SALVATION FULFILLED AND COMPLETED THROUGH THE MESSIAH

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INTRODUCTION



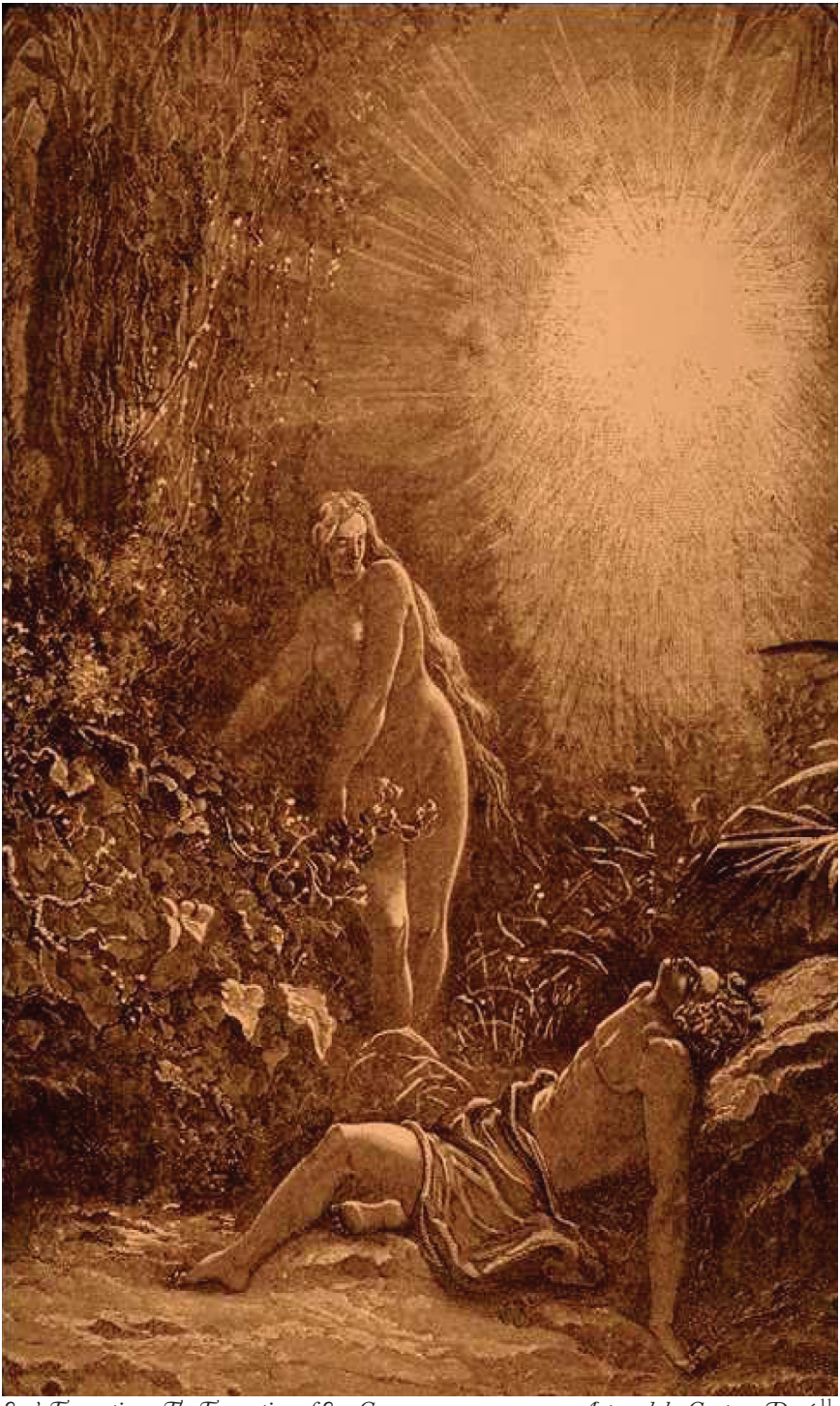
Endtime Harvest Ministries International is a ministry focused on leading and educating the general public to a non-denominational understanding of Christianity. This book will cover the foundations of salvation completed and fulfilled through the Messiah. The Bible will be used to show the infallible never ending word of God as proof to every fact mentioned in this book. This book will review the following questions and topics regarding the faith of a Christian:

- The foundations of Christianity and how the Church body is composed.
- The ancient old question, why God has chosen the Jewish people to be His preference of people to work with throughout all mankind?
- How faith is one of the most important foundations to Christianity.
- The law of fruit and how it is destine to hold true to its values over time.
- The loving power of God, and His grace to all of mankind.
- How Christ spoke of His plan for salvation of all mankind,

and how he would indeed draw all men to the heavenly Father above.

Please join us as we travel through this exciting book quoting every verse of the Bible to assure you salvation was completed and fulfilled through the Messiah, and how Jesus Christ himself stated **with all of the words of Christ printed in red**:

> *For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.* *(KJV)Mt 5:18*



Eve's Formation – The Formation of Eve Gen 2:23 *Artwork by Gustave Doré* [11]

CHAPTER 1
NEW LIFE



The word of God is true to never hold any error. Every statement in this book will be proven true in the Word of God.

Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.

In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began; (KJV)Pr 30:5; Tit 1:2

Since the beginning of time mankind has known God. From the creation of Adam and Eve until this very current day, man has had the knowledge of the creator of the universe. To say someone is excused of the judgment of God is hypocritical to the fact that Adam and Eve both walked with God from their very existence. Adam has passed knowledge of the creator of the universe down to his off springs from one generation to the next. From these generations the knowledge of God has been passed down for thousands of years. This knowledge was known as oral knowledge until the official recording of text came through Moses. These facts of oral tradition alone support the evidence that even the non-believers have knowledge of God.

Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.

For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: (KJV)Ro 1:19-20

God alone says man is without excuse to accept him as the creator of this universe.

The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever. (KJV)Isa 40:8

The God of today is the same monotheistic God since the creation of mankind. This is to say He is the only God serving as one. His name in Hebrew is ʾElōhîm, which means the creator.

Our God is complex in structure which is hard for human beings to comprehend. His structure is similar to our nature by the facts of scripture. In the beginning God made man in his likeness.

And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. (KJV)Ge 1:26

Humans are made up of three structures of the unity. We all have a physical body that can be visibly seen. Unlike the body we also are created with a soul, which to the naked eye cannot be seen. The third and final structure of our unity is the spirit, which also cannot be seen by the naked eye.

The composure of our physical body consists of dust from the earth.

Your remembrances are like unto ashes, your bodies to bodies of clay. (KJV)Job 13:12

When God formed us in his image God breathed life into us giving us a soul.

And 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 soul. (KJV)Ge 2:7

Our soul is our moral being, conscience, intellect, personality and ego. The soul can be summed up by our mind, will, and emotions. We exist in our body by blood and by our soul.

For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given

it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul. (KJV)Lev 17:11

We do not receive God through our soul but through our spirit.

But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. (KJV)1Co 2:14

The spirit is the third and last structure of our unity as humans. We come to God and worship him through our spirit.

God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

The spirit of man is the candle of the LORD, searching all the inward parts of the belly.

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, (KJV)Jn 4:24, Pr 20:27; Ro 8:1; Gal 5:22

The structure of God himself is complex by nature; he too is also made up of a similar unity as human beings.

And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. (KJV)Ge 1:26

God the creator himself in the Hebrew is known as ʾElōhîm. ʾElōhîm which made us in his likeness consists of a soul, glorified body, and spirit. God is a form of the soul to which the naked eye cannot be seen.

Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles. (KJV)Isa 42:1

No man has seen God. This means that no man can visually comprehend or visually experience God at any time in all his

fullness.

And he said, Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live.

No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him. Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen. (KJV) Ex 33:20; Jn 1:18; 1Ti 6:16

God has made his presence known, by the facts of scripture, with certain stipulations for mankind to partially view his presence. The seventy elders with Moses and Aaron on Mount Sinai saw the presence of God, only with stipulations. They first were to be covered by sprinkling a blood sacrifice offering on them. No sin may enter the presence of God in any form unless a covering of blood sacrifice atonement for sin is made.

But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

And Moses took the blood, and sprinkled it on the people, and said, Behold the blood of the covenant, which the LORD hath made with you concerning all these words.

And they saw the God of Israel: and there was under his feet as it were a paved work of a sapphire stone, and as it were the body of heaven in his clearness. (KJV)Isa 59:2; Ex 24:8, 10

Moses asked to see God in his Glory, face to face, in which God told him, no man can see God's face in his Glory and live.

And he said, Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live. (KJV)Ex 33:20

Moses met with God, after making a sacrifice for the atonement of Israel. When God met Moses, he had put certain restrictions on Moses where he could only see a portion of God's glory. Moses' stipulation in order to see Yĕhwâ (Yahweh) was that he could only endure to visually see a portion of the back parts of His Glory. From this Hebrew word Yĕhwâ we understand the true meaning,

God has a personal relationship with man.

And the LORD said, Behold, there is a place by me, and thou shalt stand upon a rock:

And it shall come to pass, while my glory passeth by, that I will put thee in a clift of the rock, and will cover thee with my hand while I pass by: (KJV)Ex 33:21-22

Isaiah saw God sitting upon a throne, he cried out that his lips were unclean in the presence of the Lord. An angel took a live coal and touched Isaiah's lips purging his sin and taking away his iniquity.

In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple.

Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.

Then flew one of the seraphims unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar:

And he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged. (KJV)Isa 6:1, 5-7

These patterns in which we have seen from this scripture of God's unity is complex. God forbids any presence of sin near him. With mankind in a repetitive habit of sin which requires atonement to fellowship with God, there is a need of permanent covering of atonement for the forgiveness of his sins. God enters total forgiveness by covering sin with an atonement of sacrifice. Only one solution to end all sacrifices will make a permanent atonement. This sinless, perfect body that qualifies is Jesus Christ. There is no other perfect body than Jesus Christ to glorify God's soul and spirit. God chose the human form of Jesus Christ to willingly give his life on the cross at Calvary for a permanent covering of atonement for mankind's sins.

And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is

eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;
But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: (KJV)Heb 9:22; Ro 6:23; 1Pe 1:18-19

Pertaining to the complex structure of God, first mentioned was his soul. The second portion of his unity is a glorified body which was fulfilled through Jesus Christ when God raised him from the death at Calvary.

The LORD hath sworn in truth unto David; he will not turn from it; Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne.
Who hath ascended up into heaven, or descended? *who hath gathered the wind in his fists? who hath bound the waters in a garment? who hath established all the ends of the earth? what is his name, and* what is his son's name*, if thou canst tell? (KJV)Ps 132:11; Pr 30:4*

Christ came to earth in the form of a seed planted by the Holy Spirit into a virgin named Mary.

Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. (KJV)Lk 1:34-35

Christ is sin free on the basis of His position with God. Through the birth of Jesus, God himself entered the world in human form. Without a human father he inherited no sin nature from Adam.

For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. (KJV)2Co 5:21

He was raised up by the laws of Moses in an atmosphere of Jewish customs to be the only man in the form of a human body to ever fulfill and never break any of the laws of Moses.

Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the

prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. (KJV) Mt 5:17

Christ substituted his atonement for all of mankind to be crucified for all sins and was raised on the third day in a glorified body.

Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.

Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself. (KJV)Lk 24:7; Php 3:21

Christ, after his death on the cross, ascended on high into heaven to sit at the right hand of the Father.

So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.

Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; (KJV)Mk 16:19; Heb 1:3

The third and final complex structure of God is the Holy Spirit. The Spirit of God draws you to Him. The Holy Spirit when received by a believer in Christ Jesus, allows the Spirit to bring power to the believer. The Holy Spirit is working throughout the entire world. When Christ ascended into heaven he no longer was present with his disciples. He immediately, at his ascension, began to work through the Holy Ghost giving commandments to the apostles.

Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. (KJV)Ac 2:1; 1:8

God requires the upmost respect for His spirit. We are warned not

to grieve the Holy Spirit by our mouth, body, or actions.

And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. (KJV)Eph 4:30

Christ said through his atonement all sin is forgiven, but only one sin is unpardonable, to blaspheme the Holy Ghost.

Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men. (KJV)Mt 12:31

Prayer is our human form of communication to speak with God the creator. In prayer to God the Father, you pray through Jesus Christ, in the Holy Spirit, by which you would pray, O Father, in Jesus name, through the Holy Spirit we come to you. Thomas asked the mysterious question of how a believer can come to the Father. Christ answered his question with gravity, subtly, and force.

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.
If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it. (KJV) Jn 14:6, 14

Salvation is received through faith in Christ's death and resurrection in which you ask the Holy Spirit to dwell within you.

If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him? (KJV) Lk 11:13

Believing in Christ's death, burial, and resurrection in which Christ has returned to heaven, is called being born again. To be born again has a meaning that the indwelling Holy Spirit of God has arrived and has begun to live within you as a new creation. The person that receives this gift takes on the form to believe by faith that the Holy Spirit now lives and dwells within them. The Holy Spirit is reproducing Christ in the new believer.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,
But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from

glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.
And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. (KJV)Gal 5:22; 2Co 3:18; Ro 12:2

The portion of the Bible, known as New Testament is translated in the original Greek to the word diathēkē, meaning New Covenant. Paul says I am in labor pains for you, the ones who have not yet accepted Christ as their personal savior, until Christ is formed in you.

My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you,
That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:
And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; (KJV) Gal 4:19; Eph 2:12, 2:1

Once Christ is accepted in the new believer's life, the covenant of promise by the Father above is delivered to the new believer.

And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high. (KJV) Lk 24:49

Peter was empowered by the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. When the Holy Spirit fell on him he became a powerful leader of the Church. Once accepted in the life of a believer, the Holy Spirit is the power of the whole creation of God.[1] The power of the Holy Spirit brought forth all of creation including, the earth, animals, and the entire universe. God is to be called the Father in which all creation and sources come from. Christ is the word of God; He has existed with the Father for all eternity, since the beginning of time.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (KJV)Jn 1:1

The unity of God is very complex to understand with the human mind.

He hath made every thing beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find

out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end. (KJV)Ecc 3:11

The Father loves the Son who serves the Father. From this relationship is the Holy Spirit who is the acting agent of creation.

And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord.
And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.
But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. (KJV)1Co 12:5-7

The Holy Spirit is an active power. The Father thought the source through as the Son spoke the words and the Holy Spirit activated them with the Holy Spirit's power. Christ, in coming to the earth, demonstrated what Adam should have been like. The Son is the representative of man and experienced obedience to the Father. [2] Christ showed, on earth, the will of his Father in heaven. Through Christ as God's final sacrifice, God will forgive all men which have fallen short of his glory.

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;
Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,
But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: (KJV)Ro 3:23; 2Co 6:17; Jn 1:12

Christ showed the Angels, principalities, and powers that love shall triumph over hate and evil. [2]



Lamb of God – The Sacrificed Lamb of God John 19:40 *Artwork by Gustave Doré* [11]

CHAPTER 2
THE BODY



hrist spoke of the body as the church. He asks to not forsake the assembly of ourselves together. This assembly of the body is the foundation to help the believer nurture, support, and aid in the prayer for one another.

> *Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.*
> *This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.*
> *For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them. (KJV)Heb 10:25; Jn 15:12; Mt 18:20*

The body, as the church, is not to be confused with any certain ritual patterns, but for an assembly for the glory of the Lord. God says you can receive his gift of Christ through faith.

> *For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love.*
> *But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus*

Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. (KJV)Gal 5:6; 1Jn 1:7

Paul writes to the Galatians about his concern that they have been fooled into believing that without these certain rituals and religious patterns, a believer can lose the grace of God. Paul, in his letter to the Galatian church, asked them, "Who bewitched you to think salvation is Christ, plus works, or else you have fallen from grace?" This is wrong, for it is Christ alone that gives grace. Faith performs miracles and puts out the Holy Spirit among you.[2] There is no other way to fall from God's grace unless you try to perform your own works alone.

O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you? (KJV)Gal 3:1

If you try to force grace into a series of rituals the only outcome will be failure.

But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak. (KJV)Heb 6:9

In the true body of Christ there is no church membership or rituals, just the commitment of the individual to Christ alone.

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. (KJV)Ro 10:9

Creeds that are kept, assenting to certain doctrines, performing certain rituals, beating yourself, denying the flesh will in no way bring about the grace of God. The grace of God comes from the life of the Holy Spirit from within you.[1] The Holy Spirit is reproducing Christ in your life once you have asked him into your life.

There was, in Christ's day, a Jewish Rabbi who was a member of the Sanhedrin who was one of the three richest men in Jerusalem. His name was Nicodemus. He showed the upmost respect to Jesus. He knew Christ was sent from God. In humbling himself by night, he visited Christ to try to understand his mission.

There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a

ruler of the Jews:
The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him. (KJV)Jn 3:1-2

Christ answered what his mission on earth was for.

Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. (KJV)Jn 3:3

Nicodemus, being of the religious mind, could not comprehend the answer Christ gave him.

Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? (KJV)Jn 3:4

Christ illustrates the necessity of the new birth to enter the kingdom of God.

Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.
That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.
Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.
The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit. (KJV)Jn 3:5-8

Christ explains how God speaks to the believer who has been born again, through the Spirit. Christ said, as a natural man hears the wind, so the man born again hears the voice of the Spirit. Nicodemus, being of the religious mind set, had been hoping for the coming of the Messiah's kingdom in power and glory, visible to the eyes of all men. Nicodemus questioned, what led the Lord to change His plans?

Nicodemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be? (KJV)Jn 3:9

Christ answered him saying surely he should know this, because he was one of those who taught the people. Christ explained to him,

that we must be born anew. Nicodemus should have taught the people this, but he taught them the contrary, only to know when the wind comes and whither it goes. They only concerned themselves about the winds blowing and other useless things. Christ said the things most necessary Nicodemus had disregarded.

> *Jesus answered and said unto him, Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things?*
> *And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:*
> *That* ***whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life****. (KJV)Jn 3:10, 14-15*

Joseph of Arimathaea was also a member of the Jewish Sanhedrin in Christ's day who was a very wealthy man in Jerusalem. He also showed the upmost respect to Jesus for he knew Christ was sent from God. The word of God calls Joseph of Arimathaea a disciple of Jesus for his act of asking Pilate for Christ's body to bury him in Joseph's personal tomb.

> *When the even was come, there came a rich man of Arimathaea, named Joseph, who also himself was Jesus' disciple:*
> *Joseph of Arimathaea, an honourable counsellor, which also waited for the kingdom of God, came, and went in boldly unto Pilate, and craved the body of Jesus.*
> *And laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock: and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed.*
> *And there came also Nicodemus, which at the first came to Jesus by night, and brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about an hundred pound weight.*
> *Then took they the body of Jesus, and wound it in linen clothes with the spices, as the manner of the Jews is to bury. (KJV) Mt 27:57;Mk 15:43; Mt 27:60; Jn 19:39-40*

Joseph of Arimathaea secretly followed Christ, as Nicodemus met with Jesus by night, for both wealthy men being members of the Sanhedrin were caught up in Israel's bondage of the religious mind set.

> *And after this Joseph of Arimathaea, being a disciple of*

Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews… (KJV)Jn 19:8

God exposes how bondage will have a strong hold on Israel, by the marriage of Hosea.

Hosea the prophet was commanded by God to marry Gomer, who was a harlot; his marriage provides a close resemblance to Israel, who was guilty of spiritual adultery.

Then said the LORD unto me, Go yet, love a woman beloved of her friend, yet an adulteress, according to the love of the LORD toward the children of Israel, who look to other gods, and love flagons of wine. (KJV)Hos 3:1

Hosea took Gomer in as his wife, in private he always referred to her as Gomer. To the public, she was known as "the harlot".

So he went and took Gomer the daughter of Diblaim; which conceived, and bare him a son. (KJV)Hos 1:3

Hosea's marriage to the unfaithful Gomer illustrates God's covenant relationship with unfaithful Israel. Israel, like Gomer, was unfaithful and went to practice prostitution. God is applying Gomer's sin to the nation. The unfaithful, depraved wife of the prophet went deeper into sin. She seems to have left him and become the slave of her lover. Just as the children of Israel had adopted part of the heathen worship of idols.

God shows to Hosea now you know how I can feel with Israel. God wants Hosea to go and take Gomer back again from her present life of prostitution. She's been unfaithful to him, but he is to love her and take her back in. God says, this is what I do with my people Israel. Israel has been unfaithful to God, and God is going to punish Israel, but the Lord is going to bring her back to Him.

For their mother hath played the harlot: she that conceived them hath done shamefully: for she said, I will go after my lovers, that give me my bread and my water, my wool and my flax, mine oil and my drink. (KJV)Hos 2:5

Neither Gomer nor Israel could find satisfaction in infidelity. Hosea married a girl who had become a harlot, and, even after they had been married for some time and had three children, she went to prostitution. And through it all, this man Hosea loved her!

The book of Hosea resembles the consequences of Israel's lack of faithlessness, lack of kindness, and no knowledge of God in the land.

> *Hear the word of the LORD, ye children of Israel: for the LORD hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because there is no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land. (KJV)Hos 4:1*

Hosea's book is to show God's people that He never gives up on us. It also teaches us that love cannot be bought, for it must be received as a gift.

> *I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely: for mine anger is turned away from him.*
> *And she shall follow after her lovers, but she shall not overtake them; and she shall seek them, but shall not find them: then shall she say, I will go and return to my first husband; for then was it better with me than now.*
> *For she did not know that I gave her corn, and wine, and oil, and multiplied her silver and gold, which they prepared for Baal. (KJV)Hos 14:4; 2:7-8*

Israel was a wealthy nation at this time, and Gomer may have accumulated silver and gold. But Gomer didn't realize that Hosea had given her all she owned, just as Israel did not recognize God as the main source of their blessings. Even though God was richly supplying Israel with her grain, fine flour, oil, and honey, Israel was like the adulterous Gomer. She insisted on running after her lovers, not realizing that God had been the source of those gifts. Both Gomer and Israel used their possessions irresponsibly as they ran after other lovers and other gods. Hosea is now commanded by God to buy her back, paying the price of the ordinary slave with the required amount which was pitifully small. Hosea goes ahead and buys back his adulterous wife, Gomer, as a symbol of God's redemption of Israel. Gomer was no longer worth much to anyone except Hosea, but he loved her just as God loved Israel.

He took money with him to buy her back again and made a contract with her to abide with him many days and not to play the harlot.

He simply made a cold contract with his wife to keep herself only

to him for the price of $75.00. [10]

> *So I bought her to me for fifteen pieces of silver, and for an homer of barley, and an half homer of barley: (KJV) Hos 3:2*

She was not to go into confinement with any other man, and was to keep herself for Hosea. This experience of the prophet was an image of Israel's unfaithfulness, exile without being a nation, and of God bringing Israel back after the punishment of the exile.

> *And I said unto her, Thou shalt abide for me many days; thou shalt not play the harlot, and thou shalt not be for another man: so will I also be for thee.*
> *For the children of Israel shall abide many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice, and without an image, and without an ephod, and without teraphim: (KJV)Hos 3:3-4*

Afterward Israel was to return to God and become His wife again, as Gomer had become the wife of Hosea a second time, after being away from him for some time. The children of Gomer are specifically named in the book of Hosea for a reason. The name of the boy, Jezreel, was given to the first child of Gomer, as a symbol of the evil nature of the dynasty of Jehu, which began with much bloodshed in Jezreel. The name also symbolized that God will sow seeds of prosperity after the destruction. The name of the girl, Lo-ruhamah, was given to the second child of Gomer, to symbolize the change in Israel's status before God following His judgment. The name of the boy, Lo-ammi, was given to the third and final child of Gomer, to pronounce God's rejection of Israel. The name "Ammi" was the new name to be given to the restored Israel in the day of redemption.[3]

The Lord warned Israel multiple times to turn from their sins. God allowed them to be led captive so promptly by their enemy; they were not even allowed to bury their deceased love ones. Ezekiel, the prophet, shows this illustration when he was commanded by God not to mourn that his wife was taken by God. During the night, God told Ezekiel that in the evening his wife would suffer a stroke and be taken by God. Ezekiel was told by God not to mourn for her death.

Also the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,
Son of man, behold, I take away from thee the desire of thine eyes with a stroke: yet neither shalt thou mourn nor weep, neither shall thy tears run down. (KJV)Eze 24:15-16

God told Ezekiel not to prepare her body after death, or mourn for her, only go about with his daily tasks as a priest.

Forbear to cry, make no mourning for the dead, bind the tire of thine head upon thee, and put on thy shoes upon thy feet, and cover not thy lips, and eat not the bread of men.
So I spake unto the people in the morning: and at even my wife died; and I did in the morning as I was commanded. (KJV)Eze 24:17-18

The people of Israel said to Ezekiel, why are you not preparing a proper funeral ceremony for your deceased wife's body?

And the people said unto me, Wilt thou not tell us what these things are to us, that thou doest so? (KJV)Eze 24:19

Ezekiel tells the people if they do not repent of their sins; their city, loved ones, and temple would be destroyed instantly, and the living among Israel will be taken captive and they will not even be allowed to bury any deceased loved ones just as Ezekiel wasn't. God says when this occurs you will know that I am your God.

Then I answered them, The word of the LORD came unto me, saying,
Speak unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will profane my sanctuary, the excellency of your strength, the desire of your eyes, and that which your soul pitieth; and your sons and your daughters whom ye have left shall fall by the sword.
And ye shall do as I have done: ye shall not cover your lips, nor eat the bread of men.
And your tires shall be upon your heads, and your shoes upon your feet: ye shall not mourn nor weep; but ye shall pine away for your iniquities, and mourn one toward another.

Thus Ezekiel is unto you a sign: according to all that he hath done shall ye do: and when this cometh, ye shall know that I am the Lord GOD.
Also, thou son of man, shall it not be in the day when I take from them their strength, the joy of their glory, the desire of their eyes, and that whereupon they set their minds, their sons and their daughters (KJV)Eze 24:20-25

God says a survivor of the ruined city Jerusalem will appear to the captives being held in a foreign city and tell them that destruction has occurred.

That he that escapeth in that day shall come unto thee, to cause thee to hear it with thine ears?
In that day shall thy mouth be opened to him which is escaped, and thou shalt speak, and be no more dumb: and thou shalt be a sign unto them; and they shall know that I am the LORD. And it came to pass in the twelfth year of our captivity, in the tenth month, in the fifth day of the month, that one that had escaped out of Jerusalem came unto me, saying, The city is smitten. (KJV)Eze 24:26-27; 33:21

The New Testament early elders and apostles showed that obvious confession to receive salvation was for a sinner to ask Christ into his life to be born again.

Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. (KJV)Ac 4:12

This shows that a person was educated enough to comprehend through observation and listening that it takes a mature act of faith to believe in the death and resurrection of Christ. The elders and apostles of the New Testament would then perform a baptism on the believer. Baptism is a symbol of the believer portraying a public confession of Christ's death, burial, and resurrection to be born again. Denominations have fought over proper procedures of baptism since they were established. Paul's testimony is an example of this.

I thank God that I baptized none of you, but Crispus and

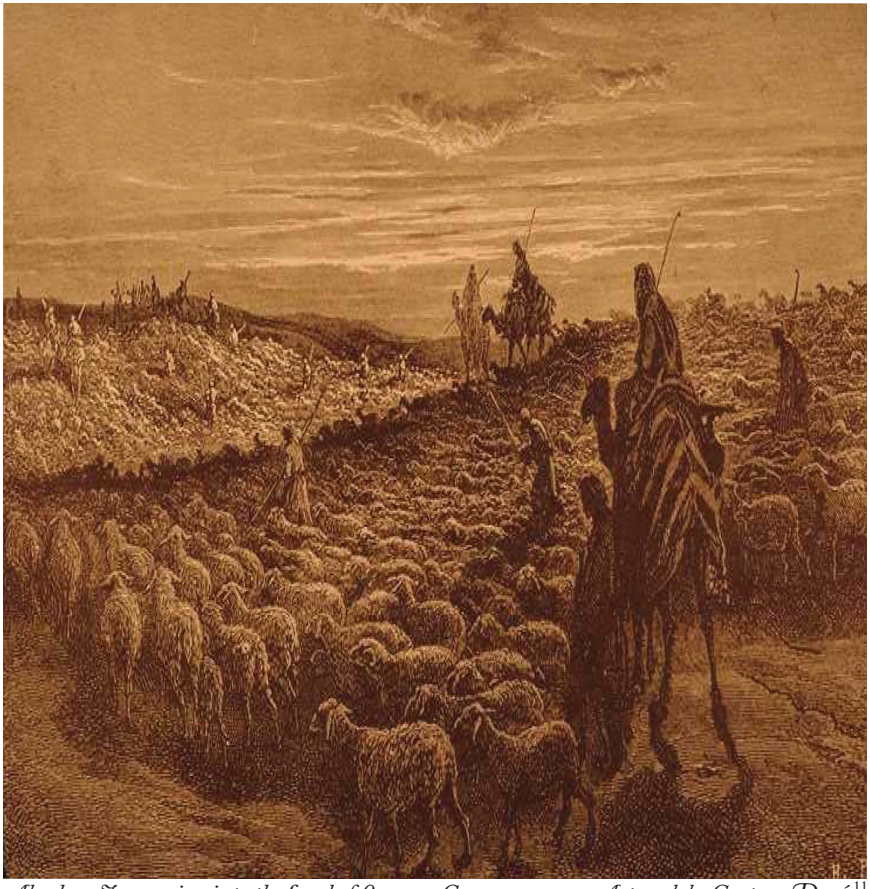
Gaius;
For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect. (KJV)1Co 1:14, 17

True salvation comes through accepting Christ in your heart. No rituals can be performed for the proper acceptance to salvation. Christ proved salvation when he was crucified on the cross and spoke these words to the thief who accepted Christ as the Messiah and was crucified with him.

And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise. (KJV)Lk 23:43

The thief that was crucified next to Christ was accepted into the kingdom of God without any formal baptism, but all he offered was a true belief in Christ as the Messiah.

I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin. (KJV)Ro 7:25



Abraham Journeying into the Land of Canaan Gen 12:1–2 *Artwork by Gustave Doré* [11]

CHAPTER 3
WHY HIS CHOSEN PEOLPE?



The ancient old question of the Bible is, why has God selected the Hebrews to be His chosen people to work through? God has worked with mankind from the beginning of time to show His glory in their lives. From Cain to Noah wickedness consumed the earth until God would not allow sin to flourish, choosing Noah and his two sons and their wives to survive the flood and sustain the creation of mankind. From Noah and his sons came forth the nations until Genesis 11, which was the creation of the Tower of Babel by all nations.

> *And the LORD said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do.*
> *So the LORD scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city. (KJV)Ge 11:6, 8*

From this scattering of the nations, God chose one man to multiply his elect to bless through him all of mankind.

> *Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be*

blessed in him? (KJV)Ge 18:18

This individual, Abraham, was chosen in order to see God's hand working in the lives of the Hebrew nation.

And all people of the earth shall see that thou art called by the name of the LORD; and they shall be afraid of thee. (KJV)Dt 28:10

When Abraham was chosen by God, he was living a lifestyle of sin, through idolatry worship.

And Joshua said unto all the people, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Your fathers dwelt on the other side of the flood in old time, even Terah, the father of Abraham, and the father of Nachor: and they served other gods. (KJV)Jos 24:2

Because of Abraham's faith in Him, God found him to be worthy.

And he believed in the LORD; and he counted it to him for righteousness. (KJV)Ge 15:6

The story of Abraham and Nineveh go hand in hand showing by facts how God is a forgiving God through faith and repentance. From the Hebrew people manifest the only Hebrew missionary to visit a Gentile nation and convict the nation to repent to God.[4] The missionaries name was Jonah. After being swallowed up by a whale, he was forced to take his mission to Nineveh, the most powerful nation in Jonah's day. As we discussed earlier in chapter one of the book, God in the Hebrew is called Yĕhwâ for his personal relationship with man. Jonah's mission enabled the whole nation of Nineveh to repent with no blood sacrifice given, and God forgave the nation of Nineveh through this repentance. The story of Jonah shows how Nineveh, which worshipped idols, turned and repented to Yĕhwâ, the God of personal relationships. The Bible never goes further to mention Nineveh converting and becoming the one true worshipper of God.

Jeremiah the prophet also speaks of a new covenant.

Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: (KJV)Jer 31:31

This new covenant speaks for all the tribes of Israel.

Not according to the covenant that I made with their

fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD: (KJV)Jer 31:32

The old covenant mentioned here is the Mosaic covenant, the Ten Commandments; this covenant was enforced to reveal sin. God is saying to Israel that they have broken his covenant. God never breaks covenants, he only creates them and holds true to them as he states here. God held the covenant of Israel like a husband unto Israel.

But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. (KJV)Jer 31:33

God promises here a new law not of stone that the flesh will certainly reject and break, but a covenant of the heart.

If ye love me, keep my commandments.

And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them. (KJV)Jn 14:15; Eze 36:27

When you accept this new covenant, your spirit will not allow the flesh to break this new covenant.

David also spoke of this new covenant.

Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

For David speaketh concerning him, I foresaw the Lord always before my face, for he is on my right hand, that I should not be moved:

For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore. (KJV)Ps 51:10; Ac 2:25; Ps 16:10-11

In the New Testament Paul wrote about the new covenant in the book of Romans.

For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not

under the law, but under grace.
What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid.
But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter.
For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.
But before faith came, we were kept under the law, shut up unto the faith which should afterwards be revealed.
And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: (KJV)Ro 6:14-15; Ro 7:6; Ro 10:4; Gal 3:23; Php 3:9

Christ came to the earth born of a virgin, fulfilled all the Mosaic laws, willingly gave his life on the cross as the final sacrifice for man in which God says he will remember our sins no more. This is possible through the shed blood of Jesus Christ that covers our sin. From this new covenant God says He will remember man's sin no more.

For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.
Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. (KJV)Mt 26:28; 2Co 5:17

Jeremiah's prophecy reveals the final covenant of the Messiah who has been promised throughout all the Old Testament scriptures by Moses and the prophets. Christ says to the Hebrew people:

For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me.
Then came the Jews round about him, and said unto him, How long dost thou make us to doubt? If thou be the Christ, tell us plainly.
Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me.
But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I

said unto you.
My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:
And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.
My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.
I and my Father are one. (KJV)Jn 5:46; Jn 10:24-30

Christ came through the Virgin Mary to the Jewish people as their Messiah. Jesus Christ kept the covenant God promised to the Jewish people, that through the Hebrew nation the Messiah is delivered.

Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?
And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee.
Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ.
And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.
The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. (KJV)Ge 18:18, 17:7; Gal 3:16, 29; Mt 1:1

Mary holds the blood relationship of the lineage of King David through which Christ was delivered by her virgin birth.

And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.
He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: (KJV)Lk 1:31-32

Micah the prophet of the Old Testament says the Messiah shall be born in Bethlehem.

But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little

among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting. Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, Mic 5:2; Mt 2:1

Christ's disciples were adorning the splendor of the Jewish temple about 32 A.D. Jesus Christ the Messiah spoke the most amazingly percise prophecy to endure time, revealing the future event of the temple's destruction in 70 A.D. This prophecy was perfectly given without a single flaw.

And as some spake of the temple, how it was adorned with goodly stones and gifts, he said,
As for these things which ye behold, the days will come, in the which there shall not be left one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down. (KJV)Lk 21:5-6

As Christ made his final triumphant entry into Jerusalem he weeps over the city as he predicts its fall, not knowing the time of their one true Messiah had arrived.

And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it, Saying, If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes.
For the days shall come upon thee, that thine enemies shall cast a trench about thee, and compass thee round, and keep thee in on every side,
And shall lay thee even with the ground, and thy children within thee; and they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; because thou knewest not the time of thy visitation. (KJV)Lk 19:41-44

Jerusalem was to be destroyed for the shedding of innocent blood.

Wherefore, behold, I send unto you prophets, and wise men, and scribes: and some of them ye shall kill and crucify; and some of them shall ye scourge in your synagogues, and persecute them from city to city:
That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the

blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar.
Verily I say unto you, All these things shall come upon this generation. (KJV)Mt 23:34-36
When Pilate saw that he could prevail nothing, but that rather a tumult was made, he took water, and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye to it.
Then answered all the people, and said, His blood be on us, and on our children.
(KJV)Mt 23:34-36; 27:24-25

In 70 A.D. Titus led Rome to destroy Jerusalem. The temple was burned. The items made of gold that resided in the temple melted as the temple burned. The gold melted down into the grooves between the stones of the temple. Every stone was thrown down from its place as people searched for the gold. God's prophet Daniel gave a specific time for the appearance of the Messiah here on earth which was right before the destruction of the second Jewish temple in 70 A.D.

And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined. (KJV)Da 9:26

Upon the birth of Christ there was a Jewish prophet named Simeon, which knew the timing of Daniel's for telling of the prophecy of the Messiah through the Holy Ghost. Simeon was led by the Spirit into the temple where Mary and Joseph had brought the infant Jesus to present him to the Lord.

And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him.
And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ.
And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the

parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law,
Then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said, Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: (KJV)Lk 2:25-29

Another elderly Jewish prophetess named Anna also knew the timing of Daniel's prophecy of the Messiah. Anna, being a widow at the age of eighty four years old, was also at the temple where Mary and Joseph had brought the infant Jesus to present him to the Lord.

And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser: she was of a great age, and had lived with an husband seven years from her virginity;
And she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day.
And she coming in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, and spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem. (KJV)Lk 2:36-38

Simeon delivers his prophecy to Joseph and Mary confirming Jesus Christ is the true Messiah who will bring in salvation for all the nations. Many in Israel will fall through the rejection of Christ, and rise again when they receive the gift of salvation through Christ. Simeon told them that Christ is the sign confirming divine works through miracles and wonders which shall be spoken against by many.

Intense agony would pierce Mary's soul, for it would take Christ's suffering and death to bring redemption for all men to accept the gift of salvation.

For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,
Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;
A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.
And Joseph and his mother marvelled at those things which were spoken of him.
And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary his

mother, Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against;
(Yea, a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also,) that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed. (KJV) Lk 2:30-35

The prophecies of God also show the Messiah would be preceded by a forerunner for the Hebrew people.

Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.
The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. (KJV)Mal 3:1; Isa 40:3

John the Baptist was Christ's forerunner.

And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord. (KJV)Lk 1:17

Accepting Christ as your personal savior in salvation means that you have been forgiven of your sins. Salvation comes about through repentance and the atonement of your sins through the blood of Jesus. God says you have the legal right to say sin has been paid in full. Christ's death reaches out to us empowering us to repent. Through grace and faith we come to Jesus. This is exactly what the ministry of John the Baptist focused on when he first baptized Christ. The only way to the Father in Heaven is salvation through Jesus Christ.

The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world. (KJV)Jn 1:29

John the Baptist taught that repentance is essential in the salvation of a believer.

And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. (KJV)Mt 3:2

Christ spoke of this New Testament which was written in its original Greek form, diathēkē, which means new covenant.

> *For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. (KJV)Mt 26:28*

On the day of Passover, Jesus Christ willingly sacrificed his life showing both Jews and Gentiles that the wall of partition between these two races has been completely broken down by the fact each individual believer will now be able to have access to God through his son Christ Jesus. Christ sealed the new covenant in total affect with his personal willingness to sacrifice his body on the cross to draw all men to the heavenly Father above by stating his final words, "It is finished." These powerful words completed God's new covenant which tore down the barriers of the holy of holies in the Jerusalem temple and retired Aaron's priestly garment which Caiaphas had torn, rushing in the new covenant of grace by Jesus Christ.

> *When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.*
>
> *And Jesus cried with a loud voice, and gave up the ghost. And the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom.*
>
> *And when the centurion, which stood over against him, saw that he so cried out, and gave up the ghost, he said, Truly this man was the Son of God. (KJV) Jn 19:30; Mk 15:37-39*

The Jewish temple held a veil at the entrance of the Holy Place with a second veil separating the Holy of Holies where the high priest by himself went once a year to atone for the sins of the nation. Christ's death put an end of all atonement by shedding his blood on the cross at Calvary for the atonement of all who will call on him and believe that he is the true Messiah sent by God. Christ, in claiming the truth of existing as the one true Messiah, broke the religious mind set. Christ himself became our new high priest at his resurrection. The high priest Caiaphas showed this action in Christ by his performance in tearing the priestly garment that has been worn since the time of Aaron.

And he that is the high priest among his brethren, upon whose head the anointing oil was poured, and that is consecrated to put on the garments, shall not uncover his head, nor rend his clothes;
But Jesus held his peace. And the high priest answered and said unto him, I adjure thee by the living God, that thou tell us whether thou be the Christ, the Son of God.
Jesus saith unto him, Thou hast said: nevertheless I say unto you, Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.
Then the high priest rent his clothes, saying, He hath spoken blasphemy; what further need have we of witnesses? behold, now ye have heard his blasphemy.
And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil.
(KJV)Lev 21:10; Mt 26:63-65; Joel 2:13

When the Roman soldiers went to crucify Jesus, they said, let us not tear his garment, but cast lots for it.

They said therefore among themselves, Let us not rend it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be: that the scripture might be fulfilled, which saith, They parted my raiment among them, and for my vesture they did cast lots. These things therefore the soldiers did. (KJV) Jn 19:24

The garment of Christ was never torn as he made us a priesthood of believers by his death, burial, and resurrection.

And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.
But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: (KJV)Rev 5:10; 1Pe 2:9

In the book of Genesis, Melchizedek is the first person mentioned in the Old Testament who held the order of kingship in Salem and priest of the most high God. The prophet Zechariah and Jeremiah

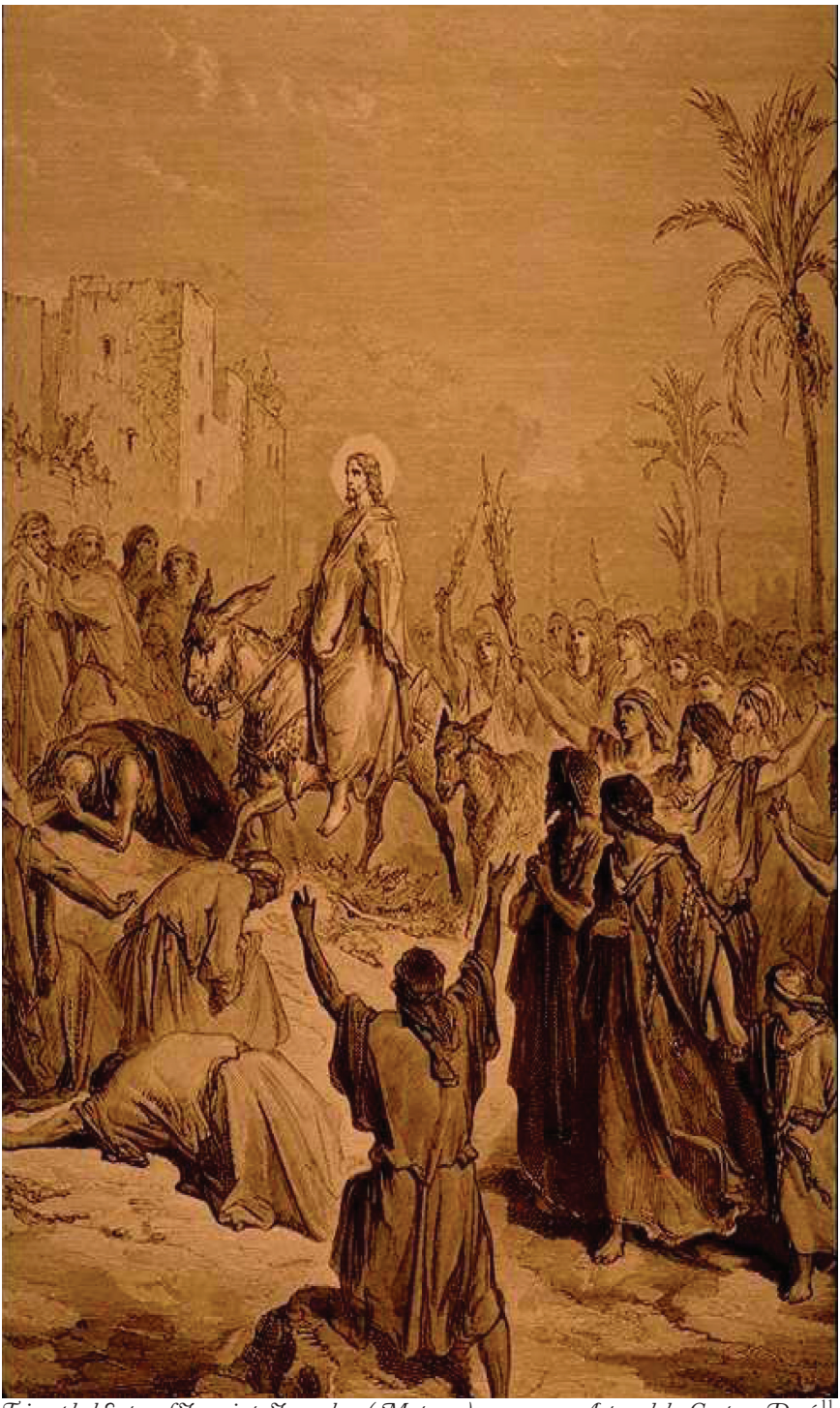
wrote of this order referring to Christ and his second and final return to earth when he will build the millennial temple.

When I have brought them again from the people, and gathered them out of their enemies' lands, and am sanctified in them in the sight of many nations;
And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name is The BRANCH; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD:
Even he shall build the temple of the LORD; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne: and the counsel of peace shall be between them both.
And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:
Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth. In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS. (KJV)
Eze 39:27; Zec 6:12-13; Isa 11:1;Jer 23:5-6

Jesus Christ holds this current order for all of creation as our king and high priest who forever will retain all access to the heavenly Father above.

Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.
The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.
The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.
Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.
Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly

calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus;
Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession.
As he saith also in another place, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.
Whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.
For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;
My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: (KJV)Heb 7:25; Ps 110:1, 4; Heb 2:17; 3:1; 4:14; 5:6; 6:20; 1Ti 2:5; 1Jn 2:1



Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem (Mat 21:9) *Artwork by Gustave Doré* [11]

CHAPTER 4
FAITH



Christ has a royal Hebrew lineage following Mary back to David. John the Baptist also served as Christ's Hebrew forerunner. God has kept his promise to the Hebrew people. No Gentile has entered the new covenant until Christ speaks of the Greek Syrophenician woman and the Centurion who was a Roman army officer.[4] Christ spoke to his disciples, who were all of the Hebrew decent, telling them to only go to the Jewish people at this time and preach the gospel. Christ told them to go to Israel, not Samaria. The people of Samaria were only part Jewish. Christ states Israel knows prophecy and is awaiting their Messiah.

> *These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not: But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. (KJV)Mt 10:5-6*

The Greek Syrophenician woman had her faith tested by the Lord, allowing one of only two exceptions for the Gentile salvation up to this point, while Christ lived among the Hebrew nation.

> *And, behold, a woman of Canaan came out of the same coasts, and cried unto him, saying, Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou Son of David; my daughter is grievously*

vexed with a devil. But he answered her not a word. And his disciples came and besought him, saying, Send her away; for she crieth after us. (KJV)Mt 15:22-23

Here Christ speaks of his true mission, telling why he was sent to the earth.

But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel.
Then came she and worshipped him, saying, Lord, help me. (KJV)Mt 15:24-25

Christ tests the faith of the woman by explaining his purpose of the new covenant.

But he answered and said, It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs. (KJV)Mt 15:26

Christ shows that he is the Messiah by calling himself the bread of life, the children are shown as Israel who awaits for their Messiah, Jesus Christ.

For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world.
And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.
I am that bread of life.
I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world. (KJV)Jn 6:33, 35, 48, 51

The Greek Syrophenician woman persists on an answer from Christ by faith until he answers her.

And she said, Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table.
Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour. (KJV)Mt 15:27-28

The Messiah compliments her faith and her daughter is healed by faith in Christ alone.

The second and final exception for a single Gentile to enter the

new covenant while Christ lived among the Hebrew nation was the Centurion Roman army officer. He had a need of his close friend, an associate army servant, to be helped, for the servant was very sick and ready to die.

> *And a certain centurion's servant, who was dear unto him, was sick, and ready to die. (KJV)Lk 7:2*

This Centurion Roman army officer had love for and favor with the Jewish people. This is demonstrated when he is able to ask the Jewish people, he was close with, to retrieve Christ, so the Centurion may speak with him.

> *And when he heard of Jesus, he sent unto him the elders of the Jews, beseeching him that he would come and heal his servant.*
>
> *And when they came to Jesus, they besought him instantly, saying, That he was worthy for whom he should do this: (KJV)Lk 7:3-4*

The Centurion Roman army officer received this favor with the Jews by the fact he loved them and financed their synagogue from the love felt within him for the chosen Jewish people.

> *For he loveth our nation, and he hath built us a synagogue.*
>
> *And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him. (KJV)Lk 7:5; Mt 8:7*

When the Centurion Roman army officer receives his chance to Speak with Christ, he amazes the Lord with the response he gives Christ.

> *The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed. (KJV)Mt 8:8*

Amazing faith!

> *For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it. (KJV)Mt 8:9*

Christ is amazed at the Centurion Roman army officer's response.

> *When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great*

faith, no, not in Israel.
And Jesus said unto the centurion, Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour. (KJV)Mt 8:10, 13

Christ reinforces the fact His ministry is to God's chosen people, the Jews, and He is amazed at how a Gentile has such faith in the Lord. The officer's faith outweighs all Christ has seen in the Jewish nation of Israel. Christ finished with his statement of the unpleasant news of those within the Jewish nation that reject God's new covenant will be judged by God without the grace of Jesus Christ.

And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven.
But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. (KJV)Mt 8:11-12

The children of the kingdom are shown as Israel who awaits for their Messiah, Jesus Christ. All unbelievers who reject the gift of Christ will be excluded from entrance into Christ's eternal kingdom of God.

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. (KJV)Jn 14:6

Those chosen Jewish people before Christ's time on earth are redeemed by his blood that removes their sins. Christ spoke to his chosen people, the nation of Israel, saying that while He is rejected by those who do not accept God's new covenant, they indeed will be deceived by a false Messiah in the future.

I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive. (KJV)Jn 5:43

Christ shows the forces of evil are apparent through deception and swindling the truth, attempting to deter his message of the new covenant.

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that

they might have it more abundantly.
Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.
Those by the way side are they that hear; then cometh the devil, and taketh away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved.
For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.
It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.
(KJV)Jn 10:10; Lk 8:11-12; Heb 4:2; Jn 6:63

Christ spoke of John the Baptist stating his work of religious reformation to the new covenant was compared as among the best.

Verily I say unto you, Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. (KJV)Mt 11:11

John the Baptist, who was of the Hebrew priestly race by both of his parents and ordained to be a Nazarite from birth, had doubts of Jesus being the true Messiah. John the Baptist was sitting in a jail cell because of his testimony. His testimony was for anyone to enter the kingdom of God there must be repentance. John the Baptist perceived his situation of believing in Christ to be the Messiah deceivingly in doubt, as he asked his two disciples who visited him in prison to relay this question. John the Baptist told his disciples to ask Christ if he was truly the Messiah.

Now when John had heard in the prison the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples,
And said unto him, Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another? (KJV)Mt 11:2-3

Christ responded in reminding John of the sayings of the Old Testament prophets.

Jesus answered and said unto them, Go and shew John again those things which ye do hear and see:
The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are

raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them.
And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me.
(KJV)Mt 11:4-6

Later in chapter five we shall see how indeed John already knew, without a doubt, Christ truly was the Messiah through the Holy Spirit.

Paul, who wrote two thirds of the New Testament and also accepted the new covenant, was raised by Jewish parents. Paul studied in Jewish law in preparation for becoming a rabbi. Paul makes this statement of the new covenant, once he has accepted it, for the Jewish people to hear:

I say then, Have they stumbled that they should fall? God forbid: but rather through their fall salvation is come unto the Gentiles, for to provoke them to jealousy. Now if the fall of them be the riches of the world, and the diminishing of them the riches of the Gentiles; how much more their fulness?
For I speak to you Gentiles, inasmuch as I am the apostle of the Gentiles, I magnify mine office:
If by any means I may provoke to emulation them which are my flesh, and might save some of them.
For if the casting away of them be the reconciling of the world, what shall the receiving of them be, but life from the dead? (KJV)Ro 11:11-15

From this point in time while Christ lived among the Hebrew nation only two Gentiles, the Greek Syrophenician woman and the Centurion Roman officer, have entered God's new covenant by faith in Christ alone. Christ spread his message to Israel alone for the main purpose that they knew that they were to be in the process of looking for the Messiah.

These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into any city of the Samaritans enter ye not:
But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.
Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. (KJV)Mt 10:5-6; Jn 4:22

Judgment will come with what we do in light of the revelation of what was given to us. It is action in the light of privilege. The more privilege you have the higher the requirements are. Your own conscience will be your judge in the Day of Judgment, accusing or excusing you on the day God judges.[2]

> *Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another; (KJV)Ro 2:15*

God's new covenant of accepting Christ as the only way to the Father is without excuse.

> *No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.*
> *Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*
> *For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: (KJV)Jn 6:44; 14:6; Ro 1:20*

Christ made his final triumphant entry into Jerusalem showing He shall be worshipped, even if man tries to stop those who worship Him as the one true Messiah.

> *And when he was come nigh, even now at the descent of the mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen;*
> *Saying, Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord: peace in heaven, and glory in the highest.*
> *And some of the Pharisees from among the multitude said unto him, Master, rebuke thy disciples.*
> *And he answered and said unto them, I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out. (KJV)Lk 19:37-40*

Paul, in the letters to the Roman and Philippian churches, speaks of the judgment seat of Christ. Paul says when this current life expires; judgment will come to all for the acceptance or rejection

of Christ.

> *For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; (KJV)Ro 14:11; Php 2:10*

Paul writes to the Corinthians that once the earth is rid of all rebellion the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost will reign together throughout all eternity as before the angelic heavenly rebellion that occurred prior to man's creation. This heavenly rebellion, before the creation of man, was led by Lucifer, better known as Satan, as he attempted to persuade the heavenly angels to follow him. To his satisfaction, a third of all created angels followed Satan. The only outcome of Satan's rebellion was his fall from his privileged duties of heaven with his rebelling angles following him.

> *How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!*
> *For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:*
> *I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.*
> *Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.*
> *They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms;*
> *Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty.*
> *Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was*

prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created.
Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.
Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.
By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire.
Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.
And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.
And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven. (KJV)Isa 14:12-16; Eze 28:12-17; Rev 12:4; Lk 10:18

This rebellion, made it necessary for the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit to take separate parts in the creation and redemption of all things.

He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.
And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:
Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.
He hath made every thing beautiful in his time: also he

hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end.
And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all. (KJV)1Jn 3:8; Eph 3:9; 1Co 2:8; Ecc 3:11;1Cor15:28



Holy Spirit Appears to the Apostles on Pentecost Acts 2:4 *Artwork by Gustave Doré* [11]

CHAPTER 5
LAW OF FRUIT



When you accept Christ in your heart, you have the Holy Spirit of God *in* you which now speaks *through* you saying don't do wrong any more. The indwelling spirit creates something very wonderful. The Spirit's job is to make your actions identically like Jesus. This will reflect, in your heart, the works of Christ as the spirit brings forth characteristics of Christ. Fruit comes from a tree with roots in the soil, absorbing moisture receiving nutrients, receiving the sun, air, nitrogen in the air, and rain. This process of time is making it, little by little, grow. There is a process of time for the seed, when planted and watered, will begin to spring open. The tree will then, over another period of time, begin to blossom. Then there is a final time in which fruit will grow until it is ripe. This living tree is taking a great process of time to develop. The tree never desires to look for more fruit, performing certain rituals, only focusing on the process of time which will bring life within them.[1] The new covenant allows the Holy Ghost to descend and remain with the believer. Before with the Old Testament, the Spirit would never remain, but only descend for a short while, then ascend back to heaven. This is what happened to Saul in the book of first Samuel.

> *And when they came thither to the hill, behold, a company of prophets met him; and the Spirit of God came upon him, and he prophesied among them. But the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD troubled him. (KJV)1Sa 10:10; 16:14*

David understood the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. (KJV)Ps 51:11

The new covenant allows the Holy Ghost to descend and remain with the believer.

> *And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost. (KJV)Jn 1:33*

As we discussed earlier in chapter four, this was how John the Baptist knew Christ was the Messiah. John the Baptist knew Christ was the Messiah by the fact the Spirit remained on Christ.

> *And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him.*
>
> *And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; (KJV)Jn 1:32; Isa 11:2*

The Holy Spirit creates life within you by being born again. There is no strain and struggle to allow the Holy Spirit to take control of your life. A believer does not need to go around performing certain rituals. The spirit keeps you rooted and grounded in the Lord. This produces fruit in your life which is identical to the life of Jesus. Christ stated to the disciples to receive the Holy Spirit.

> *And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost: (KJV)Jn 20:22*

This is not breathe as in Jesus was breathing on them, the meaning was that they breathed in receiving the spirit which is wind, breath,

and spirit.[1] In Hebrew, the word is rûaḥ, meaning spirit, breath, and wind.

The Spirit of God hath made me, and the breath of the Almighty hath given me life. (KJV)Job 33:4

Jesus is the Lamb of God, he was offered for the sins of the world, crucified, dead and buried, and rose again on the third day. Jesus Christ is the perfect human, existing as the only sinless man on earth called the Son of Man. Jesus Christ was crucified and died for you and me. You may receive him by asking him into your life.

No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day. (KJV)Jn 6:44

The last day of your final breath of life, Christ will raise you up to be with him in the kingdom of heaven by simply accepting that he is the Son of the Living God. We are activated to come to Him through the Holy Spirit which brings us to Jesus. The Spirit, in opening our hearts, will convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment.

And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:
Of sin, because they believe not on me;
Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more;
Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged. (KJV)Jn 16:8-11

The human conscience opens your heart to receive Jesus as savior. The gift of Christ is to repent, and announce you have received his gift. The Holy Ghost enters the believer the minute they pronounce that they have accepted the gift of Christ. The Holy Spirit is accepted and indwells in the believer just as easily as Christ was accepted for salvation to the believer.

In Acts 19, Paul is passing through Ephesus to pay a visit to the disciples who followed the teaching of John the Baptist. Apollos was teaching to them about the baptism John the Baptist taught twenty six years earlier. Apollos did not know anything else had recently occurred with the Holy Ghost on the feast of Pentecost. Apollos had never taught anything about the Messiah. He was

being faithful in what he was taught to do. This was to preach on repentance only in which Apollos knew nothing different. This was the message John the Baptist taught under the knowledge of the Holy Ghost. John the Baptist was beheaded by King Herod for his message to Israel. John the Baptist never lived to witness the power of Pentecost. John the Baptist spoke:

> *I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire: (KJV)Mt 3:11*

Paul asked the disciples who followed the teaching of John the Baptist a question.

> *He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. (KJV)Ac 19:2*

This answer was showing they were baptized in repentance as a preparation for the coming of the Lord. These men were not saved by the fact they needed to turn their life over and live for the Lord in which they were taught nothing about the Messiah. These certain disciples, along with Apollos, had never heard or seen the power of the Holy Ghost. They had not received the Holy Ghost through Christ, completing salvation. The moment you trust Christ, you are regenerated by the Spirit of God. The believer in Jesus Christ is indwelled by the Spirit of God, sealed by the Spirit of God, and baptized into the body of believers by the Spirit of God. This happens the moment you believe and trust in Christ. You will receive new life.

The other separate Disciples of Christ were later asked by Christ upon his resurrection, to wait on the promise of the power of the Holy Ghost that Christ was to send to them.

> *And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.*
> *But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and*

unto the uttermost part of the earth. (KJV)Lk 24:49; Ac 1:8

The power of the Holy Ghost is to say; Christ has expressly informed us in the indispensable condition of performing the work which he has set before us. The power of the Holy Ghost ensures us of our individual purposes to do the works for our Lord. The disciple Peter was empowered by the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. On this day the spirit fell on Peter and he became a powerful leader of the Church.

And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.
And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.
And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.
And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. (KJV)Ac 2:1-4

These men who held the first business meeting of the new covenant church were all Hebrew men, about one hundred and twenty, which received the gift of the Holy Ghost. The feast of Pentecost was held at the Temple in Jerusalem. The outer court was used by the Gentiles. By law the wall of partition inside, separated the Gentiles from the Jews. The Jews were strictly celebrating the feast inside the partition of the temple walls in which only Jews were permitted to attend.[4]

And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty,) (KJV)Ac 1:15

These one hundred and twenty Hebrew men were from Galilee. Galilee is sixty or more miles north of Jerusalem where these men spoke a different dialect of the Hebrew language. Here in the United States it would be the difference in dialect of someone from Texas compared to someone from New York. A different dialect could easily be detected. The only language these one hundred and twenty men knew was Hebrew.

And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans? (KJV)Ac 2:4,7

These one hundred and twenty Hebrew men were filled and baptized with the Holy Spirit. These men were speaking in a foreign tongue, glorifying the Lord. These Hebrew men were speaking the languages of the Jewish pilgrimage home countries such as Rome, Crete, Arabia, and Libya. These groups of Jewish people that did not live in Israel were honoring the feast of Pentecost, traveling into Jerusalem from all around the world. These Jewish pilgrims in Jerusalem were amazed at how these Hebrew men of Galilee could speak their language in which they glorified God.

And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born? (KJV)Ac 2:8

The Holy Ghost is an amazing gift of power to spread the word of God around the whole world. These one hundred and twenty Hebrews showed the power of the Holy Ghost, praising God in foreign tongues. Only later would we see the dispersion of the Hebrew people in 70 A.D. after the Romans destroyed the temple, would glorify God by the way of spreading the word of God around the entire world through a number of languages and styles. This similar action took place with the new covenant early Christian church. They were persecuted and hunted down house by house in Jerusalem by the Hebrews, even commanded by Saul of Tarsus, to scatter the Christian early church across the world.

As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed them to prison.

Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word. (KJV)Ac 8:3-4

This was to show that the very means of evil devised by the enemy of God was an effort to get rid of the new covenant. This act of evil used against the church became the means in scattering and

establishing the new covenant. The very pinnacle of this evil back lashed on the enemy, Saul of Tarsus, who was raised by Jewish parents, studying in Jewish law, as preparation for becoming a rabbi, converted to the new covenant. From this conversion God gave Saul the new name of Paul.

> *And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?*
> *And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.*
> *And the men which journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice, but seeing no man.*
> *And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought him into Damascus. (KJV)Ac 9:4-5; 7-8*

Ananias comes to confirm Christ has spoken with Paul.

> *And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.*
> *And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.*
> *And when he had received meat, he was strengthened. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus.*
> *And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God.*
> *But all that heard him were amazed, and said; Is not this he that destroyed them which called on this name in Jerusalem, and came hither for that intent, that he might bring them bound unto the chief priests? (KJV)Ac 9:17-21*

Paul, upon his conversion, spoke in the Hebrew synagogues overwhelming the Hebrew men with arguments that Christ was the true Messiah by comparing the life and works of Christ with the

Old Testament prophets until they blushed at their ignorance.

> *But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is very Christ. (KJV)Ac 9:22*

The Feast of Pentecost brought three thousand Jews to the new covenant, only after observing the original one hundred and twenty Jews who were baptized with the power of the Holy Ghost.

> *Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. (KJV)Ac 2:41*

The law of stone, given to Moses in the Old Testament on Mt. Sinai, killed three thousand men on Pentecost for worshipping the golden calf. The Spirit of God gave life to three thousand believers on Pentecost for worshipping God in the new covenant.

> *Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, Who is on the LORD'S side? let him come unto me. And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him. And he said unto them, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Put every man his sword by his side, and go in and out from gate to gate throughout the camp, and slay every man his brother, and every man his companion, and every man his neighbour.*
>
> *And the children of Levi did according to the word of Moses: and there fell of the people that day about three thousand men.*
>
> *Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life. (KJV)Ex 32:26-28; 2Co 3:6*

Peter and John were walking into the gate of the temple when the church had about three thousand, one hundred and twenty members. Peter and John were asked by a lame man for alms. Peter and John answered the lame man saying they did not have any money, but had something far better.

> *Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk. And he took him by the right*

hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God. (KJV)Ac 3:6-8

From the grounds of the temple gate all the Jewish people knew this lame man. About five thousand Jewish believers witnessed this healing by God and were totally convinced.

And all the people saw him walking and praising God: And they knew that it was he which sat for alms at the Beautiful gate of the temple: and they were filled with wonder and amazement at that which had happened unto him.

And as the lame man which was healed held Peter and John, all the people ran together unto them in the porch that is called Solomon's, greatly wondering.

And when Peter saw it, he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk?

The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus; whom ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let him go.

Howbeit many of them which heard the word believed; and the number of the men was about five thousand. (KJV)Ac 3:9-13; Ac 4:4

The church began to grow in which eight thousand-one hundred, and twenty members now exist with all members being of the Jewish origin.

The Samaritans by now had received the word of God in which the apostles sent Peter and John to them. Peter and John began to pray for them to receive the Holy Ghost. This shows the promise from our Lord God of the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John:

Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that

they might receive the Holy Ghost:
(For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.)
Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost. (KJV)Ac 8:14-17

Among the Samaritans was a man named Simon who was a magician that amazed the people of the city.

But there was a certain man, called Simon, which beforetime in the same city used sorcery, and bewitched the people of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one:
To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, This man is the great power of God.
And to him they had regard, because that of long time he had bewitched them with sorceries.
But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.
Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done. (KJV)Ac 8:9-13

Simon saw the signs and great works that the power of the Holy Ghost gave and he perceived to covet this power in wrong doing.

And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money,
Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost. (KJV)Ac 8:18-19

Peter corrected his error, with the word, showing Simon his heart was not right with God. This act showed Simon had not yet learned to yield to the Holy Ghost even though he was converted into a believer. Simon was looking for personal gain and not to the Lord who supplies all our needs.

But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be

purchased with money.
Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God.
Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee.
For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity. (KJV)Ac 8:20-23

Simon, in reflection, recognizes his sin and repents.

Then answered Simon, and said, Pray ye to the Lord for me, that none of these things which ye have spoken come upon me. (KJV)Ac 8:24

Acts 10 introduces us to a Gentile man named Cornelius who was a Centurion Roman army official in control of an all Italian battalion. He was a devout man and well respected among the Jews. Cornelius had a prayer life, fasted for the Lord, and received visions from God.

A devout man, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God alway. (KJV)Ac 10:2

One vision was to contact the apostle Peter who was ministering at Joppa.

And as Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him, and fell down at his feet, and worshipped him.
But Peter took him up, saying, Stand up; I myself also am a man. (KJV)Ac 10:25-26

Peter tells the congregation of Gentiles he is speaking to that they are of equal standing in the new covenant, showing a spirit of humility in which God is pleased to see.

Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.
And as he talked with him, he went in, and found many that were come together.
And he said unto them, Ye know how that it is an unlawful thing for a man that is a Jew to keep company, or come unto one of another nation;... (KJV)Pr 16:18; Ac 10:27-28

God told the Jewish people not to inquire of the strangers, not

even as to how they worship their own gods. God told the Hebrew people do not even think, reason, nor try to understand their beliefs.[4]

> *For the LORD thy God is a consuming fire, even a jealous God. (KJV)Dt 4:24*

Here Peter says God gave him a vision that it was acceptable to share this new covenant with the Gentiles.

> *... but God hath shewed me that I should not call any man common or unclean. (KJV)Ac 10:28*

Peter asked Cornelius why he had sent for him.

> *Therefore came I unto you without gainsaying, as soon as I was sent for: I ask therefore for what intent ye have sent for me? (KJV)Ac 10:29*

Cornelius tells Peter of his vision he received from God.

> *And Cornelius said, Four days ago I was fasting until this hour; and at the ninth hour I prayed in my house, and, behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing, And said, Cornelius, thy prayer is heard, and thine alms are had in remembrance in the sight of God. Send therefore to Joppa, and call hither Simon, whose surname is Peter; he is lodged in the house of one Simon a tanner by the sea side: who, when he cometh, shall speak unto thee.*
>
> *Immediately therefore I sent to thee; and thou hast well done that thou art come. Now therefore are we all here present before God, to hear all things that are commanded thee of God. (KJV)Ac 10:30-33*

Peter, in seize of the opportunity preaches a sermon in Cornelius's house full of Gentiles. This sermon taught that salvation is through faith.

> *Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: (KJV)Ac 10:34*

Peter implies he is a Jew preaching to Gentiles of the new covenant. Before Peter could finish his sermon the Gentiles received the power of the Holy Ghost.

> *While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on*

all them which heard the word. (KJV)Ac 10:44

Peter and the Jewish brothers with him were astonished as to how a Gentile could partake of this new covenant thus receiving the power of the Holy Ghost. To the modern day this exact opposite has occurred. The Gentiles are amazed when a Jewish brother comes to the new covenant.[4]

And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.

For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God... (KJV)Ac 10:45-46

Peter asked his Jewish brothers present if anyone of them are against baptizing the Gentiles for receiving the Holy Ghost.

Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?

And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days. (KJV)Ac 10:47-48

Paul also warns the church of the abuse of tongues for the understanding of the unbeliever and untaught visitor of the church.

If therefore the whole church be come together into one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in those that are unlearned, or unbelievers, will they not say that ye are mad? (KJV)1Co 14:23

The new covenant reveals what the old covenant concealed. The old covenant was based on the Tabernacle of Moses to cover sin.

And Aaron and his sons thou shalt bring unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and shalt wash them with water.

Then shalt thou take the anointing oil, and pour it upon his head, and anoint him.

Then shalt thou kill the ram, and take of his blood, and put it upon the tip of the right ear of Aaron, and upon the tip of the right ear of his sons, and upon the thumb of their right hand, and upon the great toe of their right

foot, and sprinkle the blood upon the altar round about. (KJV)Ex 29:4, 7, 20

The new covenant reveals baptism, receiving the Holy Spirit, and the shed blood of Christ which removes sin from the believer permanently.

And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one. (KJV)1Jn 5:8

Acts 11 brings us to the reaction of the early church fathers that were all Jewish.

And the apostles and brethren that were in Judaea heard that the Gentiles had also received the word of God. And when Peter was come up to Jerusalem, they that were of the circumcision contended with him, Saying, Thou wentest in to men uncircumcised, and didst eat with them. (KJV)Ac 11:1-3

The church fathers, being Jewish, did not formally come out and say, "Why are you sharing this new covenant with Gentiles?" The church fathers, instead said Peter broke the law by entering a Gentile's home.[4] Peter explains to the early church fathers the visions God gave him telling him to go visit with Cornelius. He further explains the visions Cornelius received as addressed earlier.

But Peter rehearsed the matter from the beginning, and expounded it by order unto them, saying, I was in the city of Joppa praying: and in a trance I saw a vision, A certain vessel descend, as it had been a great sheet, let down from heaven by four corners; and it came even to me: And the voice spake unto him again the second time, What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common. While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him, Behold, three men seek thee. (KJV)Ac 11:4-5; 10:15, 19

The Jewish fathers of the new covenant church glorified God, saying that a Gentile is to be allowed into the new covenant and church.

When they heard these things, they held their peace, and

glorified God, saying, Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life. (KJV)Ac 11:18

Through the ages, missions to the Jews became less important. Later the Jews became a minority to be persecuted; the gospel began to not go to the Jewish race at all. Later on, the gospel was to be forbidden to the Jews. When the mid-evil kingdom came, the Jewish race was not allowed in the Christian church. This action is seen as maniacal because the new covenant was originally given to the Jewish people of Israel. The Jewish Messiah comes to the lost sheep of Israel. Then the Holy Ghost comes to the Jews at the temple on Pentecost. Peter who is a Jewish brother approached a forbidden Gentile, Cornelius, saying God is no respecter of persons. This brings in the Gentile's salvation. The early church fathers, all Jewish men, glorified God for giving the new covenant gift to the Gentiles. This is why Paul wrote the letter to the church in Romans. Paul says that he sees the Jewish brethren were becoming of less importance in the new covenant.

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.
Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.
I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. (KJV)Ro 1:16; 10:1; 11:1



Nativity – The Nativity Luke 2:16 *Artwork by Gustave Doré* [11]

CHAPTER 6
GRACE



race is unmerited favor which can promote acceleration in any situation.

That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,

Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;

Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; (KJV) Eph 2:7; 1Pe 1:2; Tit 2:11-13

When the angel Gabriel came to speak with Joseph to inform him to not have any fear of Mary's virgin birth, he told him of how Christ would bring grace to all that have sinned.

And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. (KJV)Mt 1:21

For Jesus to be pronounced in the proper Hebrew language is Yēshûa‘ which means the Lord saves. In the new covenant of Christ, the Lord says he will forgive their wickedness and remember their sins no more.

And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more. (KJV) Jer 31:34

In the New Testament of the first book of John we read that the confession of a person that sins allows us to receive God’s grace.

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (KJV)1Jn 1:9

The Lord made a promise to his chosen people of Israel.

Thus saith the LORD, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The LORD of hosts is his name: If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the LORD, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever. (KJV)Jer 31:35-36

As long as the sun rises each day it is a sign to the world that God is going to preserve the Jewish people as a nation. As long as the stars and moon come out each night it is a sign that God is preserving the Jewish people as a nation. Even though Israel was not faithful and rebelled, God is faithful. The covenant God made with Israel is not for Israel, but for God himself by being faithful to his own word.[5] This fulfills the promise that the Lord made to Israel.

Thus saith the LORD; If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they

have done, saith the LORD. (KJV)Jer 31:37

Heaven in no way can be measured. All past civilizations that have attacked the Israelites are found only in the history books and no longer exist for one reason; the promise of the word of the Lord will stand forever.

Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away. (KJV)Mt 24:35

The new covenant of Jeremiah 31:33-38 is showing God is preserving the Jewish people's sovereignty, supernaturally, for a purpose of Israel to come into this promise. This is fulfilling their ultimate destiny by coming into this new covenant. The Bible says a new heaven and a new earth will rise with no need for the sun because we will be in the presence of Jesus only after Israel comes into the new covenant.

And 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.

And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof. (KJV)Rev 21:1, 23

Until then the sun must rise each day and the stars and moon come out each night as God made them. Paul writes to the Roman church concerning the Jewish people. God has not forsaken His people.

I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin.

Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace.

I say then, Have they stumbled that they should fall? God forbid: but rather through their fall salvation is come unto the Gentiles, for to provoke them to jealousy. (KJV) Ro 11:1, 5, 11

Paul is a testimony of being brought into the new covenant in which any believer is saved by grace. All of the Gentiles are to be brought into the new covenant for the Jewish people to be preserved for a while in blindness, causing the Jews to be jealous.

No true Christians ever took part in any organized killing of minorities. The Crusades' military expeditions to retake areas in the holy land, Spanish Inquisition for insincerely converting, and the holocaust to genocide a race were all committed in the name of Christ in error.[5] A true Christian has the Messiah located inside the believer.

Paul wrote, in his letter to the Romans, that Gentile believers of the new covenant were not to think the Jewish people were broken off or that they missed the new covenant but were stumbling as a blessing that brought the Gentiles salvation.

> *Thou wilt say then, The branches were broken off, that I might be graffed in. Well; because of unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by faith. Be not highminded, but fear: (KJV)Ro 11:19-20*

Paul writes to say how great the blessing will be when the Jewish people are brought back into the new covenant.

> *For if the casting away of them be the reconciling of the world, what shall the receiving of them be, but life from the dead? (KJV)Ro 11:15*

The new covenant will bring life from the dead spiritually. This new covenant will bring revival to the world by a physical resurrection for the spiritually dead. The return of the Jewish people to their God and restoration of the natural olive branch is going to bring forth the condition of life from death by the Messiah's return.[5]

> *For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.*
>
> *And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: (KJV)Ro 11:25-26*

Jewish blindness, in portions, will occur until the fullness of the Gentiles comes in. In 70 A.D. Jerusalem was trotted down by gentiles until the fullness comes in.

> *And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh.*

> *And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled. (KJV)Lk 21:20, 24*

The final destruction of the temple was a shift in history. In 1948 A.D. Israel became a nation after some two thousand years in exile. In 1967 A.D. Israel defeated her attacking enemy in six days. The seventh day Israel rested showing God was in total control. After two thousand years, Israel had finally captured control of the city of Jerusalem. A new generation of people found who they were in Christ due to a Charismatic renewal.

> *And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;*
> *Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; (KJV)Col 2:13; Tit 3:5*

Some Jews came to the Messianic Jewish movement with about two hundred congregations in the United States alone. One hundred groups in Europe, South America, Africa, and Israel came to the Messianic Jewish movement. More Jews have embrace Jesus this century than the last nineteen hundred years combined. The blindness is coming off of Israel. The restoration of the Jewish people is connected to the return of Christ's second coming.[5]



Resurrection – The Resurrection (Mat 28:5,6) *Artwork by Gustave Doré* [11]

CHAPTER 7
DRAWING ALL MEN



In Acts 8 we read the story of Philip, a respected member of the church at Jerusalem, who was chosen as one of the seven first deacons. The angel of the Lord asks Phillip to go south from Jerusalem.

> *And he arose and went: and, behold, a man of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem for to worship, (KJV)Ac 8:27*

A man with great power and influence from Ethiopia, with authority over the country's treasury, was found by Philip. He had come to Jerusalem to worship the Lord. The Ethiopian was sitting in his chariot and the Spirit of the Lord told Phillip to join him.

> *Was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Esaias the prophet.*
>
> *Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot. (KJV)Ac 8:28-29*

Philip joined him and saw that the Ethiopian was reading the book of Isaiah.

> *For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor*

comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him.
He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.
Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.
But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.
All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.
He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.
He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken.
And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.
Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.
He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.
Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and

made intercession for the transgressors. (KJV)Isa 53:2-12

Philip asked him if he understood this book which revealed the suffering of the Messiah, Jesus Christ.

And Philip ran thither to him, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou readest?

And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him.

Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus. (KJV)Ac 8:30-31, 35

As they began to travel together the Ethiopian asked why he should be hindered from receiving the salvation through Christ and receive water baptism?

And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? (KJV)Ac 8:36

Philip reveals to the Ethiopian that salvation will not come by an individual's good works. Salvation comes through the saved person believing in their heart that Christ died for their sins and God raised Him from the dead, assuring the believer forgiveness and a resurrection for the true believer's body. Through the witnessing of Phillip, the Ethiopian became a believer in the kingdom of God. This shows how Christ can draw men to Him, expanding the kingdom of God.

And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him. (KJV)Ac 8:37-38

Christ gave the parable in the New Testament book of Luke that a mustard seed is similar to the kingdom of God.

Then said he, Unto what is the kingdom of God like? and whereunto shall I resemble it?

It is like a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and cast into his garden; and it grew, and waxed a great tree; and the fowls of the air lodged in the branches of it. (KJV)Lk 13:18-19

This parable is used to provide a simple comparison between the continuous growth of a tiny mustard seed into a large tree and the kingdom of God and its unseen growth potential. The kingdom of God is present and continually expanding in the future. John the Baptist said the kingdom of God was present and growing during his time.

And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. (KJV)Mt 3:2

Christ also revealed to his believers that the kingdom of God was present and growing during his time here on earth.

But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you.
And heal the sick that are therein, and say unto them, The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you. (KJV)Mt 12:28; Lk 10:9

If you seek him first, Christ teaches that the power of God is within you as a believer.

Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you.
But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. (KJV)Lk 17:21; Mt 6:33

Christ says to seek the presence of God. Christ also speaks of the ruling power of God in a believers' life. He says the kingdom of heaven will be yours if you will seek Christ first. Christ continues to explain the expanding kingdom of God is like a mustard seed or yeast mixed with flour.[6]

Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field:
Another parable spake he unto them; The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened.

(KJV)Mt 13:31, 33

These two illustrations both produce expansion and growth.[6] Just as each new believer continues to grow and expand the kingdom of God.

Even Abraham was told to grow and multiple. In his commandment from God he is told to be fruitful and multiply. God says to Abraham that He will make his seed multiply as the stars of heaven, blessing all the nations through him.

And I will make thy seed to multiply as the stars of heaven, and will give unto thy seed all these countries; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; (KJV)Ge 26:4

As Christ illustrates his death to the disciples, He reveals that all men will be drawn to Him. Christ lifted up as a sacrifice on the cross, will draw all men to him. Just as a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it will produce much fruit.

Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.
And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me. (KJV)Jn 12:24, 32

Christ tells his disciples that they will teach others about Him, throughout the earth. His disciples' teachings will expand the kingdom of God.

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. (KJV)Ac 1:8

In the book of Acts, Paul and Silas show that their faith aided in the expansion of the kingdom of God. They were locked up in prison, singing and praising God, in the midnight hour. An earthquake opened the prison doors and everyone's shackles were broken. This put the keeper of the prison in great danger, for he would lose his life if any prisoners escaped from the Roman prison cells.

And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.

And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed.
And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled. (KJV)Ac 16:25-27

The guard was under the impression that the prisoners had escaped. Paul yells to the guard to stop and not to harm himself, for all the prisoners were present.

But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here.
Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas, (KJV)Ac 16:28-29

The Roman prison guard brought them out of prison asking them how he could receive salvation.

And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? (KJV)Ac 16:30

Paul and Silas replied, believe in your heart and be saved by the fact that Jesus Christ died for our sins and was raised by God. As a believer, the prison guard's sins would be forgiven and he would have everlasting life even after his earthly death.

And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.
And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house.
And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway.
And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house. (KJV)Ac 16:31-34

Isaiah speaks of the rule of the Messiah having no end. Salvation is past, present, and future tense. Those chosen Jewish people before Christ's time on earth are redeemed by his blood that

removes their sins. All believers who presently believe in Christ have salvation through Him. Christ removes all future unintentional sins by his loving grace.

> *Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this. (KJV)Isa 9:7*

To the non-believer, the message of the cross is foolishness. To those who have accepted Christ and repented, saved by His grace, it is the power of God. We were saved from the penalty of sins from our past; currently we are being saved from the power of sin; and in the future we shall be saved from the presence of sin.

> *For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. (KJV)1Co 1:18*

Christ demonstrates the power of faith in loaning what God the father has given you, with the reaping of a harvest from what has been sown in God's kingdom. This is illustrated by the story of the boy with five loaves and two fish. Christ fed, by faith, five thousand followers not including women and children from the faith of a boy.

> *There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so many? And Jesus said, Make the men sit down. Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand.*
>
> *And Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would. (KJV)Jn 6:9-11*

When the loaves and fishes were distributed by Christ to the disciples and then to the followers, Christ demonstrated the law of giving. The boy had loaned to Christ by sowing what God had given him, over to Christ, by faith. Christ multiplied to every disciple and follower his proper portion to be fully satisfied. Every person who partook of the distribution Christ had blessed became

a giver by passing on the distribution. Christ showed us that the giver will be fully satisfied. Christ not only fully satisfied the multitude of followers, but paid back interest to the boy which he had borrowed from.

When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost.
Therefore they gathered them together, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten.
Then those men, when they had seen the miracle that Jesus did, said, This is of a truth that prophet that should come into the world.
He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again.
Knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord, whether he be bond or free.
Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.
All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you.
(KJV)Jn 6:12-14; Pr 19:17; Eph 6:8 ; Lk 6:38; Jn 16:15

The same way Christ multiplied food for his faithful followers, God holds true to His covenant when we call on Him and believe.

But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly after this sort? for all things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee.
Seven days shalt thou keep a solemn feast unto the LORD thy God in the place which the LORD shall choose: because the LORD thy God shall bless thee in all thine increase, and in all the works of thine hands, therefore thou shalt surely rejoice.
Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may

be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. (KJV) 1Ch 29:14; Dt 16:15; Mal 3:10

The tithe of ten percent of a believer's income, given to God in faith, yields more than the ninety percent the individual keeps for himself.

Moses was chosen by God to deliver His people from the Egyptians. Moses assumed he was not worthy by the fact he could not even pronounce words because he stuttered. When he did as God commanded, Moses stepped out in faith as an example of a true believer.

And Moses said unto the LORD, O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither heretofore, nor since thou hast spoken unto thy servant: but I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue. (KJV)Ex 4:10

Christ chose the disciples to expand the kingdom of God for they were ordinary fishermen of Galilee. These believers also stepped out in faith.

Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus. (KJV)Ac 4:13

Every believer's God given talents will succeed if they are used in the correct atmosphere. Everyone is given different talents which are equally important in different ways. They must be in the right environment or no expansion will occur. An example of this is given in the book of Matthew.

And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey.
Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents.
And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two.
But he that had received one went and digged in the

earth, and hid his lord's money.
After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them.
And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more.
His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.
He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them.
His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.
Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed:
And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine.
His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed:
Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury.
Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents.
For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath.
And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. *(KJV)Mt*

25:15-30

The seed needs the ground, the yeast needs the dough. These are the correct environments that allow expansion. And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has been continually breaking forth and expanding.[6]

> *And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force. (KJV)Mt 11:12*

Truly,

> *For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (KJV)Jn 3:16*

APPENDIX

Prayer of repentance



Lord Jesus, I repent of my sins, I ask you to come into my heart, and I make you my Lord and savior. This prayer is the prayer to be born again. Get into a good Bible based church, and keep God first place in your life.[7]

This prayer of repentance allows Christ to come into your heart through faith. The acceptance of salvation in Christ means that a believer is born again. The Holy Spirit has now arrived in the believer's heart, renewing the believer as a new creation. The Holy Spirit now works with a new believer to reveal the ways a believer is to walk in the ways of Christ. The Holy Spirit reveals the proper decisions a believer is to make between what is right and wrong. This allows the new believer to serve and follow God the Father just as Christ did here on earth. The new believer is now a born again Christian. When a Christian's body passes away, through faith in Christ, their spirit will go to dwell with the Lord in heaven for all eternity.

The fastest way to become familiar with God's word is to get a children's Bible to read at any book store.

To the Jewish believer a good starting point, in the New Testament, is to read the book of Hebrews.

To the Gentile believer a good starting point, in the New Testament, is to read the book of John. It was the first book written as a report that chronicles, in detail, the first two years of Christ's ministry while also explaining his last days on earth.

Roman road of salvation



The Roman Road to Salvation sums up the Good News of Jesus Christ. It is a collection of verses in Paul's letter to the Romans that clearly presents the background and basis of the Christian faith.

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; (KJV)Ro 3:23

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. (KJV)Ro 6:23

But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. (KJV)Ro 5:8

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.
For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. (KJV)Ro 10:9-10

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. (KJV)Ro 10:13

Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. (KJV)Rev 3:20

Invitation to the kingdom

1. You need to be saved:
For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; … Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. (KJV) Romans 3:23; John 3:3

2. You cannot save yourself: *Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us… (KJV) Titus 3:5*

3. Jesus has provided for your salvation: *But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. (KJV) Ro 5:8*

4. You must accept Jesus for salvation: … *Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved…*
That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.
For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. (KJV) Acts 16:31; Ro 10:9-10

5. Now is the time to accept Jesus as savior: … *behold, now is the day of salvation.*
…as the Holy Ghost saith, Today if ye will hear his voice, Harden not your heart… (KJV) 2 Corinthians 6:2; Hebrews 3:7-8
Endnotes Source[8]

Old Testament prophecies fulfilled



This is a review from the book of John in which sixteen Old Testament prophecies were fulfilled just in the book of John alone. Some scholar's estimate that the Old Testament includes over a hundred different prophecies, when combined with the New Testament would be more than three hundred references of the coming of the Messiah (Jesus Christ). To get a feel for the probabilities involved, consider this. An author Peter Stoner calculated the odds of Jesus fulfilling only eight of the Messianic prophecies as 1 out of 10^{17} (a one followed by 17 zeros). [9] This is equivalent to covering the entire state of Texas with silver dollars two feet deep, marking one of them, mixing them all up and having a blindfolded person select the marked one at random first time.

Old Testament Prophecies Fulfilled

Old Testament Prophecies	Prophecies Fulfilled in the New Testament
(KJV) Isa 40:3 The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.	*(KJV) Jn 1:23 He said, I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord, as said the prophet Esaias.*
(KJV) Ps 69:9 For the zeal of thine house hath eaten me up; and the reproaches of them that reproached thee are fallen upon me.	*(KJV) Jn 2:17 And his disciples remembered that it was written, The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up.*

Old Testament Prophecies	Prophecies Fulfilled in the New Testament
(KJV) Isa 54:13 And all thy children shall be taught of the LORD; and great shall be the peace of thy children. (KJV) Jer 31:34 And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.	*(KJV) Jn 6:45 It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me.*
(KJV) Isa 11:1, 10 And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: *And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.* *(KJV) Jer 23:5 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth.* *(KJV) Mic 5:1-2 Now gather thyself in troops, O daughter of troops: he hath laid siege against us: they shall smite the judge of Israel with a rod upon the cheek.* *But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.*	*(KJV) Jn 7:42 Hath not the scripture said, That Christ cometh of the seed of David, and out of the town of Bethlehem, where David was?*

Old Testament Prophecies	Prophecies Fulfilled in the New Testament
(KJV) Ps 118:25-26 Save now, I beseech thee, O LORD: O LORD, I beseech thee, send now prosperity. Blessed be he that cometh in the name of the LORD: we have blessed you out of the house of the LORD.	*(KJV) Jn 12:13 Took branches of palm trees, and went forth to meet him, and cried, Hosanna: Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord.*
(KJV) Zec 9:9 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.	*(KJV) Jn 12:15 Fear not, daughter of Sion: behold, thy King cometh, sitting on an ass's colt.*
(KJV) Isa 53:1 Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?	*(KJV) Jn 12:38 That the saying of Esaias the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spake, Lord, who hath believed our report? and to whom hath the arm of the Lord been revealed?*
(KJV) Isa 6:9-10 And he said, Go, and tell this people, Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not. *Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed.*	*(KJV) Jn 12:40 He hath blinded their eyes, and hardened their heart; that they should not see with their eyes, nor understand with their heart, and be converted, and I should heal them.*

Old Testament Prophecies	Prophecies Fulfilled in the New Testament
(KJV) Ps 41:9 Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me.	*(KJV) Jn 13:18 I speak not of you all: I know whom I have chosen: but that the scripture may be fulfilled, He that eateth bread with me hath lifted up his heel against me.*
(KJV) Ps 35:19 Let not them that are mine enemies wrongfully rejoice over me: neither let them wink with the eye that hate me without a cause. *(KJV) Ps 69:4 They that hate me without a cause are more than the hairs of mine head: they that would destroy me, being mine enemies wrongfully, are mighty: then I restored that which I took not away.*	*(KJV) Jn 15:25 But this cometh to pass, that the word might be fulfilled that is written in their law, They hated me without a cause.*

Old Testament Prophecies	Prophecies Fulfilled in the New Testament
(KJV) Ps 41:9 Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me. (KJV) Ps 69:25-29 Let their habitation be desolate; and let none dwell in their tents. For they persecute him whom thou hast smitten; and they talk to the grief of those whom thou hast wounded. Add iniquity unto their iniquity: and let them not come into thy righteousness. Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and not be written with the righteous. But I am poor and sorrowful: let thy salvation, O God, set me up on high. (KJV) Ps 109:8 Let his days be few; and let another take his office. (KJV) Ac 1:20-25 For it is written in the book of Psalms, Let his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and his bishoprick let another take. Wherefore of these men which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection. And they appointed two, Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias. And they prayed, and said, Thou, Lord, which knowest the hearts of all men, shew whether of these two thou hast chosen, That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place.	*(KJV) Jn 17:12 While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled.*

Old Testament Prophecies	Prophecies Fulfilled in the New Testament
(KJV) Ps 22:18 They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture.	*(KJV)Jn 19:24 They said therefore among themselves, Let us not rend it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be: that the scripture might be fulfilled, which saith, They parted my raiment among them, and for my vesture they did cast lots. These things therefore the soldiers did.*
(KJV) Ps 69:21 They gave me also gall for my meat; and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.	*(KJV) Jn 19:28 After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled, saith, I thirst.*
(KJV) Ex 12:46 In one house shall it be eaten; thou shalt not carry forth ought of the flesh abroad out of the house; neither shall ye break a bone thereof. *(KJV) Nu 9:12 They shall leave none of it unto the morning, nor break any bone of it: according to all the ordinances of the passover they shall keep it.* *(KJV) Ps 34:20 He keepeth all his bones: not one of them is broken.*	*(KJV) Jn 19:36 For these things were done, that the scripture should be fulfilled, A bone of him shall not be broken.*

Old Testament Prophecies	Prophecies Fulfilled in the New Testament
(KJV) Ps 22:16 For dogs have compassed me: the assembly of the wicked have inclosed me: they pierced my hands and my feet. *(KJV) Zec 12:10 And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.*	*(KJV) Jn 19:37 And again another scripture saith, They shall look on him whom they pierced.*
(KJV) Ps 16:10-11 For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption. *Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.*	*(KJV) Jn 20:9 For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead.*

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