are still alive in the flesh when Jesus returns?
- What's going to happen to them since they did not die and put in the grave?

1-Thessalonians 4:13: "But I do not wish you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep..."

If you die in the faith, God calls that *you have fallen asleep or asleep awaiting the change!* We also know that when we die, the spirit returns to God (Ecc. 12). We also know that in Heb. 12 that under the altar there are *the spirits of just men/women made perfect!*

So, when the spirit goes back to God, it's much like a chip in a computer. Everything you need is on that chip, but it can't come to life unless it's put into the machine to do it. Either a camera, computer or smart phone. So, likewise the *spirits of just men/women made perfect* are just like that! They have to be put into a spirit body in order to become spirit.

Verse 14: "For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, in exactly the same way also, those who have fallen asleep in Jesus will God bring with Him."

Why? *Because all of those who are in the grave are going to rise and meet Christ in the air!* Those who are still alive, but converted and have the Spirit of God... (read on):

Verse 15: "For this we say to you by *the* Word of *the* Lord, that we who are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall in no wise precede those who have fallen asleep." *So, all the dead will be raised first!*

I'm going through this so we will understand Isa. 65 considerably better.

Verse 16: "Because the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout of command, with *the* voice of an archangel and with *the* trumpet of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first."

Paul fully anticipated that Christ was going to return in his day. Later, we know, he understood that it wouldn't happen. Now let's think on this for a minute: *1-Thess. was the first epistle that Paul wrote*, so read v 17 with this in mind:

Verse 17: "Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in *the* clouds for *the* meeting with the Lord in *the* air; and so shall we always be with *the* Lord."

So, we're caught up in the air and, as we know from Pentecost, there's this giant Sea of Glass up there. We don't know how many saints are going to be there, but that is going to be great, grand, glorious day! What happens? *Being changed we also know that that can also mean metamorphosed!* Changed instantly! What it is, the physical body dies and instantly we're completely spiritual!

With that in mind come back to Isa. 65, which tells us what's going to happen in every generation all during the Millennium.

When we come back to the earth to start the Millennium, as we have covered, ***the earth is going to be just in great heaps of destruction!*** It's going to have to be all straightened out, and then we begin the process of conversion for those who repented and are baptized. The whole process goes on for a thousand years!

Isaiah 65:17: "For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth...."

Because the earth is so messed up, the re-creation of it—putting it back in order—is what's going to happen. This is also a projection and prophecy of the *spiritual new heavens and new earth*, which all the sons and daughters of God will live in *New Jerusalem!*

Those who were converted during the Millennium and afterward will live in areas on the earth. They're called in Rev. 21 *the nations that are saved*. When you read something like this, you can think that it has more than one meaning, which it does!

"...And the former things will not be remembered, nor come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever *in that* which I create..." (vs 17-18).

The whole process of people coming into the Kingdom of God is creation! Plus re-creating everything that's on the earth:

- re-establishing the climate
- re-establishing the balance between rain, oceans and wind

To make the whole earth productive!

"...for behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, and her people a joy. I will rejoice in Jerusalem..." (vs 18-19).

Christ and the saints come back to the earth and their feet touch the Mt. of Olives and it splits in two. That's New Jerusalem, and then the great tabernacle. There's not going to be any temple during the Millennium. It will be a great Tabernacle of God!

Who all is going to be there we don't know, but we can come up there. People can come to a certain place, but not go on beyond into the area that's only for spirit beings. It's going to be an awe to see that great tabernacle. It will have the light like it was when they came out of Egypt. The light at night and the cloud by day! There will be the Throne of Jesus Christ! And all the patriarchs and the king who were good kings, all the prophets; that will be something!

"...and I will joy in My people; and the voice of weeping will no more be heard in her, nor the voice of crying" (v 19).

Now here is the one verse that is a tricky one. We've got to understand it as clearly as we can.

Verse 20: "There will not be an infant who lives but a few days, nor an old man that has not filled his days..."

This shows that there will be full life, no premature death and they will live to be 100-years-old. Always remember that all physical people, all through the Millennium and after the Millennium into the Last Great Day will still have free moral agency. Everyone must choose! God isn't going to take any shortcuts; He's not going to take away free moral agency, because He wants us to choose to love Him with all our heart, mind, soul and being. This is the basic thing that we're going to be teaching and helping people to practice.

"...for the child will die a hundred years old..." (v 20).

As we pointed out, they come to be 100-years-old and this death to be transformed from flesh to spirit and enter the Kingdom of God will instantaneous! It will be almost be like there was no death. But since the body is transformed from flesh to spirit then the flesh died instantly and was replaced instantly with a spirit body, spirit mind, etc. ***That takes care of those who are converted!***

"...but **the sinner** *who is* a hundred years old shall be **accursed**" (v 20).

What does that mean? *They will not receive eternal life!* If they are accursed that means when they come to their hundredth year and they haven't repented, they will be buried. The burial will be that which shows that they have sinned the unpardonable sin.

Let's review again the things that we know what God does for those who sin. This will be all through the Millennium. Those who are righteous and come to 100-years-old will be changed from flesh to spirit. This means that they have come to see

themselves, repent of their sins, believe in Jesus Christ's sacrifice, because His sacrifice is going to cover everyone's sins from the beginning of the creation of the world until the end for all of those who repent.

But ***those who don't repent will not receive that forgiveness!*** They will not be changed to spirit beings. What's going to happen to them? *We know that the example in the Bible is that in Gen. 3, when Adam and Eve sinned what happened to them! **They were removed out of the Garden of Eden!*** We don't know about their repentance or lack thereof. The only one we know who was righteous there was Abel. Being removed from the Garden of Eden was exile away from God.

We also know that when Cain killed Abel, and he didn't repent... Oh he was sorrowful because he was going to lose his life or that when someone else would see him they would kill him. What happened to Cain? ***He was exiled further away from God into a land of wandering!*** We don't know where that was, because that was destroyed in the Flood, as well as the Garden of Eden.

After the Garden of Eden was destroyed in the Flood, God was in heaven and would come to the earth and deal—beginning with Noah and then later Abraham—with the patriarchs on a one-to-one basis through personal appearance and through visions and dreams.

What happens to the sinner who dies at 100-years-old?

If they sin during the Millennium, we're going to point out to them that they have been sinning. They will be given a chance to repent, just like with us. God gives us a chance to repent when we sin.

- What is the sacrifice that covers our sins? *The sacrifice of Jesus Christ and His blood!*
- What's going to cover the sins of those who repent during the Millennium? *The sacrifice of Jesus Christ and His shed blood!*

We will be teaching, as it shows here:

Isaiah 30:18: "And therefore, will the LORD wait, that He may be gracious unto you. And therefore, He will be exalted, that He may have mercy upon you, for the LORD is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for Him."

That's for us now, but also for those in the Millennium. They're going to have to live a 100-years.

Verse 19: "For, O people, who dwell in Zion at Jerusalem, you shall weep no more; He will be very gracious to you at the voice of your cry. When He hears it, He will answer you." *That's going to be quite a thing!*

The relationship between the people and God, and the children of God who are teaching them is going to be a marvelous thing, indeed!

Verse 20: "And though the LORD gives you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction..."

- What does this tell us? *That people will have difficulties, because even converted people have trouble with sin!*
- Isn't that true? *Yes!*
- What about those during the Millennium who are converted?
- Is life just going to be not one trial? *I don't think so!*

It says here that "...though the LORD gives you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, yet, your teachers shall not be removed into a corner anymore, but your eyes shall see your teachers" (v 20).

We will be there to help them get out of their troubles and help them repent! That's going to be a great thing, indeed!

"...but your eyes shall see your teachers" (v 20). *They're going to see us!*

Just think of the interaction of the people that gives under the charge of each one of us, and our relationship with them. It makes you wonder what the Sabbath is going to be like and how it's going to be done!

On the Holy Days will we hear direct from Jerusalem in live services coming right down to wherever we are. Today we have live services with a camera and Internet. Well, what's it going to be like when God is running things. We'll have to wait and see, but it's going to be fantastic, we can be guaranteed that.

Verse 21: "And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, 'This is the way, walk in it,' when you turn to the right hand and when you turn to the left."

What does that mean? *This shows free moral agency!* Even though it's not quite as intense as it is today, it's still going to follow the pattern that we find in Deut. 30, because this is exactly what God did with Adam and Eve. He gave them free moral agency, told them what to do, and they were well educated before the serpent was released upon them.

Here's what it's going to be all during the Millennium, and all the saints will be there to make sure that it happens.

Deuteronomy 30:14: "But the Word *is* very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, so that you may do it."

That's a prophecy because unless you, by study and living, and then during the Millennium by study and living and us teaching them, notice what it says. This did not happen when the children of Israel came out of Egypt.

Verse 14: "But the Word *is* very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, so that you may do it."

The only application to them at that time was that it was written and spoken in the language that they used. Take this as a prophecy, and apply it to the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2). What happened on that day with the outpouring of the Holy Spirit? *Everyone heard the Word of God, about the resurrection of Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit!* Each one in his own language that they may hear it and do it!

All did not do it, but that's an example of what we're talking about. So, you project that forward! Whatever language we're going to have during the Millennium and in the Kingdom of God as spirit beings we don't know. But God says that it's going to be a *pure language!* No more false gods!

So, when you read the Scriptures, think about the vast application that it has. Why is this so? *Because Jesus said, 'the words that I speak to you are Spirit and Life!'* Since everything is going to lead to conversion and eternal life, it's going to apply.

Verse 15: "Behold, I have set before you this day life and good, and death and evil... [we will set that before all people during the Millennium] ... in that I command you..." (vs 15-16). *This is what God wants!* We can get a lesson out of this:

That applies to all of them from that time forward on down to the time of Jesus Christ. Now, when the Holy Spirit comes—and we receive the Holy Spirit—it now applies to us in the *spirit of the Law!* God is interested in our heart and mind, and in conversion. Of course, that's what it's going to be all during the Millennium.

Verse 16: "In that I command you this day to love the LORD your God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments and His statutes and His judgments so that you may live and multiply...."

- all during that time
- all during the time when the Church was established
- all during the time of the Millennium

See how you can take the Word of God and see where it fits in all of those categories.

"...And the LORD your God shall bless you in the land where you go to possess it" (v 16).

Follow this along with Isa. 30 that you will see your teachers and you will hear a word behind you.

Verse 17: "But if your heart turn away so that you will not hear..."—*and that will happen!*

We saw what happened when those who don't hear rebel. *They're removed!* Well, it will be that way during the Millennium. They will be first removed to a place where they can come to repentance. You might call that a 'repentance center' where they can be away from everybody else. They can be there:

- for special instruction
- for prayer and study
- for repentance

If they repent then they're returned back to the community!

If they don't repent, they can't come back to the community, and that's all during the Millennium. Where are they going to go? *We will see in a bit and tell you where it is!* It's in the geographical area of Gog and Magog! So, if they stay there and never repent, and die at 100, they are buried there.

Verse 17: "But **if** your heart turn away so that you will not hear..."—*a choice!*

I want to play for you about a two-minute clip of someone who was urged by his family to give up sin and the drugs. This is quite a thing! No one could persuade him!

(can be seen on the video of this message; a support group with various speakers)

Mom: My dear Matthew, I'm here because I love you. You're my son and I'm so concerned and worried about you. Your damaging your body. Accidents that could have been deadly, and it's just a matter of time until someone is killed. These people can help you; will you please get help now and treatment.

Matthew: No!

Mom: Please Matthew!

Matthew: No!

Female voice #1: Please, Matthew! Please make this about today.

Matthew: ‘No, I don’t want... I’m not interested in the help you guys are offering.’

Male voice #1: Well, your life is going to change today, either way. So, let’s tell him about how things are different if he doesn’t go.

Father: I’ll go to the courthouse this week and file for a retraining order that you have to be 600 yards away from the baby. Please get help for yourself!

Matthew: No!

Female voice #2: Matthew, if you say no to treatment, you will not return to the condo’ I will change the locks. Please accept this today.

Matthew: ‘No!’

Mom speaking: Matthew, you’re not going to have a place to live.

Matthew speaking: I’m sorry, but no!

Male voice: Okay, Mom:

Mom speaking: There will be no more money, Matthew!

Father: So, is the answer no?

Matthew: Yeah!

Male voice #1: All right, I want you to go outside and turn his phone off while we finish this.

Mom: It isn’t working!

Female voice #3: Let’s turn off his phone here. It’s not over, yet, honey.

Male voice #1: You’re asking leave your best friend, which is Duster, forget it! Today is the day! So, if it the answer is *no*, take a hike!

Mom: Matthew, please say *yes*.

Matthew: No!

Mom: Please, please, Matthew

Matthew: I just don’t want to do it!

Now that you have seen/heard that, isn’t it something how strong free moral agency really is? That they can *absolutely refuse repentance and*

salvation by choice!

Verse 17: “But if your heart turn away so that you will not hear, but shall be drawn away and worship other gods and serve them.”

There won’t be other gods there during the Millennium. But there will be other sinners out there with them. What kind of society do they have in Gog and Magog? *We don’t know!* We’ll have to wait and see!

Whenever you reject God and refuse to repent... During the Millennium there won’t be other gods, and in Gog and Magog there won’t be other gods, but each person who refuses makes him or her self a god by saying to themselves, ‘I won’t do it.’ Meaning, ‘I’m better than what God has to offer!’

In effect, what happens? *Those who do that become their own god and make their own rules!* They’re ‘glad to be away from all of those self-righteous people in the Kingdom of God’ and live out there in Gog and Magog so they can have freedom and choice and do whatever they want. They’re just like the world today!

Verse 18: “I denounce to you this day that you shall surely perish; you shall not prolong *your* days on the land where you pass over Jordan to go to possess it”—*or being sent off to Gog and Magog!* Your days in Gog and Magog are numbered. When you’re 100 you’re going to be accursed, meaning *no eternal life!*

Notice what God wants, and this is true all during the Millennium. See how great that the Word of God is, and how it can be applied in so many different ways, and in so many different time settings, *because it’s eternal!*

Verse 19: “I call heaven and earth to record this day against you *that* I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing. Therefore, choose life, so that both you and your seed may live, that you may love the LORD your God, *and* may obey His voice, and may cleave to Him; for He is your life and the length of your days, so that you may dwell in the land, which the LORD swore to your fathers—to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob—to give it to them” (vs 19-20).

The Kingdom was promised to Abraham (Heb. 11). He was looking for the city Whose architecture and Builder is God! *That’s the Kingdom of God!* So, you see how all of this transpires going clear back there. This is what it means in Isa. 30 how we’re going to be with people there and help them, and what’s going to happen when they do not repent!

Jer. 31—Here’s a prophecy of God bringing Israel out of captivity and back to the new heaven and earth created on the earth during the Millennium so that they may live, have children, and that God’s plan will continue. This will be for all nations, as well!

Jeremiah 30:24: “The fierce anger of the LORD shall not return until He has done *it*... [the end-time prophecies] ...and until He has fulfilled the purposes of His heart.... [that’s applies to the Millennium] ...**In the latter days you shall understand it.**”

Jeremiah 31:1: “‘At that time’... [the latter days] ...says the LORD, ‘I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be My people.’.... [wonderful] ...Thus says the LORD, ‘The people *who were* left of the sword found grace in the wilderness; even Israel, **when I will go to give him rest**’” (vs 1-2).

That’s what it’s called in Isa. 11, as we covered earlier. The *rest* of Christ is going to be spectacular!

Verse 3: “The LORD has appeared to me from afar, *saying*, ‘Yea, I have loved you with an everlasting love...’”

Now, here’s an interesting thing we need to understand. God’s love is everlasting, but as it is given and received, it is conditional!

- What are the conditions?
- What did Jesus say?

Likewise, this will also apply during the Millennium.

As we will see, during the Great White Throne Judgment that we’re going to see tomorrow. Let’s see how God’s love, though it’s everlasting, never stops because His love is always there. But for someone to come into the realm of God’s love and to receive God’s love, here is the requirement!

John 14:15: “**If you love Me, keep the commandments—namely, My commandments.**” *That will apply*

- during the Millennium
- in the Great White Throne Judgment
- to today

and it has applied in the past as we read in Deut. 30!

Brethren, we need to understand the marvelous thing about the Word of God. That it covers so much more than just what we think superficially by reading it.

This is going to happen during the Millennium: when the people repent and receive the Holy Spirit of God, *we’re going to help the brethren at that time*—the ones coming in the time of salvation during the Kingdom of God—to *understand it!*

Verse 16: “And I will ask the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that it may be with you throughout the age.”

- What I the age that is coming? *The Millennium!*
- Does the Holy Spirit remain with all those people who are converted throughout the age? *Yes!*

Those who live to be 100 will be changed instantly! The sinner will be rejected and sent off to Gog and Magog and die accursed!

Verse 17: “*Even* the Spirit of the Truth, which the world cannot receive because it perceives it not, nor knows it, but you know it because it dwells with you, and shall be within you.” *Same thing during the Millennium!*

That’s quite a wonderful thing to understand! We will be there to assist! But God’s Spirit from God the Father is going to be given to each one who repents and is baptized, just like today!

Verse 19: “Yet, a little while and the world shall see Me no longer; but you shall see Me. Because I live, you shall live, also.”

That happened to the disciples directly! But it’s going to also happen to us, because we’re resurrected and we’re going to see Christ, which will happen during the Millennium. When they live to be 100 and are changed from flesh to spirit, they’re going to see Christ in a different way than they did when He was in the flesh.

Verse 20: “In that day, you shall know that I am in My Father, and you *are* in Me, and I am in you.”

That’s the whole purpose of everything, *past, present and future!* Now notice how this all ties together:

Verse 21: “The one who has My commandments **and is keeping them, that is the one who loves Me, and the one who loves Me shall be loved by My Father...**”

- See how that ties in with everything that we have covered?
- In all areas of God’s relationship with

those who are His?

“...and I will love him and will manifest Myself to him” (v 21).

- How does God manifest Himself to us today? *Through His Spirit and His Word!*
- How will God manifest Himself to those during the Millennium? *Through us and through being able to hear Christ!*

I’m sure they will be able to see Him whenever He does appear so that people can see Him.

Because this was hard to understand, v 22: “Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, ‘Lord, what has happened that You are about to manifest Yourself to us, and not to the world?’”

God is not going to manifest Himself to the sinners during the Millennium who reject Him. They are going to be exiled, removed!

Verse 23: Jesus answered and said to him, ‘If anyone loves Me...’

We have loving the Father and loving Christ; that will also be during the Millennium, and loving us and we loving Them. It’s going to be a marvelous thing!

“...he will keep My Word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him” (v 23)—*in Him!*

As we covered in *The Dwelling Place of God, the dwelling place of God today is in us!* The dwelling place for God in the Millennium will be

- where He is personally
 - where Christ is personally
- and for all of us as sons and daughters of God*
- where we are personally with the people

Let’s see again the warning against the sinners!

Verse 24: “The one who does not love Me does not keep My words...”

That’s an interesting study; you might want to do that for a personal Bible study. Write down what the instructions of God Christ are. He words. Go through the four gospels and figure it out.

“...and the Word that you hear is not Mine, but the Father’s, Who sent Me” (v 24).

- whatever the Father taught Him to do, *He did*
- whatever the Father said to speak, *He spoke*

Isn’t that what He told them in John 12? *The words that I speak to you are not mine, but the One Who sent me!* That’s Jesus Christ!

Verse 25: “I have spoken these things to you while I am yet present with you.”

(break@50:57)

It’s quite amazing of how much is about the Millennium and the Kingdom of God in the Old Testament. Then the New Testament tells us how we’re going to get into the Kingdom of God and become spirit beings, and that is through conversion and the resurrection. That was not offered to the children of Israel in the Old Testament. But all of these prophecies are there. This is quite interesting:

Isaiah 33:20: “Look upon Zion, the city of our Holy gatherings; your eyes shall see Jerusalem a quiet home...”

Who is going to be there? *Jesus Christ, the patriarchs, the apostles!*

“...a tabernacle that shall not be taken down... [no temple] ...not one of its stakes shall ever be removed, nor shall any of its cords be broken. But there the glorious LORD *will be* to us a place of broad rivers *and* streams... [typical of the Holy Spirit and everything growing] ...in which no galley with oars shall go, nor shall a mighty ship pass by it” (vs 20-21).

Why? *Because this is spiritually speaking of God’s Holy Spirit!*

Verse 22: “For the LORD *is* our Judge, the LORD *is* our Lawgiver, the LORD *is* our King; He will save us.” *All during the Millennium that will be happening!*

Remember what it said in Isa. 2 and Micah 4 that the mountain of the House of the Lord shall be lifted up above all the mountains! That’s means all of the other countries.

Isaiah 25:6: “And in this mountain the LORD of hosts shall make a feast of fat things for all the people, a feast of wines on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of refined wines on the lees. And **He will destroy in this mountain the face of the covering, which covers all people...**” (vs 6-7)—*the blindness!*

It says in 2-Cor. 3 that when the Book of Moses is read, there is a blinder on the eyes of the children of Israel. Then we have another thing, too, the blinding of Satan the devil (2-Cor. 4).

He’s going to “...destroy in this mountain... [everything in the Kingdom of God] ...the face of the covering, which covers all people, and the veil that is woven over all nations. He will destroy death forever... [during the Millennium and the 100-year period] ...and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces. And He shall take away from all the

earth the rebuke of His people, **for the LORD has spoken it**” (vs 7-8).

Verse 9: “And one shall say in that day, ‘Lo, this *is* our God. We have waited for Him, and He will save us....’”

What a great thing, ***all false gods removed, destroyed! All idols gone!***

“...This *is* the LORD; we have waited for Him, we will be glad and rejoice in His salvation.’ For the hand of the LORD shall rest in this mountain, and Moab shall be trampled under Him, even as straw *is* trampled in the dung pit” (vs 9-10).

Lot’s of times people in the Church today... Because we’re so scattered and we hope that things will improve and there will be a lot of people converted. We don’t know how that’s going to happen, but God is going to be the One Who is going to have to call them.

Isaiah 32:15: “Until the Spirit is poured upon us from on high, and the wilderness becomes a fruitful field, and the fruitful field is thought to be a forest. Then justice shall dwell in the wilderness, and righteousness remain in the fruitful field. And the work of righteousness shall be peace...” (vs 15-17)—*no more war!*

We can add onto that the things that we have learned how much wealth there’s going to be and there will be the Jubilee! There will be the seven-year land sabbath, which means there will be *no more recessions!* That is what will bring balance to the economy! Men have never understood that and cannot do it.

What they want to do with this New World Order they’re trying to bring in is bring in something that they think is going to make the world a better place. Well, it’s going to make it a worse place. ***Only God can make it better!***

“...and the result of righteousness shall be quietness and confidence forever. And my people shall dwell in a peaceable home, and in secure dwellings and quiet resting places” (vs 17-18).

We will also see that everything is going to grow abundantly! It’s going to be quite a test! Let’s see how it describes it in the book of Amos.

Imagine this today, here we are in the midst of all that we have, ***and we’re being threatened***—in this country that should be producing more food than any place else on the earth, which it normally does—***with famine!*** All the people today following the new World Economic Forum system are collapsing!

Look at Sri Lanka; they were forced to stop a lot of things to get rid of the petroleum products. Well, the petroleum products used in a right way are good. But ‘global warming’ is a scam to get all of these things upon the people. Now, here we are! We’re going to be facing shortages, maybe famine! You don’t think that’s possible? ***Well, look at Venezuela!***

It isn’t going to be that way during the Millennium! ***NO!*** There’s going to be so much, and those who work the land, the thorns and thistles—the curse of Adam—will be removed. Think about what that’s going to be like!

Think about food that has no weed killer residue in it! Nothing but goodness and nutrition! Here’s what it’s going to be like during the Millennium!

Amos 9:13: “Behold, the days come,’ says the LORD, ‘that the plowman shall overtake the reaper...’”

As soon as it’s reaped, they’re going to be out there plowing and ready to go.

“...and the treader of grapes him who sows seed. And the mountains will drop sweet wine, and all the hills will flow with it. And I will bring back the exiles of My people Israel, and they shall build the cities...” (vs 13-14).

We saw how they’re going to do it and rebuild them. We saw how that it’s going to be so great that stones will be like silver! Copper and brass will be like gold. Think about the economic stability that will be there.

“...which are desolate, and they shall live *in* them. And they shall plant vineyards and drink their wine. They shall also make gardens and eat their fruit. And I will plant them in their land... [every nation in their inheritance] ...and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them,’ says the LORD your God” (vs 14-15). ***That’s quite a blessing for us!***

Psa. 145 tells us what the Millennium is going to be like for a thousand years! I just happened to think: What’s it going to be like when all of these dictators like Adolf Hitler, Mussolini, Tojo, Napoleon and all of these men who were lifted up through the history of the world saying that they are some ‘great one’ *going to bring great things* and it all ends in catastrophe!

What is it going to be like when they’re raised and they see what God has done? ***That’s going to be something!***

Psalm 145:1: “I will extol You, my God, O

King; and I will bless Your name forever and ever. Every day I will bless You; and I will praise Your name forever and ever” (vs1-2).

What is going to be started in the Millennium will be multiplied in the Great White Throne Period—which we will cover tomorrow—and will be magnified in New Jerusalem and the New Heaven and the New Earth!

Verse 3: “Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; and His greatness is unsearchable. One generation shall praise Your works to another... [that will go on and on all during the Millennium] ...and shall declare Your mighty acts” (vs 3-4).

His mighty acts of setting up the Millennium is going to be greater than all the destructions that He has to bring upon it in order to get rid of all the sin.

Verse 5: “I will speak of the glorious splendor of Your majesty...”

What’s it going to be like for the people we are serving; this is how God looks in His glory! They will be able to see it from time to time!

“...and of Your wondrous works. And men shall speak of the might of Your awesome works; and I will declare Your greatness. They shall pour forth the memory of Your great goodness and shall sing of Your righteousness” (vs 5-7).

All during the Millennium they’ll be people coming in as spirit beings. When you get to the last generation, how many will be there to give witnesses to tell that last generation what it was like all during the Millennium.

Verse 8: “The LORD is gracious and full of compassion; slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The LORD is good to all, and His tender mercies are over all His works” (vs 8-9). *Think about that! How wonderful that’s going to be!*

- no fighting
- no warring
- no hassling
- no killing
- no crime

WOW! It’s going to be something!

Verse 10: “All Your works shall praise You, O LORD; and Your saints shall bless You. They shall speak of the glory of Your Kingdom and talk of Your power, to make known... [‘they’re all going to know Me from the greatest to the least’] ...to the sons of men His mighty acts, and the glorious majesty of His Kingdom. Your Kingdom is an everlasting Kingdom...” (vs 10-13).

Go on forever. Once the Last Great Day is over and the New Heaven and Earth are here, then God is unveil His plan for the vastness of the universe. What’s that going to be like? That’s going to be something!

Verse 14: “The LORD upholds all who fall and raises up all who are bowed down.”

Now let’s look at some unfinished business that must be taken care of at the end of the Millennium. This has to be done before the 100-year period. What we know is it’s been designated as the *second resurrection!*

First of all, when the Millennium begins Satan is bound in the abyss.

Revelation 20:1: “Then I saw an angel descending from heaven, having the key of the abyss, and a great chain in his hand. And he took hold of the dragon, the ancient serpent, who is *the* Devil and Satan, and bound him *for* a thousand years” (vs 1-2).

All during the Millennium his influence won’t be there. But all of the incorrigible wicked will have been removed to Gog and Magog. When they live to be 100-years-old and they’re still sinners, they die and are buried in Gog and Magog and they’ll be resurrected for the Lake of Fire!

Verse 3: “Then he cast him into the abyss, and locked him *up*, and sealed *the abyss* over him... [wherever Satan goes, the demons go, so they’re bound and removed] ...so that he would not deceive the nations any longer until the thousand years were fulfilled...”

So, here we are, seventh day of the Feast of Tabernacles picturing the thousand years being fulfilled. Here’s the unfinished business:

“...and after that it is ordained that he be loosed *for* a short time” (v 3).

Then it talks about the first resurrection and all of those who are in it. Blessed are those who are in the first resurrection.

Verse 5: “(But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were completed.)...”

The thousand years has to be completed and with this final act of God, to close the thousand year period. That is when Satan is removed. Let’s see what God does!

Verse 7: “Now, when the thousand years have been completed, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison... [Satan and all the demons together]

...and he shall go out to deceive the nations that *are* in the four corners of the earth, **Gog and Magog...**” (vs 7-8). *The geographical territory where all the incorrigible will be!*

All the incorrigible who died will be buried there, but there will be those who will still be alive. So, Satan is going to go out and it say:

“...of whom the number is as the sand of the sea...” (v 8).

We don’t know how many people are going to really reject salvation in that last generation. But there are enough to say *like the sand of the sea!* That shows how powerful that free moral agency is.

“...to gather them together for war.” (v 8).

What’s the first thing that Satan always does? *War! Deception and war!* You can take that and watch anything concerning history and that’s what you will find. So, he gathers them all together and you can almost imagine what Satan is going to say when he’s released out of the prison and all the demons with him. He goes to the area of Gog and Magog where all the incorrigible sinners who are still alive are living. He comes there and shows himself in great power and says:

Look! You’ve been deceived!

Isn’t that what Satan always says? *Yes!*

The God that’s down in Jerusalem is not the true God, I’m the true ‘God’! What we can do, since we know that they are not defended, and we know that they’re all at peace. What we’re going to do is gather ourselves together in armies, and I have all of my angels with me that are going to teach you how to war, how to fight, and we’re going to have you develop into the greatest fighting machine that the world will ever see.

We will go down and take over Jerusalem and we will remove the One Who says He’s the true God, and we’ll take over the world and we will rule the world!

Same story that Satan always brings! So, let’s see what happens:

Verse 9: “Then *I saw* them go up upon the breadth of the earth and encircle the camp of the saints, and the beloved city...” *Here they come all around!* They’re thinking:

We’re really going to get it. Look, we’re coming right up there; there’s nothing that they’re doing to try and stop us. We have free reign to go there. Just like I told you! See? We go there and we will defeat them and we’ll rule

the world!

Well, God has a special surprise for them! Let’s read it:

“...and fire came down from God out of heaven and consumed them” (v 9).

The last war, right here! Doing what the first war was intended to do when Satan rebelled and took a third of the angels with him (Isa. 14); he said,

I will become like the Most High! I will go to the sides of the north and I will take over the Throne of God.

And a third of the angels believed him! Remember, he and the angels with him were created by God to serve human beings. But when they found out that the human beings who were converted and changed would be ruling over them, *they rebelled!*

Here’s the last rebellion and the last war! Let’s see what happened to them:

Verse 10: “And the Devil, who deceived them, was cast into the Lake of Fire and brimstone... [here is the correct translation, because we’re going to cover something here in just a minute]: ...where the beast and the false prophet *had been cast...*”

Can flesh and blood live in a fiery environment? *No!* the beast and the false prophet—before Satan was captured and put away—were cast into the Lake of Fire and they were burned up!

We have another thing that is found in the Greek, which is not necessarily known by the translators, the plural is used for casting the devil into the fire. That’s in the Greek. Why would the plural be used? *The only reason that would be is because the plural applies to:*

1. Satan the devil
2. all of the demons

You have to get rid of them! They’re cast into the Lake of Fire!

“...and they, *Satan and the demons*, shall be tormented day and night into the ages of eternity” (v 10).

The torment is not in fire! Let’s see what it is. We’re going to look at a couple of Scriptures—and we’re going to see and I’m going to give you a corrected translation in two places.

Matthew 8:28: “And when He had come to the other side into the country of the Gergesenes, *there* met Him two who were possessed by demons coming out of the tombs, so violent that no one was able to pass by that way. And they cried out at once, saying, ‘What do You have to do with us, Jesus, *the*

Son of God?...” (vs 28-29).

The demons knew this! How long did they know this? *From the time they were cast down to the earth!*

“...Have You come here to **torment us before the time?**” (v 29).

When you read that, it indicates that they will be living. Can you torment someone who has been destroyed? There’s always this question:

- Can God destroy Satan? *He could! But that’s not the right question!*
- What does God want to do with Satan?
- For what purpose?

Mark 1:23—*completely different from the ones in the tomb*: “Now, in their synagogue there was a man with an unclean spirit; and it cried out, saying, ‘Ah! What have we to do with You, Jesus, the Nazarene? **Have You come to destroy us?...**” (vs 23-24).

One says torment, indicating they will be living. This one says *destroy!* Does that really mean *to eliminate* so that they long have any existence. Well, further study into the Greek, I found out that it could be—and should be—translated this way:

“...Have You come to bring us to nothing?...” (v 24). the word *destroy* even in English, you’ve heard people say, ‘Oh, you’ve destroyed my life!’ *No! You’re still living!* But everything that you have done has been ruined. Your still alive!

So, this in Mark 1:24 means *to bring them to nothing*, rather than *to destroy!* Just like in Ezek. 28 where it talks about the king of Tyre whose going to be *destroyed* while he was possessed by Satan the devil. The king was destroyed, but Satan continued on, because that which is spirit—and spirit beings— they live.

“...Have You come to bring us to nothing? I know Who You are—the Holy *One* of God!” (v 24).

Here we have—in Luke 4—the same thing, just like the English word *destroy* can mean also *to bring to nothing!* You’ve heard people say that *you’ve destroyed me; you destroyed my life; my career!* No, they’re still alive! Now, here’s the same account by Luke:

Luke 4:33: “Now, a man who had an unclean spirit was in the synagogue; and he cried out with a loud voice, saying, ‘Ah! What have **we**... [referring to all the other demons] ...to do with You, Jesus the Nazarean? **Have You come to bring us to**

nothing?...” (vs 33-34).

How are they going to be brought to nothing? *We will see in a little bit!*

“...I know Who You are, the Holy *One* of God” (v 34).

- What’s going to happen to the demons?
- What’s going to happen to Satan?

Let’s see what the fate is going to be, and why God does it!

The book of Jude is quite a book. It’s a small, on chapter book, but it tells us an awful lot! Let’s understand what’s going to happen to Satan and the demons. When Jude talks about evil men and demons, he weaves them back and forth, so we have to see that when we read these verses! Then we end up with the ultimate punishment for Satan and the demons, *which will be forever!*

Jude 5: “But I myself want to remind you, though you once understood this, that the Lord, after saving a people out of *the* land of Egypt, the second time destroyed those who did not believe. And **the angels who did not keep their own original domain...**” (vs 5-6)—which was the Earth!

They went with Lucifer to ascend to God’s place in heaven to dethrone God (Isa. 14; Ezek. 28; Rev. 12).

“...but deserted their habitation, He is holding in eternal bonds under darkness unto the judgment of *the* Great Day” (v 6).

So, the first punishment was that they were in darkness. That means in *total evil!* “...the judgment of *the* Great Day” is the seventh day of the Feast of Tabernacles.

Verse 7: “Just as Sodom and Gomorrah—and the cities surrounding them, in the same manner as them—having given themselves over to sexual debaucheries, and having gone after different flesh, are themselves exhibited as a *perpetual* example of undergoing *the* punishment of eternal fire.”

It’s the fire that’s eternal, not eternal punishment by fire. When fire came upon Sodom and Gomorrah everything was burned up! All the people evaporated. Just like dropping the bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki! The people right around where that came down were just vaporized!

Verse 8_[transcriber’s correction]: “In the same way also, these dreamers of *filthy dreams* are defiling the flesh...”

That is all of those who are men and preaching another Jesus, another god and the false

doctrines of Satan the devil! They are “...defiling *the flesh*...”

“...and are declaring as invalid *the Lordship of God*...” (v 8).

That’s what they do! Think about it! Look at the terrible abominations of the Roman Catholic Church down through time, and of all of the pagan religions down through time! Even the Protestant religion is now getting caught up in it.

“...and are blaspheming *the Divine powers*. But Michael the archangel, when he was personally taking issue with the devil, disputing about the body of Moses, did not presume to pronounce a reviling judgment against *him*, but said, ‘*The Lord Himself rebuke you!*’” (vs 8-9).

Who is taking care of all of that back in Rev. 20? *The LORD!*

Verse 10: “As for these, whatever things they do not understand, they blaspheme...”

- that’s what they’ve done with the Bible
- that’s what they did with Christ
- that’s what they’ve done with the Prophets
- that’s what they’ve done with the Apostles
- that’s what they’ve done with the two preachers of the Word of God

“...but whatever things they understand by instinct, as irrational brute beasts, they are corrupting themselves in these things. Woe to them! For they have walked in the way of Cain... [goes all the way back there] ...and for gain, they have wholly given themselves up to Balaam’s delusion, and have perished in the rebellion of Korah. These are subversive stains in your love Feasts...” (vs 10-12).

This shows they were keeping the Feasts of God. These are the tares (Matt. 13). These are the false teachers that would come in.

“...feasting in person together *with you*; fearlessly they are feeding themselves. *They are clouds without water*...” (v 12).

Here’s the blending to show that these men were demon possessed, Satan possessed and they’re going to suffer this punishment of Satan and the demons forever!

“...being driven by the winds; trees of late autumn, without *any* fruit, uprooted, twice dead” (v 12).

All the human beings who commit the unpardonable sin are going to die twice! They will be gone forever!

Verse 13: “Raging waves of *the sea*, casting up like foam their own *ignominious* shame... [now it shifts to the angels who sinned]: ...wandering stars...”

The power behind all of the evil people of the world down through all time! “...wandering stars...” are Satan and the demons!

“...for whom has been reserved the blackest darkness forever!” (v 13)—*the punishment of Satan and the demons!*

2-Peter 2:9: “*The Lord knows how to rescue the Godly out of temptation, and to reserve the unrighteous to the day of judgment to be punished.*”

That’s people who will go to the Lake of Fire! That’s the demons who will go to outer darkness.

Verse 10: “But particularly those who walk after *the flesh* in corrupting lust, and hold in utter contempt *the lordship of God*. *They are* audacious and self-willed. They are not afraid to blaspheme *the Divine powers* whereas angels, who are greater in strength and power, do not bring a railing condemnation against them before *the Lord*. But these—as irrational brute beasts, born to be caught and destroyed—blaspheme those things of which they are ignorant, *and* shall be utterly destroyed in their own corruption” (vs 10-12).

Those are men who are possessed! They will be utterly destroyed! But spirit does not die. Spirit cannot be destroyed.

Verse 13: “They are bringing upon themselves *the* reward of unrighteousness, while finding pleasure in satisfying *their lustful* desires day-by-day. *They are* stains and blemishes, reveling in their own deceptions, while feasting together with you.”

Remember when that happened in our Church in our day?

Verse 14: “Having eyes full of adultery and that cannot cease from sin, *they are engaged in* seducing unstable souls, having a heart trained in *lustful* cravings—cursed children.”

Think about this for just a minute! I don’t think we understand the gravity of what they have done with all the:

- false doctrines
- Sunday-worship
- holiday-worship
- abortions
- setting up societies that are evil, corrupt

and rotten

That's why they're going to die the second death!

But the demons that inspired them, and the demons that did it down through generation after generation through the whole history of mankind! We will see that they get their punishment like it was in Jude.

Verse 15: "Who have abandoned the straight way. They have gone astray, having followed the way of Balaam, *the son* of Beor, who loved *the* reward of wickedness. But he received a rebuke for his own transgression; *the* dumb donkey, speaking in a man's voice, restrained the madness of the prophet. **These false prophets...**" (vs 15-17). *They are everywhere!*

We have to be careful, especially today, because Jesus said that:

There shall arise false christs and false prophets who shall show great signs and wonders if possible to deceive even the elect!

Verse 17: "These *false prophets* are fountains without water, clouds driven by a storm, for whom is reserved **the blackest of darkness forever.**"

In order to be held in the blackest darkness forever means that Satan and the demons live forever in blackness and darkness cutoff from God!

- What's going to happen I do not know!
- Will there be a place in the universe that God is going to put them all together?

When they are all there, and we know that they are there, **will this not give us understanding for all time down through eternity that rebellion never prospers?** *Yes, indeed!*

This is the rest of the story of Satan that is fulfilled at the end of the Millennium when the thousand years are completed:

- *First* they're cast into the Lake of Fire!
- *Then* they are removed to the blackest darkness forever!

Then God is ready to bring in the Last Great Day, and the greatest harvest of all! *So, come back tomorrow for the eighth day!*

Scriptural References:

- 1) 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17
- 2) Isaiah 65:17-20
- 3) Isaiah 30:18-21
- 4) Deuteronomy 30:14-20

- 5) Jeremiah 30:24
- 6) Jeremiah 31:1-3
- 7) John 14:15-17, 19-25
- 8) Isaiah 33:20-22
- 9) Isaiah 25:6-10
- 10) Isaiah 32:15-18
- 11) Amos 9:13-15
- 12) Psalm 145:1-14
- 13) Revelation 20:1-3, 5, 7-10
- 14) Matthew 8:23-29
- 15) Mark 1:23-24
- 16) Luke 4:33-34
- 17) Jude 5-13
- 18) 2 Peter 2:9-17

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- 1 Corinthians 15
- Luke 24
- Ecclesiastes 12
- Hebrews 12
- Revelation 21
- Genesis 3
- Acts 2
- Hebrews 11
- Isaiah 11
- John 12
- Isaiah 2
- Micah 4
- 2 Corinthians 3; 4
- Isaiah 14
- Ezekiel 28
- Revelation 12
- Matthew 13

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The Greatest Harvest of God

What God says, He WILL do!
(The Last Great Day)

Fred R. Coulter—October 17, 2022

Greetings, everyone! Welcome to *The Last Great Day!* What a great day this will be in its fulfillment! The greatest thing that God is going to do. Yet, it is the least spoken of, of all the Holy Days of God. It's only mentioned twice.

It ties in with the Feast of Tabernacles, because it follows immediately after the 7th day of the Feast of Tabernacles.

Leviticus 23:34: 'Speak to the children of Israel, saying, 'The fifteenth day of this seventh month *shall be* the Feast of Tabernacles for seven days to the LORD.'" *We did that!*

It was a good Feast, and I hope every one of you had a great Feast! It's really something to know and understand that we will be living with God. We will see later in this Last Great Day that that will be in New Jerusalem! *Think about that!*

Verse 35: "On the first day *shall be* a Holy convocation. You shall do no servile work *therein*. Seven days you shall offer an offering made by fire to the LORD. **On the eighth day shall be a Holy convocation to you....**" (vs 35-36)—*there it is right there!* One sentence!

"...And you shall offer an offering made by fire to the LORD. It *is* a solemn assembly. And you shall do no servile work *therein*" (v 36).

Then God gives a summary of all the Feasts! Isn't it something that what the world rejects, God uses those very things to carry out His plan:

- Sabbath
- Passover
- Unleavened Bread
- Pentecost
- Trumpets
- Atonement
- Tabernacles
- The Last Great Day

The world looks at these and says that you don't have to do them, those are 'ritual days.' That's not a very good excuse to get rid of them, because there are rituals every day the temple!

Verse 38: "Besides the Sabbaths of the LORD, and besides your gifts, and besides all your vows, and besides all your freewill offerings, which you give to the LORD. Also, in the fifteenth day of the seventh month when you have gathered in the

fruit of the land, you shall keep a Feast to the LORD seven days. **On the first day shall be a Sabbath, and on the eighth day shall be a Sabbath**" (vs 38-39).

Then it tells what they were to do in building their temporary dwellings. As we know today, everything on earth is temporary!

What we will do since it is the Last Great Day, we'll take up an offering. We will use this:

- to serve the people of God
- to preach the Gospel
- to get books and booklets written and produced

Everything to serve God! In the Christian Biblical Church of God we do not take things to serve ourselves! But to serve the brethren and whomever will listen! Our two websites:

1. **truthofGod.org**—we've been revamping it and I don't know if it's ready yet, because we want to make it so it's easier to understand, easier to use.

likewise with

2. **churchathome.org**, which is really a great and wonderful place not only for new people, but for every one of us, because we cover topics there that are strictly Biblical!

So, everything that we do is focused on that and focused on the Kingdom of God and focused on preparing for the return of Christ!

(pause for the offering)

Let's begin and see why The Last Great Day is the great day that God is going to bring in **the greatest harvest of all!** Let's see what Jesus said. John 7 is where Jesus kept the Feast of Tabernacles. Let's read what He said, and this is right at the end of Day 7 and the beginning of Day 8:

John 7:37: "Now, in the last day, the great day of the Feast, Jesus stood and called out, saying, 'If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.'"

Stop and think about that statement! If anyone—no qualification of time—and is thirsty "...let him come to Me and drink." Of course, this is spiritual, but think about that! From Adam and Eve all the way down through to the beginning of the Millennium, very few are the 'firstfruits' in the first resurrection.

The harvest during the Millennium is going to be spectacular! But what about everybody else? It could be said that:

God is a respecter of persons because all those other people in the in the past He's just wiping away. They're dead and gone and their memory has disappeared and God cares nothing about them. Actually down through history people can look at history and see all the wars and killings and famines.

How about the Flood of Noah and everything down through the history of mankind until the coming of Jesus Christ.

How many people lived and died? Yet, they didn't have this opportunity in v 37. Reading on:

Verse 38: "The one who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.' But this He spoke concerning the Spirit...(vs 38-39).

What about the Holy Spirit? *It was not given to any except a few of the prophets, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the patriarchs and a few of the kings!* That's it until Christ came! Then when Christ came, on the Day of Pentecost the Holy Spirit was poured out.

Now then, God did not call the world! Even from the time that the Church started, the vast majority of people have lived and died without the true knowledge of God. During that time there was some knowledge of God, but Satan moved right in and spread around false Christianity and the true Church was taken to the mountains of Alps and was preserved for 1,260 years until it was time to get the Bible printed!

How about all those people, what about their lives? *It says, 'If anyone...'*; but they never had an opportunity. So, The Last Great Day is the day that answers that! It's going to be quite a thing, indeed!

Let's see what Jesus even told the disciples in Mark 4, and this is in parallel with Matt. 13. Mark 4:10 is quite a statement. The Protestants ought to read this, because they think that Jesus is trying to save as many as He can now, and as the so-called Pastor Jeffress of the Dallas church says, 'If you're not in the Baptist Church you're going to die in hell! Then burn forever!' Really??? *Let's see what Jesus said:*

Mark 4:10: "Now, when He was alone, those who were around Him with the twelve asked Him *about* the parable. And He said to them, **To you it has been given to know the mystery of the Kingdom of God...** [the plan of God] **...but to**

those who are without, all things are done in parables" (vs 10-11)—*spoken in a language they can hear, but not understand!*

Verse 12: "So that *in* seeing they may see, and not perceive and *in* hearing they may hear, and not understand; **lest they should be converted...**"

What does that tell you about Jesus trying to convert all the people that He can now? *No! There are the firstfruits, the few! **The few are those who love God and keep His commandments, have repented and received the Holy Spirit!***

To the rest it has not been given. What is God going to do with the rest of the world? *That's why The Last Great Day!* We will see that it's going to be fantastic, indeed!

"...and not understand; **lest they should be converted and their sins should be forgiven them**" (v 12).

That's quite a statement! Let's see how this works. Let's understand that throughout the Bible God has given a bit of understanding here, there and other places about His plan.

The structure on which all the Scriptures pertaining to the plan of God are fitted is the structure of the Passover and the Holy Days. Some people would say:

- Does God have a purpose?
- What do you think about God having a purpose?
- If He doesn't want to save them, what's He going to do?
- Were their lives just in vain?

Isa. 14—here's what God says, and the only way we're going to know it is by:

- repentance
- baptism
- receiving the Holy Spirit
- loving God
- keeping His commandments
- knowing His Word

Otherwise, people would never know!

Isaiah 14:24: "The LORD of hosts has sworn... [the Word of God is true and whatever He says is true and will take place] ...saying, 'Surely as I have thought...'"

- How does God think? *We know that He created Adam and Eve and from there comes all of mankind!*
- What was God thinking of?
- What was His plan?

- Why did He start that?
- Why did Lucifer rebel when the angels found out that they would be beneath the human beings that God was creating in His own image?

“...**Surely as I have thought so it shall come to pass...**” (24)—*it’s going to take place!* John 7 says that ‘anyone who believes in Me can be converted and receive the Holy Spirit.’

- What if they died before Christ ever came?
That’s the majority of all people, 4,000 years!

“...and as I have purposed, *so* it shall stand... [then He gives the example of the Assyrians]: ...that **I will break Assyria in My land,** and upon My mountains, and trample him under foot....” (vs 24-25).

- Did He do that in the days of Hezekiah?
What a fantastic thing he did!

The armies of the Assyrians were coming to attack Judea and take Jerusalem and take all of the riches and everything, and carry the people off into captivity. But Hezekiah went before God and prayed deeply, and the answer was from God: ‘Will take care of it!’ What did He do that night? *You talk about the power of God!*

- What He says He will do!
- What He thinks and proposes, it will come to pass?

So, He says here, “...**I will break Assyria in My land...**”—*and He did!*

That night, after Hezekiah’s prayer, ***the army of the 120,000 all died in their sleep!*** When the king and generals woke up—because God didn’t kill them, because He wanted them to see His judgment against them—*it was quiet!* ‘How come we can’t hear anything?’ So, they pulled back and opened the tent looked out. There they see all the soldiers *dead!*

That’s a good example of what God says that He will do, *it will take place!*

“...**Surely as I have thought...** [or proposed] ...**so it shall come to pass...**” (24)—*or stand!*

Jer. 51 tells us that God has a purpose. But He has to *reveal* it and *open our mind* to it, because it’s hidden in the Word of God.

Jeremiah 51:29: “And the land shall tremble and writhe. For **every purpose of the LORD...**” *Think about that!*

- Is anybody going to go against the purpose of God?
- Is anybody going to tell God what to do?

“...shall be done against Babylon, to make the land of Babylon a desolation without inhabitant” (v 29).

That did not happen for hundreds of years. It happened with the Medes, but they didn’t destroy Babylon. It went on and on and finally it was destroyed.

God’s purpose is what He’s going to carry out and we are here for the very purpose of God. Let’s look at the purpose that God has for us! We are part of this now, with God’s Spirit and knowing the Truth; with understanding the Holy Days and the Sabbath, all of those things.

Let’s also understand that ***God is directly—*** through Christ, through His Spirit—***intervening in our lives:***

- to bless us
 - to lead us
 - to guide us
- and through His Word*
- to teach us
 - to give us understanding
 - to prepare us for the first resurrection

But the first resurrection is only in preparation for the Millennium, and the Millennium is only in preparation for The Last Great Day!

It’s kind of like the universe. You look at the Earth and you think that’s something. Then you look out and see all the stars. Then you look at the Hubble Telescope pictures and see all of that out there. Then along comes the James Webb Telescope and it goes out 13-billion light years and there is still stars and galaxies! *Here we are, little ole us!*

Eph. 1—I want you to get the flow of what Paul is writing and understand how God is working in your life and the life of all of those who have His Spirit. How important it is that we love God and keep His commandments! Staying close to Him through prayer and study, and do the things that are pleasing to Him. It is a great and wonderful purpose that He has called us to, to be in the ***first resurrection!*** But that has to take place before the Millennium, and the Millennium has to take place before the Last Great Day. As we will see, The Last Great Day will be the ***greatest day!***

Ephesians 1:3: “Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *things* with Christ.” *That will be all fulfilled at the first resurrection!*

Verse 4: “According as He has personally chosen us for Himself...”

God determined that there would be the Church, Christ would be the sacrifice and that He would choose different ones. All of this was determined:

“...**before the foundation...**” (v 4).

Then the Book of Life was made and our names will be written in the Book of Life. Ours are there now awaiting the resurrection!

“...before *the* foundation of *the* world in order that we might be...” (v 4).

Listen! This is what God wants for us, and for everyone else in whatever category that they’re going to be in:

“...**that we might be Holy and blameless before Him in love**; having predestinated us...” (vs 4-5)—*in His plan that He conceived before the foundation of time!*

“...**for sonship to Himself through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of His own will**” (v 5).

Remember what we just read. If He said it, *it stands!* If He said it, *He will do it!*

Verse 6: “To *the* praise of *the* glory of His grace, wherein He has made us objects of *His* grace in the Beloved *Son*.”

What does that mean? *That means that the whole thing about **the grace of God is that He has given us direct contact with Him** through prayer and study, with **His Spirit in us!*** That’s something, and the world doesn’t know that!

Verse 7: “In Whom we have redemption through His blood, *even* the remission of sins, according to the riches of His grace.”

Our sins are forgiven! But as Jesus said, ‘He spoke to them in parables lest they would be converted and their sins forgiven.’ *Their sins are not forgiven!* If God wants as many people as possible to enter into the Kingdom of God, He’s got to do something fantastic to make it happen, **and He’s going to!** That is contained in the meaning of this day!

Verse 8: “Which He has made to abound toward us in all wisdom and intelligence; having made known to us the mystery of His own will...” (vs 8-9). *Think about that!*

The next time that you’re in a terrible trial—and we are going to see difficult and terrible times—

never forget that:

“...**according to His good pleasure...** [and His own will we have a relationship with Him] ...**which He purposed in Himself**” (v 9). *Think about that!*

That’s why the preaching of the Gospel is ***the good news!***

Verse 10: “That in *the Divine* plan for the fulfilling of *the* times... [through the Holy Days] ...He might bring all things together in Christ, both the things in the heavens and the things upon the earth.”

He’s going to bring it together and bring peace, conversion and all these things. *It’s going to be marvelous!*

Verse 11: “*Yes*, in Him, in Whom we also have obtained an inheritance, having been predestinated according to His purpose... [there it is twice] ...Who is working out all things according to the counsel of His own will; that we might be to *the* praise of His glory, who first trusted in the Christ” (vs 11-12).

That’s why we have the Spirit of God! The world doesn’t have it, and cannot understand it. The world doesn’t know what to do. They’ve got the Bible and they can read it, but they don’t know how to understand it, because they don’t know that it’s ‘here a little, there a little, line upon line, precept upon precept’ and to put it together!

So, there’s no way that they can understand! Look at the fake Christianity that’s in the world. Look at the other religions that are in the world. Look at the situation with Satan the devil and his demons and what they have produced, and how the nations have been. Isa. 29 shows us:

Isaiah 29:9: “Be stunned and amazed!...”

Everything that’s going on right now is only going to intensify and get worse. We’ve got to be ready! We have to have some things so we can survive for a while! The time is going to come that they’re going to be looking for our heads!

“...Blind your eyes and be blind! They are drunk, but not with wine; they stagger, but not *with* strong drink, for the LORD has poured out upon you the spirit of deep sleep, and has closed your eyes; He has covered the prophets and your rulers, **and the seers**” (vs 9-10)—***and they don’t know anything!***

You watch what some of these Protestants tell you. They’re just another version of the Catholic Church. You wait and see that when the pope comes on the scene to bring miracles and the beast is on the

scene the Protestants are going to flock to them! It will look like that there's going to be peace. All of the revivals that they're working for now look like they will be fulfilled when that takes place. But that will be a complete failure!

Verse 11: "And the vision of all has become to you like the words of a book that is sealed... [that's what they tell you] ...which they give to one who is learned saying, 'Please read this,' and he says, 'I cannot, for it is sealed.'"

You read some of these things, especially in the Old Testament, you can't make sense out of it unless you know the Sabbath and Holy Days!

Verse 12: "And the book is delivered to him who is not learned, saying, 'Please read this,' and he says, 'I am not learned.'"

Verse 13: "And the LORD said, 'Because this people draws near Me with their mouth... [Isn't that what the Protestants do, and yes, even the Catholics?] ...and with their lips honor Me, but their worship of Me is made up of the traditions of men learned by rote, and their fear toward Me is taught by the commandments of men.'" *That's what we have today!*

Verse 14: "Therefore, behold, I will proceed to do again a marvelous work among this people, *even* a marvelous work and a wonder, for the wisdom of their wise ones shall perish, and the wisdom of their intelligent ones shall vanish."

What is that going to be? *The Last Great Day!* The greatest, greatest thing possible! Let's see that just like in Lev. 23, that The Last Great Day is mentioned twice. Here in Rev. 20 is a phrase, just a phrase that tells the rest of the story. Without this one verse, there is no way that you can understand the plan of God. There is no way that you can understand The Last Great Day.

Revelation 20:4 *talks about the first resurrection when Jesus returns:* "...and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years."

What's going to happen when the thousand years are finished? *That's the end of the Feast of Tabernacles!* That's why there's the Last Great Day, because it comes after that.

Verse 5: "**But the rest of the dead...**" Who are all the rest of the dead?

Everybody who was not called in their physical lifetime from creation clear on down through the beginning of the Millennium!

"...**did not live again...**" (v 5). *This tells us that everyone who has lived and died will live again!*

"...**until the thousand years were completed...**" (v 5).

So, the first resurrection comes first! All the way through the Millennium there will be no resurrection. You're either going to enter into the Kingdom of God or you're going to go to Gog and Magog and die in your sins and be buried. Those three sentences:

- "and the 8th day shall be a Holy convocation"—*one verse*
- "in the 8th day shall be a Holy convocation"—*another verse*
- "the rest of the dead"—*the third indication of it*

Only those who are Christ's will be raised at His coming!

What about all the rest of the dead, with all the people? *We will see an astounding thing, because there are some Scriptures that show us what's going to happen!*

(break@36:20)

Let's see how things come together and the great meaning of The Last Great Day. There are two major meanings, and we'll see what they are!

After the thousand years, and after the incorrigible who were in Gog and Magog come down after Satan and the demons are released, make war and are defeated, Satan and the demons are cast into the Lake of Fire, and judged! Their final judgment will be *the blackest darkness forever and ever!*

After that, that clears the way for *the rest of the dead* to be raised! This includes everybody who has not committed the unpardonable sin! This will include those:

- who have been aborted
- who die in war
 - ✓ the young and old
 - ✓ the soldiers

Everyone to have an opportunity for salvation that they didn't have in their first life! And the most important thing about that is that *Satan won't be there!* Think about this for a minute:

- Isn't it enough to live one physical life in the realm of Satan? *Yes!*
Satan is removed, and:
- How many people have said that they wish there wouldn't be a Satan?

The day is coming when there won't be a Satan!
Now it will get down to the choices that everyone will make:

Revelation 20:11: “Then I saw a great white Throne and the One Who was sitting on it, from Whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and no place was found for them.”

That means so many! How many billion and billions will that be? Remember the last part of the Millennium is going to be devoted to preparing for this *second* resurrection. *There will be:*

- plenty of places
- plenty of food
- plenty of clothing

Everything necessary!

Verse 12: “And I saw the dead...”

Who are they? ***The rest of the dead of v 5 who were not in the first resurrection when Jesus returned!!***

“...small and great, standing before God; and *the* books were opened...” (v 12)—***the books of God's Word!***

How much more of it will be at this time than we have now, we do not know! But we're also going to have the whole history of the thousand years! These who are resurrected in the *second* resurrection will have the information that they had in their lives plus the Word of God and whatever else God will add to it during the Millennium! *They will have everything in great abundance!*

“...and another book was opened, which is *the Book of Life*...: (v 12)—*for those raised in the second resurrection!* No names are written in that for eternal life. Their names are written for the *second resurrection!*

“...And the dead were judged out of the things written in the books, according to their works” (v 12).

They're going to have a whole new set of works. They will have to repent of their sins. Remember the verse that everybody knows”

John 3:16: “For God so loved the world that He gave His only Begotten Son, so that everyone who believes in Him **may not perish, but may have everlasting life.**”

Now that will be opened for these people, as well! So, when you read John 3:16 again, remember that it includes *everybody that is willing to repent!*

Revelation 20:13: “And the sea gave up the

dead *that were* in it, and death and *the* grave gave up the dead *that were* in them; and they were judged individually, according to their works.”

Let's see that Jesus prophesied of this in John 5. We know in Heb. 12 that it tells '*the spirits of just men made perfect.*' And they're at the altar of God! That's all of those who are in the first resurrection who have died and their spirit has returned to God and is there.

Everyone who was not in the first resurrection, but who lived and died they will be raised back to a physical life.

I want you to think about this great second resurrection and all the multitudes that there will be who will be saved at that time!

John 5:24: “Truly, truly I say to you, **the one who hears My Word, and believes Him Who sent Me...** [they never had a chance to hear it; now they will hear it] ...has everlasting life and does not come into judgment; **for he has passed from death into life**”—*those in the first resurrection!*

Verse 25: “Truly, truly I say to you, *the* hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear shall live. For even as the Father has life in Himself, so also has He given to the Son to have life in Himself; and has also given Him authority to execute judgment because He is *the* Son of man. Do not wonder at this, for *the* hour is coming in which **all** who are in the graves shall hear His voice... [the first resurrection is obvious] ...and shall come forth: **those who have practiced good unto a resurrection of life, and those who have practiced evil unto a resurrection of judgment**” (vs 25-29).

We have the *first* resurrection in v 24, so v 29 has to be the *second* resurrection after the thousand years for those who did well in their lives and did not commit the unpardonable sin. They will be raised.

Then those, at the end of the 100-year period, will be raised and cast into the Lake of Fire to a resurrection of judgment.

I want to mention what we covered yesterday (Day 7) in Isa. 65 about an infant will live out 100 years and the sinner will be accursed at 100-years. The same thing will apply at the Great White Throne Judgment. Everyone will have 100-years.

Let's see what's going to happen. We will see that as it happens to Israel, so will it happen to all of the people of the world.

Ezekiel 37:1: “The hand of the LORD was on me, and brought me by the Spirit of the LORD,

and set me down in the midst of a valley, and it was full of bones.” *If there are bones, that means that they left once and died!*

Verse 2: “And He made me walk among them all around. And behold, very many *were* in the open valley. And lo, *they were* very dry.” *Showing that they’ve been dead for a long, long time!*

Verse 3: “And He said to me, ‘Son of man, can these bones live?’ And I answered, ‘O Lord GOD, You know.’”

If you see a whole pile of bones out there and God says, ‘Can they live?’ Well, the answer is that *God knows!*

Verse 4: “Again He said to me, ‘Prophecy to these bones, and say to them, “O **dry bones, hear the Word of the LORD**.” Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones, ‘Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you... [physical life] ...and you shall live. And I will lay sinews on you, and will bring up flesh on you... [physical life] ...and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live.... [physical life] ...**And you shall know that I am the LORD**”’ (vs 4-6).

They didn’t know the Lord before; as Jesus said, they were cut off!

Verse 7: “So, I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a noise. And behold, a shaking! And the bones came together, a bone to its bone. And as I watched, behold the sinews and the flesh came upon them, and the skin covered them above. But *there was* no breath in them” (vs 7-8).

Verse 9: “And He said to me, ‘Prophecy to the wind, prophecy, son of man, and say to the wind, “Thus says the Lord GOD, ‘Come from the four winds, O breath, **and breathe on these slain that they may live.**”’”

The rest of the dead live not again till the thousand years were finished! Here it is!

Verse 10: “So, I prophesied as He commanded me, and **the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.**”

The Great White Throne and those who were raised, there was no place found for them. Right here it says the same thing. This identifies who they are:

Verse 11: “And He said to me, ‘Son of man, **these bones are the whole house of Israel....**”

Think about that going all the way back. These were the ones who were blinded and not able

to be converted during the time of Jesus’ ministry on the earth. But now they’re raised for an opportunity for salvation.

“...Behold, they say, ‘Our bones *are* dried and our hope is lost; we ourselves are completely cut off.’ Therefore, prophesy and say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up out of your graves, and will bring you into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I *am* the LORD when I have opened your graves, O My people, and have brought you up out of your graves. **And I shall put My Spirit in you...** [conversion] ...**and you shall live,** and I will place you in your own land. And you shall know that I the LORD have spoken it and have done it,” says the LORD”’ (vs 11-14). *They have that 100-years!*

Let’s see that it also applies to the Gentile nations, as well. God is going to do a great work! That’s why it’s called *The Last Great Day!* It’s going to be greatest period of salvation in the history of everything that God has done with mankind. And in preparation for what He has for after that!

Matthew 12:30: “The one who is not with Me is against Me... [that was during His ministry] ...and the one who does not gather with Me scatters. Because of this, I say to you, **every sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven to men except the blasphemy against the Holy Spirit; that shall not be forgiven to men**” (vs 30-31).

Why? *Because it comes directly from God the Father and they are rejecting God the Father.* Therefore, when that happens it is a deliberate thought out sin to reject God the Father. **That can’t be forgiven! That’s the unpardonable sin!** Those who commit that will go into the Lake of Fire! We will see that in just a little bit.

Verse 32: “And whoever speaks a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this age nor in the coming age.” *So there are two coming ages:*

1. the Millennium
2. the 100-year period—the *second* resurrection

Verse 33: “Either make the tree good and the fruit good...”

They will have an opportunity to do that; to repent and be baptized and receive God’s Spirit.

“...or make the tree corrupt and its fruit corrupt; for a tree is known by its fruit. Offspring of vipers, how are you able to speak good things, being evil? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth

speaks.... [He continues the judgment] ...The good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings out good things; and the wicked man out of the wicked treasure brings out wicked things. But I say to you, for every idle word that men may speak, they shall be held accountable in *the* Day of Judgment” (vs 33-36).

- Are you going to repent and get rid of it so you may have eternal life?

or

- Are you going into the Lake of Fire?

That’s what it’s talking about here!

He goes on showing exactly what’s going to happen, and a timeframe for it. The scribes and Pharisees wanted a sign, and Jesus said that *no sign will be given except:*

Verse 40: “For just as Jonah was in the belly of the whale three days and three nights, in like manner the Son of man shall be in the heart of the earth three days and three nights. *The* men of Nineveh shall stand up in the judgment... [raised in the *second* resurrection] ...with this generation...” (vs 40-41).

It doesn’t matter how many years apart that they are, they’re all going to be raised at the same time.

“...and shall condemn it, because they repented at the proclamation of Jonah; and behold, a greater than Jonah *is* here. *The* queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with this generation... [simultaneously; that’s the *second* resurrection] ... and shall condemn it, because she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and behold, a greater than Solomon *is* here” (vs 41-42).

This shows that the second resurrection is going to happen to all people!

The next phase is going to happen! This is the incorrigible wicked will be cast into the Lake of Fire! We know that from 2-Pet. 3 that Peter says that the heaven and the earth that we’re on right now is all going to be consumed in a torrential fire. It will start out as the Lake of Fire to extinguish all of the unrepentant sinners. Those who:

- refuse to repent
- refuse Jesus Christ
- refuse God the Father
- refuse salvation

Revelation 20:14: “And death and *the* grave were cast into the Lake of Fire. This is the second death.... [which meant that in order to die twice, you

must live twice] ...And if anyone was not found written in the Book of Life, he was cast into the Lake of Fire.”

They will all be burned up, because the next phase of God’s plan is put into motion. The earth is going to be consumed with this fire and destroy everything that was on it having to do with physical human beings. Then God is going to make a new heaven and new earth. We will see the Holy City Jerusalem.

This is going to be something! Notice how great that this is beginning in the next chapter, and this is what everyone is longing and hoping for; eternal life, ***to live with God where there love, peace and joy.*** At that time then God will also begin to show His plan for the rest of the universe. People wonder all that universe out there, what is God going to do with that! It’s beautiful, fantastic and awesome! It’s awe inspiring! That’s going to be the inheritance of Christ and the saints and those who enter into the Kingdom of God.

Revelation 21:1: “Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away, and there was no more sea.”

We won’t need any sea, no ocean, because as spirit beings we do not need to have the temperature modulated like we do as human beings.

Verse 2: “And I, John, saw the Holy City, *the* New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice from heaven say, ‘Behold, the Tabernacle of God *is* with men... [amazing; men and women made perfect, of course] ...and ***He shall dwell with them***... [that’s quite a statement] ...and they shall be His people; and God Himself shall be with them *and be* their God.’” (vs 2-3).

Notice how great this is going to be, because there’s not going to be any more sorrow, pain, suffering and everything that we have in this life now.

Verse 4: “And God shall wipe away every tear from their eyes; and *there* shall not be anymore death, or sorrow, or crying; neither shall *there* be any more pain, because the former things have passed away.”

Because the last day, *The Last Great Day*, took care of everything that needed to be done, to heal all people who were willing to repent. To undo all the sin of war, murder, abortion, sickness and death.

And in that second physical life to these people that they would qualify to enter into the

Kingdom of God, which the greatest majority will! They will be part of this, as well. This is something.

Verse 5: “And He Who sits on the Throne said, ‘Behold, I make all things new.’...”

What is that going to be like? *We’ll have to be there to see it!*

“...Then He said to me, ‘Write, for these words are true and faithful.’... [it’s going to happen] ...And He said to me, ‘It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the one who thirsts, I will give freely of the fountain of the Water of Life’” (vs 5-6). *That goes right back to where we started!*

Verse 7: The one who overcomes shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be My son.”—*and daughter* (2-Cor. 6)!

Verse 8: “But *the* cowardly, and unbelieving, and abominable, and murderers, and fornicators, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone; which is *the* second death.”

So, He labels that the second death twice! That’s a summary of what’s coming! After that, John writes:

Verse 9: “And one of the seven angels that had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues came and spoke with me, saying, ‘Come here, *and* I will show you the Bride, the Lamb’s wife.’”

He shows New Jerusalem; that’s not the Bride; that’s where the Bride will live!

Verse 10: “And he carried me away in *the* Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, Holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, having the glory of God. And her radiance *was* like a most precious stone, as crystal-clear *as* jasper stone. And *the* city also had a great and high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels; and inscribed on *the* gates were the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel” (vs 10-12). *So, that goes on forever!* Isn’t that something?

Verse 13: “On *the* east *were* three gates; on *the* north *were* three gates; on *the* south *were* three gates; on *the* west *were* three gates. And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and written on them *were* the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. And the one who was speaking with me had a golden measuring rod, so that he might measure the city, and its gates and its wall. And the city lies foursquare, for its length is as long as its breadth. And he measured the city with the rod, twelve thousand furlongs; the length and the breadth and the

height of it are equal” (vs 13-16). *That’s approximately 1500 miles!* So, it’s a magnificent city!

Verse 17: “And he measured its wall, one hundred *and* forty-four cubits; *the* angel’s measure *was* according to a man’s. And the structure of its wall was jasper; and the city *was* pure gold, like pure glass” (vs 17-18).

Can you imagine gold that you can see though? That’s going to be spectacular! Listen, we have to be a spirit being in order to really appreciate and enjoy this. He’s made it for us!

Verse 19: “And the foundations of the wall of the city *were* adorned with every precious stone: the first foundation *was* jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, chalcedony; the fourth, emerald; the fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, topaz; the tenth, chrysoprasus; the eleventh, jacinth; the twelfth, amethyst. And the twelve gates *were* twelve pearls; each of the gates respectively was a single pearl; and the street of the city *was* pure gold, as transparent *as* glass” (vs 19-21).

Verse 22: “And I saw no temple in it... [because God is dwelling there; don’t need a temple] ...for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the Temple of it. And the city has no need of the sun, or of the moon... [doesn’t say it won’t be there, but it doesn’t need it] ...that they should shine in it; **because the glory of God enlightens it, and the Light of it is the Lamb**” (vs 22-23).

Verse 24: “And the nations that are saved... [everybody else not in the first resurrection there will be nations, and the people are saved] ...**shall walk in its Light; and the kings of the earth shall bring their glory and honor into it.**”

What are we going to be? *Kings and priests!* There’s going to be activity going, tithes and offerings and things coming up to God. I don’t know how all of that is going to work, but it’s going to be something!

Verse 25: “And its gates shall never be shut by day; for there shall be no night there. And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it” (v 25-26).

Here’s a warning! It’s not going to happen! It’s not going to take place!

Verse 27: “And nothing that defiles shall ever enter into it... [because there’s nothing that will defile] ...nor shall *anyone* who practices *an* abomination or *devises* a lie; but *only* those who are written in the Lamb’s Book of Life.”

This means that this is excluding these people at the beginning of it all. Just think about what that's going to be like. Think about what it is like today; we're living in the grips of Satan's world, and look at all of the evil abominations that he is bringing upon people right here in America! And other people in other nations!

Here's the finale of the whole Bible, Rev. 22. It's interesting in the Hebrew language, it's alphabet has 22 letters. This is wonderful and this will bring us to the conclusion of *The Last Great Day!*

Revelation 22:1: "Then he [the angel] showed me [John] a pure river of *the* Water of Life, clear as crystal... [eternal life; how that works we don't know] ...flowing out from the Throne of God and of the Lamb... [two thrones there, and out comes this crystal clear water] ...*And* in the middle of *the* street, and on this side and that side of the river, *was the* Tree of Life, producing twelve *manner* of fruits, each month yielding its fruit; and the leaves of the tree *are* for *the* healing of the nations" (vs 1-2—*or maintenance or therapy of the nations!*)

How all of that is going to work, we don't know, but it has to do with the receiving of God's Holy Spirit, undoubtedly!

Verse 3: "And there shall be no more curse; and the Throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and His servants shall serve Him."

Notice the next verse, a small, little verse. What is it going to be like?

Verse 4: "**And they shall see His face; and His name is in their foreheads.**"

I thought about that a lot! What is it going to be like for every one of us that we can come to God the Father and look at Him face-to-face, and His name is written in our forehead! We tell the Father how much we love Him and the Father tells us how much He loves us. Christ is right there with Him and tells us the same thing. That's why we will be in New Jerusalem, and what a tremendous, fantastic thing that is going to be:

- to be right there with God
- to see God
- to talk with God

and God talk to us! We are His children and the object of His whole purpose!

Verse 5: "And there shall be no night there; for they have no need of a lamp or *the* light of the sun, because *the* Lord God enlightens them; **and they shall reign into the ages of eternity.**" *That means have rulership forever!*

Verse 6: And he said to me, "These words *are* faithful and true... [they're going to come to pass; it's going to be done, because God said so] ...and *the* Lord God of the Holy prophets sent His angel to show His servants the things that must shortly come to pass."

Now, here's the epilog of the whole thing, right here, the rest of it:

Verse 7: "Behold, I am coming quickly.... [in our lifetime, that's quickly] ...Blessed *is* the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."

Not done away, not eliminated. We keep the words of God, we keep the words of the prophecies in this book, not only Revelation but the whole Bible!

Verse 8: "Now I, John, *was* the one who saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who *was* showing me these things. But he said to me, 'See *that you do not do this!* For I am a fellow servant of yours, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. ***Worship God!***" (vs 8-9). *Oh what a thing that's going to be!*

Verse 10: "And he said to me, 'Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book because the time is near.'"

It's a whole lot nearer than when we first believed! It's going to happen!

Verse 11: "Let the one who is unrighteous be unrighteous still; and let the one who is filthy be filthy still; and let the one who is righteous be righteous still; and let the one who is Holy be Holy still."

- stay faithful
- stay loyal
- stay loving
- stay obedient
- stay serving God
- stay keeping His commandments

Verse 12: "And behold, I am coming quickly... [His timetable is different than ours] ...and My reward is with Me, to render to each one according as his work shall be. I am Alpha and Omega... [He's reminding us, going clear back to the beginning] ...the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last" (vs 12-13).

Then He gives us something else to remember and hold onto, and why it's so important that we love God and keep His commandments.

Verse 14: “Blessed are those who keep His commandments, that they may have the right to eat of the Tree of Life, and may enter by the gates into the city.” *That’s going to be something, brethren!*

Now look at this. *When we see this and understand this, there is no trial, nothing that can turn us back from God!* So, remember this, because when we leave here, we’re going to get back home and right in the middle of the world again in our lives. Keep this in mind so you can be faithful!

Verse 15: “But excluded... [this is a warning down through time]: ...are dogs, and sorcerers, and fornicators, and murderers, and idolaters, and everyone who loves and devises a lie.”

Dogs are not the animals, but people who conduct their lives like dogs.

Verse 16: “I, Jesus, sent My angel to testify these things to you in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, the bright and morning star.”

Verse 17: “And the Spirit and the Bride say, ‘Come.’”

That’s what we have to preach. We have to take the Gospel out to the world!

“...And let the one who hears say, ‘Come.’ And let the one who thirsts come... [tie in John 7] ...and let the one who desires partake of the water of life freely” (v 17).

John adds in his ending right here; v 18: “For I jointly testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book... [not only Revelation, but the whole Bible; tie in Rev. 1] ...*that* if anyone adds to these things, God shall add to him the plagues that are written in this book. And if anyone takes away from the words of *the* book of this prophecy, **God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, and from the Holy City, and from the things that are written in this book**” (vs 18-19).

Here is John almost 100-years-old. We don’t know how frail he must have been, but getting this prophecy and writing this down was the most important thing in his entire life! All the other apostles have died. He alone gets this vision. He knows that he’s signing off, and he knows he’s going to die. He doesn’t know how far into the future it would go, but here we are today, reading about it.

Verse 20: “He Who testifies these things says, ‘Surely, I am coming quickly.’ Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus. **The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.**”

That’s the completion of the purpose of God!

Scriptural References:

- 1) Leviticus 23:34-36, 38-39
- 2) John 7:37-39
- 3) Mark 4:10-12
- 4) Isaiah 14:24
- 5) Jeremiah 51:29
- 6) Ephesians 1:3-12
- 7) Isaiah 29:9-14
- 8) Revelation 20:4-5, 11-12
- 9) John 3:16
- 10) Revelation 12:13
- 11) John 5:24-29
- 12) Ezekiel 37:1-14
- 13) Matthew 12:30-36, 40-42
- 14) Revelation 20:14
- 15) Revelation 21:1-27
- 16) Revelation 22:1-20

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Matthew 13
- Hebrews 12
- Isaiah 65
- 2 Peter 3
- 2 Corinthians 6
- Revelation 1

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Post Office Box 1442
Hollister, California 95024-1442

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Post Office Box 494
Frankfort 9830
Rep. of South Africa

Malaysia

WDT 00009
Semenyih,
43507 Selangor, Malaysia

La Verdad de Dios

www.laverdadedios.org
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