

PART 2

UNVEILING THE BLOCKAGE TO

YOUR PROMISED LAND



"Let there be Light" - Gen 1:3

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The word Apocalypse is the Greek for "the lifting of the veil"

Part 2: The Unveiling of the Promised Land

When the veil is lifted from the bride's face, a much clearer picture of the person's face is revealed. A similar situation exists when we study the Bible. The more we study the scriptures the more we mature in the image and likeness of Christ, I discovered the unveiling of, initially two, but now three very important and prominent aspects, namely;

- The unveiling of our "full salvation"
- The unveiling of "the blockage to your Promised Land"
- The unveiling of "Jesus Christ"

Part 1, namely the unveiling of our full salvation laid down the foundational principles that there is more to our salvation then only to believe in our hearts and confess with our mouths that Jesus is our Lord and Saviour (according to Romans 10:9-10). There is more to it – Part 2 – discusses where and how our full salvation takes place, but also unveils the mystery that blocks man's way to enter his Promised Land (full salvation).



TETELESTAI – "IT IS FINISHED"

When it comes to our salvation there might be many opinions, but only one truth, the Biblical truth. We are all once that man who sinned through an act of Satan, when Adam & Eve willing submitted to him and ruined the entire material creation and human race. Man could undergo no change in and of itself. This act of restoration was accomplished, in its entirety, through divine intervention. This is true for the *unredeemed man*. The Spirit of God performs a work in the individual, based upon Christ's past and *finished work*.

The Spirit of God moves, God speaks, and light comes into existence.

"And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said: "Let there be light," and there was light. Genesis 1:2b, 3

Man passes "*from death to life*." The above occurs, and it is all based on the *finished work of God's Son at Calvary*. Salvation for fallen man is both FREE and apart from WORKS, but the procurement of this salvation by God's Son was by no means free and apart from works. God's Son provided this salvation through a vicarious sacrifice — the sacrifice of Himself; and fallen man can do no more than simply RECEIVE that which God's Son has provided. Fallen man is no more in a position to bring himself out of his ruined state than was the ruined material of creation. Divine intervention was / is required in both instances.

"When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished **G5055** *and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost." John 19:30*

The Greek for these three English words "Tetelestai".

G5055

teleō

tel-eh'-o

From G5056; to *end*, that is, *complete*, *execute*, *conclude*, *discharge* (a debt): - accomplish, make an end, expire, fill up, finish, go over, pay, perform.

Indeed, it means "Finished"

- To end That is complete
- Discharge all debt
- It has been accomplished
- To make an end
- Finished
- Paid

When man tries to add anything else to "*Tetelestai*" it is a violation of the "Blood of Christ", blasphemy against the Holy Spirit and the boasting of "self".

Christ's RESURRECTION is the Father's "AMEN" to His Son's

declaration:

"IT IS FINISHED."

(See Booklet: "Tetelestai - It is Finished" for a complete discussion and meaning of Tetelestai)

On this foundation, and only on this complete and finished work of the Father's Son, Jesus Christ, can a doctrine of our "*Full Salvation*" be build.

THE BEGINNING

Many secrets and mysteries are hidden in the Old Testament and revealed to us in the New Testament. The better we understand the scriptures in the Old Testament, the more the New Testament unfolds for us. The unfolding and our understanding of our full salvation is no exception!

Let us start at the beginning.

The Bible is full of typologies and shadows, all encrypted in the Old Testament to be revealed to us in the New Testament.

The path we must follow for our full salvation is the same pattern God laid down for creation in the beginning. There is a restorative work that follows a specific pattern, and the matter is accomplished entirely through divine intervention. Within this unchangeable pattern set forth at the very beginning, God reveals how any subsequent ruined creation would, of necessity, have to be restored. It would have to be restored in a certain order, entirely through divine intervention, over a six-day (*six-thousand-year*) period. In the first Chapter of Genesis God set forth at the very beginning how a ruined creation is to be restored. This process would equally apply to not only the salvation of the spirit but the salvation of the spirit (*the salvation that we presently possess*) is realized at the very beginning of the six days; but the salvation of the soul (*a salvation occurring at the end of one's faith, or as the goal of one's faith [1 Peter 1:5, 9]*) is an on-going process and is to be realized only at the end of the six days, on the seventh day.

When man sinned by becoming rebellious and disobedient to God's Word, he became soulish and fleshly. Although man lost God's Spirit as the controlling influence in his life, God continued to give him physical life. *But man had become soulish, only*



doing the things to please the flesh. Man remained in his soulish condition until Jesus gave him a way to be reconciled back to the Father. It is recorded at the time of man's sin:

"And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons."

Genesis 3:7

When the Spirit of God departed from man, man became aware of his flesh. Man's eyes have remained there until this day. Man is still trying to cover his sinful nature in so many ways. Man stands naked before God without His Spiritual covering.

Another example of God's Spiritual covering leaving man was in the wilderness at the time of Israel's Exodus. Moses was in Mount Sinai receiving the law from God for His people. Because the children of Israel doubted Moses' return they demanded Aaron to make them an idol to worship. They removed all their gold earrings and Aaron made a golden calf. When Moses returned:

"And when Moses saw that the people were naked; for Aaron had made them naked unto their shame among their enemies:"

Exodus 32:25

Israel had not removed their clothing as has been taught. They were Spiritually naked before God and their enemies. Because their Spiritual covering and protection had been removed, they became an easy prey for the enemy to conquer.

When God appeared to Adam and Eve, He knew man had no covering for his sin. So God clothed them with animal skins. From that time forward man has been clothed in his beast nature. It was only by the shedding of blood that Adam and Eve's sins were covered (*the reason why the Lord covered them with animal skin as a foreshadow of the Blood of the Lam in the New Testament for the remission of our sin*: "*without*



shedding of blood is no remission" Hebrews 9:22). The word remission means "to be released from bondage and free from penalty". When Jesus died for all mankind, He brought God's salvation plan into being. Those who have their sins forgiven by His shed blood have entered into God's grace where their Spirit is saved. Again the word saved means "to be protected, to be healed, to be preserved, to make whole, and rescue from danger."

The Spirit is eternal. The All-Wise Solomon gave us insight into the spirit of man:

"Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it." Ecclesiastes 12:7

We know all flesh returns to dust when it dies, whether the flesh of man, animals, or fowls. All flesh returns to the dust of the earth. But the spirit of man returns to God who gave it. When we come into God's plan of salvation, our spirit is saved. Our spirit will return unto God. We will again come into a complete, unhindered relationship with the Father, the same relationship Adam and Eve had in the garden when God walked and talked with them in the cool of the day. Paul wrote to Titus about God's plan of salvation for the spirit of man:

"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;"

Titus 3:5

Our works of righteousness [Isaiah 64:6] have nothing to do with the salvation of the Spirit. It is God's grace and mercy [Ephesians 5:2]. By grace our spirit is saved. It is God's perfect gift in our life. Man died spiritually and when unregenerate man, "*dead in trespasses and sins*" (Ephesians 2:1), is made alive today through Christ, he is made alive *spiritually*. The movement of the *Spirit* (Genesis 1:2b) and *God*



speaking (Genesis 1:3) in order to restore the ruined creation are simultaneous events. It is the **Spirit** using the **God-breathed** word to effectually to perform a supernatural work in unredeemed man. It is at this point — through the **inbreathing of God** — that life is imparted to that which previously had no life. God breathes into dead man (the Spirit using the God-breathed Word, based on the finished work of the Son), and man is "quickened [made alive]" (Ephesians 2:1, 5).

Light

We find this in Genesis Chapter 2, that when man was formed, but was not yet alive until the Lord breathed into his nostrils the breath of life.

"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."

Genesis 2:7

What happened after God spoke light into existence?

And God saw the light, that *it was* good: and God *divided* the light from the darkness.

Genesis 1:4

Division

It is amazing that God divided the light from the darkness.

Life started with the breath of life – the Ruach HaKodesh – the Holy Spirit and the very next verse brings division, separation between the light and the darkness.

At this point, light shines "**out of darkness**" (2 Corinthians 4:6), a division is made between the light and the darkness (Genesis 1:4), and the darkness has no apprehension or comprehension of that which is light (John 1:5; 1 Corinthians 2:14). It is at this point in man's salvation is that the spirit is separated from the soul. The "spirit" in unsaved man is dead. It is a part of the totally depraved man, with his "body of death," in which their dwells "no good thing" (Romans 7:18, 24). With the movement of the Spirit, using the God-breathed Word, man's spirit is made alive and, at the same time, separated from his soul.

The Book of Hebrews reveals a division being made between man's soul and his spirit.

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of **soul and spirit**, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12

The Spirit of God moves in Genesis 1:2b, and God speaks in Genesis 1:3. In relation to man's salvation, it is at this point (*in what would be referred to as the <u>foundational</u> <i>type*) that a division is made between man's soul and his spirit (*in what would be referred to as the <u>antitype</u>*).

In the <u>foundational</u> type, the Spirit of God moved, God spoke, and light came into existence. Genesis 1:2b, 3 records the initial act of the Triune Godhead in bringing about the restoration of the ruined material creation, an act in which the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit each participated — the Spirit moved, God spoke, and then note that nothing can come into existence apart from the Son (John 1:3).

In the <u>antitype</u>, within the framework of man's salvation experience, the matter is identical. There must be an act of the Triune Godhead, for this is how God worked to restore a ruined creation in the Genesis account, establishing an unchangeable pattern for a later work. Thus, as in the type, so in the antitype — the Spirit of God moves, God speaks, and light comes into existence.

The "**soul**" remains within the sphere of darkness, which is why "*the natural man*" [Greek: psuchikos, soulical] cannot understand "*the things of the Spirit of God*" (1 Corinthians 2:14). That which remains in the sphere of darkness can have no apprehension or comprehension of that which has shined out of darkness. There is a God-established division between the two that cannot be crossed over (Luke 16:26).

SALVATION OF THE SPIRIT

How blessed we are for the conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus. Jesus new what he needs, Nicodemus came for knowledge, but Jesus wants to give him life! So, Jesus said:

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.

John 3:5

Do you see the similarities from John 3:5 and our text Genesis 1:4

"And the **Spirit** of God moved upon the face of the **waters**. And God said: "Let there be light," and there was light.

Genesis 1:2b, 3

The Spirit of God moves, God speaks, and live comes into existence.

It is impossible for the man in the **FLESH** ("So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God" *Romans 8:8*) and without **FAITH** to please God (*"But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him" Hebrews 11:6). The finished work of the Son, Jesus Christ on Calvary is the divine sacrifice (the act of divinity) to safe the human race. God done His share and now it is man to respond to this divine act by faith to be saved from eternal death. So, when we believe with the heart and confess with the mouth that Jesus Christ is our Lord and saviour we shall be saved and made unto salvation.*



"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."

Romans 10:9-10

Yes, it is God who works both to WILL and to DO this!

"It is God which worketh in you, both to will and to do of his good pleasure."

Philippians 2:13

It is clear that man is a triune being created in the image and likeness of God.

"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."

Genesis 1:26

The word triune means "to be three in one". Man is spirit, that has a soul, which dwells in a body. God's plan of salvation for His created man is three-fold, reaching into all three realms of man's existence. It is God's intention to make us whole again, in spirit, soul and body

"And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ"

1 Thessalonians 5:23

Note that Paul is referring to all three parts of the human nature; our spirit, our soul and our body to be blameless with the coming of the Lord. Oh, how this is misunderstood in the body of Christ. Many members think when they have confessed



and have been immersed in water many years ago that they are OK. Others think, my parents and grandparents are or were Christians, therefore I am also OK, or going to church every Sunday, but maybe have never openly made a public proclamation truly excepting Jesus Christ as the Messiah. We also find another group who only give all the attention to the body by excessive exercise, using excessive vitamins and in other case others rely on medication as if that is the alpha and omega. *The Word of God is clear – He is most definitely interested in the sanctification of the whole human being – spirit, soul and body.* The entire salvation process [spirit and soul, and ultimately the body] is a divine work.

"Salvation is of the Lord" Jonah 2:9

Therefore, dear reader, eternal life is the free "*gift of God*," obtained completely apart from works. Nothing which man does — not one single act, either before or after he becomes a recipient of this life — can have anything at all to do with the fact that this life becomes the present possession of an individual solely by grace (that which God is able to do entirely apart from human merit) through faith (through believing on God's Son).

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the *gift* of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast."

Ephesians 2:8-9

Christ's finished work at Calvary provides a salvation that fallen man can avail himself of only by receiving that which has already been accomplished on his behalf — through believing.

SAVED

We use key terms interchangeably to describe our relationship to God: *saved; born again; being a believer.* What does "*being saved*" mean? Saved from what?

Many who have asked God to forgive their sins, and have gone through water baptism, believe that this is all God requires of them. Others believe, in addition to initial salvation and water baptism, it's necessary to be baptized in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues. At this point they are taught that they are born again and have become believers. Having forgiveness of sin, water baptism, and the baptism in the Holy Spirit are necessary in God's plan of salvation, but they are only the first steps in the complete salvation plan God has instituted for mankind.

The word saved in Greek is SOZO and it means to "deliver, to protect, to heal, to preserver, to safe from self, to rescue from danger and to make whole". The following text from the Book of Mark tells us that when we believe and are baptized we shall be saved!

He that <u>believeth</u> and is baptized shall be <u>saved</u>^{G4982}; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

Mark 16:16

G4982

sōzō

sode'-zo

From a primary word $\sigma \tilde{\omega} \varsigma$ sos contraction for the obsolete $\sigma \dot{\alpha} \varsigma$ saos, "safe"); to save, that is, **deliver** or **protect** (literally or figuratively): - **heal**, **preserve**, save (self), do well, be (make) whole.

Remember previously in clearly indicates that we have to believe in our heart to 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." Romans 10:9-10). How do we know for sure, prove through scripture that this is only the first steps in the complete salvation plan of God? The writer of Hebrews informs us:



"Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, **let us go on into perfection**; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment."

Hebrews 6:1-2

How clearer can one make this to the reader that God's complete salvation plan reaches for more than what we have been taught and decide if they are correct or if they are just religious doctrines. God's salvation plan is just like his restoration plan of the planet, is a process for human kind as well. All three parts of man must be saved, and it is a continual process until we come into the image and likeness of the Father. Let us use Romans 10 again and look at verse 10 which says that when we believe, we shall be saved.

The Greek word for salvation is **SOTERIA** which means *deliverance, preservation, justification, purification and becoming righteous.*

For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

Romans 10:10

G4991 sōtēria so-tay-ree'-ah Feminine of a derivative of G4990 as (properly abstract) noun; **rescue** or safety (physically or morally): - **deliver**, **health**, salvation, save, saving.

It is when we use the word "**salvation**" interchangeable with the term "**saved**" that man might think that during our initial salvation experience we made it unto salvation. Man must ask himself if these changes (*deliverance, preservation, justification, purification and becoming righteous*) happen at our initial salvation experience? No, salvation is a process that takes place in our daily life as we submit to the will and cleansing power of the Holy Spirit. Our initial salvation is only the beginning. As we rightly divide the Word of Truth we discover there must be a continuing action on our part if we are to move forward in God's complete three-fold salvation plan.

What is the process to enter into initial salvation?

- The first step is to confess the Lord Jesus. The word "CONFESS" is the Greek word HOMOLOGIO, which is made up of two Greek words HOMO which means "together" and LOGEO which means "word". When we confess the Lord Jesus, we must come together in agreement with the Word, the written Word of God.
- The next step in the process of God's salvation plan is to "BELIEVE" in our heart. The word believe is the Greek word PISTEUO and means "to trust in, to think to be true, to be persuaded, and to place confidence in". The Greek word PISTEUO comes from the base word PISTIS which is translated "FAITH". When we confess with our mouth, we must come into agreement with the Word. Then we must begin to act in faith. This is done by believing in our hearts and learning to put our confidence and complete trust in the Lord.

We must be fully persuaded in our heart that God has raised Jesus from the dead, and is alive forevermore, sitting at the right hand of the Father. It is by putting our faith into action that the salvation process begins in each of our lives.

Paul wrote to the church at Corinth:

"And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins." I Corinthians 15:17 If we do not believe with our whole heart that Jesus was raised from the dead, then our faith is in vain (worthless) and we remain in our sin. We must confess with our mouth and believe in our heart if we are to walk in God's complete salvation plan. Then and only then will He protect, heal, and preserve us until we are made completely whole. If the fact that God raised Jesus from the dead is not resident in our heart, then our faith in God and His Word is truly in vain and worthless, and our sins are not forgiven.

If we are to act in faith, our believing cannot be with just lip service, repeating what we are told to repeat. We must speak and come into total agreement with the life-changing power of the Word of God. This is the only way we can come into God's righteousness. Our heart (mind, soul, and spirit) must change because as Paul related, "...with the mouth confession is made unto salvation".

Jesus informed us:"... Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." Matthew 12:34

What our mouths confess must line up with the Word of God.

As we come to the realization that God's salvation plan is a three-fold process by which we were saved, are being saved, and will be saved, our **way of thinking must totally** *change*. As this process unfolds, our mouths will confess what is becoming more and more evident in our lives. To come into God's complete plan of salvation we must know three things.

The writer of Hebrews informs us:

"But without **faith** it is impossible to please Him: for he that cometh to God must **believe that He is**, and that He is a **rewarder** of them that diligently seek Him."

Hebrews 11:6

The three things we must know are:

- Without faith it is impossible to please God.
- When we come to God we must believe He is God.
- If we expect a reward, we must diligently seek Him.

All these must be evident in our lives if we are to become what God created us to be. When we begin to understand the scriptures more completely, we need to realize that when God speaks of the heart He is not speaking of the blood pump that circulates the blood through our body. *The heart is the center of our physical and Spiritual life.* The soul, or mind, is the fountain and seat of all thoughts, passions, desires, appetites, affections, purposes, and endeavors. It encompasses our understanding and is the seat of the intellect that controls our will and character.

Since man is a triune creation, it stands to reason that God's salvation plan for His "creation man" must be three-fold. Man's spirit must be saved, his soul must be saved, and his body must be saved if the whole man is to be preserved until the coming of the Lord.

"Search the Scriptures for in them ye think ye have eternal life..." John 5:39

As we search the scriptures, God's three-fold salvation plan is revealed for all to see. Paul wrote to the church at Ephesus:

"For by grace are ye saved, through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:" Ephesians 2:8

To the Romans Paul wrote:

"For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?" Romans 8:24 To the Ephesians Paul wrote:

"Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling." Philippians 2:12

Paul stated we were to work out our own salvation. How can we work out or own salvation if it's a gift from God? If it is the gift of God, then how are we saved by hope? James, the Apostle, wrote:

"What doth it profit, My brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? Can faith save him?" James 2:14

James asked the question, "Can we be saved by faith?" We know without faith it is impossible to please God (Hebrews 11:6). James explains, "Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone." James 2:17

Faith in God is dead unless it is accompanied by works.

"Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works." James 2:18

The question is, "Can faith save us?"

It can if it is accompanied by the works God has given us to do.

What are these works we must act upon? God has given each one He has called a particular task to perform for Him. These become our works we must perform for Him. So many think because God did not call them to preach, teach, be an evangelist, prophet, or apostle, they were not called by God to do anything except warm a pew. Then, there are those who are involved on every committee, every board, and are the center of all activities in the church. They believe their "busy" ness is acceptable before God because they have neglected every other duty to serve Him. Both are mistaken.



God has many jobs in His body He has called His people to fulfill, but when there is no honor, glory, or recognition in doing it, it goes undone. God has called many to be prayer warriors. God has given many the ministry of uplifting and encouragement to others. Help is another ministry that is neglected. The ministry of giving is another ministry God has ordained and supplied, but some have lavished the money on their own lusts. This neglect has limited the growth of God's kingdom.

Our works are when we seek God's will and His purpose for our lives. God has given some the ability to share the Word on a one-on-one basis. To others He has given the ability to admonish others through the Word (*in love of course*). God's works are for His glory, not ours. When we perform God's works our reward and recognition comes from the Father, not man.

The Bible speaks of one more way we can be saved:

"If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire." I Corinthians 3:15

The last way we can be saved is by fire. This is not the eternal or everlasting fire called the second death, but it is the fire of God's judgment He will bring upon the earth.

SALVATION OF THE SOUL

For the unregenerate man to be restored to its original stage, the above-mentioned procedures have to be followed first. For Jesus says that it is the Spirit that quicken and that His words are spirit and it brings life!

It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

John 6:63

It is just impossible for the natural man to understand God's spiritual words – it is foolishness for him (the natural man)!

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.

1 Corinthians 2:14

No, when we are saved by grace and the natural man becomes spiritually alive it becomes possible for the Word of God to penetrate man's heart, and brings conversion to the unregenerate man. Therefore, the preceding process is the manner that God uses to deliver the spirit from its fallen state, which was the result of Adam's sin. And because the spirit has been delivered, there can once again be communion with God. *Man can now comprehend spiritual things, and there can now be a progressive, continued work by the Spirit of God within man so that he can ultimately be delivered to the place that God has decreed that he occupy at the end of six days, at the end of six thousand years.*

Paul explained in in the 5th Chapter of his epistle to the Romans that by one man, Adam sin entered into the world.

"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned"

Romans 5:12

The name Adam in Hebrew refers to the color red which reflects the red soil from which he was made. Hence, Adam is identified with humankind and not with a particular nationality. Adam, also referring to "man in the flesh" brought the whole world into sin, so did one man, our "Firstfruits", the Spiritual Man brought the whole world out of eternal death into eternal life.

"For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous."

Romans 5:19

Within the framework of the type in Genesis chapter one, this is the very first thing that is foreshadowed. This had to be set forth first, for man has to first be made alive — he has to first pass "*from death to life*" — before anything else in the restorative process can occur. Thus, this is foreshadowed at the very beginning of the six days that God, in accordance with His established pattern, would use to bring about man's complete restoration — spirit, soul, and body!

"And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ"

1 Thessalonians 5:23

The soul is the life of the body. If the body is to be saved, first the soul must be saved.

The word soul is the Greek word **PSUCHE**. It was translated fifty-eight times as "soul" and forty times as "life". It is also translated as "mind" and "heart". The definition of PSUCHE is "**the breath of life**, the vital force which animates the body". The soul is the seat of feelings, desire, and affections. The soul is the heart of man. King Solomon informed us:

"For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he"

Proverbs 23:7a



The soul area is where man makes all his decisions, whether for good or for evil. Man's conscience is in the soul. The conscience is where man hears the voice of God. As long as we are listening to our conscience, we are hearing from God. When our conscience is hardened we can no longer hear from God. This is when we listen to the spirit of darkness and fall into sin. Paul informed the Romans: "*Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?*" (Romans 6:16).

If we yield our soul to God, then our conscience will lead us into the paths of righteousness. If we resist God, we will fall into sin and away from God. His grace and mercy will be withheld as long as we remain in this condition. Paul informed the Romans: "And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;" (Romans 1:28).

When man refuses to retain God in his or her thinking processes, God gives them over to a reprobate mind. This is a mind that is rejected by God. Man never repents of his evil unless he is convicted of his sin by and through the Spirit. His mind only serves the flesh and the things that please the flesh. If he does not repent he will be given totally over to the spirit of darkness because there is no light in him.

The holy commandment is the Word of God. As we study the Word and search the scriptures we come to the realization that our spirit has been saved and our body will be saved. *The area of our life that is in the process of being saved now is our soul.*

The Apostle Peter who was given the keys of the Kingdom informed us:

"Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls."

I Peter 1:9

To briefly illustrate how God's complete restoration of man is patterned after God's complete restoration of the material creation in Genesis chapter one, note three things:

- Where the complete *restorative process began (on day one*, as previously mentioned).
- That which occurred on each of the succeeding days (two through six).
- Where the whole of the restorative process was leading (*the seventh day*, the Sabbath, a day of rest following six days of work).

Within a type-antitype framework — pertaining to man's salvation in the antitype — that which occurred in

- the type on day one pertains to the salvation of man's spirit, and
- that which occurred in the type on days two through six pertains to the salvation of man's soul,
- with the whole of that revealed leading to the seventh day.

The salvation of the spirit is an instantaneous event where one passes "from death to life," but not so with the salvation of the soul. It is a progressive event. It is an event that begins at the point one is made alive spiritually, and it will not be completed and realized until the end of that foreshadowed by the six days of restorative work — 6,000 years of restorative work.

The issues of the judgment seat of Christ at the end of the present dispensation — which will occur at the end of the six days, at the end of the 6,000 years — will have to do with issues surrounding the salvation [or loss] of the soul / life. It will be at the judgment seat — not before — that man will realize [or fail to realize] the salvation of his soul / life.

And since this is the case, note what occurred on days two through six in the restoration of the ruined material creation in Genesis. Then, to see the overall picture of that which must be done to bring about the salvation of redeemed man's soul, these same events can be viewed in relation to God's present continuing restoration of man, a subsequent ruined creation.

- Events on days two and three (as events on the first day) have to do with divisions.
- On the second day God established a *division* between the waters (vv. 6-8), and on the third day He established a *division* between the dry land (with its vegetation) and the waters (vv. 9-13).
- Then events on days four through six belong together as another unit, depicting things beyond the divisions previously established.
- On the fourth day God placed *lights* in the heavens to give light upon the earth (vv. 14-19), on the fifth day He created *birds* that could soar above the earth and marine life that could move throughout the depths of the sea (vv. 20-23), and on the sixth day He created the land *animals*, which included great creatures capable of roaming the earth (vv. 24, 25).

And, as previously noted, the whole of God's restorative work relative to the material creation in Genesis foreshadows the whole of God's restorative work relative to man today.

- After man has "passed from death to life," wherein the spirit is separated from the soul — wrought entirely through divine intervention — redeemed man finds himself in a position and condition where a continued divine work not only can occur but must occur if he is to realize the salvation of his soul.
- And only through this continued *divine work* can the whole of God's restorative work, as it pertains to man, be realized.

Man, as the material creation, must be completely passive in relation to the salvation of the spirit [he is dead, rendering him incapable of acting]; and, man as the material creation ["And the earth brought forth . . . "], must be active in relation to the salvation of the soul [he now has spiritual life, allowing him to act in the spiritual realm]. But, as in the restoration of the material creation, the entire salvation process [spirit and soul, and ultimately the body] is a divine work.

"Salvation is of the Lord" Jonah 2:9

- Events occurring during the *first three days* in Genesis chapter one would point to elementary things or the basics in one's spiritual life and growth.
- Events occurring during day one would point to a division between the soul and the spirit, having to do with the impartation of life.
- Then events occurring during *days two* and *three* would point to divisions and distinctions as one begins to progressively grow within the framework of the new life brought into existence on the first day.
- One would learn to distinguish between the soulical and spiritual, spiritual and carnal (fleshly), Jew, Gentile, and Christian, the dispensations, etc.

That is depicted by the work of the Triune Godhead during these three days and points to things beyond elementary truths in the antitype. After one has passed "from death unto life" and has been instructed in the elementary truths (days one through three — after he has grown to a degree in his Christian life — he can then begin to view with understanding deeper spiritual truths of the Word). He can then begin to view with understanding those things in the Word depicted by events on days four through six of Genesis chapter one.

 An individual in this position can begin to sink deep shafts down into the Word and mine its treasures.



- He can look into the Word and understand that which is depicted by the lights in the heavens.
- He can, in the true sense of the Word, "mount up with wings as eagles . . . run, and not be weary . . . walk, and not faint" (Isaiah 40:31), as he scales the heights; or he can scale the depths of the Word, as the sea creatures plunge to the depths of the sea; or he can roam through the Word, as the land creatures roam the earth.

This is just the beginning and not the end.

Our soulish area must be saved if we are going to stand before God. Our heart, our thinking, and every area of our lives must line up with God's holy commandment, the Word of God. Too many today are serving their religious ideas and believe they are righteous before God. Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles, informed the Philippians:

"That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death;"

Philippians 3:10.

If we are to be part of the first resurrection, we must be made conformable unto His death. This is "dying to self, self-rule, self-esteem, and selfishness". This is how we become conformable unto His death. Jesus never exalted self. All glory was returned to the Father. The writer of Hebrews wrote of Jesus: "And being made perfect, He became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey Him;" Hebrews 5:9

Jesus is the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him. How can we obey Him? By becoming the example of the life He lived. This life can only be lived when our souls are saved from the influence and destruction of the world. The beloved Paul wrote to the Philippians: "Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling." Philippians 2:12



We are to work out our own salvation before God with fear and trembling. Our spirit is saved by God's grace, and there is nothing we can do to add or subtract from that process. Our soul is a completely different situation. God's salvation plan for the soul must be worked out before God with fear and trembling. It is a continual process in our lives and must not be taken lightly. The words fear and trembling mean "to be quaking, one who distrusts his own ability completely in meeting any task". Today the church has put forth an easy religion; "simply believe and hang on, and try to do what is right. God understands the weakness of the flesh." This message has caused multitudes to come up short of what God has stated in His Word.

Solomon wrote:

"But he that sinneth against Me wrongeth his own soul: all they that hate Me love death."

Proverbs 8:36

Those who sin against God wrong their own soul. When sin is resident in the soul, it not only destroys our relationship with the Father, it destroys the body. Sin causes sickness, both of mind and body. By the unction of the Holy Spirit, Solomon informed us when we sin we hate God and bring death upon our flesh. Peter proclaimed:

"Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;" I Peter 2:11

Fleshly lusts war against our souls.

It would appear that most of those who call themselves Christians have forgotten, or have never been taught, that we are only strangers and pilgrims in this world. We witness Christians who are accumulating wealth and amassing great estates, as if the world was their hope of glory. Korah, the Psalmist, wrote:

"Their inward thought is, that their houses shall continue for ever, and their dwelling places to all generations; they call their lands after their own names.

Psalm 49:11

Those who are desiring the things of this life are warring against their own souls. The salvation of their souls has yet to begin. John, the beloved disciple, wrote: "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth" 3 John 1:2.

Many are prospering in the things of this life, but their souls are destitute, devoid of any love, joy, peace, long-suffering, or any other of the fruit of the Spirit. These still call themselves Christian, yet there is not one Christian principle in their lives. They are not becoming that example Jesus gave us to live by.

Jesus came as mortal man, clothed in flesh, to demonstrate God's overcoming power available to all flesh. Paul wrote to the church at Corinth: "*And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.*" *I Corinthians 15:45*

Jesus came as the first Adam, a living soul. He came in the likeness of fallen man. "For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh." Romans 8:3

Jesus came in the likeness of sinful flesh, in order to condemn sin in the flesh. Jesus came to show His creation the way back to the Father. Paul also informed the church at Rome: "Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of Him that was to come." Romans 5:14

The original Adam God created in the garden was a figure of Him who was to come; "Jesus". The word figure means "example, pattern, or image". Jesus came in sinful



flesh as a living soul. This is the same condition of every other man born into the earth. Jesus came to demonstrate the overcoming power available to all His creation through the Holy Spirit. The writer of Hebrews recorded:

"For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin." Hebrews 4:15

Jesus was tempted with every temptation known to man, yet He sinned not. He never wronged His soul. He never failed the will of the Father. Why? Because His soul was pure before God. Jesus was the Word made flesh, I John 1:14.

The salvation of our soul is a daily process in our Christian walk. As the old man with His old ways are dealt with, and as our minds are changed to think only on the things of God, then we begin to move into His promises for our life.

God has promised we can have perfect peace, the peace that passeth all understanding, if we do two things:

• First we need to keep our mind on the things of Christ, and, secondly, we need to trust Him in all things. In order to accomplish this we must have a change of heart (mind). When our thoughts are controlled by our conscience instead of the lust of the flesh, then our soul has entered into God's salvation process. This is when we can lay claim to the word of the Psalmist:

"Praise ye the Lord, Praise the Lord, O my soul." Psalm 146:1

• This is when our praise for God, the things of God, and allowing God to work in our lives comes from our innermost being, not by the way of our own thoughts,



or the words of our mouths. When our soul praises God, then our whole being praises God for who He is, not what He has done for us. The Hebrew writer proclaimed:

"But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul." Hebrews 10:39

There are many today who are drawing back from going all the way with their Creator. These draw back to perdition. The word perdition means "destruction, loss of eternal life". Only those who believe and act upon what they believe will receive the salvation of their souls. Those who only mouth their faith, but their lives do not line up with God's holy commandments are only deceiving themselves.

Our utmost thoughts as Christians should be to change our way of thinking. Yet many are more interested in what others think of them, than what our God thinks of them. These make time for everything else, but they have no time for God or His Word. The Psalmist David wrote: "I said, Lord, be merciful unto me: heal my soul; for I have sinned against thee." Psalm 41:4

When we sin our soul is wounded, it is the same as when we cut our finger. It needs healing. When we miss the mark of God's calling in our life, we must repent and receive God's healing touch in our souls. God has provided a way for this healing to take place. Again the Psalmist David addressed this in the nineteenth Psalm: "The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple." Psalm 19:7

The law of the Lord is the whole Word of God, from Genesis through Revelation. His Word was given for the healing of the soul, to bring our soul again into a right



relationship with the mind of Christ. When we are in tune with the Holy Spirit anointing, it brings us unto the new created man that is created in righteousness and true holiness. We cannot come into the new created man until our thinking process changes. Our thoughts must come into the complete control of the Holy Spirit anointing in our lives. Again David revealed:

"The Lord redeemeth the soul of His servants: and none of them that trust in Him shall be desolate." Psalm 34:22

Our soul must be redeemed. The word redeemed means "ransomed, rescued, and delivered".

This process can only be accomplished through God's anointed Word. We must not only trust completely in His Word, it must be applied every day in every situation in our life. The Word must be as frontlets before our eyes. It must constantly be before every thought and circumstance. Our trust must be wholly and completely in God and His Word. When we trust completely in Him we shall not be desolate (guilty). We will then be free from sin (guiltiness). We will then be ready to have a personal meeting with God. The Psalmist Korah revealed: "My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God?" Psalms 42:2

Korah was pouring out his heart before God. His soul was thirsting for God. Korah knew he had to have a change in his thinking process before he could stand before the living God. Korah continued his lamentation: "*My tears have been my meat day and night, while they continually say unto me, Where is thy God?*" *Psalm 42:3*

Korah sought God with tears. Others mocked and scorned Korah for his diligent search for his God.

"When I remember these things, I pour out my soul in me: for I had gone with the multitude, I went with them to the house of God, with the voice of joy and praise, with a multitude that kept holyday."

Psalm 42:4

Korah had gone with the multitude to the house of God. He displayed joy with his voice. He praised God. He did as the multitude. He kept the holy days. Korah, like many today, went with the multitude to the house of God. They do all the religious things. They praise and worship God with their voice or mouth. They still keep their religious rituals, and because of this their souls continually cry out for God because their religious activities do not fulfill their need for a personal relationship with God. All their religious activities do not change the soul (*their way of thinking*). This can only be accomplished by the Anointed Word of God.

The salvation of man's soul has been neglected by the religious system.

Those who are called by God's name remain in their carnal, worldly thinking processes. They miss what God has for them because the riches, pleasures, and the cares of this life have choked the Word out of their life, and they fall by the wayside, Luke 8:14. In his letter to Titus, Paul revealed those whose souls have been changed: *"Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled." Titus 1:15*

Those who are allowing the salvation of the soul to take place in their lives are becoming pure. To the pure all things are pure. Their thinking is pure, their way of life is pure, their relationships are pure, their words are pure. Those who have not allowed the Word to change their way of thinking are defiled and unbelieving. Nothing to them is pure. Their minds and consciences remain defiled. We would like to believe Paul wrote the last part of this scripture to the worldly people. We must remember the Bible is written to the people of God. There are many who have taken the name of "Christian", whose minds and consciences remain defiled. They have not changed their way of thinking. The old man is still evident in their walk. Their thinking remains as the world. God's salvation process for the soul is not evident in their lives. Paul wrote to the Philippians about a changed way of thinking:

"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." Philippians 4:8

God is going to have a people whose thinking is changed. He will use these to inhabit His Kingdom. The old things must pass away if all things are going to become new in our life. The change must come in the way we think, then our actions will change, and our lives will change. The salvation of the soul will be complete. Then, and only then, will we become acceptable before our God.

CHRISTIAN MATURITY AND SPIRITUAL VICTORY —

- bring to pass the **salvation of the soul** these go hand-in-hand.
- The entire process of God's restoration work throughout the six days is with a view to that which lies beyond, on the seventh day. It is with a view to the Sabbath rest awaiting the people of God.

Herein lies the mystery of our full salvation, following the pattern of the restoration works of God's creation.

REST

God created the heaven and the earth all in **six days** and He rested on the seventh day!

The Seventh Day, God Rests

"Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. 2 And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. 3 And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made". **Genesis 2:1-3 KJV**

The Bible says that one day is like a 1000 years and a 1000 years as one day – this means that from the beginning the Lord intended a 6000 year rule and reign before man entered into His divine rest! (*But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.* 2 *Peter 3:8*)

Notice that the Lord referred to the evening and the morning and it was the first day (Genesis 1). So, it goes on until the sixth day.

And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the **evening and the morning were the sixth day. Genesis 1:31**

In the original Hebrew text the Bible did not have any chapters. The end of Chapter 1 verse 31 connects with the first verse of Chapter 2 – and it states that the heavens and the earth were finished and God rested on the seventh day from all His work which He made.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. 2 And on the **seventh day God ended his work which he had made**; and he

rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. 3 And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made. Genesis 2:1

Clearly there was no mention of the **evening and morning** again. This is profound because God only made Adam in verse 7.

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. **Genesis 2:7**

This clearly indicated that God created Adam at a very precise time and date for him to enter into the Sabbath day – In other words into God's Rest. As God created man - towards the end of the six-day toward sunset. God ceased from His own works on the Sabbath day. Adam & Eve entered into the Sabbath day - into God's rest. When God created Adam and Eve, they did not need to petition God for food or any provision! God created everything they needed - everything had been done - hence Adam & Eve entered into their rest. This is what the Sabbath pictured - God already did everything in the New Covenant.

There remains a rest for the believer according to scriptures.

In Genesis, Chapter 2 the word rested means *shabath*.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. 2 And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he **rested** ^{H7673} on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. 3 And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made. Genesis 2:1

H7673 shâbath

shaw-bath'

A primitive root; to *repose*, that is, *desist* from exertion; used in many implied relations (causatively, figuratively or specifically): - (cause to, let, make to) cease, celebrate, cause (make) to fail, keep (sabbath), suffer to be lacking, leave, put away (down), (make to) rest, rid, still, take away.

The Sabbath Rest is a time of rest.

In Genesis 2 we find the word "**put**". The Lord took the man and put him into the Garden of Eden.

And the LORD God took the man, and **put**^{H5117} him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. **Genesis 2:15**

H5117

nûach

noo'-akh

A primitive root; **to** *rest*, that is, *settle* down; used in a great variety of applications, literally and figuratively, intransitively, transitively and causatively (**to** *dwell*, *stay*, *let fall*, *place*, *let alone*, *withdraw*, *give comfort*, etc.): - cease, be confederate, lay, let down, (be) quiet, remain, (cause to, be at, give, have, make to) **rest, set down**. Compare H3241.

The word here is **nûach** which means a **place of rest**. Our place of rest refers to our dominion rest. Paul understood this and He picked it up in Hebrew Chapter 4 and says that there remains a rest to the people of YEHÔVÂH.

There remaineth therefore a rest ^{G4520} **to the people of God. Hebrews 4:9** In Greek the word rest means **sabbatismos** – which refers to the Sabbath Rest.

G4520

sabbatismos

When we read further along in Hebrews, at verse 9 Paul used the word rest again. There remains therefore a *REST* – *sabbatismos* (G4520) and then says in verse 10 for he that is entered into this rest – that is *katapausis* (G2663) that is the same word in Hebrew *nûach* which refers to the place of rest.

There remaineth therefore a **rest** ^{G4520} to the people of God. 10 For he that is entered into his **rest** ^{G2633}, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his. 11 Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest ^{G2633}, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief. Hebrews 4:9 G2663 κατάπαυσις katapausis

kat-ap'-ow-sis

From G2664; reposing down, that is, (by Hebraism) abode: - rest.

Henceforth there is a difference between "**Dominion Rest**" and the "**Sabbath Rest**". Dominion Rest is the rest that comes when you have taken dominion of your appointed inheritance! The best way to differentiate between the two types of rest is this:

- Sabbath Rest is a time of rest
- But Dominion Rest is a place of rest

To enter Dominion Rest, you must war and labour and, at times struggle!

- Hebrews 4:11 says that we must labour to go into that rest!
- You can only experience Dominion Rest when your enemies have been defeated!
- Be aware that the enemy always tries to occupy your inheritance just like the Canaanites occupied the Promised Land.
- But when you drive the enemy from your inheritance you enter Dominion Rest!

Look carefully:

Hebrews 4:3 – Rest = Katapausis – that is Dominion Rest

Hebrews 4:9 - Rest = Sabbatismos - Sabbath Rest

So Hebrews 4 is the counterpart to Genesis 1 and 2

- Katapausis kat-ap'-ow-sis: A dwelling place or and abode this is Dominion Rest
- Sabbistosmos sab-bat-is-mos': Sabbath Rest

When you turn your back on the Promised Land you will never enter His "REST" because you are not willing to fight to take it! It is amazing that the Psalm Poet also refers to this rest! Paul quoted this Psalm's verse in Hebrews 4.

Forty years long was I grieved with this generation, and said, It is a people that do err in their heart, and they have not known my ways: 11 Unto whom I sware in my wrath that they **should not enter into my rest. Psalm 95:10**

For we who have believed (adhered to and trusted in and relied on God) do enter that rest, in accordance with **His declaration that those [who did not believe] should not enter when He said, As I swore in My wrath, They shall not enter My rest**; and this He said although [His] works had been completed and prepared [and waiting for all who would believe] from the foundation of the world. [**Ps. 95:11.] Hebrews 4:3**

Just as the Israelites were afraid of the Giants and they forfeited the right to possess their promised land they died wandering in the wilderness!!

We can lose dominion rest

- Through unbelief
- By refusing to war
- Disobedience and idolatry
- When you are under a Curse

Do not forfeit your place of rest - Determine today to press forward into Rest

For today's believers - God is saying that the Gospel is preached but the Word did not profit you anything, because you did not mix your faithto what you heard in the Word of God! Therefore, you do not experience a peaceful Christian life!

"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."

Hebrews 4:2 KJV

Real faith is anchored in the invisible realm and is connected to the authority given in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Authority to cast out demons is found in rest. Rest is the climate that faith grows in.

"Accordingly, I swore in My wrath and indignation, **They shall not enter into My rest**. [Ps. 95:7-11.]

Hebrews 3:11

Let us therefore be zealous and exert ourselves and **strive diligently to enter that rest** [of God, to know and experience it for ourselves], that no one may fall or perish by the same kind of unbelief and disobedience [into which those in the wilderness fell]. Hebrews 4:11

It comes from the peace of God. It is the Prince of Peace who will soon crush Satan underneath our feet.

"And the God of peace will soon **crush Satan under your feet**. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah) be with you.

Romans 16:20

There is still a rest for the people of God!

For he spake in a certain place of the **seventh day on this wise**, And God did rest the seventh day from all his works. 5 And in this place again, If they shall **enter into my rest**. 6 Seeing therefore it **remaineth that some must enter** therein, and they to whom it was first preached entered not in because of **unbelief**: 6 Again, he limiteth a certain day, saying in David, To day, after so long a time; as it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts. 8 **For if Jesus had given them rest**, then would he not afterward have **spoken of another day**. Hebrews 4:4-8 KJV

THE SPIRIT OF EDOM

What exactly was the main hinderance of God's people for not entering the promise land? Yes, we all know it was because of their unbelief, not having faith when they saw the giants they just could not push through. Remember our opening statement regarding the meaning of Adam, referring to the color red, symbolizing the man in the flesh? This is part of the answer. And the reader might wonder now what this has to do with our soul salvation. To be ecact – everything. Let us look at this mystery.

Esau

After Adam, we find in Genesis 25 the two sons of Izak, Jacob and Esau. Studying the scriptures we see that God changed Esau's name to Edom, this is where the Edomites came from. Also Esau means red – as he was born with a reddish color. Esau became synonym with FLESH, referring to the carnal man. Also, Esau did not care about his birthright, as he was the firstborn, but rather chose to serve the flesh, he sold his birthright for "red stew" to his brother, Jacob.

Esau Sells His Birth right

29 And Jacob sod pottage: and Esau came from the field, and he was faint: 30 And Esau said to Jacob, Feed me, I pray thee, with that same red pottage; for I am faint: therefore was his name called Edom. 31 And Jacob said, Sell me this day thy birthright. 32 And Esau said, Behold, I am at the point to die: and what profit shall this birthright do to me? 33 And Jacob said, Swear to me this day; and he sware unto him: and he sold his birthright unto Jacob. 34 Then Jacob gave Esau bread and pottage of lentiles; and he did eat and drink, and rose up, and went his way: thus Esau despised his birthright.

Genesis 25:29-34

Esau was serving his flesh, and in the process, he despised his birthright, which had been given to him by God. He sold his birthright – the right to be the next leader of the family – in favor of feeding his flesh. He valued his God-given right to leadership equivalent to a bowl of stew. As a result, *Esau becomes a type of the FLESH all throughout the Bible, wherever you find him or his descendants, the Edomites.*

Jacob

Jacob, on the other hand, was also a very flesh-serving fellow. He did anything he could to get ahead in life, from taking advantage of his brother's weakness to get his birthright, to out right full-on deception to steal the blessing, to craftiness in dealing with Laban to get his flocks. But there was one thing that separated Jacob from Esau – Jacob had a heart for Lord, and Esau did not. Through a series of events, God revealed Himself to Jacob, ultimately culminating in an all-night struggle that left Jacob knowing his weakness, and finally submitting to God, and given a new name... Israel (Gen 32:24-30). Israel means God rules, power with God and man, or Prince with God.

As such, Jacob is a type of the fleshy man who has been saved by God and given a new name – a spiritual name – and made a new creation.

He is a type of the renewed SPIRIT of man in submission to God. His descendants, the Israelites – when found in contrast to the Edomites – are also a type of the spiritual man. Can you start seeing the link – a man in the flesh and a man in the spirit. We are born with a flesh and a spiritual nature – yes they are twins. We are separated from God due to Adam's sin, and we are in need of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ to reconcile our spirits to God the Father. Once saved, we are a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17) in Christ, and our spirit is grafted into the family of God (Romans 11:17), given the right to be called sons of God (John 1:12). On the other hand, our older brother the flesh, is not saved, and in fact is sentenced to death (Rom 8:13).

So all the stories about the Edomites and the Israelites now serve to illustrate this central theme, the struggle between the flesh against the spirit.

To further establish this picture, the Edomites settled in a land that was very mountainous. In fact, they literally carved out their dwellings from the mountains. Today, the most famous of these remains is Petra, and as you can see in the picture, these were not simple "cave-dwellers!" Mount Seir was their capital city, and was considered an impregnable fortress. Enemies had to approach through extremely narrow canyons, and defenders could be perched high up above and easily slaughter any invading army with impunity.

"This is yet a further illustration of the flesh making its dwelling in high and lofty pride, impregnable to attack, unwilling to submit or admit wrong, considering itself aloof from all others. Furthermore, the dwellings were carved straight out of the rock, speaking of a hardened heart which we know is exactly what pride produces."

The Amalekites Attack

The first time we bump into the Edomites is when the Israelites have just left Egypt... a type of the world. In typology, this is the picture of Israel's salvation experience. They cross the Red Sea in a spectacular and powerful water baptism where all their old enemies are cut off and thoroughly destroyed. They've been miraculously blessed with bread from heaven (John 6:35) and water (John 4:14) from a rock (Ps 18:2) and... then came *Amalek* (Ex 17:8). When Israel left Egypt, the Egyptians gave them tons of gold and riches as a "parting gift." Thus Israel was carrying with them the wealth of Egypt – not insignificant! *Amalek* happens to be the grandson of Esau, and Amalek's father's name was Eliphaz (Gen 36:16). Eliphaz means "my god is fine gold" and Amalek literally took his father's and his grandfather's nature, and decided to swoop in and steal Israel's gold (blessing).

Whenever we gain something in the spirit, watch out for Amalek – he will come to snatch away whatever victory you've gained by whatever means is available ("The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy John 10:10 …"). Amalek is like the birds of the air that devoured the seed as soon as it hit the ground (Luke 8:5).

In this particular story, the only way the *Israelites overcame the Amalekites was when Moses held out his staff with both hands,* from on top of the mountain. Looking up from below, the soldiers would have seen a silhouette of the cross. When Moses lowered the staff, the Amalekites were winning, but as long as that cross was lifted up over the battle, Israel had the victory. For now though, know that Amalek as a type of the *flesh empowered by demonic forces* (birds of the air), will take any opportunity to try to steal our blessings and freedom that we have in the spirit.

The Edomites Block the Passage to the Promised Land

The next time we come across the descendants of Esau, it is when Israel wants to cross Edomite territory to get to the land promised to them by God (Numbers 20:14-21):

"Now Moses sent messengers from Kadesh to the king of Edom. "Thus says your brother Israel:'You know all the hardship that has befallen us, how our fathers went down to Egypt, and we dwelt in Egypt a long time, and the Egyptians afflicted us and our fathers. When we cried out to the Lord, He heard our voice and sent the Angel and brought us up out of Egypt; now here we are in Kadesh, a city on the edge of your border. Please let us pass through your country. We will not pass through fields or vineyards, nor will we drink water from wells; we will go along the King's Highway; we will not turn aside to the right hand or to the left until we have passed through your territory."

Then Edom said to him,

"You shall not pass through my land, lest I come out against you with the sword."

So the children of Israel said to him, "We will go by the Highway, and if I or my livestock drink any of your water, then I will pay for it; let me only pass through on foot, nothing more."

Then he said,

"You shall not pass through."

So Edom came out against them with many men and with a strong hand. Thus Edom refused to give Israel passage through his territory; so Israel turned away from him. Note how the Bible records this as a conversation between two brothers, and not between two nations? Here's the question of the day that each one of us ought to ask:

Does my flesh ever prevent my spirit from breaking through to its promised inheritance in Christ?

The answer to the question is undeniably YES for all of us. The flesh ALWAYS tries to block the spirit from its inheritance. The *flesh* has its own agenda, and that agenda is always *antichrist*. Remember, "antichrist" actually means "*in place of Christ*" and in that sense, the flesh is always seeking pre-eminence, and that is always at the expense of Christ. The two are mutually exclusive.

The Edomites Conquered by David

Fast forward a few hundred years, to when King David is establishing his kingdom. In 2 Samuel 8:14 it mentioned Edom as a type of the flesh:

"He also put garrisons in Edom; throughout all Edom he put garrisons, and all the Edomites became David 's servants. And the Lord preserved David wherever he went."

David is a type of the *overcomer* in Christ, so he fits in perfectly with our picture of Israel being the renewed spirit.

However David, as a type of overcomer, has turned the tables on the Edomites and made them his servants. This is a great picture of conquering the flesh (**1 Corinthians 9:27**), and giving it no opportunity to rebel.

In the New Testament, Paul tells the Ephesians (Ephesians 4:27) "*do not give the devil a foothold*." He also goes even further and says "*put to death the works of the flesh*" (Romans 8:13).

We are not to tolerate the works of the flesh – even under guard – but rather we are to crucify the flesh with its passions and desires (Galatians 5:24).



Amaziah – Conquering Flesh with Flesh

"Then Amaziah strengthened himself, and leading his people, he went to the Valley of Salt and killed ten thousand of the people of Seir. Also the children of Judah took captive ten thousand alive, brought them to the top of the rock, and cast them down from the top of the rock, so that they all were dashed in pieces.

But as for the soldiers of the army which Amaziah had discharged, so that they would not go with him to battle, they raided the cities of Judah from Samaria to Beth Horon, killed three thousand in them, and took much spoil.

Now it was so, after Amaziah came from the slaughter of the Edomites, that he brought the gods of the people of Seir, set them up to be his gods, and bowed down before them and burned incense to them. Therefore the anger of the Lord was aroused against Amaziah, and He sent him a prophet who said to him, " Why have you sought the gods of the people, which could not rescue their own people from your hand?"

So it was, as he talked with him, that the king said to him, "Have we made you the king's counselor? Cease! Why should you be killed?"Then the prophet ceased, and said, "I know that God has determined to destroy you, because you have done this and have not heeded my advice."" 2 Chronicles 25:11-16

The lesson here is that Amaziah tried to conquer the Edomites through his own strength – "Amaziah strengthened himself." When you start reading the chapter, it almost looks like he was going to go to battle in faith; he turned away the Israelite mercenaries he'd hired. But then he strengthens himself, and proceeds to toss 10,000 captives alive off a cliff... and adopt their gods for himself! The secular kings of the day understood that if they conquered another nation, their gods were clearly stronger than the conquered nation. Look at Pharoah's reaction to the God of the Israelite



slaves... he mocked Him. The Babylonians and others all did the same. If you conquered someone, clearly, your gods were stronger than theirs.

But Amaziah actually took the gods of the people he had conquered – the Edomites / Flesh – and made them his own! He began worshiping the gods of the flesh, rather than the Living God, Yahweh.

When you try to conquer the flesh through the means of the flesh, you will end up serving the flesh. In other words, flesh will always win. You cannot put to death the flesh through works of the flesh, because the flesh will never commit suicide. It must be destroyed by the work of the spirit.

How many times have you seen someone try to lose weight, and take up smoking instead? Or they try to lose weight, and become addicted to working out? Perhaps they think they talk too much, and instead they become perpetually silent. Satan always tries to get us off the moderate middle ground. He doesn't care which extreme we're at, as long as it is an extreme and not on the straight and narrow way with Christ. If you yo-yo back and forth from fleshly position to fleshly position, he's happy with that – just as long as we're not attacking the flesh from the spirit!

The other lesson from this story is that when we've decided *to worship the gods of the flesh*, the voice of the *Spirit will cease*.

The prophet was silenced, and Amaziah no longer had the benefit of God's advice and direction for his reign. The same holds true in each one of our lives – if someone deliberately chooses flesh over spirit, they should not expect to hear much from the spirit until there is repentance.

Perpetual Enmity

Throughout history, the Edomites took every single opportunity to steal, kill, and destroy their brethren the Israelites. There was never any mercy, never a missed opportunity – it was sheer vicious hatred.

"Moreover the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, Son of man, set thy face against mount Seir, and prophesy against it, and say unto it, thus saith the Lord God; Behold, O mount Seir, I am against thee, and I will stretch out mine hand against thee, and I will make thee most desolate. I will lay thy cities waste, and thou shalt be desolate, and thou shalt know that I am the Lord. Because thou hast had a perpetual hatred, and hast shed the blood of the children of Israel by the force of the sword in the time of their calamity, in the time that their iniquity had an end" Ezekiel 35:1-5 KJV

In the KJV, it says Edom has a perpetual hatred for Israel (See also Amos 1:11). Other translations render that as ancient hostility, eternal hatred, everlasting enmity, and perpetual enmity.

This actually describes the problem of the flesh quite perfectly: the flesh has an everlasting hatred and hostility against the things of the Spirit.

"Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God."

Romans 8:7-8

In Romans, Paul says "the carnal mind is enmity against God..." that is its very nature, and the flesh cannot change its nature any more than a leopard cannot change its spots. Indeed, the flesh cannot submit to the Spirit. It's not even that it refuses, because that implies choice – it simply cannot fulfill the law of God, it contrasts completely.



So here's another big question: Do we really discern and understand the true nature of our flesh, according to Jeremiah 17:9?

"Do you understand that your flesh is inherently evil and dead set on the destruction of anything that Christ has done or wants to accomplish in your life? Once we begin to understand how vicious this flesh nature is, we begin to see why Paul said in Romans 8:13: "For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live."

I'd like to clarify that when I'm speaking about the flesh, I do not mean our physical body, although that plays a role. Our bodies are not inherently evil; they were created by God, and although we struggle with the consequences of sin (sickness, disease, etc), it does us no good – nor does the Bible ever teach – that we ought to literally destroy any part of our bodies. Paul said to put to death the deeds of the flesh... not the flesh itself. We are talking about the flesh nature within each one of us. The desires of the soul (James 1:14) are intimately connected to our body of course, and yet are distinct. There are doctrines floating around that we ought to literally beat our own bodies into submission via torture, cutting, or whatever other means – let me say that these are demonic doctrines and I do not in any way advocate them. Our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19-20) and must be treated and respected as such.

Our flesh nature on the other hand – the desires and will of our soul – must be brought into alignment with the spirit.

Herod the Edomite

By the time of Jesus, the Edomites (ie flesh nature) were thoroughly integrated into Jewish life. It is not surprising then, that we see that their religion had turned completely *fleshly*, to the point that Jesus was often openly rebuking the Pharisees.

"They answered and said to Him, "Abraham is our father." Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would do the works of Abraham. But now you seek to kill Me, a Man who has told you the truth which I heard from God. Abraham did not do this. You do the deeds of your father."

Then they said to Him, "We were not born of fornication; we have one Father — God." Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me. Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word. You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it."

John 8:39-44

The flesh will try to appear spiritual wherever possible, but you cannot change its true nature. Jesus saw right through the smoke screen, and called a spade a spade.

THE GOOD NEWS

The other problem is that pride blinds us. Something must cut through that pride, that flesh nature, to reveal to us the true nature of our flesh, because if one thing is certain, our flesh will never do that on its own.

The good news is that we have now been made a new creation in Christ Jesus, and we no longer have to live by the flesh! In Romans 6-8, Paul really develops this theme. Our flesh nature has been crucified with Christ, our spirits have been made and raised anew, and we are no longer slaves to sin. With that said, in Romans 7, Paul describes the battle between the flesh and the spirit – the old man and the new man. As long as we are in these bodies, we will continue to have this struggle. That doesn't mean we can't be victorious, I believe it is possible to live a victorious life. But it does mean, that like David, we need to be constantly on guard against the flesh.

ULTIMATELY, THE FLESH WILL BE COMPLETELY DESTROYED. AND THAT, MY FRIEND, IS GOOD NEWS!

OBADIAH – VICTORY OVER THE FLESH

Personal Testimony

In my own cleansing period (when God started with me at that time, I had no idea what was going on), 14th June 2010 God gave me Rhema word from Obadiah – till then – I do not think I had even read one verse from this Book – so the message was totally new to me.

With it – **Genesis 32:36** also came which tells the story between Esau and Jacob's division, **Jacob** (**who's name means betrayer**) ultimately culminating in an all-night struggle that left Jacob knowing his weakness

finally submitted to God, and given a new name... **Israel**, which means "**God rules**", power with God and man, or Prince with God.

These two messages made a huge impression in my soul [I was cut to the heart] at that stage – I wept over it for a very long time and I also confess what the Spirit of the Lord put in my heart. I confessed to my family (brothers, sisters in law, mother, father and wife).

It is however a pity that I never came to understand the fullness of the message, until now!

How blessed is the man who receives understanding from the Word of God – blessed be Your Name, My Lord for revealing these profound truths unto me that there is verily good new in your Rhema Word from the Book of Obadiah.

Obadiah is a small little book. One Chapter with only 21 verses.

1 "The vision of Obadiah. Thus saith the Lord GOD concerning Edom"

The opening statement (I totally missed it) – a vision to Obadiah – from the Lord, God about the destruction of Edom (*the Edomites, the carnal man*). On this day – 25th July 2018 – my spirit and soul are 180^o opposite from 14th June 2010 – My Spirit and Soul are in total peace, my heart is full of melodies and hymns and psalms – because My GOD DELIVERED me from the carnal old man in the flesh! Wow Lord!

1b "Arise ye, and let us rise up against her in battle"

The battle between the FLESH and the SPIRIT!

3 The pride of thine heart hath deceived thee, thou that dwellest in the clefts of the rock, whose habitation is high, that saith in his heart, Who shall bring me down to the ground?

Remember that the Edomites settled in a land that was very mountainous.

Jip – that is where my house has been built – my physical dwelling place! "God was personally saying to me that your flesh making its dwelling in high and lofty pride, impregnable to attack, unwilling to submit or admit wrong, considering itself aloof from all others. My own dwelling (house) was erected on solid rock, speaking of a hardened heart which we know is exactly what pride produces."

4 Though thou exalt thyself as the eagle, and though thou set thy nest among the stars, thence will I bring thee down, saith the LORD.

Because we do not know the nature of God, we cannot truly trust in Him and in His ways.

At that time I took this verse literally. Thought God's punishment, judgment, wrath etc will come down on me. The more we come to an understanding of God's true nature, we soon realise that God's judgment and wrath is for our correction and not destruction!

Arise for the battle – our Father is preparing the battle field, sending his Son, Jesus Christ to conquer everything that stands in the way between Him and His Bride. On our behalf He is destroying the carnal man in the flesh – we only need to allow Him to do so.

All the verses following this up to verse 16 deals with the battle between the FLESH and the SPIRIT, using Esau and Jacob as a typology! Then comes the turning point –

the good news (which I never discovered at first, until know with all my previous Rhema Word God gave me)

I just like to pause here for a moment, because the Lord gave me another message on 4th November 2012 that helped me to understand God's intensions! Since this time, God has revealed much to me and opened up my understanding for His Rhema Word.

His word was: "I want you to come up to mount Sion, make time and go to a place of rest and restoration where your inner (emotional and spiritual) healing can take place through the ministry of the Holy Spirit"

Oh, had I made plenty notes of this vision and meaning of "Mount Sion"

Also I had to mentioned here Rhema Word on August 2011 from the Lord: "When you see these signs (he gave me the signs which in a nutshell was when things go from bad to worst), up on your feet, your deliverance is near"

Back to Obadiah, the turning point came verse 17.

17 But upon <u>mount Zion</u> shall be <u>deliverance</u>, and there shall be holiness; and the house of Jacob shall possess their possessions.

"This is just too overwhelming for me – God is working in mysterious ways!"

Oh reader, I wish that the Holy Spirit can come through to your soul what God's intension is for you and me.

Sion is a place of fortification – whereto He invites you and me to come – a spiritual place to engage with Him. He desires to strengthen us, to purify, sanctify us, make us whole again and holy. Set us apart for His special use and to become blameless and spotless as His Bride!

From my notes:

"This all comes down to one thing – we must be willing to deny ourselves, take up our cross, and follow Jesus the Messiah (Luk 9:23). Self-denial is the cross we bear. The old man of flesh and sin has to be rendered dead. Self-importance has caused many believers to forsake their FIRST LOVE. We become so busy with "self" that the enemy has succeeded into seducing us to dance on his melody, whilst making us think we are dancing with our Lord."

God is saying to come to Sion with songs and everlasting joy upon your heads where we shall obtain joy and gladness and all sorrow and sighing shall flee away, because God Almighty will come and save us and our eyes of the blind shall be opened and our ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. In the wilderness where you dwell water shall break out and streams will come up in the desert to quench you thirst. I, your God will make a highway for you – the way of holiness (for the unclean shall not pass over) only for the wayfaring men (those on the narrow way).

Rejoice in the Lord, Give Him thanks for setting us FREE

ON MOUNT ZION THERE SHALL BE DELIVERANCE, AND THERE SHALL BE HOLINESS

18 And the house of Jacob shall be a fire, and the house of Joseph a flame, and <u>the house of Esau for stubble</u>, and they shall kindle in them, and devour them; and there shall not be <u>any remaining of the house of Esau; for the LORD</u> <u>hath spoken it.</u>

Then saviors shall come to Mount Zion to judge the mountains of Esau, and the kingdom shall be the Lord's. How many times in the Bible is the Spirit likened to a flame of fire? Flames appeared over the heads of the disciples in the upper room. The fire fell on the altar of sacrifice, and burned up the flesh that was presented, representing our own flesh there on the altar. Here, the house of Jacob and Joseph (*Israel*) represents the Spirit, and surprise, the flesh... Esau... is the fuel! There are many Biblical examples of dying to self; Esther is a great one that comes to mind. The life of the cross is one of absolute surrender.

"Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it."" Matthew 16:24-25

The Israelites (born-again members of the body of Christ) are prophesied to possess the territory of the flesh, Esau. When Christ returns, Paul says that we will all be transformed (2 Corinthians 3:18); we will be given a body like the one that Jesus had after His resurrection. No longer will we have a flesh nature to deal with, but our body will be fully submitted to our spirit, in the proper order it is supposed to be.

In the meantime though, we are to give nothing to the work of the flesh in our lives. We are to conquer it and keep it under close guard as David did, and even put it to death entirely as Paul did. God spoke - His word will not return void -

"There shall not be any remaining of the house of Esau – if we surrender – God will conquer the flesh through the spirit"

So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

Isaiah 55:11

It was the Edomites that blocked the passage of the Israelites to the Promised Land! There remain a rest for my people – and it is the flesh that blocks the passage for you to enter your promised land – your dominion rest – your full salvation!

Warring

Warring is a necessity to possess the promised land! This is not a physical battle, but a spiritual battle. Even more and better news, this time when you are on the other side of the Jordan (in the side of the promised land), the Lord says; - *"Be not afraid, for this battle is not yours, but God's"*

"for the battle is not yours, but God's"

2 Chronicles 20:15c

Oh, may this encourage all the saints today – God is fighting the battle for us! We must only allow and obey Him!

I would like to encourage you to read the 20th Chapter of the Second Book of Chronicles for this amazing story and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal major truths captured and embedded in this chapter to you.

"So the realm of Jehoshaphat was quiet: for his God gave him rest round about." 2 Chronicles 20:30



SALVATION OF THE BODY

The last part of man's triune existence to be saved is the body.

Man's spirit is saved by **grace**, his soul is saved by **works** (*not works of the flesh as Paul explained: "⁸ For by grace are ye saved through faith and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God, ⁹ Not of works, lest any man should boast." Ephesians 2:8-9*), and his body is saved by **hope**. Paul revealed:

"And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the **redemption of the body**. For we are **saved by hope:** but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for? But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it."

Romans 8:23-25

Paul was speaking of the redemption of the body. Then he stated, "We are saved by hope". The word hope is a futuristic word and means "*to anticipate, expect, and to have faith*". Paul proclaimed, "*Hope that is seen is not hope*". When we see something it becomes fact. Hope is not seen. Therefore, with patience we wait for it. We have the hope of a new body. In his letter to the Corinthians, Paul related a change to our mortal body:

"Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,"

I Corinthians 15:51

The mystery Paul revealed to the church at Corinth was, "We shall not all sleep (die), but we shall be changed." How will our bodies be changed? They will be changed from a natural body to a Spiritual body. When speaking of resurrection, Paul stated: *"There is a natural body, and there is a Spiritual body." I Corinthians 15:44*

Jesus is our example of the natural body.

He is also our example of the Spiritual body. When Jesus walked the earth, He had a natural body. He occupied the same type of body every human on earth occupies. Jesus' body felt heat, cold, pain, anger, emotion, and humiliation just as we do today. The body Jesus had while on earth was terminal because it was in the likeness of sinful flesh. He bore the image of the earthly.

After Jesus' resurrection, Jesus walked the earth for forty days in a different body. This body was not recognized by those who knew Him. It was a body that could appear and disappear. It was a Spiritual body and could only be seen when God opened the peoples' Spiritual eyes. When He re-opened their physical eyes, He would be gone. This happened with Jesus' disciples on the road to Emmaeus and in the upper room. The body Jesus walked in for forty days is our example of the Spiritual body we will changed into, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, I Corinthians 15:52. This mortal body will put on immortality and this corruptible body will put on incorruption.

"So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory."

I Corinthians 15:54

When this change takes place, then death will be swallowed up in victory. This will be the redemption of the body spoken of by Paul. This is when God's salvation plan will be complete in His creation man. This is not some new doctrine. It is the revelation of the oldest doctrine God planned for man. In his letter to Titus, Paul revealed:

"In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;"

Titus 1:2

The hope of eternal life coming forth in mankind has been promised by God since before the world began. Unfortunately, eternal life has been related to a place, not a time. The church system, because of their lack of Spiritual understanding, have relegated eternal life to a place called Heaven. Once we realize heaven is not a place, but a *realm*, our whole outlook on the Bible changes. Heaven is the realm over the earth realm or flesh realm. It is the higher realm where God dwells. When the change in our bodies takes place, then the bonds that tie us to this earth will be broken.

The same Spirit that raised Jesus from His death state can also raise us from our death state.

"But if the Spirit of Him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, He that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by His Spirit that dwelleth in you."

Romans 8:11

As we yield our life to Him, He will totally consume the old, flesh man. By the same Spirit, He will quicken the inner man and renew us day by day. Paul revealed to the church at Corinth:

"In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed." I Corinthians 15:52

Paul revealed the blowing of the last trumpet to the Thessalonians:

"For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:"

I Thessalonians 4:16

When the last trumpet is sounded the dead in Christ shall rise first. Paul was not speaking of those who have gone by the way of the grave. He is referring to those who have died to self and the old carnal ways. These have become alive in Christ. Paul became our example of those who are the Christs at His coming. He proclaimed:

"I am **crucified with Christ**: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me."

Galatians 2:20

Paul had died to self, and the life he was living was the Christ life that God was living through him. Paul was living by the faith of the Son of God. He was not living by his own faith, conjured up in himself. He was living the resurrected life, free from the bonds of death. Death no longer had a hold in Paul's life. Paul had a vision for all who would see.

The vision Paul had was the salvation of the body. Paul spoke much about the change he witnessed in the Spirit. These changes would come upon our mortal bodies. In his second letter to the Corinthians, Paul declared the desire of all God's people:

"For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven: If so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked. For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life."

II Corinthians 5:2-4

God's true body is groaning, being burdened with the old, fleshly man. God's true body is desiring their Spiritual house, their Spiritual flesh. This is when mortality "a body that will die" will be swallowed up of eternal life. This can only come through the Spirit. As Paul proclaimed: "We are saved by hope" Romans 8:24. But what is our hope? Paul

revealed: "To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:" Colossians 1:27

It is not the Spirit that rests upon each of us that is our hope of glory, it is Christ in us that is our hope of glory. When we submit our will to the will of the Spirit and yield our whole being to the anointing, we will be filled with His glory. This is when the salvation of the body takes place. This is when our mortal bodies will be quickened and we will be changed. This is when mortality is swallowed up of life, the life of Christ the living God.

God's plan of salvation is sure:

- The saving of the Spirit was ordained by God through grace.
- We must work out the saving of our souls before God with fear and trembling.
- The saving of our bodies will happen when we allow the Holy Spirit to do His complete work in our lives.

O WRETCHED MAN THAT I AM

Before man cannot cried out "o wretched man that I am" all our efforts unto full salvation will be in vain.

"O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord"

Romans 7:24,25

This scripture stands at the end of Chapter 7 as the gateway into the Eighth Chapter. In the first 16 verses of the eighth chapter, the name Holy Spirit is found 16 times. This is the promise of the life that a child of God can live in the power of the Holy Spirit.

"The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death"

Romans 8:2

From that, Paul goes on to speak of the great privileges of the child of God who is to be led by the Spirit of God. The gateway into all this is found at the end of chapter seven:

"O wretched man that I am!"

Romans 7 describes the man who struggled and wrestled in his own power to obey the holy law of God, and had failed. In his wrestling he finds the answer;

"I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord!"

Man cannot make it unto salvation – He needs a deliverer; Jesus Christ, the Anointed One, our Messiahs. Henceforth, the unveiling of Jesus Christ will be discussed in Part 3.

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"I am the Bright Morning Star -Surely I come quickly" Rev 22:16, 20