



Rev 22:2

HEALING FOR THE *Nations*

HEALING OF THE NATIONS

PART 2: FOUNDATIONAL STONES



"The Son of God willingly destroyed Himself on the Cross"

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FOREWORD

YHWH declared in his word, “I give you good doctrine” (Proverbs 4:2) and “My doctrine shall drop as the rain.”

My doctrine shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew, as the small rain upon the tender herb, and as the showers upon the grass:

Deuteronomy 32:2 KJV

For many years, I had been searching for a sound doctrine and discovered that the Bible contains many references to doctrines, e.g. the doctrine of Christ, sound doctrine, the doctrine of baptisms, the doctrine of demons, the doctrine of Balaam, the doctrine of the Nicolaitans and others.

Isaiah declared that those who go astray in spirit will gain understanding, and those who complain will accept instruction (Isaiah 29:24 ISV). The King James Version translated *instruction* as “**doctrine**”. God’s instruction is our sound doctrine, but satan counterfeits sound doctrine with filthiness and defiles God’s instructions (doctrine). Isaiah says that even priests and prophets erred and defiled God’s instructions.

But they also have erred through wine, and through strong drink are out of the way; the priest and the prophet have erred through strong drink, they are swallowed up of wine, they are out of the way through strong drink; they err in vision, they stumble in judgment. ⁸For all tables are full of vomit and filthiness, so that there is no place clean.

Isaiah 28:7-8 KJV

*Whom shall he teach knowledge? and **whom shall he make to understand doctrine?** them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn*

from the breasts. ¹⁰ For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: ¹¹ For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people. ¹² To whom he said, This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear. ¹³ But the word of the LORD was unto them precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little; that they might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken. Isaiah 28:9-13 KJV

Little by little, precept upon precept and line upon line, divine instructions (sound doctrine) shall come to the spiritually mature. The Apostle Paul says he has much to say to us, although it is difficult to explain because we have become too dull and sluggish to understand. We should already have been “**professors instructing others**” and rabbis ourselves, but instead, we need to be taught the basics of God’s prophetic oracles! We are like children still needing milk and not yet ready to digest solid food (Hebrews 5:11-14).

Paul mentions the foundational Doctrine of Christ needed by the Body of Christ to reach maturity.

*Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of **repentance** from dead works, and of **faith** toward God, ² Of the doctrine of **baptisms**, and of **laying on of hands**, and of **resurrection** of the dead, and of eternal **judgment**. ³ And this will we do, if God **permit**. Hebrews 6:1-3 KJV*

All the counterfeits for God’s sound doctrine have been discussed in The Healing Manual for the Nations, Part 1. Part 2 focuses on laying down a solid foundation

for the believer, so that, when the storm comes, the house will stand and not collapse.

They are like a person building a house, who dug a deep hole to lay the foundation on rock. When a flood came, the floodwaters pushed against that house but couldn't shake it, because it had been founded on the rock. Luke 6:48 ISV

A sound doctrine will lead God's servants to full maturity.

Then you will be God's servant, fully mature and perfectly prepared to fulfill any assignment God gives you. 2 Timothy 3:17 TPT

This is deemed necessary so that the Bride of Christ can be fully prepared for her own assignments given by God. The Lord is restoring His children to their original state as before the fall. He is raising a mature army for Himself, in the image and likeness of Adonai, ready to fulfil any assignment on His command. It is like military training where only the best-of-the-best are eventually chosen for the battle, as with Gideon's army, when only 300 of the original 32 000 soldiers remained (Judges 7).



PART 2:

FOUNDATIONAL

STONES

OUTLAY

This manual consists of two main parts.

- **The Doctrine of Christ.**
- **The Doctrinal Foundation.**

In the first part, we will discuss five main sections.

- Section 1: Laying Down the Foundation.
- Section 2: Personal Foundation.
- Section 3: The Tabernacle – seeing Jesus.
- Section 4: God’s Attributes.
- Section 5: Digging Deep.

The second part has four additional sections.

- Section 6: Repentance of Dead Works.
- Section 7: The Doctrine of Baptisms.
- Section 8: The Laying on of Hands.
- Section 9: The Resurrection of the Dead.
- Section 10: Eternal Judgment.



THE DOCTRINE OF CHRIST

SECTION 1: LAYING DOWN THE FOUNDATION OF YASHUAH

Paul had to go back to the basic oracles of God because the believers were still on milk.

We have much to say about this topic although it is difficult to explain, because you have become too dull and sluggish to understand. ¹² For you should already be professors instructing others by now; but instead, you need to be taught from the beginning the basics of God's prophetic oracles! You're like children still needing milk and not yet ready to digest solid food. ¹³ For every spiritual infant who lives on milk is not yet pierced by the revelation of righteousness. Hebrews 5:11-13 TPT

Solid food is for the mature whose spiritual senses perceive heavenly matters, who have been adequately trained by what they've experienced to emerge with understanding of the difference between what is truly excellent and what is evil and harmful (Hebrews 5:14 TPT). When we have sound doctrine and walk in spiritual maturity, we are armoured to stand against the wiles of the devil. No wonder Paul explained to Timothy that the mature must lead the immature to the truth with great patience so the immature may repent and escape from the snare of the devil.

For a true servant of our Lord Jesus will not be argumentative but gentle toward all and skilled in helping others see the truth, having great patience toward the immature. ²⁵ Then with meekness you'll be able to

*carefully enlighten those who argue with you so they can see God's gracious gift of repentance and be brought to the truth. ²⁶ This will cause them to rediscover themselves and **escape from the snare of Satan** who caught them in his trap so that they would carry out his purposes. 2 Timothy 2:24-26 TPT*

The end-time church has already departed from the faith and, as a result, given heed to seducing spirits and teachings (doctrines) of demons.

*But the Spirit expressly says that in the **latter times** some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and teachings of demons.*

1 Timothy 4:1 MKJV

At this point of apostasy, it is very difficult to speak truths, give instructions or teach sound doctrine to the church, because the members have become dull of hearing.

*Of whom we have many things to say, and hard to be uttered, seeing ye are **dull of hearing**. ¹² For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. ¹³ For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. ¹⁴ But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to **discern both good and evil**. Hebrews 5:11-14 KJV*

The departure from “the faith” leads to the inability to discern between good and evil, or sound and polluted doctrine. It leads to what Paul called a “**seared**” mind (conscience), meaning the mind has been scorched or burned, indicating a lack of sensitivity or care.

*Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; ² Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their **conscience seared with a hot iron**; 1 Timothy 4:1 KJV*

Because of seared consciences, we have distorted images of Christ Jesus, the Anointed One, and live in doubt and unbelief.

Paul continued with Hebrews 6:1-2.

Therefore, leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto 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.*

We need the fundamentals before we can move on. Notice that Paul mentioned “**repentance**” as the very first aspect to deal with when laying down the foundation. It is impossible to be saved without repentance.

- Faith toward God (*not anything else*) is essential for salvation.
- Baptisms (plural - multiple baptisms) are foundational.
- Laying on of hands is a doctrine.
- The resurrection of the dead is the heart of our faith.
- Eternal judgment. Many wrongly believe that being in Christ means there is no judgment, but if we do not **meet Christ in repentance**, we will **meet Him in judgment!**

“And this will we do, if God permit” (Hebrews 6:3 KJV) is a very important verse. The inspector must first inspect the foundation and then permit you to build. Christ will not permit you to build your house before the correct foundation has been laid. It is impossible for your spiritual building to be erected and transformed into the Holy of Holies before your foundation has been inspected by the Anointed One. Only then will He permit the start of the construction.

Dig Deep

The higher the building, the deeper the foundation! This is also a Biblical principle. Jesus told a parable describing how we should build our houses.

Build Your House on the Rock

*And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?
47 Whosoever cometh to me, and **heareth my sayings, and doeth them**,
I will shew you to whom he is like: 48 He is like a man which built an
house, **and digged deep**, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when
the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and
could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock. 49 But he that
heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built an
house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently,
and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great.*
Luke 6:46-49 KJV

Only those who **“HEARETH and DOETH”** God’s Word, who dig deep and lay down the foundation on the **ROCK**, will withstand and survive the storm.

Are you willing to HEAR and DO?
--

Hearing and doing are the foundation that sets the limits for your building.

Christ Our Cornerstone

*Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰ **having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone.***

Ephesians 2:19-20 TPT

The foundation of our buildings is Christ Jesus, the Anointed One. If you desire to transform your building into the Holy of Holies, you need the **CORNERSTONE**.

The erection of a building starts in a corner.

That cornerstone is Christ Jesus!

Paul continues to explain the five-fold ministry, also referred to as “Ministry Gifts” or the “Grace Ministry”.

*And he has appointed some with grace to be **apostles**, and some with grace to be **prophets**, and some with grace to be **evangelists**, and some with grace to be **pastors**, and some with grace to be **teachers**. ¹² And their calling is to nurture and prepare all the holy believers **to do their own works of ministry**, and as they do this they will **enlarge and build up the body of Christ**. ¹³ These grace ministries will function until we all attain oneness into the faith, until we all experience the fullness of what it means to know the Son of God, and finally we become one into a **perfect man** with the full dimensions of spiritual maturity and fully developed into the abundance of Christ. Ephesians 4:11-13 TPT*

Adonai gave us apostles, prophets, teachers, pastors, and evangelists to equip the Body of Christ so each one can grow to full maturity and be ready for their own works of ministry. That means being ready for any assignment.

Then you will be God's servant, fully mature and perfectly prepared to fulfill any assignment God gives you. 2 Timothy 3:17 TPT

Quenching the Holy Spirit's work through the five-fold ministry will lead to a religious system, which is the opposite of a relationship with the Cornerstone, Yashuah HaMashiach.

The Five-Fold Ministry

The main reason so many buildings are collapsing is that apostles and prophets do not lay down the foundation. A teacher or a shepherd cannot lay down the foundation. What a pity that self-appointed pastors, shepherds and evangelists do not acknowledge the office of the apostle and the prophets anymore. Because we do not discern the Lord's body, many are weak and sick.

Throughout the Scriptures, it is Adonai who appoints. No one should be elected. God's word is clear that these ministry gifts are given by Adonai to nurture and prepare all the holy believers **to do their own works of ministry**, and, as they do this, they **enlarge and build up the Body of Christ** (Ephesians 4:12 TPT).



SECTION 2: THE PERSONAL FOUNDATION – JESUS CHRIST

The personal foundation of Yashuah HaMashiach is to see Him throughout the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation. As you study the Written Word of God, the Living Word of God, Yashuah, will be revealed to you. We need to meet our First Love before we can erect the temple where He can abide and dwell permanently.

Yashuah asked His disciples in Matthew 16:15, ***“But whom say ye that I am?”*** Today, I am asking you the same question, “Who do you say Yashuah is?”

Simon Peter answered that question divinely. ***“Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.”***

And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. 18 and I say also unto thee, that thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. Matthew 16:17-18 KJV

A life-changing encounter with Yashuah HaMashiach is the only experience that can change your life. Peter’s encounter revealed to him who Yashuah was.

Peter’s experience discloses an important lesson when laying down the foundation of the Christian faith.

- First, he experienced a **confrontation** about who Jesus was.
- Then, there was a **revelation** through the Holy Spirit.
- Peter then responded to this revelation from the Holy Spirit by **acknowledging** who Jesus was.
- Last, he made this revelation a public **confession**.

The Holy Spirit revealed a deep truth to him, namely that Jesus was indeed the **true Son of God**. *How about you?* Have you had any confrontations in your life, after which the Holy Spirit revealed a deep truth to you? Did you ignore the revelation, or did you acknowledge and share it with others in a public confession?

On the Isle of Patmos, Jesus revealed to John a picture of four animals before the throne of God, each with six wings. They were discovering the greatness and holiness of Yehôvâh Elohim day and night! Without rest, they constantly fell down, crying out, “HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, LORD ALMIGHTY!”

And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.

Revelation 4:8 KJV

John knew Yashuah as the Carpenter’s Son (the Son of Man) and had first-hand experience of Him as the Son of God. Yet, he had never encountered Him with hair white as wool and glistening like snow, eyes like flames of fire, feet like bright metal and a voice like the roar of rushing waters! This encounter with the Messiah caused John to fall down like a dead man!

And walking among the lampstands, I saw someone like a son of man, wearing a full-length robe with a golden sash over his chest. ¹⁴ His head

and his hair were white like wool — white as glistening snow. And his eyes were like flames of fire! ¹⁵ His feet were gleaming like bright metal, as though they were glowing in a fire, and his voice was like the roar of many rushing waters. ¹⁶ In his right hand he held seven stars, and out of his mouth was a sharp, double-edged sword. And his face was shining like the brightness of the blinding sun! ¹⁷ When I saw him, I fell down at his feet as good as dead, but he laid his right hand on me and I heard his reassuring voice saying: Don't yield to fear. I am the Beginning and I am the End, ¹⁸ the Living One! I was dead, but now look—I am alive forever and ever. And I hold the keys that unlock death and the unseen world. Revelation 1:13-18 TPT

Eat the Word of God

If we want to know Him and desire to have a similar encounter to John's, we must devour the Written Word so the Living Word can be manifested in us as the Holy Spirit manifested through Peter and through John on the Island of Patmos.

During his trials and persecutions, Jeremiah experienced that the one single thing that kept him going was the sweet Word of God when he ate it.

[Jeremiah said] O Lord, You know and understand; [earnestly] remember me and visit me and avenge me on my persecutors. Take me not away [from joy or from life itself] in Your longsuffering [to my enemies]; know that for Your sake I suffer and bear reproach. ¹⁶ Your words were found, and I ate them; and Your words were to me a joy

and the rejoicing of my heart, for I am called by Your name, O Lord God of hosts. Jeremiah 15:15- 16 AMPC

So also, did John on the Island of Patmos when the voice came from heaven again, instructing him to eat the little book.

So I went up to the angel and asked him to give me the little book. And he said to me, Take it and eat it. It will embitter your stomach, though in your mouth it will be as sweet as honey.¹⁰ So I took the little book from the angel's hand and ate and swallowed it; it was as sweet as honey in my mouth, but once I had swallowed it, my stomach was embittered. Revelation 10:9-10 AMPC

Not only does the Word of God carry us through tribulations, sufferings and trials, but it also gives us fresh revelations to prophesy into the future (Revelation 10:8-11). The Spirit entered Ezekiel and commanded him to go to the Nation of Israel to bring them the Word of the Lord, for they were rebellious.

*As for you, son of man, hear what I say to you; **be not rebellious like that rebellious house; open your mouth and eat what I give you.**⁹ And when I looked, behold, a hand was stretched out to me and behold, a scroll of a book was in it.¹⁰ And He spread it before me and it was written within and on the back, and written on it were words of lamentation and mourning and woe. Ezekiel 2:8-10 AMPC*

The Word of God will break the bondage of rebellion in your life, and you will receive boldness from the Holy Spirit to share this word with the nations.

*He said to me, Son of man, eat what you find [in this book]; **eat this scroll**; then go and speak to the house of Israel.² So I opened my mouth,*

*and He caused me to eat the scroll. ³And He said to me, Son of man, eat this scroll that I give you and fill your stomach with it. Then I ate it, and it was as **sweet as honey** in my mouth. ⁴And He said to me, Son of man, go, get you to the house of Israel and speak to them with My words. Ezekiel 3:1-4 AMPC*

When we study the scriptures, we will find a word of **discernment** and hate all that is unclean and evil.

I refused to bend my morals when temptation was before me so that I could become obedient to your Word. ¹⁰²I refuse to turn away from difficult truths, for you yourself have taught me to love your words. ¹⁰³How sweet are your living promises to me; than honey is your revelation-light. Psalm 119:101-103 TPT

Obeying God's word means "**hearing, receiving, loving and obeying it**". This is what the Messiah meant in Luke 6:46. When the storm comes, only the houses built by **hearing** and **doing** will last!

We need to love and treasure the Written Word of God as David did.

The rarest treasures of life are found in his truth. That's why God's Word is prized like others prize the finest gold. Sweeter also than honey are his living words— sweet words dripping from the honeycomb! Psalm 19:10 TPT

Job experienced the purification and sanctification of the Word of God in his life.

But He knows the way that I take [He has concern for it, appreciates, and pays attention to it]. When He has tried me, I shall come forth as refined gold [pure and luminous]. ¹¹My foot has held fast to His steps;

His ways have I kept and not turned aside. ¹² I have not gone back from the commandment of His lips; I have esteemed and treasured the words of His mouth more than my necessary food. ¹³ But He is unchangeable, and who can turn Him? And what He wants to do, that He does.
Job 23:10-13 AMPC

What a testimony! He treasured the Word of God more than his daily food! How easily we get distracted by the flesh, which constantly wars against the spirit. The moment we sit down to study the Word of God, the appetites of the flesh withhold us from doing so. Like Job, we need an encounter with God to discover who He is.

Jesus Christ, our Messiah, is the only foundation!

How to Build Upon This Foundation

*And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say? ⁴⁷ Whosoever cometh to me, and **heareth my sayings, and doeth them**, I will shew you to whom he is like: ⁴⁸ He is like a man which built an house, **and digged deep**, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the **stream beat** vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock {Petra}. ⁴⁹ But he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built an house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great.*
Luke 6:46-49 KJV

This parable laid down four Biblical principles.

- Hearing and doing.
- Digging deep.
- Building upon a rock – Petra.
- The storm will surely hit!

Even if you hear and do, but your house is not built on this rock, Petra, the cliff, which is Yashuah HaMashiach, your house will collapse when the storm comes.

Take note that every house is subject to a test. The way into the Kingdom is through tests, trials, and persecutions.

*We point to you as an example of unwavering faith for all the churches of God. We boast about how you continue to **demonstrate unflinching endurance** through all the **persecutions and painful trials** you are experiencing.⁵ All of this proves that God's judgment is always perfect and is intended to make you **worthy of inheriting the kingdom of God, which is why you are going through these troubles.** 2 Thessalonians 1:4-*

5 TPT

The Thessalonians demonstrated endurance through all their trials and persecutions. They proved that they did not only hear the Word of God but also demonstrated it! Hearing and doing are key. No surprise that Paul says faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God (Romans 10:17).

Let us devour the Word of God, so we will be empowered to declare a fresh prophecy, as John did on the island of Patmos. Let the Word of God penetrate deeply into our innermost beings to deal with our rebellious spirits, so we will receive boldness to expose sin and love one another. His radiant light will expose

all uncleanness, as explained by King David. It will quicken our spirits and bring us freedom, as experienced by Job. But only IF we treasure the Word of God more than our necessary food!

The building is under construction, continually growing under Adonai's supervision, until it rises as His completed dwelling place.

You are rising like the perfectly fitted stones of the temple; and your lives have been built up together upon the foundation laid by the apostles and prophets, and best of all, you are connected to the Head Cornerstone of the building, the Anointed One, Jesus Christ himself!
²¹ *This entire building is under construction and is continually growing under his supervision until it rises up completed as the holy temple of the Lord himself.* ²² *This means that God is transforming each one of you into the Holy of Holies, his dwelling place, through the power of the Holy Spirit living in you!* Ephesians 2:20-22 TPT

Who is this Messiah?

Discovering prophecies and symbolisms in the Old Testament helps us discover who Jesus is.

- “Search for **My Names** in the scriptures.” God revealed Himself in many forms when He said, “*I am who I am and What I am, and I will be what I will be. This is My Name forever*” (Exodus 3:14-15).
- “Study the Word of God, and **look for My Son, the Messiah** in all the scriptures, both in the Old and in the New Testament.”
- “You will find me in **My Feasts**.”

- *The feasts of the Lord, which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, these are My feasts. Leviticus 23:2*
- “You will find me in **My Tabernacle**.”

But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. Hebrews 9:11-12 KJV

- “Study **My Attributes**, and you will know Me better.”

My Names

Most of us are familiar with some names of Yehôvâh Elohim:

- Jehovah – The Unchangeable, intimate God.
- El Shaddai – The All-Sufficient One.
- Adonai – Lord and Master.
- Jehovah Jireh – The Lord my Provider.
- Jehovah Nissi – The Lord my Banner of Victory.
- Jehovah Rapha – The Lord my Health.
- Jehovah Shalom – The Lord my Peace and Wholeness.
- Jehovah Tsidkenu – The Lord my Righteousness.
- Jehovah Rohi – The Lord my Shepherd.
- Jehovah Shammah – God is there.
- Jehovah Tsebaoth – The Lord of Hosts.

I invite you to search for many other names of God to discover yet hundreds of names to add to this list!

My Son in the Old and New Testaments

Another way to discover who YHWH is, is to look for the Messiah in both the Old Testament and the New Testament.

SEEING JESUS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT



MATTHEW:
KING



MARK:
SERVANT



LUKE:
SON OF MAN



JOHN:
SON OF GOD



ACTS:
TONGUES OF FIRE



ROMANS:
SALVATION



I CORINTHIANS:
SANCTIFIER



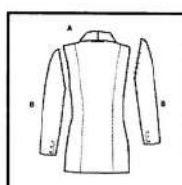
II CORINTHIANS:
APOSTLE



GALATIANS:
LIBERTY



EPHESIANS:
INHERITANCE



PHILIPPIANS:
CHRIST OUR PATTERN



COLOSSIANS:
HEAD OF THE BODY



I & II THESSALONIANS:
GLORY



I TIMOTHY:
COUNSELOR



II TIMOTHY:
TEACHER



TITUS:
PASTOR / SHEPHERD

SEEING JESUS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT (CONTINUED)



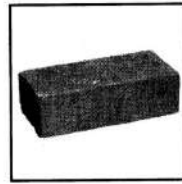
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COMPASSIONATE FRIEND



HEBREWS:
MEDIATOR



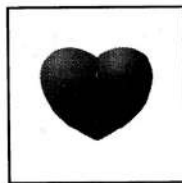
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PERFECT GIFT



I PETER:
CORNERSTONE



II PETER:
THE WAY



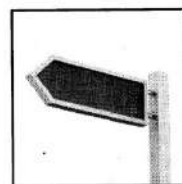
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LOVE



II JOHN:
THE LIGHT



III JOHN:
PROSPERITY

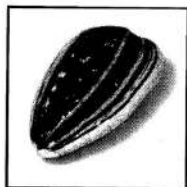


JUDE:
GUIDE



REVELATION:
KING OF KINGS

SEEING JESUS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT



GENESIS:
THE SEED



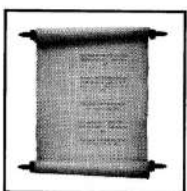
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PASSOVER LAMB



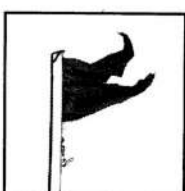
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THE HIGH PRIEST



NUMBERS:
PRESENCE OF GOD



DEUTERONOMY:
THE LAW



JOSHUA:
VICTORY



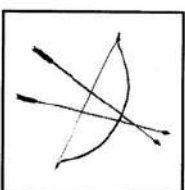
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RIGHTEOUS JUDGE



RUTH:
KINSMAN REDEEMER



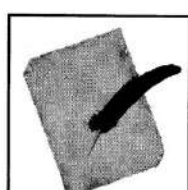
I SAMUEL:
THE PROPHET



II SAMUEL:
THE DELIVERER



KINGS & CHRONICLES:
RECORD BOOKS



EZRA:
FAITHFUL SCRIBE



NEHEMIAH:
RESTORER & REBUILDER



ESTHER:
INTERCESSOR



JOB:
REVELATION OF RIGHTEOUSNESS



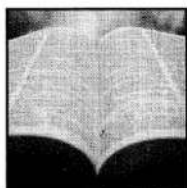
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PRAISE

MARILYNANDSARAH.ORG

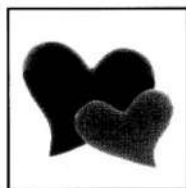
SEEING JESUS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT (CONTINUED)



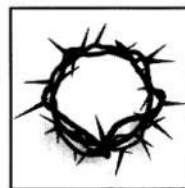
PROVERBS:
WISDOM



ECCLESIASTES:
PREACHER



SONG OF SOLOMON:
LOVER & BRIDEGRROOM



ISAIAH:
STRICKEN MESSIAH



JEREMIAH:
COMPASSION



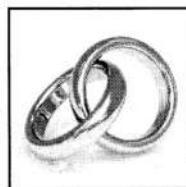
LAMENTATIONS:
FAITHFULNESS



EZEKIEL:
GOD ALMIGHTY



DANIEL:
FOURTH MAN IN THE FIRE



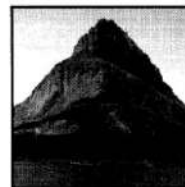
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FAITHFUL HUSBAND



JOEL:
RESTORATION



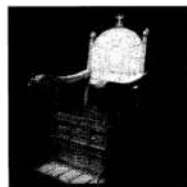
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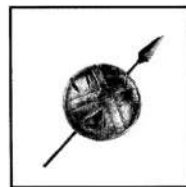
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DELIVERER/MOUNTAIN TOP



JONAH:
MESSENGER MISSIONARY



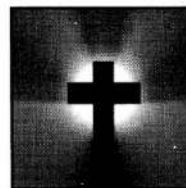
MICAH:
EVERLASTING RULER



NAHUM:
AVENGER



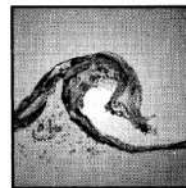
HABAKKUK:
VISION, HOPE



ZEPHANIAH:
SAVIOR



HAGGAI:
STRENGTH



ZECHARIAH:
FOUNTAIN OF CLEANSING



MALACHI:
HEALER

MY FEASTS

Many Bible scholars wrongly refer to the feasts as Jewish Feasts, but they are the Lord's Feasts.

*And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, ² "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'The feasts of the Lord, which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, **these are My feasts**.' Leviticus 23:1-2 NKJV*

Only basic information on the feasts will be provided here. Read Leviticus 23 to see Adonai's commandments regarding these feasts. Four of the seven feasts have already been fulfilled by Yashuah, and the last three still need to be fulfilled.

Passover — Leviticus 23:4-8

This feast represents the last plague in Egypt when the angel of death "passed over" the children of Israel who applied the blood of the lamb to their doorposts. In the New Testament, we see that Jesus, born in a stable, visited by shepherds and years later led to the slaughter, is the Lamb sent for us. His death allows the judgment we deserve to pass over us. When we accept Christ, we accept the loving gift of a second chance.

Unleavened Bread — Leviticus 23:6

This seven-day feast begins on the day following the start of Passover. In the haste of the Israelites to leave Egypt, there was no time to add leaven (yeast) to their bread and wait for it to rise. During this feast, the Jews remember the hardships in Egypt and how God freed them from captivity. In the Bible, leaven often represents sin and decay. Once incorporated, the yeast becomes an inseparable part of the bread. The same is true of sin's effect on our lives. The

unleavened bread represents Jesus' sinless life. He is the only perfect sacrifice for our sins. In John 6:35, Jesus boldly states that He is the Bread of Life. Not only does He remove our sins, but He also nourishes our souls!

First Fruits — Leviticus 23:10

The Feast of First Fruits is one of three Jewish harvest feasts to thank and honour God for all He provides. The priests sacrificed Passover lambs on the 14th day of the month of Nisan. The first day of Passover was the 15th. The Feast of First Fruits was celebrated on the third day, the 16th of Nisan. This was the same day Jesus was resurrected from the dead. In 1 Corinthians 15:20, Paul refers to Jesus as the First Fruits of the dead. He represents the first of the great harvest of souls, including you and me! We will be resurrected to eternal life because of the new covenant in His Blood (Luke 22:20).

Feast of Weeks or Pentecost — Leviticus 23:16

This feast is the second of the three harvest feasts. It occurs exactly seven weeks after the Feast of First Fruits. It is also called Pentecost, which means "50 days". Traditionally, people were expected to bring the first harvest of grain to the Lord, including two leavened loaves of bread. God's plan for saving souls included more than the Jews. Through Jesus, this plan was revealed. In Matthew 9:37, Jesus tells his disciples that "*the harvest is great, but the workers are few*". Then He put the plan into place. In Acts 1:4, He tells them to wait in Jerusalem for the Holy Spirit. The day the Holy Spirit arrived (Pentecost) was the day the church was born! The harvest began with 3 000 souls. The message spread to both Jews and Gentiles (the two leavened loaves of bread), extending the harvest to us!

Feast of Trumpets — Leviticus 23:24

In a beautiful declaration, God commanded His people to rest. All regular work was prohibited, and they presented a food offering to God. In Leviticus 23:24, God commanded His people to gather and commemorate the decree with trumpet blasts. On the same front, the sound of a trumpet is associated with the rapture, or the return of Jesus for His Bride (1 Corinthians 15:52). Many Bible scholars believe the Messiah will come for His Bride on the Feast of Trumpets.

Day of Atonement — Leviticus 16, 23:26-32

To make “atonement” is to make restitution for wrongs committed. As a day of humility and repentance to God, it was a time for the Jews to get their hearts, consciences, and lives right before him. The observance involved the sacrifice of animals as the high priest entered the Holy of Holies. This act was merely an annual payment for their sins. However, hiding in plain sight was the promise of One who would one day atone for their sins permanently (Hebrews 9:12).

He himself is the sacrifice that atones for our sins — and not only our sins but the sins of the world. 1 John 2:2 NLT

The necessity of the Day of Atonement was rendered void by Jesus’ death on the cross. Our debt has been paid! After the Bride of Christ has been raptured (“*harpazo*”), the Messiah will return to make the **final atonement** for the nation of Israel. Currently, they are still awaiting the coming of their Messiah.

Feast of Tabernacles or Booths — Leviticus 23:34

Celebration always follows the Day of Atonement. The Feast of Tabernacles celebrates God’s provision and protection for the people of Israel during their 40

years of wandering in the wilderness. For the duration of the seven days of the feast, people live in temporary structures as they did in the wilderness. The Lord was with the Israelites in a tented temple called the Tabernacle. The feast also celebrates His presence as He tabernacles (dwells) with us.

What a prospect to know that when Christ returns with His Bride to rule and reign for a thousand years, this Feast of Tabernacles will take place on earth and Christ will be with us during this Millennium Reign!

And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God Himself shall be with them, and be their God.

Revelation 21:3 KJV

Even with this small glimpse into the feasts, we see that His intentional love for humanity has endured for centuries. He has left us clues that foreshadow the beauty that is to come. The Old Testament has many hidden truths that, in the New Testament, bring a richer understanding of our lives in Jesus Christ.



SECTION 3: THE TABERNACLE

My Tabernacle

Commit yourself to making an in-depth study of the Tabernacle of God in your own time, and in the process, look for Jesus! God **tabernacles with human beings**, as written in Revelation 21:3. The last feast, the Feast of Tabernacles, **will be fulfilled when Christ tabernacles with His people on earth during the Millennium Reign.**

God commanded Moses on Mount Sinai to build Him a dwelling place on earth, according to the pattern in heaven which God had shown him.

And see to it that you make them according to the pattern which was shown you on the mountain. Exodus 25:40 NKJV

God required the Tabernacle to be built as the place of communication, the "place of intimacy" - God's dwelling place!

Everything in the Old Testament is concealed and then revealed in the New Testament. The Old Testament is a foreshadowing of better things still to come in the New Testament. So, let us not embrace the shadow of things but the true One - the Messiah who is now the substance of the types and shadows. He is the true Tabernacle, since we now have a better covenant instituted before His death, burial, and resurrection. The Tabernacle is the "Masterpiece" of all shadows or types hidden in the Bible. If the shadow contained so much power,

how much more would the substance! If we want to receive the fullness of His power in our lives, we need to make ready to ENTER! Let us define what it means to enter.

God is a God of detail. He gave Moses all the details of the Tabernacle that shadowed and hid His Son, Christ Jesus. The elements in the Tabernacle point to:

- The Four Gospels in the New Testament.
- The end of the world when GOD will dwell among His people.

The free metals God commanded them to use each has a divine meaning:

- Gold - Divinity
- Silver - Redemption
- Brass - Suffering

God then gave precise instructions for the building of the Ark of the Covenant in Exodus 25.

God has a specific protocol for entering the Tabernacle, His dwelling place! Breaking this protocol has consequences, as we can see in the following incident.

And he smote the men of Bethshemesh, because they had looked into the ark of the LORD, even he smote of the people fifty thousand and threescore and ten men: and the people lamented, because the LORD had smitten many of the people with a great slaughter.

1 Samuel 6:19 KJV

We must follow God's protocol to meet Him on the Mercy Seat, which is His seat and His dwelling place, where He will communicate with His people.

What protocol was broken by the Philistines?

When you remove the Mercy Seat, you remove the covering of the Blood of Christ and expose yourself to the law by rejecting the work of Jesus on the Cross. This has devastating consequences!

You will stare death in the eye!

The Tabernacle consisted of three areas:

- The Holy of Holies
- The Holy Place
- The Outer Court

HOLY OF HOLIES

A veil separated the Holy of Holies from the Holy Place. God ordained Moses to put the Ark of the Covenant behind this veil in the Holy of Holies.

HOLY PLACE

In front of the veil, inside the Holy Place, was the Golden Altar of Incense. Also in the Holy Place were:

- On the right - the Table of Shewbread.
- On the left - the Golden Candlestick or the Lampstand (also known as the Menorah).
- The entrance into the Holy Place was the door with five pillars.

OUTER COURT

Outside the Holy Place, in front of the five pillars, was the Outer Court with the following items:

- Brazen Laver, a round bowl with water for washing.
- Brazen Altar - for the sacrifices of animals.

Let us shortly look into the details of the various items in the different areas.

1. INSIDE THE HOLY OF HOLIES

The Ark of The Covenant

Jesus, our Mediator who rose from the dead, is revealed in the Ark of the Covenant. The Ark of the Covenant was made of shittim wood, also known as ironwood, which is a very durable, long-lasting wood. It was covered with gold, which speaks of divinity. Wood speaks of humanity - Jesus as pure human, the body in the flesh. Gold speaks of deity - the perfect man and perfect God. In the wood (Gospel of Luke), we see Jesus as the perfect man, the Son of Man. In the gold (Gospel of John), we see Him as the perfect man, the Son of God. He was fully God.

Within the Ark of the Covenant, we find the following items:

- Two sets of Tables of the Testimony, which are the Ten Commandments written in stone.
- The Golden Pot of Manna.
- Aaron's rod.

The Tables of the Testimony

Moses came down from the mountain with the two stones of testimony. When he saw the people worshipping the golden calf they had made, ***he executed a prophetic action by breaking the stones. This declared that Israel was not ready and able to fulfil the law.*** Moses had to go back up the mountain to receive a second set of commandments from God. This time, God told him to not show it to the people but to put it inside the Ark of the Covenant. By this act, God declared, ***"I will send my SON to fulfil it on behalf of my people."***

Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. Matthew 5:17 NIV

Christ is the end of the law, and because of Him, God has transferred His perfect righteousness to all who believe, says the Passion Translation (Romans 10:4). The law has not been fulfilled by Israel but by Christ Jesus, the Anointed One.

Golden Pot with Manna

The Golden Pot with Manna speaks of the Bread of Life. Yashuah declared that He was the “Bread of Life”. Please make a study of John 6!

Aaron's Rod

The rod of Aaron budded inside the Ark of the Covenant. This speaks of resurrection.

And the LORD said unto Moses, Bring Aaron's rod again before the testimony, to be kept for a token against the rebels; and thou shalt quite take away their murmurings from me, that they die not.

Numbers 17:10 KJV

The Mercy Seat

The Mercy Seat was made of pure gold with no wood in it. It had to be made as one solid piece.

- In the Ark, we see the person of Jesus.
- In the Mercy Seat, we see the purpose of Jesus.

The crown of the Mercy Seat was made of one solid piece of pure gold (no wood), covered by two cherubim. It was put on top of the ark as a lid. From

above the Mercy Seat between the two cherubim, which are the guardians of God's glory, God meets and communes with us.

And thou shalt put the mercy seat above upon the ark; and in the ark thou shalt put the testimony that I shall give thee. ²² And there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubims which are upon the ark of the testimony, of all things which I will give thee in commandment unto the children of Israel. Exodus 25:21-22 KJV

Here we see the cherubim guarding over the work of Calvary. They protected our salvation in the Garden of Eden as they protected the Tree of Life after the fall. Had Adam and Eve eaten from the Tree of Life in their sinful state, we would have been condemned without any chance of REDEMPTION. Adam would have lived forever as a sinner, but now, through the redemption work of Christ, we can live forever as redeemed believers!

And when Moses was gone into the tabernacle of the congregation to speak with him, then he heard the voice of one speaking unto him from off the mercy seat that was upon the ark of testimony, from between the two cherubims: and he spake unto him. Numbers 7:89 KJV

2. INSIDE THE HOLY PLACE

In the Holy Place, we find three items:

- The Table of Shewbread.
- The Candlestick, or the Lampstand, also known as the Menorah.
- The Altar of Incense, filled with spices.

Shewbread

There were 12 loaves of bread on the Table of Shewbread, which point to the 12 tribes and the 12 apostles, which in turn represent the church. The bread speaks of Christ, who is Life and Power. The Son of God is the substance we are feeding on.

The Candlestick – Menorah

This was also made of one solid piece of pure gold.

- It consisted of one stem with six branches, representing the church.
- The seven candlesticks (one stem plus six branches) point to the seven churches of Revelation and the seven stages of the church age, which will end at the church of the Laodiceans.
- In Revelation, Jesus stood amid the seven churches with a message that those who overcome would be rewarded.

It also speaks of the seven Spirits of Isaiah 11, which the Lord outpours on His saints to prepare them for full salvation. The Menorah is not merely a candlestick, but a lampstand in which the oil of the Holy Spirit flows!

We experience Him first as the BREAD and then as the LIGHT. He illuminates our minds. We get the mind of Christ and start thinking like Him. Then, we move into intercession as we cry out, "**Abba, Father**"! That is to cry out, "*Daddy*"!

For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

Romans 8:15 KJV

Now we can experience a glorious and resurrected life! We now walk in pure righteousness, and the people can see it!

Oil and Spices

There were 11 spices on the Altar of Incense. Spices represent our prayer life. When the spices are mixed, they release an aroma acceptable to the Lord and open the door into the Holy of Holies.

3. INSIDE THE OUTER COURTS

The Altar

This was the Altar of the Red Heifer, which speaks of initial salvation. Gentiles couldn't enter the outer courts, meaning that sinners could not enter. It also points to Christ, who died outside of the city (Hebrews 13:12-14). Your ticket to enter is outside the Tabernacle (Hebrews 9:11-15). Entering through the door of the Tabernacle points to Jesus.

I am the DOOR, the WAY and the TRUTH. John 14:6

How blind the religious people were! They were familiar with this concept, yet when the Door arrived, they did not enter and missed their salvation!

Sinners and the unsaved will NOT ENTER THE TABERNACLE. Outside the gates are the sorcerers and the fornicators, murderers, and idolaters – those who love the lie more than the truth. Once you are inside and have accepted the offering, it is not necessary to ever start over again. It is the BLOOD of the ONE SACRIFICE that completed it once and for all!

The Bronze Laver

The Bronze Laver was a round bowl filled with water. The purpose was the washing of the hands and feet of those involved in the sacrifices. This is a picture of our **water baptism**. It represents dying in the water and coming out of the

water into resurrection life. It is a picture of being cleansed and sanctified to appear before the King. It also points to washing by the Word of God.

That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the Word. Ephesians 5:26 KJV

The outside poles of the Tabernacle upheld the outside fence. They were made from shittim wood, referring to the corruptible flesh and the perfection of the Body of Christ. The cup of each pillar was made of silver and the bottom of brass. Silver speaks of redemption, and brass of suffering. Each pillar was held down to the ground by a rope made of goat's hair and a nail halfway in and halfway out into the ground.

- Goat's hair, in Leviticus 9:3, refers to the SIN OFFERING.
- The nails, halfway in and halfway out, speak of the death and resurrection of Christ!

Christ presented Himself to man in all these elements of His dwelling place, yet they rejected Him! He was the fulfilment of the shadow of all things, but they could not grasp it and rejected their Messiah!

Let's summarise the rich truths captured in the Tabernacle in reverse order and review the protocol we need to follow to enter the Holy of Holies.

The Outer Court

THE GATE - RECONCILED

To enter the Tabernacle, God's dwelling place, we must enter through the only GATE, Jesus Christ.

I am the WAY, the TRUTH, and LIFE. No man cometh unto the Father, but by ME. John 14:6

THE ALTAR OF SACRIFICE - REDEEMED

The sacrifice of animals was for the continual remission of sin, but the power of the Blood of Christ, One Man, One Offering, One Sacrifice for sins, sanctified us ONCE FOR ALL.

But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God. Hebrews 10:12 KJV

THE GOLDEN LAVER - SANCTIFIED

Only after our born-again experience and baptism can we move on to the golden laver. This is the place of washing by the Word of God.

That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word. Ephesians 5:26 KJV

The following important scriptures should become part of your life.

- Born of water - John 3:5
- The crucified flesh - Galatians 5:24
- Dying daily - 1 Corinthians 15:31
- Walking in the Spirit - Galatians 5:16

Unless you have crucified the flesh, you cannot enter the Holy of Holies.

The laver contained pieces of mirror. The Word is a mirror to see who we are in Christ. James 1:23-24 gives us a picture of ourselves in the mirror, and there we also discover how Christ sees us. For the believer, seeing the man “in the mirror”

is seeing how God has been seeing us from the beginning, even before the fall of Adam, which resulted in sin's devastation to human hearts. The man in the mirror is the new creation man.

The Outer Court represents our human bodies. This is our place of struggle, repetition, and guilt.

The Holy Place

In the Holy Place, the following elements are present:

- The Shewbread, which speaks of our **Satisfaction**.
- The Lampstand, which speaks of the **Revelation** we receive.
- The Altar of Incense, which speaks of **Exaltation**.

The entrance into the Holy Place had five pillars, representing the five offices of the church, also known as the five-fold ministries. Ephesians 4:11-13 lists these offices of the five-fold ministries, namely Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Teachers, and Pastors. The Passion Bible refers to these as the grace ministries. What is the purpose of these grace ministries?

Their calling is to nurture and prepare all the holy believers to do their own works of ministry and as they do this they will enlarge and build up the body of Christ. Ephesians 4:12 TPT

Because of the Word of God that washes and cleanses us and because of the illuminated **lampstands**:

- Revelation is now ours.
- The word now produces revelation knowledge.
- The oil that causes it to shine (the Holy Spirit) brings revelation.

- God talks/communicates with us.

The **Shewbread**, accompanied by revelation, produced satisfaction, and David cried out that his soul was satisfied! BUT there is a price to be paid! Persecution will follow once we reach this stage of our spiritual lives. Therefore, the shewbread was covered by frankincense, which released a sweet smell yet was bitter to the taste. During persecution, we enter into worship. This is why we come to the **table of incense** before entering the Holy of Holies. The table of incense, containing 11 spices, is pointing us to worship.

The revelation at the Lampstand leads us to **satisfaction** at the Table of Shewbread, which in turn leads us to the wonderful place of **worship**. This again leads to **persecution** and the bitter taste of frankincense. **Only then will we be ready to enter the Holy of Holies!**

The Holy of Holies

This is where the Ark of the Covenant stood behind the veil. This is the place of **glorification, where we touch Him!** David's soul thirsted for his God, and his flesh longed for Adonai. He saw His God in the sanctuary and wrote Psalm 63.

When we touch Him in the Holy of Holies, "deep calleth unto deep".

*Deep calleth unto deep at the noise of thy waterspouts: all thy waves
and thy billows are gone over me. Psalm 42:7 KJV*

The Holy of Holies is where we become the "**apple of His eye**"!

Keep me as the apple of the eye, hide me under the shadow of thy wings. Psalm 17:8 KJV

Let's review the protocol we must follow to touch Him!

- At the Gate, we are Reconciled.
- At the Altar, we are Redeemed.
- At the Golden Laver, we are Sanctified.
- At the Lampstand, we are Illuminated.
- At the Shewbread, we are Satisfied.
- At the Table of Incense, we Exalt Him.
- In the Holy of Holies, we Touch Him!

We must first enter through the Gate into the Outer Court.

- This is our born-again experience, before...
- ...we can enter as a priest and a king into the Holy Place, the place of service!
- Only His beloved high priest could enter the Holy of Holies, which speaks of God requiring of us a deep, intimate relationship with Him before we can enter His ultimate presence!

Are you willing to pay the price?



SECTION 4: MY ATTRIBUTES

The following four common attributes of Adonai will be discussed.

- Omnipotence
- Omnipresence
- Omniscience
- Omnibenevolence

God's Omnipotence

The word “omnipotent” is derived from the Latin word “**Omni**”, which means “all”, and “**potent**,” which means “power”. Omnipotence means to be all-powerful, almighty, and having unlimited power. Adonai has supreme power. This means that He can do whatever He wants to. He is not subject to physical limitations, as man is. Adonai has power over wind, water, gravity, physics, etc. His power is infinite, or limitless. **Our God is an Omnipotent God!** His power is immeasurable, unimaginable, and unlimited.

God's Omnipresence

We can now easily assume that “omnipresent” means “all present”. Adonai is everywhere at the same time. His divine presence encompasses the whole universe. There is no location He does not inhabit. His omnipresence indicates He is distinct from the universe but simultaneously inhabits the entirety of it. **He is everywhere at once!** Nothing is hidden from His eyes. How easily we are

sometimes overcome by self-pity when we ask questions such as, “Where are you, God? Are you even alive? Don’t you see my suffering?”

Adonai is Omnipresent! He is present in all our situations!

God’s Omniscience

Omniscience means “all-knowing” and “all-wise”. Adonai knows everything about the past, present and future. He never needs to learn anything, and nothing catches Him by surprise. Yehôvâh Elohim is the source of knowledge and wisdom, which is found completely in the Messiah. He knows all our needs and will satisfy us! He will change disappointments into delight, frustrations into hope. Instead of shame, we will receive a double portion of boldness. Instead of disgrace, we will rejoice in our inheritance (Isaiah 61:7). Yes, even the least of the smallest desires of our hearts are known to God!

God’s Omnibenevolence

Omnibenevolence refers to Adonai’s perfection or unlimited goodness. **Yehôvâh Elohim is love, and he that loves not, knows not Adonai (1 John 3:8)**. We have been misled to believe that Adonai **expelled** Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden after they had sinned because **He was mad at them**. This is not the truth, as this was an ACT OF LOVE. Adonai protected Adam and Eve from eating from the Tree of Life in their fallen state. Had they eaten from it, Satan would have kept the complete human race in bondage forever, without a chance of redemption. It is because of His sacrificial (*Agape*) love that we now find our redemption in and through the Blood of Christ.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 3:16 KJV

The most prominent thing to believe when laying down the foundation is that **God is love** and His every act is an **act of love**. Hold on to the end! I guarantee that help is indeed on its way and your deliverance is near! What you are going through is indeed an act of LOVE from Adonai, your Beloved! Trust Him with all your heart! Lean not unto your own understanding, and He WILL direct your paths and lead you into victory and maturity (Proverbs 3:5-6)!

Sometimes, we undergo indescribable painful situations and become wounded and broken-hearted because of unexpected outcomes. In all the pain, God is with us, holding and carrying us like a father carries his child.

'For I know the plans I have for you', declares the LORD, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.'

Jeremiah 29:11 NIV

Few know the origin of the above passage.

For thus saith Jehovah, After seventy years are accomplished for Babylon, I will visit you, and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place. Jeremiah 29:10 ASV

Here, the Lord spoke to Israel at the end of their 70-year period of captivity. They went into this captivity because of their prideful lives. God's word is very clear that pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall (Proverbs 16:18 NIV). Now we can see the act of love from God's side. Adonai intervened by preventing Israel from falling and being destroyed. He chose to

bring them to a place where they were temporarily humbled, bruised, broken-hearted and crushed so they could get to a point of being “lowly in the spirit”.

I hope you can see that this act of love toward Israel was indeed a mystery, as I also experienced in my own life. Yashuah loves me so much that He did not want to see me go down into permanent destruction. He rather used my circumstances and my enemies to get me to a point of being humbled, broken-hearted, bruised and crushed, so I could repent of my own free will. My Beloved declared He would hear me and deliver me, for His plan was to prosper me and not harm me, to give me hope and a future! Glory to my God who is working a work of mystery! One day, we shall cry out with the saints before the sea of glass mingled with fire in front of the throne:

Great and marvelous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints. Revelation 15:3b KJV

There are many more attributes of Adonai, but they are not part of the scope of this book. Search the scriptures in your own time to add to the following list.

- God is **Infinite** - He is self-existing, without origin. (Colossians 1:17)
- God is **Immutable** – He never changes. (Malachi 3:6; Hebrews 13:8)
- God is **Self-Sufficient** – He has no needs. (John 5:26)
- God is **Just** – He is infinitely, unchangeably right, and perfect in all He does. (Deuteronomy 32:4)
- God is **Glorious** – He is infinitely beautiful and great. (Habakkuk 3:4)



SECTION 5: DIG DEEP

Build Your House on the Rock

*And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say? ⁴⁷ Whosoever cometh to me, and **heareth my sayings, and doeth them**, I will shew you to whom he is like: ⁴⁸ He is like a man which built an house, **and digged deep**, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock. ⁴⁹ But he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built an house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great. Luke 6:46-49*

KJV

Digging deep means getting rid of unwanted building materials and replacing them with reinforcement steel and concrete so the foundation will not crack. Let us discuss some unfit building materials we often use in our foundations.

Unfit Building Materials

1. The Past

The very first element to get rid of is the past, because it constantly holds us back and keeps us in bondage by memories of trauma and hurt. Satan is a master at reminding us of the past.

To get rid of the past, we must remind ourselves that no one can earn God's righteousness. It can only be transferred to us when we no longer rely on our own works but believe in the One who powerfully declared the ungodly to be righteous in His eyes. Faith transfers God's righteousness into our account (Romans 4:5 TPT).

2. Traditions

We are taken into captivity by our human traditions and philosophies. They prevent us from obedience and deliverance.

See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the elemental spiritual forces of this world rather than on Christ. Colossians 2:8 NIV

3. Prejudices

In our society, we seriously need to deal with prejudices. We need to get rid of racial, denominational, social, and personal prejudices.

4. Preconceptions

I believe the most damaging preconception we have is our wrong perception of who Jesus is and how to serve Him. Believers seek the Lord in pagan rituals, e.g., Christmas, holidays (pagan feast days that have nothing to do with the Lord's Feasts) and hiding Easter eggs. Little by little the world creates a twisted picture of the Messiah, and we all fall into the trap. The result is unbelief.

5. Unbelief

Satan is a master at stealing our faith through lies and deceptions. We should not pray for more faith, but we need to get rid of unbelief. In the Gospel of Mark,

a man came to Yashuah, asking Him if He **could** heal His Son (Mark 9:22). Yashuah answered (my own words), “What do you mean, if I can? This is not about Me. This is about your faith. If you believe, all things are possible (Mark 9:23). The father cried out with tears, *“Lord, I believe; help me with my unbelief”* (Mark 9:24). Unbelief closes the mind to faith. Many believers give up because their unbelief pictures Adonai as one who does not want to help them.

6. DNA Ties

The Lord showed me the importance of breaking soul ties and getting rid of hidden sin. I identified these hidden sins as “DNA Ties”.

The Lord already knows all, and He wants to help us. He wants to cleanse us from all filthiness so we can stand before Him as a spotless and blameless Bride without wrinkles. The taller and bigger the building is going to be, the deeper we need to dig. We must get rid of filthiness, soft clay, and unsuitable materials, and insert reinforced concrete. Quite often, we do not even realise that unsuitable materials are part of our foundations, such as:

- Bitterness
- Unforgiveness
- Resentment (even after having forgiven someone!)
- Strife and envy (*“Where there are strife and envy, there are all evil works”* James 3:16).
- Stubbornness
- Rebellion
- Pride
- Guilt
- Unlovingness

- Lack of nurture
- Occultism
- Rejection

The only way to deal with these sins is execution.

The Word of God

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. John 1:1 KJV

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father) full of grace and truth. John 1:14 KJV

We cannot deny that Jesus is the Word of God! **He manifests Himself to us through the Word of God!** Many wrongly believe that ordinary men wrote the Word of God. The Holy Spirit, however, was the author of the Word. Man was only the vessel and was subjected to error and in need of purification

A Coal from the Altar

One of the most significant examples of man being purified is the prophet Isaiah. He considered himself impure and living in a society of impurity. The Lord knew it. A seraph took a live coal from the altar, touched his lips, and cleansed him.

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

What words did Isaiah utter directly after his lips had been cleansed?

Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. Isaiah 7:14 KJV

He prophesied that Immanuel was on His way to be born from a virgin! Glory to GOD! Saints, this is how the scriptures were written - by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, using man as His vessel. Let there be no doubt that the Written Word cannot be broken. It is not of human inspiration or for human interpretation.

If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken. John 10:35 KJV

Using the Scriptures

Satan came to Eve and made her doubt God's words. "*Did God really say you cannot eat from the tree, or you shall die?*"

Unless you know the scriptures and walk in truth, you will be deceived!

In contrast to Eve, Jesus walked in truth. When Satan tried to deceive Him in the desert, He knew the Scriptures could withstand the wiles of the devil. Satan used the same strategy as with Eve, namely doubt.

If you are the Son of God...? Matthew 4:3

Without having a conversation with Satan, Jesus simply said:

It is written... Matthew 4:1-11

Satan always uses doubt to deceive us. The only way to deal with this kind of temptation is to quote scriptures!

The Nature of God's Word

We need the Written Word before the Living Word of God can manifest. Both the Written Word and the Living Word are Jesus!

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged 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 KJV

When we study the Written Word of God, it will quickly determine our heart's intentions. It pierces deeply into the spirit and soul to start the process of sanctification. We need to be sanctified to be restored, as each person is born from a corruptible seed. The Word heals us (Psalm 107:20; Jeremiah 30:17) and makes us whole and holy again. The Word of God can penetrate the soul and spirit, the thoughts, and the heart. It discerns our hearts and analyses us to bring us unto holiness. While we are reading the Bible, the Bible is reading us.

For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe. 1 Thessalonians 2:13 KJV

The Word of God is not the word of men. If you receive it as the word of men, it will not prosper or bring you any truth. But if you read it as the Word of God, it will set you free! Our provision is in His promise!

*As a result of this, **he has given you magnificent promises that are beyond all price**, so that through the power of these tremendous promises we can experience **partnership** with the divine nature, by which you have escaped the corrupt desires that are of the world.*

2 Peter 1:4 TPT

This promise entails a partnership with Him. The Greek word ***“koinonos”*** means **“to participate as a partner, to partake of, to be a companion with, to have fellowship with”** the divine nature.

That God shares His nature with us is one of the great mysteries of our faith. The Holy Spirit births us to be God’s true sons and daughters, and **every father imparts his DNA and his “nature” to his children**. The Greek word ***“physis”*** (nature) is taken from the word ***“phyō”***, which means **“to give birth, produce, bring forth, or to grow up”**. Christ lives in us and transforms us into His very own likeness. In Christ, we share His divine nature. We will all bear the image of the Man from heaven, Jesus Christ! (See Romans 8:9-25; 1 Corinthians 15:12-57)

Yashuah explained to Nicodemus that we need a born from above experience. The following statement may sound confusing. Many may have the same father, Yehôvâh Elohim, but not all of us have the same mother. Our Father is in Heaven, but some of us are born of the slave woman, Hagar, representing Ishmael, the slave-child. Those who are born from above, from the New Heavenly Jerusalem, are born of the free woman, Sarah, representing the free child, Isaac. *(For more information, read “Isaac and Ishmael, Born from a Free and Slave Woman”. It can be downloaded from our website under Products, Booklets menu.)*

The Word Gives Faith

Often, we pray for more faith, but faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God (Romans 10:17). Paul explains it is impossible to believe in Him unless we have heard of Him.

How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? Romans 10:14 KJV

The Word makes us Children

The Word of God gives us the right to become His children.

God was delighted to give us birth by the truth of his infallible Word so that we would fulfill his chosen destiny for us and become the favorite ones out of all his creation! James 1:18 TPT

Of all Adonai's creations we are the favourite ones! We receive the Holy Ghost, and He brings about our adoption to sonship. Then we cry out, "Abba Father!" That is, "Daddy!" (Romans 8:15).

Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." Galatians 4:6 NIV

The Word Purifies Us

*Seeing ye have purified your souls in **obeying the truth** through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently: ²³ Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.*

1 Peter 1:22-23 KJV

What an act of grace from our loving Father to give us a new chance to become His children. He restores everything. We are born from the flesh - from a corruptible seed, but our born-again experience gives us a new life in Christ

Jesus. This time, we receive our Daddy's DNA, which can only be established through an incorruptible seed – the Word of God.

The Word Helps us Grow in Holiness

The Word of God gives us spiritual nourishment and leads us into maturity.

In the same way that nursing infants cry for milk, we must intensely crave after the pure spiritual milk of God's Word. For this "milk" will cause you to grow into maturity, fully nourished and strong for life [The Greek is "grow into salvation."] ³ especially now that you have had a taste of the goodness of Yahweh and have experienced his kindness.

1 Peter 2:2-3 TPT

The nourishment contained in the milk of the Word is like an antibiotic for guile. This milk contains an element that eliminates guile. **Therefore, the Word is guileless, unadulterated milk.** The Living Word is the "**logos**" of God. The "**pure spiritual milk**" is the sustaining power of God's Word, coming from His very breast to nourish and strengthen our inner being. From verse three, we can see that this "**milk**" is the Lord, dispensed to us by His Word. Our craving for this "**milk**" is not only because of necessity, but of delight. He is the Seed, the Word, the Milk, the Lord, and the Living Stone. Just as a baby would be fed on milk for many months to help him grow, likewise, we drink this milk from our Father's breasts, the Written Word of God, to grow and reach spiritual maturity.

The Word Brings Mental Illumination

For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light. Ephesians 5:8 NIV

Break open your Word within me until revelation-light shines out!

Those with open hearts are given insight into your plans.

Psalm 119:130 TPT

Only the Word of God brings light. No education can bring any light. Wisdom and education are not the same. I believe a great part of the trouble in the modern world is because of educated men. Coming from an academic background with years of research and consultation experience, I can confirm that education means nothing. Solomon asked the Lord for **wisdom** and drew leaders from all the nations to meet this wise man.

The Word Brings Physical Healing

Many scriptures in the Written Word of God promise healing. It includes physical healing and even healing of the soul and spirit! Not all believe that by HIS stripes we are healed. **Are you willing to believe the truth, as David did?**

*Some of us were such fools, bringing on ourselves sorrow and suffering all because of our sins.¹⁸ Sick and feeble, unable to stand the sight of food, **we drew near to the gates of death.**¹⁹ Then we cried out, "Lord, help us! Rescue us!" And he did!²⁰ God spoke the words "**Be healed,**" **and we were healed, delivered from death's door!**²¹ So lift your hands and give thanks to God for his marvelous kindness and for his miracles of mercy for those he loves! Psalm 107:17-21 TPT*

In the wilderness, Adonai introduced Himself for the very first time as the Healer, Yehôvâh Rapha, to His people, Israel.

I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee. Exodus 15:26b KJV

According to the Strong's Dictionary, the word "**healeth**" comes from the Hebrew word "**râphâh**", meaning to thoroughly make whole and heal, as in healing received from a physician.

In my search for emotional healing and deliverance, the Word of God came to me through this scripture in Malachi.

But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall. Malachi 4:2 KJV

When I cried out for righteousness and begged to be delivered from the unrighteous deeds against me, the sun arose, and Yehôvâh Rapha brought healing in His wings!

The Word of God brings victory over Satan. It provides cleansing to the believer and is indeed a spiritual mirror to see where we still need to wipe off the dirt.

Let us not neglect the Bible, as it is the key to heaven!



SECTION 6: REPENTANCE FROM DEAD WORKS

*“Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of **repentance** from dead works, and of **faith** toward God, ² Of the doctrine of **baptisms**, and of **laying on of hands**, and of **resurrection** of the dead, and of eternal **judgment**. ³ And this will we do, if God **permit**.”* Hebrews 6:1-3 KJV

This is our main text. Faith toward God follows only after repentance of dead works. The importance and true meaning of repentance are not clearly explained in the Body of Chris. The Bible teaches that all self-effort is dead works because it does not originate from faith. Without faith, it is impossible to please God.

*And it is **impossible to please God without faith**. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him.* Hebrews 11:6 NLT

A shocking truth is that we are under a curse when we act in self-righteousness and self-effort!

*For as many as are out of works of the law, **these are under a curse**; for it is written, ‘Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the Book of the Law, to do them.’* Galatians 3:10 MKJV

We often begin our newborn life in the spirit, but somewhere along the line become focused on ourselves and our self-efforts and try to achieve perfection in the flesh. We tend to ignore Christ's work on the cross and thus nullify Adonai's mercy and grace and dilute His Blood by adding fleshly attempts to it.

**Christ cried out on Calvary,
"It is done!" "Tetelestai!" "It is Finished!"
Nothing can be added!**

Christ already paid the full price for us. The Christian life is a walk of faith. Any effort, task, assignment, or action we take must originate from faith. This is the only way to please Adonai.

Repentance

The first doctrinal stone listed is repentance, and the last is judgment. If we do not willingly meet Adonai in repentance, we will surely meet Him in judgment. Repentance is the birth canal for salvation. Repentance in Greek is "***metanoia***". It means a "**change of the mind**", a complete conversion, a turn, a change of behaviour, or a new course. The Hebrew meaning of repentance is "***teshuvah***", which means "**to turn around**". When we combine these definitions, we get a complete picture of the meaning of repentance: "**To turn around and walk in a new direction, on a new course, with a renewed mind.**"

Paul warns us to not be conformed to this world but to be transformed by the renewing of our minds.

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, in order to prove by you what is that good and pleasing and perfect will of God. Romans 12:2 MKJV

Some people mistake repentance for an act of emotion, but it is merely a choice. It springs from the will and not from the emotions. Emotional repentance results in falling back into the old ways. An emotional experience does not last because the “*will*” did not change. Renewing of the mind suggests an intellectual act. It means we think differently, which brings about a change in our behaviour and results in bearing the fruit of the Spirit. This will be the evidence of true repentance.

Faith and Repentance

Faith follows repentance, as proven by this scripture.

The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God draws near. Repent, and believe the gospel. Mark 1:15 MKJV

*Then Peter said to them, **Repent and be baptized**, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ to remission of sins, and you shall receive the **gift of the Holy Spirit**.* Acts 2:38 MKJV

My heart is broken because deception in our churches withholds many from entering the Kingdom of Heaven. The Messiah longs to freely give us the most precious gift – the gift of the Holy Spirit! Yet most believers live their daily lives without Him.

Those who struggle in their faith have possibly never met the conditions of repentance.

The necessity and meaning of true repentance are hardly ever explained to believers. True repentance is meeting our Lord in the Courts of Heaven, where the prosecutor, satan, accuses us of our weaknesses and sins day and night. Christ, our Redeemer, applies His Blood to our indictment after we have truly

repented. Only then can satan's legal rights in our lives be cancelled, and we can escape the snare of the devil.

For the accuser of our brothers and sisters, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down. Revelation 12:10b NIV

As soon as the broken-hearted repent, changes become visible in their lives. I encourage you to follow these steps of repentance. They are the key to unlocking heavenly blessings.

In an audible voice:

- *Forgive* those who hated you, cheated on you, robbed you, talked about you, criticised you, abandoned you, used you, rejected you, hated you, betrayed you, deceived you and neglected you.
- Give up the *resentment* (*bitter indignation at having been treated unfairly*) towards those you have just forgiven.
- *Bless* them with heavenly blessings and with a life of abundance.
- Now release *resurrection power*, which is *Dunamis* power, in and over your soul and immune system. Declare and decree that they are strong and excellent. This is deemed necessary for the next step.
- *Bind the strongman* and summon him to pay back seven-fold what he has stolen.

But if he is found, he shall restore sevenfold; he shall give all the goods of his house. Proverbs 6:31 KJV

We should never judge others, for no man has the facts or knows the conditions of another person's heart. We ask the Righteous Judge for justice and righteousness.

The Snare of Satan

Satan keeps us in his snare of deception because of our lack of knowledge. Once the veil has been lifted from our spiritual eyes by grace, we need to be patient with those who are still captive and immature. With meekness, the mature needs to help the immature to see the truth.

*For a true servant of our Lord Jesus will not be argumentative but gentle toward all and skilled in helping others see the truth, **having great patience toward the immature.** ²⁵ Then with meekness you'll be able to carefully enlighten those who argue with you so they can see God's gracious **gift of repentance** and be brought to the truth. ²⁶ This will cause them to rediscover themselves and escape from the snare of Satan who caught them in his trap so that they would carry out his purposes. 2 Timothy 2:24-26 TPT*

Sicknesses and Diseases

Adonai is NOT the author of sicknesses and diseases. Satan is the one who steals, kills, and destroys, but Yehôvâh Elohim gives life so we may have it more abundantly (John 10:10).

Paul teaches that there are many voices, and each has meaning.

There are, I suppose, many different languages (voices) in the world, yet none of them is without meaning. 1 Corinthians 14:10 ISV

Let me explain how these voices operate. A voice may whisper to you that someone has said nasty things about you. Then you dwell on the thought and

distance yourself from that person. Soon, resentment and unforgiveness set in. This puts you in torment (Matthew 18:34). When you dwell on this voice over a period, the hypothalamus gland picks up the conflict between the soul and the spirit. The spirit originates from heaven and has no understanding of resentment and unforgiveness, in contrast with the soul that operates from the fleshly realm of the old Adam. This brings conflict between the soul and spirit. The hypothalamus gland is responsible for the regulation of hormones throughout the body. Long-term over- or under-secretion of these hormones, due to stressful conflict, is what brings about sicknesses and diseases. How ironic that some believe sicknesses and diseases are from God, but, at the same time, they visit the doctor for healing.

God's will for us is to be released from the snare of Satan, who caused the sickness. Diseases can sometimes be the result of a separation from Him and His Word in specific areas of our lives due to disobedience to His will. That area is where Satan keeps us in captivity. When a specific disease manifests in your physical body, it indicates the area of separation from Adonai. We often need to be **sanctified** in certain areas of our lives before being healed.

The spiritual root of a sickness could perhaps be because of the unloving spirit. When you feel unloved, rejected, and abandoned, there is a lack of nurture in the bloodline. The **truth** is, Adonai promised He would never leave you nor forsake you (Deuteronomy 31:6). Through God's gracious gift of repentance, the sick are brought to the **truth**, and this will help them escape from the snare of Satan, who caught them in the trap of the unloving spirit.

I daily experience how people's faith is stirred up and how they receive their deliverance from the snare of the devil **after they have repented**. If we do not set this stone of "**repentance**" into our foundation, the building will be unstable.

Through many voices, the devil establishes strongholds *that become part of our personalities*. The Living Bible Translation teaches not to use manmade weapons to knock down the **devil's strongholds**, but God's mighty weapons. These weapons, Paul says, can break down every proud argument against God and every wall blocking us from finding, knowing, and seeing the truth.

*For although we live in the natural realm, we don't wage a military campaign employing human weapons, using manipulation to achieve our aims. Instead, our **spiritual weapons** are energized with divine power to effectively dismantle the defenses behind which people hide.*

*⁵ We can demolish every deceptive fantasy that opposes God and break through every **arrogant attitude** that is raised up in defiance of the true knowledge of God. We capture, like prisoners of war, **every thought** and insist that it bow in obedience to the Anointed One. ⁶ Since we are armed with such dynamic weaponry, we stand ready to punish any trace of rebellion, as soon as you choose complete obedience.*

2 Corinthians 10:3-6 TPT

Notice the link between strongholds and imaginations. The Passion Translation refers to them as thoughts. We must bring them into captivity under the obedience of Adonai.

Changing your mind

Most spiritual problems are because we have never truly repented and changed our minds. We have never made a sincere decision to surrender ourselves to the Lordship of Yashuah HaMashiach. We have never laid down our “will”. What an example set for us in the Garden of Gethsemane when Yashuah prayed to the Father.

And going a little farther, He threw Himself upon the ground on His face and prayed saying, My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass away from Me; nevertheless, not what I will [not what I desire], but as You will and desire. Matthew 26:39 AMPC

Jesus could not bear to carry all the sins, iniquities, and transgressions of the world upon Himself. But He laid down His will and accepted the will of the Father. He set an example for us to lay down our will for Him.

Being Double-minded

Many believers are unstable in all their ways. They are schizophrenic and, in a spiritual sense, have split personalities. They try to please Adonai by going to church, but for the rest of the week, they live a self-pleasing life. The Word of God calls this double-mindedness.

He is a double-minded man, unstable in all he undertakes. James 1:8 ISV

It is not so much about having a lack of faith, but rather about getting rid of unbelief!

For the believer, seeing the man “in the mirror” is perceiving how God sees us, even from the beginning, before the fall of Adam, which

resulted in sin's devastation to human hearts. The man in the mirror is the new creation man.

We all fall short of seeing the new creation man in the mirror because the devil constantly reminds us of the past, of the old man in the flesh. This is double mindedness.

Grace and Mercy

As for me, may I never boast about anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. Because of that cross, my interest in this world has been crucified, and the world's interest in me has also died.

Galatians 6:14 NLT

*This entire building is under construction and is continually growing under his **supervision** until it rises up completed as the holy temple of the Lord himself. ²² This means that God is transforming each one of you into the Holy of Holies, his dwelling place, through the power of the Holy Spirit living in you!* Ephesians 2:21-22 TPT

Let us not grieve or quench the Holy Spirit by preventing Him from working in our lives (1 Thessalonians 5:19, Ephesians 4:30; Acts 7:51).

For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please. Galatians 5:17 NASB

It is the flesh and the will that are rebelling. The flesh must die. Lying down our will is the sign of a crucified flesh.

Living Stones

We are living stones, joined together as a building to be occupied by the Lord.

So, keep coming to him who is the Living Stone—though he was rejected and discarded by men but chosen by God and is priceless in God’s sight.

⁵ Come and be his “living stones” who are continually being assembled into a sanctuary for God. For now, you serve as holy priests, offering up spiritual sacrifices that he readily accepts through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it says in scripture: Look! I lay a cornerstone in Zion, a chosen and priceless stone! And whoever believes in him will certainly not be disappointed. 1 Peter 2:4-6 TPT

Yehôvâh Elohim is the foundation of your temple. He is the precious Cornerstone of the building. What He requires of us is to REPENT. Through repentance, the Blood of the Lamb flows to cleanse and sanctify us, but also to cancel all legal rights satan has in our bloodlines. Then, we are set free from the snare of the devil.

The message of repentance is so important that Christ commanded the churches to repent.

*Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and **repent**, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent. Revelation 2:5 KJV*

***Repent**; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth. Revelation 2:16 KJV*

*And I gave her space to **repent** of her fornication; and she repented not.*

Revelation 2:21 KJV

*Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they **repent** of their deeds.*

Revelation 2:22 KJV

*Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and **repent**. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.*

Revelation 3:3 KJV

False Repentance

We tend to believe repentance is an experience of deep sorrow or regret. Many believers are constantly asking forgiveness with tears, only to continue doing the very same wrong things. When Judas realised he had betrayed the Messiah (Matthew 27), the Greek word used is “**metamelomai**”. It means “**profound sorrow**”, engulfed in grief, swallowed in regret. This is not the same word for repentance, which is “**metanoia**”, meaning a “**change of the mind**”. The Hebrew word for repentance is “**teshuvah**”, which means “**to turn around**”.

Judas

*Then Judas, who had betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, **repented**^{G3338} and returned the thirty pieces of silver to the princes of the priests and the elders. Matthew 27:3 JUB*

Judas never renewed his mind or turned around. He never made a decision for Christ. He was merely filled with grief, sorrow, and regret. Judas had passed the point of change.

Repentance is not a matter of experiencing deep sorrow, as Judas did, but of making a sincere decision, led by the Holy Spirit, to turn around and renew the mind. Many merely make a momentary decision urged by emotions because they feel bad about their sins, but their lives never show the appropriate fruit. They never execute their decision to make a radical change in their lives. It is not a matter of feeling bad, but of a decision to consciously repent. Then the Holy Spirit starts His work of sanctification. Salvation is a once-off event, but sanctification needs to take place daily.

When repentance sprouts from emotions, it may not lead to a renewed mind and a turning away from the old ways. The decision should sprout from the will. **We will see permanent conversions if people would repent as a definite act of their will!**

Esau

Esau despised God and never repented. His fleshly desires were more important to him than God's spiritual requirements.

(Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person like Esau, who for one morsel of food sold his birthright. ¹⁷ For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected; for he did not find any place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears).

Hebrews 12:16-17 MKJV

With tears, Esau desired an opportunity to repent, but it was too late. This is what Romans 1 warns us about. Those who persist in their wrong ways will reach a point where Adonai gives them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their hearts. Because they do not retain God in their knowledge, He will give them over to a reprobate mind to do those things which are not convenient (Romans 1:24, 28). A reprobate mind is the Greek word “adokimos”, meaning a “degraded mind”, perverse understanding, rejected, by implication, worthless, castaway. God reprobates the unrepentant sinner. In other words, they reach the same point as Esau and Judas, which is the point of no return and no change. Their minds become reprobate and contaminated. If we stubbornly persist in rejecting the truth, God will give us over to believing the lie.

The Nature of Repentance

The well-known parable of the prodigal son in the Gospel of Luke gives better light on the nature of repentance. This son took the portion of his goods and left his father’s house. He spent it all, resulting in having to feed pigs to survive. For a Jew to feed swine was as low as a person could get. Sometimes we must reach that lowest point in life before being willing to turn around.

When he came to his senses and that “*moment of truth*” hit him, he realised he would be better off returning to his father’s house. He was perishing in his current state of uncleanness among the pigs. The condition he was in could be compared to the state of those in captivity by the snare of the devil! He acknowledged that he had wasted everything. He decided to return to his father and turn his life around. This was the result of true repentance!

The beauty of the story lies in the deep truth of who our Father is. He is represented by the father who saw his returning son and had compassion for him. He ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. Until then, he was most probably constantly on the lookout for the return of his lost son. Even before the son could express his guilt and unworthiness, the father brought out the best robe, put a ring on his finger, sandals on his feet and slaughtered the fattened calf to welcome him back. The ring on his finger and the sandals on his feet were a declaration that the father perceived him as his true son and not as a servant.

After true repentance, we are welcomed by the Father!

We often water down this serious message of repentance. No one can claim salvation without water baptism. Repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ are the key to our salvation (Acts 20:21). Adonai requires repentance of us so we can turn around and be saved.

Faith toward God

The second doctrinal requirement is “*faith toward Adonai*”. Without this faith, it is impossible to please Adonai.

And without faith living within us it would be impossible to please God.

For we come to God in faith knowing that he is real and that he rewards the faith of those who passionately seek him. Hebrews 11:6 TPT

The Nature of Faith

We often pray for more faith, but the Word of God clearly states we have received “***the measure of faith***”. This indicates the same amount for everyone (Romans 12:3 KJV).

Do you want your faith to grow? It will increase when we study and “eat” the Written Word of God. We need to hear and meditate on the Word of God. Only then, can the Living Word of God manifest in our lives.

What is faith?

Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen (Hebrews 11:1). **Biblical faith is in the heart.**

For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. Romans 10:10 KJV

Many people hope for something to happen in the future, but do not have faith that it will happen. It is our faith that brings the evidence of the things we cannot see. Although the breakthrough may not yet be visible, by walking in faith, we can already see it manifested. The only way to please God is through faith in Him. It is crucial to understand that when Adonai declared we were healed by His stripes (Isaiah 53:5), it meant that healing had already been provided. Why are we then still sick? Because the thief has stolen it from us!

When a person deals with the spiritual roots of a specific sickness and repents for being separated from Adonai in that area, he can then release faith and make a declaration, **“By His stripes I am healed”**. Faith sees the unseen and brings evidence of things not seen! You cannot see healing yet, but you have evidence that it has already been provided. One day, you will wake up with the manifestation of a healed body and soul, restored relationships, and a restored life **because you released faith toward Adonai!**

Our Faith will be Tested

My fellow believers, when it seems as though you are facing nothing but difficulties, see it as an invaluable opportunity to experience the greatest joy that you can! ³ For you know that when your faith is tested it stirs up in you the power of endurance. ⁴ And then as your endurance grows even stronger, it will release perfection into every part of your being until there is nothing missing and nothing lacking.

James 1:2-4 TPT

During these tests and trials, we learn to endure, and we grow stronger, so when the storm comes, the building will last and not be unstable. When we are being tested, we go through the same process as silver and gold when they are being purified by fire. Our faith goes through the fire of purification.

That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honor and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ. 1 Peter 1:7 KJV

What if my prayers seem to be unanswered?

Waiting long for a prayer to be answered can be very exhausting. Sometimes we want to give up. But the author of Hebrews encourages us.

***Cast not away** {apoballo - throw away; to discard; or to get rid of something no longer desired, needed, or wanted} *therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward. ³⁶ For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. ³⁷ For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry. ³⁸ Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. ³⁹ But we are not**

of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul. Hebrews 10:35-39 KJV

When your prayers seem to go unanswered, do not cast away your confidence, because there is indeed a great recompense of reward awaiting you. There will be a reimbursement, a settlement for the believers for their troubles. Don't forfeit it because of unbelief. Decide today to never give up! Stick to your faith! Don't surrender! Refuse to move! Stand and hold your ground!

What are you declaring?

Whatever you have confidently spoken, you will receive. Hang on for just a little while longer, for payday is coming.

*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 KJV*

And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive. Matthew 21:22 KJV

And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: 1 John 5:14 KJV

Full Salvation

Faith brings full salvation. ("**The Apocalypse of your Full Salvation**" is available at: www.berashithministry.co.za/index.php/products/personal-books). Through faith, we receive full salvation.

You may believe you have already made it unto salvation because you confessed with your mouth and believed in your heart! But this refers to the salvation of your spirit and it is only the beginning of your faith.

*Through our faith, the mighty power of God constantly guards us until our **full salvation** is ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶May the thought of this cause you to jump for joy, even though lately **you've had to put up with the grief of many trials.** ⁷ But these only reveal the sterling core of your faith, which is far more valuable than gold that perishes, for even gold is refined by fire. Your authentic faith will result in even more praise, glory, and honor when Jesus the Anointed One is revealed. ⁸You love him passionately although you have not seen him, but through believing in him you are saturated with an ecstatic joy, indescribably sublime and immersed in glory. ⁹For you are reaping the harvest of your faith—the full salvation promised you—your souls' victory! 1 Peter 1:5-9 TPT*

Between verses 5 and 9 are trials and persecutions which refine our faith by fire. Only then, can we experience the sanctification of the soul and reap the harvest of our faith, which is full salvation - "*the salvation of your souls*" (1 Peter 1:9 KJV).

Personal Relationship

When we have a solid personal relationship with Yashuah HaMashiach, we have complete confidence and trust to approach Him in prayer. Prayer does not merely mean talking to Adonai. It is a two-way conversation. Do not simply present a shopping list to God and end off your requests with a satisfying "Amen!" God can easily deal with your list, but He is interested in YOU.

Pray in the Name of Jesus

And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it. John 14:13-14 KJV

And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you. ²⁴ Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full. John 16:23-24 KJV

We should come to Yashuah based on what Jesus did on our behalf. He paid the penalty for sin and took our iniquities on Himself.

For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit. 1 Peter 3:18 KJV

The Blood of Christ restores us and cries out a better covenant than that of Abel.

And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel. Hebrews 12:24 KJV

Christ Our Advocate

The earthly court system requires that we have an advocate in the high court. Likewise, we need an Advocate to present our case before the Father in the Heavenly Courts. Knowing that we are indeed guilty of a crime, we plead guilty. Our Advocate, Yashuah HaMashiach, stands in our place before the Father and the Righteous Judge accepts His Son's offering on the cross. He declares us free and "Not guilty!"

My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate {someone called to help us} with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. 1 John 2:1 KJV

Based on our relationship with Him, He adopts us as His children. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ! We are completely accepted by Christ, but many voices from the devil tell us that we are rejected. He focuses on our sins and broken past and accuses us day and night. Because we listen to these voices, we are ensnared by the devil. We should instead accept the precious prize of freedom which the Son of God gave us on Calvary when He cried out, “Tetelestai!”, “It is done!”, “It is finished!”

In Jesus, we can claim everything

*He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely **give us all things**? Romans 8:32 KJV*

Many claim that Philippians 4:19 is a promise that God will provide, but we must understand it in its context. “*My God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus*” was written to the Philippians, who were the only congregation that financially supported Paul’s ministry from the beginning.

We can only reap what we sow. The Philippians sowed a seed in Paul’s ministry, and he knew that his God would accordingly supply all their needs. We must release faith to receive from Adonai.

For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us. 2 Corinthians 1:20 KJV

Faith and Works

The following scripture is the **ONLY foundational principle of the Christian faith**.

Most often, we unconsciously add substances to it.

*And, brothers, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you have received, and in which you stand; by which you also are being kept safe, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain. ³ For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received, that **Christ died for our sins**, according to the Scriptures, and that He was **buried**, and that He **rose again the third day** according to the Scriptures. 1 Corinthians 15:1-3 MKJV*

We must stop our self-righteous works! We cannot earn anything by our own works. By grace, we are saved through faith (Ephesians 2:8-10).

The reason salvation comes through Him alone is that pride sets in when we add works in the hope of earning God's favour, and we start boasting. Legalistic people are, by nature, not very loving people. A good example is the Pharisees. They did not act out of love but wished to impose the law of Moses on every offender. Yashuah, on the other hand, only demonstrated love to everybody who approached him. There is, of course, an important place for works in our lives, but works should follow faith.

We have become his poetry, a re-created people that will fulfill the destiny he has given each of us, for we are joined to Jesus, the Anointed One. Even before we were born, God planned in advance our destiny and the good works we would do to fulfill it! Ephesians 2:10 TPT

We must become a new creation through faith, and then good works will follow.

Fruit

I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. ² Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³ You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. ⁵ I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. John 15:1–5 NKJV

God's purpose as the "vinedresser" is to keep the vine clean. The pruning of sin is not the result of our effort, but of His. All we are required to do is surrender. **Some Christians are struggling to bear fruit, but no branch has the power to make that happen. Jesus was saying, "You don't bear the fruit. I do. But I give you the privilege of carrying it.** The fruit is Mine. The vine is Mine. The branch is simply hooked onto Me. That's all." The vine supplies life to the branches, and the branch has the privilege of carrying the fruit. In effect, our job is to become "fruit carriers." The fruit of the Spirit is attached to the branches, **not that of the flesh!** We become the channel through which love, joy, peace, and all the other spiritual fruits are given to the world (Galatians 5:22–23).

Born from Free and Slave Woman

And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed, and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him. Genesis 17:19 KJV

Over ten years after God's promise, Sarah became pregnant and gave birth to Isaac. When he was weaned, Abraham feted his weaning with a great celebration. Genesis 21:9 tells that, during this feast, "*Sarah saw the son of Hagar, the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing [metzachek] with her son Isaac.*" "**Metzachek**" is defined as "mocking and scoffing." Ishmael was making fun of Isaac. Being the son of Hagar, the Egyptian, Ishmael was a servant who made fun of his master. Ishmael was challenging Isaac's right to the inheritance. Sarah insisted that he would not inherit with Isaac by demanding that Abraham send away both Ishmael and Hagar (Genesis 21:10), ensuring Ishmael's survival, because he would have been tenuous without his mother. When God told Abraham to do as Sarah wished, he unhappily consented, provided them with bare provisions and the two were cast into the wilderness. Note that God's insistence on Isaac being the progenitor of His chosen people tells us something very fundamental about the nature of our relationship with Him, for Ishmael and Isaac differed in two significant respects.

- Ishmael came into the world by natural means, while Isaac's birth was a supernatural event.
- Ishmael was circumcised at thirteen, the age of *daat* (awareness), whereas Isaac entered into the covenant of circumcision as an eight-day-old infant—an age at which a baby is not even aware of his surroundings, much less of his significance.

Ishmael represents a rational relationship with God, based upon a person's nature and understanding. Isaac represents a supernatural, supra-rational bond. Abraham discerned many positive qualities in Ishmael and was prepared, even desirous, to see him as his heir. Yet, God insisted that his covenant with Abraham be perpetuated specifically through Isaac and Isaac's descendants—a people whose commitment to God would transcend the natural and the rational.

SLAVE WOMAN and FREE WOMAN

Over 2 000 years later, Paul writes:

*For it is written: Abraham had **two sons, the one out of the slave-woman, and one out of the free woman.** ²³ But, indeed, he out of the slave-woman has been born according to flesh, and he out of the free woman through the promise; ²⁴ which things are being allegorized; for these are the **two covenants**, one indeed from Mount Sinai bringing forth to slavery, which is Hagar. ²⁵ For Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and answers to Jerusalem which now is, and is in slavery with her children. ²⁶ **But the Jerusalem from above is free, who is the mother of us all.** ²⁷ For it is written, "Rejoice, barren one not bearing; break forth and shout, you not travailing; for more are the children of the desolate than she having the husband." ²⁸ **But brothers, we, like Isaac, are children of promise.** ²⁹ But then even as he born according to flesh persecuted him born according to the Spirit, so it is also now. ³⁰ But what does the Scripture say? **"Cast out the slave-woman and her son; for in no way shall the son of the slave-woman inherit with the son of the free woman."** ³¹ Then, brothers, we are not children of a slave-woman, but of the free woman. Galatians 4:22-31 MKJV*

What is Paul talking about?

Throughout his epistle to the Galatians, Paul repeats the fact that there are two covenants, namely the Old and the New Covenants. These two covenants are allegorised in the two sons of Abraham, Isaac and Ishmael. Ishmael represents the Old Covenant and the Ten Commandments (Torah) given on Mount Sinai.

Yet all of this was so that he would redeem and set free all those held hostage to the written law so that we would receive our freedom and a full legal adoption as his children. Galatians 4:5 TPT

The Hebraic Root Bible translated verse 5 as, ***“That He might redeem the ones under (the penalty of breaking) the Torah, that we might receive the adoption of sons.”*** Amazing that Sarah’s pregnancy was a foreshadowing of Christ, who was born supernaturally by the Spirit. As Sarah was barren and became pregnant with Isaac, so Mary became pregnant with Jesus Christ. Paul explains that Isaac, the son of the free woman, Sarah, was born supernaturally by the Spirit. In contrast, Ishmael, the son of the slave girl, was a child of the natural realm (Galatians 4:23). It seems to me that most of us have the same Father, but we do not have the same mother. This contains a mystery. We need to be born from above – from the heavenly Jerusalem, which is our true mother. She is the Free Woman, birthing children into freedom. But there is also a mother who is birthing children into slavery – children born to Hagar. She represents the law given at Mount Sinai and the earthly Jerusalem. Out of the slave-woman, children have been born according to the flesh, and they are currently in bondage (Galatians 4:23-25). Both Mary and Sarah were barren women, and both burst forth with gladness to give birth to free children.

Consequently, brothers, we are not—with respect to human nature, that is—under an obligation to live according to human nature.¹³ For if you live according to human nature, you are going to die, but if by the Spirit you continually put to death the activities of the body, you will live.¹⁴ For all who are led by God's Spirit are God's children.¹⁵ For you have not received a spirit of slavery that leads you into fear again. Instead, you have received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba! Father!"¹⁶ The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are

God's children. ¹⁷ Now if we are children, we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with the Messiah—if, in fact, we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory. Romans 8:12-17 ISV

We are saved by grace through faith and not by doing anything. The nation of Israel is, however, still in bondage because they have not yet accepted the Messiah or their salvation. They are still under the bondage of the law, and this bondage will only end when the Messiah returns and redeems Jerusalem (Zachariah 14). What a privilege we have to accept the Messiah, receive our salvation and be born from above into freedom! This is indeed grace!

Now we're no longer living like slaves under the law, but we enjoy being God's very own sons and daughters! And because we're his, we can access everything our Father has—for we are heirs of God through Jesus, the Messiah! Galatians 4:7 TPT

Paul preached the Good News to the Gentiles. His message announced their freedom in Christ Jesus. He was adamant that they should not allow anyone to mislead them back into slavery.

An Old Testament Allegory

Christ came to fulfil the law. Our freedom is now in Him, Christ Jesus the Anointed One. Why would we want to go back again to live strictly by the law?

Tell me, do you want to go back to living strictly by the law?
Galatians 4:21 TPT

The **law is a system of works that brings bondage**, and the promise is a system of grace that brings true freedom. The reason the Sinai covenant brought bondage was that it had no avenue by which sins could be paid for and removed.

Sin was only covered from year to year on Yom Kippur. It has nothing to do with the validity of the Torah, which is binding in both covenants (Hebrews 8:10).

The New Covenant

The Greek word for “**mystery**”, “**mystērion**”, is found twenty-eight times in the New Testament. It means a sacred secret, something that God has hidden from ancient times, that can only be revealed by God. These mysteries are meant for us to perceive as part of our Kingdom birthright (The Passion Bible, P442 quoting Romans 11:25). It is indeed a mystery! Only when we are in union with Christ, the Messiah, can it be revealed to us that we are now living under a new covenant. Because He is a spirit, we now find our freedom in Him, because we are also spiritual beings after our born-again experience. We have been transformed from human beings to spiritual beings.

Dear friends, just like Isaac, we're now the true children who inherit the kingdom promises. ²⁹And just as the son of the natural world at that time harassed the son born of the power of the Holy Spirit, so it is today.

³⁰And what does the Scripture tell us to do? Galatians 4:28-30 TPT

Expel the slave mother with her son! Genesis 21:10

The two “sons” are not meant to live together.

You cannot mingle **law and grace**, for only grace is based upon the promise of new life. (Galatians 1:7 TPT)

The true heir of the promises is the son of the free woman.

But what says the Scripture? "Cast out the slave woman and her son, for in no way shall the son of the slave woman inherit with the son of the free woman. Galatians 4:30 HRB

When Isaac grew older, Ishmael was stirred up to persecute him. It is relevant in our lives in the way that many of us are still boasting about our natural goodness, saying, “Because I am doing A or B, I am worthy”, or “I am not as proud as some brothers and sisters are. I thank God that I was born humble.” When the Christ who has been “born in us” begins to “grow up”, our natural goodness will mock Him. Then the grace within us should say, **“Cast out the law! Cast out the bondwoman and what she has produced within me by fleshly efforts!”**

“Cast out this bondwoman and her son! Cast out the law, the efforts of the flesh, and all the success of my own efforts!” Often, we cling to our successes and hold onto our natural goodness. **But eventually, God will force us to abandon the law, our self-effort, and all we have produced out of the flesh.** We will then say, “From now on, there will be no more Hagar and Ishmael! They must go!”

It's so obvious! We're not the children of the slave woman; we're the supernatural sons of the free woman—sons of grace! Galatians 4:31 TPT

The Nature of Grace

The root meaning of grace is “*comeliness, beauty imparted to us because we believe in Him*”. He makes us beautiful by His grace. The Lord is looking at us as a new creation when He declares, “*Every part of you is so beautiful, my darling. Perfect is your beauty, without flaw within*” (Song of Songs 4:7 TPT).

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God. Ephesians 2:8 NIV

The Law

What is the purpose of the law?

The law brings knowledge of sin and reveals our transgressions. It shows us who we really are. But it also shows us Adonai’s holy and perfect character. It is meant to bring us to the end of so we will cry out, “We need a Saviour!”

No man on earth can obey and achieve the rules of the law. It is impossible! According to orthodox rabbis, there are over 625 Jewish laws. Those believers who try to obey the law to the letter are also the ones who water it down to mere dietary or festival laws. It is not a set of rules and can't be achieved through rules.

For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. James 2:10 NIV

The purpose of the law is clearly to expose the weaknesses which Adonai diagnoses. The law exposes the problem, but the law can never solve it. We need the law to bring us to the realisation that we are in urgent need of grace.

We are either under the law or under grace. We are either born from a free woman or a slave woman. Law and grace are mutually exclusive. It can only be one or the other! The only way to come out of the dominion of sin is to be under grace.

For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. Romans 6:14 KJV

When we are still under the law, sin has dominion over us. When we are led by the Spirit, we are sons of Adonai!

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.
Romans 8:14 KJV

Many believers twist scriptures to justify the law. Scriptures indeed teach us to obey God's commandments, but keeping them with the expectation of earning something or being in right standing with God as a result is not scriptural at all. Legalism only brings more division in the Body of Christ. Every denomination has its own set of rules. Believers then judge the righteousness of others by their own standards and rules. They focus on obedience to a set of rules instead of on faith. Sometimes, as Gentiles, we read scriptures without knowledge of the true original meaning because of our lack of Jewish traditions and customs. According to Jewish law, no divorced person was allowed to remarry unless the spouse had died. Remarrying while the previous spouse was still alive was adultery according to Jewish law. Likewise, Paul now explains to us in Romans 7 that we were also once married to the law. But now, after conversion, we become dead to the law and are free to marry **our new Husband – Yashuah HaMashiach. We are now born from a free woman! Previously, we were married to the law and were born from the slave woman.**

Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God.

Romans 7:4 KJV

At last, we have freedom, for Christ has set us free! We must cherish this truth and firmly refuse to go back into the bondage of our past, as explained in Galatians 5:1 TPT. Our past was lived in the flesh. The old Adam nature, with its passion for sins, was stirred up by the law. The strength of sin is in the law.

The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law.

1 Corinthians 15:56 KJV

The problem is not with the law but with trusting in our ability to fulfil it. We simply cannot do it! Instead of trusting in ourselves, we need to fully trust and rely on Yashuah HaMashiach. When we live a self-righteous life, we automatically shut God's grace out. Interesting that only the human race and fallen angels have a desire to be independent of God. Everything else in creation fully depends on Him. We trick ourselves into self-reliance and self-dependence! Remember, there is nothing wrong with the law! The problem is our desire to be independent! Legalism always keeps us from freedom. When we come to Christ, it is the end of the law. This is the only way we can achieve right standing before the Father.

We often start our journey based on righteousness, but still try to justify ourselves by returning to the law. Being under the law is being under the curse.

But if you rely on works of keeping the law for salvation, you live under the law's curse. For it is clearly written: 'Utterly cursed is everyone who

fails to practice every detail and requirement that is written in this law!’

Galatians 3:10-11 TPT

We are so concerned to keep the Law, but are we keeping the greatest and most important commandment?

For we reach the goal of fulfilling all the commandments when we love others deeply with a pure heart, a clean conscience, and sincere faith.

1 Timothy 1:5 TPT

There is only one proof that we are indeed His disciples, and that is demonstrating our love for one another.

Faith Without Works Is Dead

When we hear the Word of God but do not act upon it, our faith is dead.

*What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? ¹⁵ If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, “Depart in peace, be warmed and filled,” but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? ¹⁷ Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. ¹⁸ But someone will say, “You have faith, and I have works.” Show me your faith without [a]your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. ¹⁹ You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble! ²⁰ But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead? ²¹ Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac His Son on the altar? ²² **Do you see that faith was working***

together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect? ²³ *And the scripture was fulfilled which says, "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." And he was called the friend of God.* ²⁴ *You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only.* ²⁵ *Likewise, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out another way?* ²⁶ *For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.*

James 2:14-26 TPT



SECTION 7: THE DOCTRINE OF BAPTISMS

Most believers are spiritually immature and in need of milk instead of strong meat (Hebrews 5:11-14). There are six important aspects of growing to spiritual maturity. We have already dealt with **repentance** and **faith toward God**. Now follows baptisms.

- Repentance from dead works.
- Faith toward God.
- Baptisms.
- Laying on of hands.
- Resurrection of the dead.
- Eternal judgment.

The Greek word is “**baptizo**”. It means being immersed “**in**” and “**into**” by “**someone**”. Through baptism, our old nature, born from a corruptible seed, which is the old man in the flesh or our Adam nature, must be executed on the stake. This is the only way to deal with our rebellious spirit. We deserve to be put to death! But, the Father put his Son on the stake on our behalf so we can have everlasting life.

Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to His cross and crucified them there.

Galatians 5:24 NLT

We must follow Adonai's protocol. First, we must repent and confess that we need a Saviour. Then, we release faith toward God. Execution on the stake follows when we put our old fleshly nature on the cross. Next, Paul addresses the doctrine of baptisms. Notice the plural form - **baptisms**!

Someone, In and Unto

Baptism is a transition from one side (*the dark side, the old nature*) to another side (*the light, the new creation man*). It is not a partial transition but a full transition.

An understanding of the meaning of the Greek word "**baptizo**" will give us a better understanding of what Christ requires from us. The word "**baptizo**" implies immersion by going down into the water or by pouring water over the whole body. The requirement is total immersion and not partial immersion. This automatically disqualifies the sprinkling of a few drops of water on the forehead.

"**Baptizo**" speaks of three elements, namely **SOMEONE, IN** and **UNTO**.

"Someone" will always be involved in your baptism, e.g., a believer, the Holy Spirit, or Yashuah.

"In" refers to the element in which you are being immersed, e.g., water or the Holy Spirit.

"Unto" describes the element you are baptised unto as the result of your baptism, e.g., salvation.

One Baptism

Although the Bible teaches seven different baptisms, Paul mentions “one body, one spirit and **one baptism**”.

There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; ⁵ One Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

Ephesians 4:4-6 KJV

Paul does not mean to say there is only one baptism. Instead, it means there is only **one** of the different baptisms which **every** believer must obey and take part in. There is only **ONE BAPTISM** essential for SALVATION! Does that mean all the other baptisms are not essential? No! They are not essential for salvation but essential for other things. These seven baptisms are all a package deal and essential for a believer to walk in total freedom.

Different Baptisms

Baptism of Moses

*For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ² and all were **baptized into Moses** in the cloud and in the sea, ³ and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ.*

1 Corinthians 10:1-4 ESV

Here is a foreshadowing of the New Testament baptism. Israel passed through the Red Sea and found themselves surrounded by walls of water. This was their water baptism. This baptism is symbolic and serves as a type of the One to come.

Paul says the Israelites were baptised in water INTO Moses. That speaks of a baptism into the leadership of Moses. Today, we are not baptised into Moses or any other leadership or ministry but into the leadership of Christ Jesus.

Baptism of Suffering

Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?"³⁹ And they said to him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized." Mark 10:38-39 ESV

This baptism is not in water but refers to the suffering and shame associated with the death of Christ, also called the "*baptism of the cross*". The cup Jesus had to drink was a cup of shame and torment through scourging and suffering on the cross (Matthew 26:36-46). Jesus was overwhelmed and immersed in pain and dishonour. James and John once asked for glory and honour, but would instead receive the same treatment as Jesus because they followed Him. Similarly, our calling is to suffer for the sake of Christ.

In fact, you were called to live this way, because Christ also suffered in your place, leaving you his example for you to follow. 1 Peter 2:21 TPT

Baptism of John

*John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶ Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ And he preached, saying, 'After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸ **I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.**'* Mark 1:4-8 ESV

John was to prepare the way of the Lord and make His paths straight (Mark 1:3). His baptism was in water and was for repentance and forgiveness of sins. Many still participate in this baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sin

The Baptism of Jesus

*Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, "**Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.**"*

Matthew 3:13-15 ESV

This account tells of Christ's own baptism, administered by John the Baptist in the water of the Jordan River. Christ knew no sin, with no need of repentance or forgiveness (2 Corinthians 5:21). However, He still underwent a baptism to "**fulfill all righteousness**". Jesus shows us the will of the Father by obedience to be baptised. This act of obedience gave all believers right standing before the Father.

I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. John 14:6 NIV

Baptism of Fire

*I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and **fire**.¹² His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.*
Matthew 3:11-12 ESV

Christ will one day gather His wheat securely into His barn, but the chaff will be burned with unquenchable fire (Matthew 3:12). Seemingly, this speaks of the future administration of judgment on those who disobey the Gospel. In the context of sanctification, this verse may be applied to our own lives. All filthiness in us should be burnt to cleanse us, purify us and make us whole and holy again so we will be blameless and spotless before our Bridegroom.

Similarly, 2 Thessalonians 1:5-9 reveals that Christ will return in “**flaming fire**”, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and do not obey the Gospel of our Lord Jesus. Therefore, this baptism is not of water. It is eternal “**fire**” to all those who reject the Lord and do not obey the Gospel. There is also evidence that fire is a wall of protection that surrounds us.

'And I myself will be a wall of fire around it,' declares the LORD, 'and I will be its glory within.' Zechariah 2:5 NIV

Baptism of the Holy Spirit

*I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the **Holy Spirit** and fire.¹² His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.*

Matthew 3:11-12 ESV

This baptism is not baptism in the Name of Jesus but baptism which will be performed directly by the hand of Christ. The pouring out of the Holy Spirit on “*all flesh*” was prophesied in Joel 2. This happened on Pentecost when the apostles gathered in Jerusalem while waiting for Christ’s promise of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:5, 8). With a mighty rushing sound, the Holy Spirit filled the apostles (baptised them). They began speaking in different tongues (known languages, see verses 8-11). This fulfilled John’s prophecy that Christ would baptise with the Holy Spirit.

Baptism in the Name of Jesus

*Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.³⁷ Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”³⁸ And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you **in the name of Jesus Christ** for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.” Acts 2:36-38 ESV*

The Jews realised they had killed the Son of God. Cut to their hearts, they asked Peter what they could do. He instructed them that each should repent and be

baptised, not in the name of John but in the Name of Jesus, who was both Lord and Christ! This baptism was not merely ceremonial but for ***“the forgiveness of your sins”***. The Scriptures are clear that baptism in the Name of Jesus Christ is for the forgiveness of sins. Without this baptism, there is no forgiveness. For the believer, this is crucial. We want to participate in the victory of the resurrected life of Christ, but few are willing to share in His suffering. We need to grasp this Biblical truth that we, too, need to die first before we can be resurrected. If you have never gone down into the water, the question remains, “When were you then executed and sentenced to death?”

Our burial with Christ occurs during baptism when the old self dies (Romans 6:1-6). Baptism is our execution on the stake. Our sins are nailed to the cross (Colossians 2:11-15), and Christ washes them away by His Blood (Acts 22:16). Baptism in the Name of Jesus Christ places us into the Body of Christ. *“For as many of you were baptized into Christ have put on Christ”* and were made *“sons of God, through faith”* (Galatians 3:26, 27 KJV).

Baptism in the Name of Jesus Christ happened in water. In Acts 10, Peter asks, *“Who can refuse the water?”* This baptism occurred directly after repentance and saves us. After commanding all to repent and be baptised in the Name of Jesus for the forgiveness of sins, Peter tells them to *“save themselves!”*

He who believes and is baptized shall be saved, but he who does not believe shall be condemned. Mark 16:16 MKJV

The **ONE BAPTISM** that all believers must obey and teach is this Baptism in the Name of Jesus Christ. It brings salvation by the Blood of Christ as we participate in His death, burial, and resurrection.

God's Original Plan

We must realise that the Old Testament believers could not be born again. To understand this, let's explore what went wrong with mankind. When God created Adam and Eve, He dwelt with them in the Garden of Eden. His original plan was for man to share in His authority and to rule on earth, not to serve Him as a servant (Genesis 1:26-28).

The first thing God gave man was His image and likeness.

*God said, Let Us [Father, Son and Holy Spirit] make mankind in Our **image**, after Our likeness, and let them have complete authority over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, the [tame] beasts, and over all of the earth, and over everything that creeps upon the earth. Genesis 1:26 AMPC (Psalm 104:30; Hebrews 1:2; 11:3)*

The second thing God did was to position man in His “*presence*”, which is the Hebrew Meaning of the word “Eden”. God's greatest desire was for man to be like Him, act like Him, and dwell with Him. To be made in God's image means man resembles God and is an exact likeness of Him. God gave man His nature and then put Him in His presence. He desires a relationship with us.

Created for a Purpose

God created man to have dominion over all the earth.

*What is man that You are mindful of him, and the son of [earthborn] man that You care for him? ⁵ Yet You have made him but a little lower than God [or heavenly beings], and You have **crowned him with glory***

*and honor. ⁶ You made him have **dominion over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet.** Psalm 8:4-6 AMPC
(1 Corinthians 15:27; Ephesians 1:22-23; Hebrews 2:6-8)*

God gave man instructions to govern his life in the Garden of Eden. These included rules on what they were allowed to eat and what not.

*And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷ But of the **tree of the knowledge of good and evil and blessing and calamity you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall **surely die.**** Genesis 2:16-17 AMPC*

Death was the proscribed consequence for disobeying this principle. **Death is the absence of God's presence in man's life**

Creator God is man's Source

Man was created both to be of the same essence as God, who is spirit (John 4:24), and to live in the same environment as God, which is the realm of the spirit or the environment of God.

*So God created man in **His own image, in the image and likeness of God He created him; male and female He created them.** Genesis 1:27 AMPC
(Colossians 3:9-10; James 3:8-9)*

The **place of God's presence**, Eden, is man's ideal environment. Unbroken fellowship between God and man is the environment God planned for man. Our ideal environment is nothing more and nothing less than the presence of God. Outside of this perfect environment, man cannot live a meaningful life.

Man's choice to sin is often called the fall of man. This is a fall from God's presence with the accompanying loss of the Holy Spirit. Man's banishment from Eden resulted in banishment from God's presence. Since the fall, man has been working hard to return to God's presence. Because of sin, man was contaminated and lost the privilege of being in the holy presence of God. He also lost the holiness of God, which was his birthright, for he was created in God's image. God expelled man from Eden (His presence) and placed cherubim at the entrance of the garden to protect His presence from sinful man.

Jesus came to our Rescue!

*While we were yet in weakness [powerless to help ourselves], at the fitting time Christ died for (in behalf of) the ungodly. ⁷ Now it is an extraordinary thing for one to give his life even for an upright man, though perhaps for a noble and lovable and generous benefactor someone might even dare to die. ⁸ But God shows and clearly proves His [own] love for us by the fact that **while we were still sinners, Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One) died for us.** ⁹ Therefore, since we are now justified (acquitted, made righteous, and brought into right relationship with God) by Christ's blood, how much more [certain is it that] we shall be saved by Him from the indignation and wrath of God. ¹⁰ For if **while we were enemies** we were **reconciled to God** through **the death of His Son**, it is much more [certain], now that we are reconciled, that **we shall be saved (daily delivered from sin's dominion) through His [resurrection] life.** Romans 5:6-10 AMPC*

God rescued us because He wanted His family back. He knows we are malfunctioning, and He restored us to our original environment. He deals with all our sin, iniquity, and rebellion before He allows us near His Holy Place. Even

should we reach that Holy Place, we would find cherubim and seraphim hovering around God to prevent us from approaching Him before our sin is atoned for. Restoring you to your garden home has been God's plan all along. This proves how valuable we are to God despite our sins.

The only way we can reconnect to God is by accepting His gift of salvation through Jesus Christ. He alone can cleanse us from all sin.

We were born from a corruptible seed, the flesh. But Yashuah gave us a second chance. He came to earth so we could have a born-again experience, this time from an incorruptible seed. This means to be born from above, from the spirit.

You shouldn't be amazed by my statement, 'You all must be born from above!' ⁸ For the Spirit-Wind blows as it chooses. You can hear its sound, but you don't know where it came from or where it's going. So it is the same with those who are Spirit-born! John 3:7-8 TPT

Before coming into the holiness of Yehôvâh Elohim, we first need a transformation – a born-again experience from incorruptible seed to cleanse us. At that moment, something supernatural happens. Our sinful nature changes to a new creation man. Only now do we have the boldness to approach the Throne. Glory to God! The only way we can stay connected is by living our lives in His presence daily.

With this background, let us move on to a complete and detailed discussion of three of the baptisms that the Bible teaches. Some information will be repeated, for the truth to be set firmly in the heart of the believer.

The Package Deal

“**Baptizō**” means to wash, to dip, to be fully immersed by someone into something! In ancient times, this word was used when a garment or cloth was put into a vessel with dye to saturate it with a new colour. When the cloth was extracted from the dye, it was a brand new colour. Likewise, we are dipped into the Blood of Jesus, which saturates us, cleanses us and changes us to never be the same again. We are dipped and dyed and then placed into Christ.

There is only **ONE BAPTISM essential for salvation**, and that is when the **Holy Spirit** baptises us **in the Body of Christ unto SALVATION**. The other baptisms are **not essential** for salvation, but **essential** for receiving power to overcome the enemy and also to ensure freedom.

The following table lists some of the different baptisms. It is important to know that you must be baptised **BY** someone. There must be a substance **IN** which you are baptised, and you must be baptised **UNTO** something, which is the result of the baptism.

Baptism	BY	IN	UNTO
John's	John the Baptist	Water	Repentance
Born-Again	Holy Spirit	The Body of Christ	Salvation
Jesus'	Jesus	Holy Spirit	Power (Dunamis)
Believer's	Believer	Water	Righteousness

Remember that John's baptism of repentance is not sufficient or necessary anymore. Let us view the born-again baptism as essential for salvation.

Born-Again Baptism

When Paul says there is one Lord, one Faith and **ONE BAPTISM**, he refers to the baptism of the Holy Spirit. The Bible refers to it as baptism performed by the **Holy Spirit** unto **salvation**. This is not water baptism nor an act of man. We are saved by grace through faith. Adonai orchestrates this baptism to be executed by the Holy Spirit, so no one will ever boast of his salvation. Salvation is never through our own efforts or works, nor will any person receive glory for another person's conversion. **Nothing we do could ever earn us this salvation.**

This mandatory baptism is performed **by** the Holy Spirit, **in** the Body of Christ, **unto** Salvation.

Our New Birth

Jesus explains to Nicodemus that we cannot **see** the Kingdom of God unless we are born again (John 3:3). Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot **enter** into the Kingdom of God (John 3:5). Scriptures are clear that we cannot ENTER unless we come out of the water, which implies baptism INTO Christ. This is the only way to die with Christ, be buried with Him, and be resurrected with Christ. The exact moment we accept Adonai as Lord and Saviour, we are baptised by one Spirit into one body, in the twinkling of an eye!

For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

Galatians 3:27 KJV

This is an act of the Holy Spirit, who supernaturally, without our participation, takes us and puts us into the Body of Christ. This is called baptism by the Spirit into the Body of Christ. This is the “one body, one Spirit and one baptism.”

There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; ⁵ One Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

Ephesians 4:4-6 KJV

This baptism accompanies salvation, but there is nothing you can do to receive this baptism except to repent and call on Jesus as your Lord and Saviour. The Holy Spirit takes over from there. From that moment on, you are in Christ. This is grace at work in its fullness! **Congratulations** on your new life! You are now a **new creation man!**

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things become new. 2 Corinthians 5:17 KJV

Our newborn spirit is as perfect as Christ, vacuum-packed and **sealed** with the Holy Spirit, and it will never change again!

In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise. Ephesians 1:13 KJV

We lay down the old man, who is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts. We put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness (Ephesians 4:22, 24).

*I am writing these things to all of you, my little children, **because your sins have been forgiven in the name of Jesus our Savior.** ¹³ I am saying these things to you older men because you really know Christ, the one*

*who has been alive from the beginning. And you young men, I am talking to you **because you have won your battle with Satan**. And I am writing to you younger boys and girls because you, too, have **learned to know God our Father**. 1 John 2:12-13 TLB*

This is the first **essential** baptism. It is performed by the Holy Spirit so we can make it unto salvation.

Saul of Tarsus

The conversion of Saul is proof of the steps required to become a follower and disciple of Yashuah. He had a life-changing encounter with the Lord. There was a **confrontation**! When he cried out, *“Who are you, Lord?”*, it resembled the same protocol as with Peter when the Lord asked his disciples, *“Who do you say I am?”* After a **confrontation** with who the Lord is, there will be a **revelation**! The Lord answered Saul’s question by saying that He was the victorious One, Jesus of Nazareth, whom he had persecuted. Saul responded to that revelation with an **acknowledgement**. He embraced the revelation by asking, *“What shall I do?”* Notice Paul’s repentance and change of heart. The Holy Spirit baptised Saul without the intervention of any person. It was an act of grace. When the moment came, even the hard-hearted Saul received a changed heart! After his conversion, he didn’t hesitate to boldly make a public **confession** of his faith.

Yashuah commanded him to get up and go into the city of Damascus. There, He would tell him what to do by sending another believer, Ananias, to Saul. The Lord commanded Ananias to inform Saul he was a chosen vessel unto God to bear His name before the Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel (Acts 9:15). Ananias laid hands on Saul to restore his sight. The message he had for Saul was

clear: “What are you waiting for, Saul? Get up, **be baptised** and wash away your sins as you call upon His name!”

New believers should immediately be baptised! There is no scriptural indication that we should first attend a discipleship course, bear fruit, or comply with any other requirements before being baptised for the washing away of our sins.

Ananias laid hands on Saul not only to receive his sight but also to receive the Holy Ghost. Then he arose and was baptised.

*And instantly something like scales fell from [Saul's] eyes, and he recovered his sight. Then he arose and was **baptized**. Acts 9:18 AMPC*

Notice the urgency with which Ananias demanded that Saul be baptised and have his sins washed away.

So now, what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized, and wash away your sins as you call upon his name. Acts 22:16 TPT

We must **repent**, have **faith** in Christ, be **baptised** for the remission and washing away of sins and **receive the Holy Ghost**. We must follow and obey what the scriptures teach and not what man’s opinions, traditions or denominations expect of us. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the truth to you as you read the following:

*And that **repentance and remission of sins** should be proclaimed in His name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. Luke 24:47 MKJV*

*He who believes and is **baptized will be saved**, but he who does not believe will be condemned. Mark 16:16 MKJV*

Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ to remission of sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:38 MKJV

If you believe with your heart and confess with your mouth (Romans 10:10), you immediately qualify for the believer's baptism. The old nature is buried, and we receive a clear conscience before God. This is right standing before Adonai. We arise from the water into a new resurrected life as a new creation man.

The Significance of this Baptism

We need a Born-Again Experience.

Jesus answered, I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, unless a man is born of water and [even] the Spirit, he cannot [ever] enter the kingdom of God. John 3:5 AMPC [Ezek. 36:25-27]

We died with Jesus and were raised with Him. He disarmed the evil principalities and powers.

*In Him also you were circumcised with a circumcision not made with hands, but in a [spiritual] circumcision [performed by] Christ by stripping off the body of the flesh (the whole corrupt, carnal nature with its passions and lusts). ¹² [Thus you were circumcised when] **you were buried with Him in [your] baptism**, in which you were also **raised with Him [to a new life] through [your] faith in the working of God [as displayed] when He raised Him up from the dead.** ¹³ And you who were*

*dead in trespasses and in the uncircumcision of your flesh (your sensuality, **your sinful carnal nature**), [God] brought to life together with [Christ], having [freely] forgiven us all our transgressions,*¹⁴ *Having cancelled and blotted out and wiped away the handwriting of the note (bond) with its legal decrees and demands which was in force and stood against us (hostile to us). This [note with its regulations, decrees, and demands] He set aside and cleared completely out of our way by nailing it to [His] cross.*¹⁵ *[God] **disarmed the principalities and powers that were ranged against us** and made a bold display and public example of them, in triumphing over them in Him and in it [the cross].* Colossians 2:11-15 AMPC

We should consider ourselves dead to SIN, but alive with GOD!

*Are you ignorant of the fact that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus **were baptized into His death?***⁴ *We **were buried therefore with Him by the baptism into death**, so that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious [power] of the Father, so we too might [habitually] live and behave in newness of life.*⁵ *For if we have become one with Him by sharing a death like His, **we shall also be [one with Him in sharing] His resurrection [by a new life lived for God].***⁶ *We know that **our old (unrenewed) self was nailed to the cross with Him** in order that [our] body [which is the instrument] of sin might be made ineffective and inactive for evil, that we might **no longer be the slaves of sin.***⁷ *For when a man dies, he is freed (loosed, delivered) from [the power of] sin [among men].*⁸ ***Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him,***⁹ *Because we know that Christ (the Anointed One), being once raised from the dead, will never die again; death no*

longer has power over Him. ¹⁰ *For by the death He died, He died to sin [ending His relation to it] once for all; and the life that He lives, He is living to God [in unbroken fellowship with Him].* ¹¹ *Even so consider yourselves also dead to sin and your relation to it broken, but alive to God [living in unbroken fellowship with Him] in Christ Jesus.* Romans 6:3-11 AMPC

We must be clothed with Christ.

*For in Christ Jesus you are all **sons of God through faith.*** ²⁷ *For as many [of you] as were baptized into Christ [into a spiritual union and communion with Christ, the Anointed One, the Messiah] have put on (clothed yourselves with) Christ.* ²⁸ *There is [now no distinction] neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is not male and female; for you are all **one in Christ Jesus.*** Galatians 3:26-28 AMPC

We should have the Mind of Christ.

For who has known or understood the mind (the counsels and purposes) of the Lord so as to guide and instruct Him and give Him knowledge? But we have the mind of Christ (the Messiah) and do hold the thoughts (feelings and purposes) of His heart. 1 Corinthians 2:16 AMPC [Isaiah 40:13.]

There is only one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism.

[There is] one body and one Spirit--just as there is also one hope [that belongs] to the calling you received ⁵ *[There is] **one Lord, one faith, one***

baptism, ⁶ *One God and Father of [us] all, Who is above all [Sovereign over all], pervading all and [living] in [us] all.* ⁷ *Yet grace (God's unmerited favor) was given to each of us individually [not indiscriminately, but in different ways] in proportion to the measure of Christ's [rich and bounteous] gift.* Ephesians 4:4-7 AMPC

We are baptised into one Body.

For by [means of the personal agency of] one [Holy] Spirit we were all, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free, baptized [and by baptism united together] into one body, and all made to drink of one [Holy] Spirit. 1 Corinthians 12:13 AMPC

We cleanse the body with pure water.

*Let us all come forward and draw near with true (honest and sincere) hearts in unqualified assurance and absolute conviction engendered by **faith** (by that leaning of the entire human personality on God in absolute trust and confidence in His power, wisdom, and goodness), having our hearts sprinkled and purified from a guilty (evil) conscience and our **bodies cleansed with pure water.*** Hebrews 10:22 AMPC

We now become sons and daughters of the Kingdom.

*For [the Spirit which] you have now received [is] not a spirit of slavery to put you once more in bondage to fear, but you have received the **Spirit of adoption [the Spirit producing sonship] in [the bliss of] which we cry, Abba (Father)! Father!*** Romans 8:15 AMPC

The Believer's Baptism

This baptism is sometimes called the believer's baptism or the Christian baptism. It is our **water baptism**, and it follows salvation. If you were baptised before salvation took place, the baptism would be of no value. Water baptism is the burying of the old man. The old man must die! Those who do not go through water baptism struggle for the rest of their lives to obey Adonai.

Remember, we are laying down the foundation to restore the temple of God. Although some instructions given to us in the Bible are not essential for salvation, they are still requirements for living a holy and obedient life. Believers sometimes ignore these requirements, resulting in foundations giving in and houses collapsing. Yahshuah commanded us to be immersed for a reason, namely, that all righteousness be fulfilled. Therefore, my beloved, this baptism is essential for receiving a clear **conscience**. It gives us right standing before Adonai and enables us to walk in righteousness.

Water Baptism

When someone is immersed, he is baptised in the Name of Jesus. It is important to know the person is also baptised INTO Christ.

For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

Galatians 3:26-27 KJV

This baptism is essential for being a disciple of Christ! Many denominations merely educate and accommodate their church members. They never guide

them into being disciples of Yashuah. They mostly make disciples for their own ministries and not necessarily for the Kingdom of Yashuah.

It is considered general knowledge that water baptism replaced circumcision. Yet, many are silent about why the circumcised Baby Jesus was later immersed in water. Jesus did not have any sin to repent for, and yet was baptised. This confirms that baptism in water unto repentance is not a requirement for the New Testament believers. Satan tries everything in his power to blind believers from seeing the glory of Christ, His image and His likeness!

*For the God of this world has blinded the unbelievers' minds [that they should not discern the truth], preventing them from seeing the illuminating light of the Gospel of the glory of Christ (the Messiah), **Who is the Image and Likeness of God.** 2 Corinthians 4:4 AMPC*

The sprinkling of babies in the religious system is not only insufficient but completely unscriptural and senseless. The Bible is clear that faith in Jesus is a prerequisite for baptism. In Greek, the word “**baptism**” is “**Baptizo**”, which means “*to immerse; to dunk, to submerge*”. **It does not mean to sprinkle!** Also, a person is not scripturally baptised if it was done before true conversion. An infant or young child cannot be converted!

The Blood of Jesus

We cannot be qualified to receive the presence of God into our lives unless the Blood of Jesus cleanses us and makes way for the return of God's Spirit to our human temples. The key to the continuous work of Jesus in each of us is the Holy Spirit. When the Spirit is alive in us, He restores the presence of God in our

lives and leads us into the holiness that was our birthright at creation. The Holy Spirit is God. He is the key to being returned to God's presence.

Unto Righteousness

The Holy Spirit revealed to me a deep truth regarding Jacob's struggle with the Angel. On the night Jacob, whose name means "**deceiver**", struggled with the Angel, the Angel hit him on his thigh, and he was permanently crippled.

And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was out of joint, as he wrestled with him. Genesis 32:25 KJV

Jacob, as the man in the flesh, overcame. His name was changed to Israel, which refers to the spiritual man. He then called out, "*I have seen Adonai face to face, and my soul was saved*" (verse 30). In contrast, Esau, which means "**reddish**", refers to the nature of Adam, the old man in the flesh. Esau never overcame. His name was changed to Edom. Jacob and Esau became a typology* of the man in the flesh (*Esau/Edom*), and the new spiritual man as an overcomer (*Jacob*). He now walks in righteousness (*Israel*). Very relevant that it was the Edomites who later prevented Israel from entering the Promised Land!

* A typology is a Christian theology involving the interpretation of some figures and events in the Old Testament as foreshadowing events in the New Testament.

How is Jacob's struggle with the Angel relevant to baptism? Here is the key:

And he has on his garment and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS. Revelation 19:16 JUB

The Angel hit Jacob on his thigh, after which he received a new name of righteousness. Jacob, as Israel, now represents the new creation man – the man in the spirit. It is no coincidence that the King of Kings' name is written on His thigh. He is our King of Righteousness.

When Jesus came to John the Baptist to be baptised by him, John replied that he was not worthy to do so. Yashuah insisted, so all righteousness could be fulfilled.

But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me? ¹⁵ And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him. Matthew 3:14-15 KJV

Yashuah was baptised to give us right standing before the Father. This act restored us to our position before the fall. What a divine revelation!

**Baptism in water confirms that our old nature is buried
with Christ to fulfil all righteousness.
We are therefore baptised IN water UNTO righteousness,
which gives us right standing before Christ Jesus.**

Fulfilling all righteousness

Jesus' baptism was for the fulfilment of all righteousness. All three Godheads (*Triunity*) were present - the Son, the Holy Spirit who descended like a dove, and the Father who presented Himself in an audible voice.

And Jesus, after he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water; and, behold, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and "lighting" upon him; Matthew 3:16 JUB

Glory to GOD! The Son was baptised INTO the Holy Ghost! The Father recorded the following words in an audible voice.

And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Matthew 3:17 KJV

After baptism in water into Christ, the Father sees us as having the image we had before the fall.

*You perceive **how God sees you in the mirror of the Word**, but then you go out and forget your divine origin. ²⁵ But those who set their gaze deeply into the perfecting **law of liberty** are fascinated by and respond to the truth they hear and are strengthened by it—they experience God's blessing in all that they do! James 1:24-25 TPT*

Baptism into Christ brings us back to the state of righteousness and gives us right standing before the Father as before the Fall. At last, we have freedom! Christ has set us free! We must always cherish this truth and firmly refuse to go back into the bondage of the past (Galatians 5:1 TPT).

Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: ² By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Romans 5:1-2 KJV

Because of water baptism into Christ, we are now **justified** and have peace with Adonai. This means we are:

- Acquitted.
- Declared not guilty.
- Reckoned righteous.
- Made righteous.

This is grace and mercy at its highest level! We need to fully capture this profound truth. Many believers forfeit their right standing before God because of a lack of knowledge or unwillingness to be immersed in water into Christ Jesus! After baptism into Christ, we are dead to sin.

Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? ⁴ Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Romans 6:3-4 KJV

We are clothed with Christ and are a new creation man.

*For as many [of you] as were baptized into Christ [into a spiritual union and communion with Christ, the Anointed One, the Messiah] have put on (clothed yourselves with) Christ. ²⁸ There is [now no distinction] neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is not male and female; for you are all **one in Christ Jesus**.* Galatians 3:27-28 AMPC

When we are clothed with Christ, there is no distinction between male and female, rich and poor, or between ethnic races, as we are now one in Christ! We are indeed sons and daughters in a new family, which is the Body of Christ. Baptism is a commitment to identify with His death, burial and resurrection. Baptism in water into Christ represents baptism into His death. We died with Him, were raised with Him and now experience a completely different and new kind of life. The Holy Spirit raised Yashuah from the dead, and we, too, will be raised from the dead by the Holy Spirit. We come to the end of our old Adam nature at baptism. When we rise out of the water, we become like Him. His resurrection reversed the decision of a criminal's death.

He that believes and is baptised shall be saved. The Bible teaches no delay and no equipping first. Only when you believe and are baptised, shall you be saved. Bearing fruit follows baptism and is not a requirement to be saved. Believing that Christ died, was buried, and raised from the dead on the third day is the only requirement. Saints, I have been studying these scriptures for many years and find no proof of salvation without the result of baptism.

The following experiences should, however, precede baptism:

- We must have heard the Gospel.
- We must have repented.
- We must believe the Gospel.
- We must have a good conscience toward God.

An infant cannot meet any of these conditions. That settles the inefficiency of the sprinkling of babies. I believe we often baptise pagans. The only change that takes place at their baptism is that they are dry before baptism and wet afterwards! The following people understood the concept that salvation depended on this one mandatory baptism.

- Three thousand believers were baptised immediately after Pentecost (Acts 2) because they believed and repented.
- The Ethiopian heard the Gospel and was immediately baptised by Philip (Acts 8).
- Cornelius' household was immersed from above, received the Holy Spirit and was immediately baptised in water into Christ.

An Act of Righteousness

Let us dig deep and lay down a good foundation regarding this topic. Paul explains that we are justified, declared righteous, and given right standing with Adonai.

Therefore, since we are justified (acquitted, declared righteous, and given a right standing with God) through faith, let us [grasp the fact that we] have [the peace of reconciliation to hold and to enjoy] peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One). Romans 5:1 AMPC

We need water baptism to share in Yashuah's resurrection life.

Therefore, as sin came into the world through one man, and death as the result of sin, so death spread to all men, no one being able to stop it or to escape its power] because all men sinned. Romans 5:12 AMP

Paul explains right standing before God in the next chapter.

*What shall we say [to all this]? Are we to remain in sin in order that God's grace (favor and mercy) may multiply and overflow?
Romans 6:1 AMPC*

Of course not! God forbid! May it never even be suggested in any Bible translation! The Passion Translation says it is "a terrible thought". How could we take advantage of Adonai's grace?

*What a terrible thought! We have died to sin once and for all, as a dead man passes away from this life. So how could we live under sin's rule a moment longer?³ Or have you forgotten that all of us who **were***

immersed into union with Jesus, the Anointed One, were immersed into union with his death? Romans 6:2-3 TPT

Clearly, there is death in sin. But our nature has changed. We are still human and commit sin, but it is not our nature to sin any longer. Water baptism brings us unto a new MASTER of righteousness. Sin has no dominion over us anymore!

Arise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord. Acts 22:16 MKJV

Are you ignorant of the fact that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Romans 6:3 AMPC.

Our commitment is to be executed on the stake for the remission of sin.

For since we are permanently grafted into him to experience a death like his, then we are permanently grafted into him to experience a resurrection like his and the new life that it imparts. Romans 6:5 TPT

In conclusion, when we go into the water with repentance of sin and with faith in Christ Jesus, we appeal to Adonai for a clear conscience. We come out of the water of spiritual circumcision of the old nature, and now we put on Christ. We clothe ourselves with the Anointed One.

This brings us to the next baptism, which is not essential for salvation but essential for receiving power. What do we need this power for? We receive Dunamis Power, or resurrection power, to stand against the wiles of the devil.

Baptism by Jesus

This is also known as the baptism in the Holy Spirit. Yashuah was immersed in water to fulfil all righteousness. As He came out of the water, He was baptised into the Holy Spirit who descended upon Him like a dove and set Him on fire. Yehôvâh Elohim created man in His image and likeness, and since the fall, the Father has been desiring to restore and unite us back to Him. Therefore, we must put on His likeness.

Instead, clothe yourself with the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ. And don't let yourself think about ways to indulge your evil desires.

Romans 13:14 NLT

And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have put on Christ, like putting on new clothes. Galatians 3:27 NLT

Here we clearly see Yashuah as the Baptiser and the medium is the Holy Spirit. Jesus repeated John's words before His ascension into the heavens:

*For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall **be baptized with the Holy Ghost** not many days hence.* Acts 1:5 KJV

This baptism occurred on the day of Pentecost in the upper room where 120 men received their second baptism. They had previously received the first baptism and were already in Christ. This second baptism was an act performed by Yashuah Himself. Although this baptism is **not a requirement for salvation**, it is not optional and very essential for believers. **If you need spiritual power, you need this baptism by Jesus into the Holy Ghost.** Jesus baptises us into the power of the Holy Spirit. It is freely available to every believer!

A Symbol of God's Approval

The Holy Spirit baptism is a symbol of God's approval. Immediately after the baptism of Christ, the Spirit fell upon Him. God declared that Jesus was His son with whom He was well pleased. In Acts 10, the Gospel of Christ had not yet been extended to include the Gentiles. As a sign that God had granted salvation to both the Jews and the Gentiles, the Holy Spirit fell upon the centurion, Cornelius, and all those who heard the words of Peter (Acts 10:30-48). Upon seeing the sign of God's approval of the Gentiles, Peter remarked, "*Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?*" Immediately, they underwent baptism in the Name of Jesus Christ. The Spirit was poured out on "all flesh", both Jews and Gentiles, fulfilling the prophecy of Joel 2:28.

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

The word "**power**" is "***Dunamis***" in Greek, which means "miraculous power" or "might". We need this power to fulfil our assignment to heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, and raise the dead.

And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. ⁸ Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give. Matthew 10:7-8 KJV

We also need this power to overcome the enemy.

Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. Luke 10:19 KJV

When we receive His Dunamis Power, it is active within our human bodies.

And if the Spirit of Him Who raised up Jesus from the dead dwells in you, [then] He Who raised up Christ Jesus from the dead will also restore to life your mortal (short-lived, perishable) bodies through His Spirit Who dwells in you. Romans 8:11 AMPC

This power enables our mortal, short-lived, perishable bodies to be restored. We need resurrection power to heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, and overcome the enemy! We need this Dunamis Power to take authority over the enemy. Without it, we cannot exercise authority. We need Dunamis Power to stand and hold our ground against the enemy.

How would we know if we have indeed received the baptism of Yashuah? When we speak in tongues, and when the sick are healed, when we lay hands on them!

He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. ¹⁷ And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; ¹⁸ They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. Mark 16:16-18 KJV

The Holy Spirit

Jesus's promise of the Holy Ghost was fulfilled on the day of Pentecost. While they were all in one accord, a sound from heaven came like a mighty wind and filled the whole house. Tongues of fire came upon each individual and filled them with the Holy Spirit. They all spoke in their own languages. The baptism

in the Holy Ghost came from above and immersed them. Streams of living water came out of their innermost beings and out of their hearts. Their mouths uttered spiritual words as the Spirit spoke to their spirit.

Anyone who believes in me may come and drink! For the Scriptures declare, 'Rivers of living water will flow from his heart'. John 7:38 NLT

*For out of the **abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.***

Matthew 12:34 KJV

The Seal

And He has sealed us and having given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts. 2 Corinthians 1:22 MKJV

The moment we believe in our hearts and confess with our mouths that Yashuah is Lord and Saviour, we are sealed with the Holy Ghost. Complete freedom comes with soul salvation!

For you are reaping the harvest of your faith—the full salvation promised you—your souls' victory! 1 Peter 1:9 TPT

Here we find Adonai's promise that we belong to Him. He bought us out of slavery and put His seal on us, never to be sold as slaves again. Also, this down payment sets us apart for His special use.

*And so those whom God **set apart, he called; and those he called, he put right with himself,** and he shared his glory with them.*

Romans 8:30 GNT

This seal is something audible, visible and public, and it cannot be kept a secret. It begins when we receive our language.

And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; ¹⁸ They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. Mark 16:17-18 KJV

There are two ways to administer the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

- It can fall on people directly from heaven.
- It can be received by the laying on of hands by believers.

Purpose

The purpose of this baptism is to receive supernatural power, also known as resurrection power, or Dunamis Power. Many believers forfeit this power because they do not receive the baptism of the Holy Ghost. The English word for Dunamis is **“dynamite”**, referring to an explosive. The disciples demonstrated this power when they preached the Gospel.

For the kingdom of God does not consist in talk but in power.

1 Corinthians 4:20 ESV

Unity

The main reason for baptism in the Holy Spirit is to bring unity within the Body of Christ.

*For by one Spirit all of us, Jews and Greeks, slaves and free, were baptized **into one body** and were all privileged to drink from one Spirit.*

1 Corinthians 12:13 ISV

When the Holy Ghost fell on the disciples on Pentecost, they were in one accord, meaning there was unity amongst them. They were one in Spirit and one in Body to produce unity. Today, however, many believers within the Body of Christ are

out to bring division, confusion, strife and envy. My heart is broken before the Lord because of disunity in the Body of Christ. We should never be involved in activities that cause **division** in the Body of Christ.

I don't want to find you in disunity, with jealousy and angry outbursts, with selfish ambition, slander, gossip, arrogance, and turmoil. 21 I'm actually afraid that on my next visit my God will humble me in front of you as I shed tears over those who keep sinning without repenting of their impurity, sexual immorality, and perversion.

2 Corinthians 12:20b-21 TPT

The Lord sometimes separates people strategically and scatters them into the nations as labourers in the field for the end-time harvest (1 Peter 1:1 TPT). Let us labour in HIS field without strife, division and confusion. When He breaks people loose from a group or a ministry, let us release and bless one another with love to be harvesters for the Lord.

Paul and Barnabas are an example. Since Paul's conversion, they had been ministering together, and at a certain point, there was a huge disagreement between them (Acts 15:36-41). Until then, they had been operating like two focused and goal-oriented cart horses. To fully understand what had happened, we have to look at the result.

- Paul and Barnabas did not take the problem personally. They did not allow their disagreement to alienate them as friends and brothers.
- They aimed for an effective solution to their disagreement. The solution was separation. Going on two separate missions solved the problem, and the problem did not continue to fester.
- Neither appeared to have acted out of self-interest or self-will.

- Neither desired to make their disagreement a biblical issue in which one was “right” and the other “wrong”.
- Both seemed to be acting under their own spiritual gifts and calling.
- The separation was a cooperative action, not a competitive one.
- Time bore witness that both acted in a way that was beneficial to themselves, to Mark, to each other and the Gospel.
- It seems Silas was a better partner in ministry to Paul.

The Lord deals with us in love. He releases mercy upon mercy, grace upon grace, but we often continue stubbornly with anger outbursts, constant conflict and strife, inappropriate language, etc. The time might come when He will give us only one more chance! Do not waste His mercy! Let us learn a lesson from Israel, which wandered in the desert for 40 years. Their bodies were scattered in the wilderness because of their rebellion and stubborn spirit. There might come a day in our own lives when Adonai will make a vow.

So for 40 years I was disgusted and grieved by them. I described them as wicked wanderers whose hearts would not follow my ways or keep my words. ¹¹ So, I made a vow in my anger and declared, They will never enter the resting place I've planned for them! Psalm 95:10-11 TPT

Let us never be as hard-hearted and stubborn as they were.

Aspire to lead a calm and peaceful life as you mind your own business and earn your living, just as we've taught you. ¹² By doing this you will live an honorable life, influencing others and commanding respect of even the unbelievers. Then you'll be in need of nothing and not dependent upon others. 1 Thessalonians 4:11 TPT

Requirements For Baptism

There are seven requirements for baptism in the Holy Spirit.

- Repentance.
- Baptism in water should precede this baptism.
- Be thirsty for the Spirit.
- Come to Jesus to receive the Spirit.
- Ask Him for it.
- Receive it in faith.
- Yield your tongue to utter your new language.

The Essence of the Holy Spirit Baptism

Jesus received the Holy Spirit

*John gave further evidence, saying, I have seen the **Spirit descending as a dove out of heaven**, and it dwelt on Him [never to depart].* John 1:32

AMPC

The Holy Spirit led Jesus

*Then Jesus went back full of and under the **power of the [Holy] Spirit** into Galilee, and the fame of Him spread through the whole region round about. ¹⁵ And He Himself conducted [a course of] teaching in their synagogues, being recognized and honored and praised by all.*

Luke 4:14-15 AMPC

Jesus performed many great works after He had received the Holy Spirit

On the third day there was a wedding at Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Jesus also was invited with His disciples to the wedding. John 2:1-2 AMPC

*And when the manager **tasted the water** just now **turned into wine**, not knowing where it came from--though the servants who had drawn the water knew--he called the bridegroom. John 2:9 AMPC*

This was the very first miracle Jesus performed. Many more followed.

*John answered them all by saying, **I baptize you with water**; but He Who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of Whose sandals I am not fit to unfasten. He will **baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire**. Luke 3:16 AMPC*

After being born again and baptised in water, we should receive the power of the Holy Spirit! God doesn't want us to live for Him in our own strength. He wants to live through us by the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit!

*And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, **Receive ye the Holy Ghost**. John 20:22 KJV*

Jesus commanded His disciples to preach the Gospel and baptise the people

*And He said to them, **Go into all the world and preach and publish openly the good news (the Gospel)** to every creature [of the whole human race]. Mark 16:15 AMPC*

Jesus gave us Authority

*Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is.³⁴ For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and **gave authority to his servants**, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch. Mark 13:33 – 34 KJV*

These signs will accompany them

*And these attesting signs will accompany those who believe: in **My name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new languages;**¹⁸ They will **pick up serpents**; and [even] if they **drink anything deadly**, it will **not hurt them**; they will lay their **hands on the sick, and they will get well**. Mark 16:17-18 AMPC*

Before Jesus ascended to Heaven, He instructed his disciples to wait on the Holy Spirit

*And while being in their company and eating with them, **He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait** for what the Father had promised, Of which [He said] you have heard Me speak. [John 14:16, 26; 15:26.]⁵ For John baptized with water, but not many days from now you shall **be baptized with (placed in, introduced into) the Holy Spirit**. Act 1:4-5 AMPC*

*And I will ask the Father, and He will give you **another Comforter** (Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengtheners, and Standby), that He may remain with you forever. John 14:16 AMPC*

The Holy Spirit came upon them!

*And when the day of **Pentecost** (50 days after Jesus' resurrection) had fully come, they were all assembled together in one place.*

Acts 2:1 AMPC

*And there appeared to them **tongues resembling fire, which were separated and distributed and which settled on each one of them.** ⁴ And they were **all filled (diffused throughout their souls) with the Holy Spirit** and began to speak in other (different, foreign) languages (tongues), as the Spirit kept giving them clear and loud expression [in each tongue in appropriate words]. Acts 2:3-4 AMPC*

Jesus departed to Heaven

So then the Lord Jesus, after He had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and He sat down at the right hand of God. Mark 16:19 ESV

Philip went to Samaria to preach the Gospel

Eight years later, Philip carried the Gospel to Samaria. With "ONE ACCORD", they gave heed unto the words he spoke! Many were delivered from unclean spirits.

This was the work of the power of the Holy Spirit!

*Now those who were scattered abroad went about [through the land from place to place] preaching the glad tidings, the Word [the doctrine concerning the attainment through Christ of salvation in the kingdom of God]. ⁵ **Philip** [the deacon, not the apostle] went down to the city of **Samaria** and proclaimed the Christ (the Messiah) to them [the people]; [Acts 6:5.] ⁶ And great crowds of people with one accord listened to and heeded what was said by Philip, as they heard him and **watched the***

miracles and wonders which he kept performing [from time to time].

*⁷ For foul spirits came out of many who were possessed by them, screaming and shouting with a loud voice, and many who were suffering from palsy or were crippled **were restored to health.** ⁸ And there was great rejoicing in that city. Act 8:4-8 AMPC*

But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. Acts 8:12 KJV

All were baptised, but they had not yet received the Holy Spirit.

Peter and John went to the Samaritans so they could receive the Holy Spirit

Peter and John heard that these people were baptised. They went to Samaria to lay hands on them so they might receive the Holy Spirit.

*Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John. ¹⁵ Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost. ¹⁶ (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: **only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.**) ¹⁷ Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost. Acts 8:14-17 KJV*

This confirms that an experience follows salvation, which is called receiving the Holy Spirit, or being filled with the Holy Ghost.

The Holy Spirit fell on the gentile household of Cornelius while Peter was still preaching to them

Peter brought the Word of God to Cornelius' household ten years after Pentecost. While he was still talking, the Holy Spirit was poured out onto the Gentiles. They, too, spoke in tongues and magnified God.

*While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy **Spirit fell on** all who were listening to the message. ⁴⁵ And the believers from among the circumcised [the Jews] who came with Peter were surprised and amazed, because the free **gift of the Holy Spirit had been bestowed and poured out largely even on the Gentiles.** ⁴⁶ For they heard them talking in [unknown] tongues (languages) and extolling and magnifying God. Then Peter asked. Acts 10:44-46 AMPC*

After they had received their tongues, Peter commanded them to be baptised.

*Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we? ⁴⁸ And he **commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord.** Then prayed they him to tarry certain days. Acts 10:47-48 KJV*

Paul laid hands on the Ephesians

Twenty years after Pentecost, Paul went to Ephesus. He asked if they had received the Holy Spirit.

*And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples, ² He said unto them, **Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?** And they said unto him, **We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.** Acts 19:1-2 KJV*

*And he said unto them, **Unto what then were ye baptized?** And they said, Unto John's baptism. Acts 19:3 KJV*

When Paul explained that the baptism of John was only the baptism of repentance, they were all baptised again. This time in the Name of the Lord Jesus!

*Then said Paul, **John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance**, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. ⁵ When they heard this, they were **baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus**. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied. Acts 19:4-6 KJV*

The Holy Spirit gives a new Language

*And they were all filled (diffused throughout their souls) with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other (**different, foreign**) languages (**tongues**), as the Spirit kept giving them clear and loud expression [in each tongue in appropriate words]. Acts 2:4 AMPC*

Salvation saves us. Baptism with the Holy Spirit empowers us! We receive the Language of the Spirit!

Paul spoke in Tongues

*Now I wish that you might all speak in [unknown] tongues, but more especially [I want you] to **prophesy** (to be inspired to preach and interpret the divine will and purpose). He who prophesies [who is inspired to preach and teach] is greater (more useful and more*

important) than he who speaks in [unknown] tongues, unless he should interpret [what he says], so that the church may be edified and receive good [from it]. 1 Corinthians 14:5 KJV

The Power Source

The Holy Spirit is the Power Source. When we reject Him, we will not experience miracles, healings, demons cast out, or speaking in tongues! Accept Him by receiving the baptism in the Holy Spirit. Receive God's supernatural power, which works in various wonderful ways. Receive the Source to have His Power! This is essential and not optional! Power is released when speaking in tongues. This is how we will receive revelations and tap into the Holy Spirit who lives inside of us to renew our minds.

Speaking in Tongues

Speaking in tongues is not a doctrinal foundation. Yet, I deem it necessary to be discussed because Yashuah declared there would be **signs** following those who believe and are baptised. One of these signs is **speaking with new tongues!**

He that believes and is baptized shall be saved, but he that believes not shall be condemned. ¹⁷ And these signs shall follow those that believe: In my name they shall cast out demons; they shall speak with new tongues; ¹⁸ they shall take away serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands upon the sick, and they shall be healed. Mark 16:16-18 JUB

Many denominations twist scriptures to prove that speaking in tongues is unnecessary. Some even regard it as coming from the devil. Let us get clarity on this subject.

It is a Language

It is an earthly language different from any language you are proficient in.

*And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven. ⁶ Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together and was confounded, because that every man heard them **speak in his own language**. Acts 2:5-6 KJV*

Myths about speaking in tongues

Although scripture says they “**heard it fluently**”, it is still a new language to the person who receives it, and they may not speak it fluently from the first day. It can't be controlled. It is the Holy Spirit who changes your tongue. You simply utter an initial sound like a newborn baby does, and it will later form a proper word. The Holy Spirit gives you the language but you must speak it. Open your mouth and utter a sound! The new language will start flowing automatically.

It is a Language of the Spirit

*For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he **speaketh mysteries**. 1 Corinthians 14:2 KJV*

When we pray in tongues, we pray to the Spirit. Spirit communicates with spirit. It is not meant for the human mind to understand. The Father understands the message as delivered by the Holy Ghost, but the enemy is confused.

Private and secret Languages spoken to God

*For one who speaks in an [unknown] tongue **speaks not to men but to God**, for no one understands or catches his meaning, because in the [Holy] Spirit he utters **secret truths** and **hidden things** [not obvious to the understanding]. 1 Corinthians 14:2 AMPC*

Praying and singing in the Spirit leaves the human understanding unfruitful

For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful. ¹⁵ What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also. 1 Corinthians 14:14-15 KJV

Building yourself up in Faith

*He that speaketh in an unknown tongue **edifieth himself**; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church. 1 Corinthians 14:4 KJV*

To edify means to build up. Your soul grows and is being built up because your spirit is already perfect and complete.

But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost. Jude 1:20 KJV

Praying in tongues is part of the Believer's Armour

*With all prayer and petition pray [with specific requests] **at all times** [on every occasion and in every season] **in the Spirit**, and with this in view, stay alert with all perseverance and petition [interceding in prayer] for all God's people. Ephesians 6:18 AMP*

Therefore, my brothers, desire the ability to prophesy, and do not prevent others from speaking in other languages.

1 Corinthians 14:39 ISV

It is a pure Language

When we go back to the beginning of creation, Genesis 11 shows the following:

And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech.

Genesis 11:1 KJV

In the very next chapter, God called Abraham. It seems as if the people couldn't yet speak Hebrew in Genesis 11. Could their language be a heavenly language?

The Tower of Babel

The Lord came down to see the tower that the people of the earth were building. They had one language, and nothing they proposed to do would be withheld!

*And the **whole earth was of one language, and of one speech.***

Genesis 11:1 KJV

*And they said, Go to, **let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.** ⁵ And the **LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men builded.** ⁶ And the LORD said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and **now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do.** ⁷ Go to, let us go down, and there **confound their language**, that they may not understand one another's speech. Genesis 11:4-7 KJV*

All things would be possible for them since they were united in one language. Likewise, if the Body of Christ were united, nothing would be withheld from us!

Pentecost

Fifty days after Jesus had ascended to the heavens, the Holy Spirit filled the people at Pentecost, and they spoke in other tongues/languages. They were all with "one accord".

*And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with **one accord** in one place. ² And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. ³ And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. ⁴ And they were all **filled with the Holy Ghost**, and began to **speak with other tongues**, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Acts 2:1-4 KJV*

Restoration

God Almighty prophesied in Zephaniah that He would change the speech of the people to pure speech, and they would serve Him in one accord. He promised to return a pure language to the people. This would be one language without any profanity.

*Then I will give to the peoples [**clear and pure speech from**] **purified lips** [which reflect their **purified hearts**], That all of them may call on the name of the Lord, To serve Him shoulder to shoulder (united). Zephaniah 3:9 AMP*

*I will change the speech of the people to a pure speech and they will
SERVE ME with 'ONE ACCORD'!*

The Lord is faithful! He promised the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. When they were all together with ONE ACCORD, He fulfilled His promise.

*And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with **one accord** in one place. Acts 2:1 KJV*

God desires to give us His Holy Spirit

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

The Power of the Holy Spirit

When Simon, the sorcerer, saw that the Holy Spirit was given by the laying on of hands, he offered the apostles money to also receive this power!

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

The Holy Spirit can't be seen with our physical eyes since He is a spirit. So, how did Simon SEE this **power**? He saw the sign of the Spirit - speaking in tongues.

The Apostle Paul

Do you want to know why Paul wrote two-thirds of the New Testament?

Because he spoke in tongues more than the whole congregation together!!

I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all.

1 Corinthians 14:18 KJV

Paul never walked with Christ. BUT when the Holy Ghost fell on him, he spoke in tongues more than all the members of the congregation together. The Spirit of the Lord revealed so much to Paul that Peter acknowledged it.

*And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; ¹⁶ As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are **some things hard to be understood**, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction. 2 Peter 3:15-16 KJV*

This is the power of speaking in tongues. You have to go deep into your spirit and draw revelation out like water from a well! The more you speak in tongues, the more manifestations of other gifts of the Spirit you will receive. Speaking in tongues is the doorway to the rest of the spiritual gifts!

Praying in Tongues releases in us the mind of Christ

For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him?

But we have the mind of Christ. 1 Corinthians 2:16 KJV

It is the Initial Sign

And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Acts 2:4 KJV

The first reason we should speak in tongues is that it is a supernatural evidence of the Spirit's indwelling. It is the initial evidence or sign of the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

It is for Spiritual Edification

He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church. 1 Corinthians 14:4 KJV

Paul encourages us to continue the practice of speaking in other tongues during worship and also in daily prayer as a means of spiritual **edification**! Another word for edification is "charge", e.g., charging a battery. This means we edify, charge and build ourselves up like a battery. This is not a mental or physical edification but a supernatural spiritual edification.

It reminds us of the indwelling presence of the Spirit

Speaking in tongues is not only the initial evidence of the Holy Spirit's infilling but a continual experience lasting for the rest of our lives.

*And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you **another Comforter**, that he may abide with you for ever; ¹⁷ Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; **for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.** John 14:16-17 KJV*

It is Praying in Line with God's Perfect Will

*Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our **infirmities**: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the **Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.** ²⁷ And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what **is the mind of the Spirit**, because he **maketh intercession** for the saints according to the **will of God.** Romans 8:26-27 KJV*

Verse 27 above reads as follows in Greek: "*The Holy Ghost maketh intercession for us in groanings that can't be uttered in articulate speech.*" The Holy Spirit within you gives utterance, and you speak out loud the words coming from your spirit. By this method, the Holy Spirit helps you to pray according to the will of God. The Holy Spirit will not do our praying for us. He dwells in us as a Helper and an Intercessor. He isn't responsible for our prayer lives. He simply helps us pray! If God's people insist on having things their way, He will often permit it even if it is not God's perfect will. He permitted Israel to have a king because they insisted, but it was not His will.

It stimulates Faith

But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost. Jude 1:20 KJV

If the Holy Spirit supernaturally directs the words we speak, then faith must be exercised to speak in tongues. Speaking in tongues builds our faith.

It is a Means of keeping us Free from Worldly Contamination

But if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself, and to God. 1 Corinthians 14:28 KJV

The scripture above indicates we can speak in tongues to ourselves. If we can speak both to ourselves and to God during a church service, then we can also do it at work or anywhere else. We can quietly speak to God even while others are engaged in senseless conversations.

If any man speak in an unknown tongue, let it be by two, or at the most by three, and that by course; and let one interpret.

1 Corinthians 14:27 KJV

It enables us to Pray for the Unknown

The Holy Spirit knows everything, and He can pray through us for things our natural minds know nothing about. When praying in the spirit, we release supernatural power for miracles to happen!

It gives us Spiritual Refreshment

*For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people. ¹² To whom he said, This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to **rest**, and this is the **refreshing**: yet they would not hear.*

Isaiah 28:11-12 KJV

Amid turmoil, perplexity, and anxiety, we can be refreshed and revitalised daily by speaking in tongues, instead of going on a holiday.

It is for Giving Thanks

What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also. ¹⁶ Else when thou shalt bless with the spirit, how shall he that occupieth the room of the unlearned say Amen at thy

giving of thanks, seeing he understandeth not what thou sayest? ¹⁷ For thou verily givest thanks well, but the other is not edified.

1 Corinthians 14:15-17 KJV

"He that occupies the room of the unlearned" refers to those who are unlearned in spiritual things! We should know when to speak in tongues and when to speak with understanding. Saying grace before a meal should understandably be done with understanding, but we can also pray and give thanks to God for His goodness by praying in tongues. In the presence of unlearned people, Paul says to pray with understanding so they can be edified by what you say.

It brings the Tongue under Subjection

Yielding the tongue to the Holy Spirit is a giant step toward fully yielding the complete body and will to God.

But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. James 3:8 KJV

Conclusion: The Public Side of Speaking in Tongues

When people receive the Holy Ghost publicly, they speak with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance. The church is edified by speaking with other tongues in public assembly, with interpretation. Paul plainly states that prophesying means speaking unto men *"edification, and exhortation and comfort"* (1 Corinthians 14:3). Speaking in tongues, accompanied by interpretation, is equivalent to prophecy.

I would that ye all spake with tongues, but rather that ye prophesied: for greater is he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interprets, that the church may receive edifying. 1 Corinthians 14:5 KJV

If the utterance in tongues is interpreted so the church can understand what is said, then the one prophesying is not greater! To prophesy is not the same as to preach. A prophecy normally comes as an unprepared inspiration from the Spirit, whilst preaching has to be prepared in advance by studying.

NOW THAT YOU UNDERSTAND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF SPEAKING IN TONGUES, PRAY THE FOLLOWING PRAYER IN FAITH.

"Holy Spirit, I need You! In Jesus Name, I invite You into my life! I receive the Holy Ghost right now. Thank you, Lord, for pouring out Your Holy Spirit onto and into me. Thank you, Jesus, for this precious gift. I am asking You now to give me my own tongue so I can speak to You from spirit to spirit. Thank you, Lord Jesus. Hallelujah!"

Believe that you have received the Holy Spirit. Open your mouth and start uttering sounds from your spirit, even if it is only one word! You will speak more fluently as you repeat these words over and over!



SECTION 8: THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

Our hands have spiritual purposes. We are Adonai's vessels, and God needs our bodies to abide in. He uses our hands, mouths, ears, minds, emotions and feelings to express Himself to the world. God needs our hands to transmit His power and authority to others. The laying on of hands brings continuity in the Body of Christ between a senior and junior pastor, between one generation and another. In a spiritual context, it transmits blessings, authority, wisdom, the Holy Spirit, spiritual gifts, and ministries.

Adonai is the One who appoints

God's Kingdom is not based on any earthly principles. Most earthly systems are based on a voting system. The Kingdom of Heaven is not based on a voting system, but Adonai appoints those whom He elects. No man can appoint God's apostles, prophets, pastors, evangelists, and teachers. What a pity that the earthly voting system operates even in the institutional churches where pastors are appointed. **Adonai should always be the One who appoints!**

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit - fruit that will last - and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. John 15:16 NIV

The Purpose

The purpose of the laying on of hands is the following:

- To recognise, but not to appoint.
- To set apart.
- To transfer authority.
- To equip with spiritual gifts and authority.
- To heal.
- To bless.

Old Testament

Ephraim and Manasseh

In Genesis 48, Joseph brought his sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, to his father, Jacob. It was a common act of respect to ask the grandparents for their blessing on the grandchildren. According to tradition, the older son had to receive the father's right-hand blessing. But, in this case, Jacob insisted that this blessing should go to the younger brother, Ephraim. He crossed his hands and placed his right hand on Ephraim and his left on Manasseh. Jacob's blessings determined the future of these sons of Joseph.

Elijah

Adonai ordained the laying on of hands to transfer power, gifts, authority, and blessings from one person to another. Hands are instruments for the use of the Lord. When the Lord's own hand came upon Elijah, he was empowered to outrun the chariots of the king (1 Kings 18:46).

God's Signet Ring

'And I will make you like my signet ring, for I have chosen you', declares the LORD Almighty.' Haggai 2:23 NIV

We are the signet ring on God's right hand. A signet ring was used instead of, or together with, a signature, to give authentication to an official document. He uses us as His signet ring to approve His works in the Body of Christ. (*Download "To be His Signet Ring" from our website: www.berashithministry.co.za*)

Isaac and Jacob

Isaac was supposed to bless Esau, his oldest son. But Jacob and his mother, Rebecca, betrayed him by pretending that Jacob was Esau. They covered Jacob's arms with animal hide, which made the blind Isaac believe he was the hairy Esau. Isaac's blessing was transferred to Jacob instead of to Esau. Once the blessing was transferred through the hands of Isaac, it could not be reversed. This blessing was later passed on from Jacob to his 12 sons. Read Genesis 49 to see how Jacob blessed and prophesied over each of his sons. These blessings determined the destiny of each of them.

Moses

Adonai commanded Moses to lay hands on Joshua, thus transferring authority to him. Notice that **God appointed Joshua**. He was not elected by a committee!

"Select Nun's son Joshua. The Spirit is in that man." the LORD answered Moses. "You are to lay your hand on him ¹⁹ and make him stand in front of Eleazar the priest and the entire community. Then you are to set him in charge right before their eyes, ²⁰ turning over your authority to him

so that the entire community of Israel knows to obey him.”

Numbers 27:18-20 ISV

Moses understood that authority could only be passed on to Joshua by the laying on of hands.

*And thou shalt put **some of thine honour upon him**, that all the congregation of the children of Israel may be obedient.*

Numbers 27:20 KJV

After Moses had laid hands on him, Joshua was full of the spirit of wisdom.

Now Nun's son Joshua was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had placed his hands on him, so Israelis listened to him and did what the LORD had commanded Moses. Deuteronomy 34:9 ISV

Moses also laid hands on Aaron and his sons to receive divine impartation. Again, they were appointed by Adonai and not by human election.

Elisha

Elisha had received a double portion of blessing from Elijah. Second Kings 13 tells that when King Joash was on his sickbed, Elisha put his hands upon his hands, holding a bow and arrows. The king then shot an arrow towards the enemy to hit the target. Even after Elisha's death, his anointing was so strong that when they buried him, and his bones touched a dead man, the man was raised from the dead and stood up on his feet.

And Elisha died, and they buried him. And the bands of the Moabites invaded the land at the coming in of the year. ²¹ And it came to pass, as they were burying a man, that, behold, they spied a band of men; and they cast the man into the sepulchre of Elisha: and when the man was

let down, and touched the bones of Elisha, he revived, and stood up on his feet. 2 Kings 13:20-21 KJV

New Testament

The Laying on of Hands for Healing

Jairus

Jairus begged Jesus to come and lay hands on his dying daughter.

... and begged him urgently, saying, 'My little daughter is dying. Come and lay your hands on her so that she may get well and live.'

Mark 5:23 ISV

Nazareth

In his hometown, Yashuah could not do mighty works because of the unbelief of the people, but he still laid His hands on the sick to heal them (Mark 6:5).

The Blind Man

Jesus led a blind man out of the city, spat into his eyes, placed His hands on him and asked the man, *"Do you see anything?"* (Mark 8:23). Yashuah had to put His hands on the man's eyes a second time before his sight was restored (verse 25).

The Woman with a Disabling Spirit

Yashuah laid His hands on a woman with a disabling spirit, and she was immediately made straight and glorified God (Luke 13:13).

The Great Commission

Yashuah gave us the great commission to go into the world and preach the Gospel to every creature (Mark 16:15). Then He said:

*They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; **they shall lay hands on the sick**, and they shall recover.*

Mark 16:18 KJV

Jesus commanded us to lay hands on the sick for them to receive healing.

Are there any sick among you? Then ask the elders of the church to come and pray over the sick and anoint them with oil in the name of our Lord. ¹⁵ And the prayer of faith will heal the sick and the Lord will raise them up, and if they have committed sins they will be forgiven.

James 5:14-15 TPT

Jesus practised the fundamental principle of laying hands on the sick to heal them and to bless them. Just before His ascension, He led His disciples out of town as far as Bethany. He lifted His hands and blessed them (Luke 24:50). Although there is ample proof from the scriptures, many people still do not believe in the laying on of hands to heal the sick.]

The Laying on of Hands for the Impartation of the Holy Spirit

John and Peter were sent to Samaria to lay hands on the converts so they could receive the Holy Ghost.

Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.

Acts 8:17 KJV

The Laying on of Hands to Commission Servants of the Church

Acts 6 states that the disciples could no longer do all the work themselves. Extra helpers had to be appointed to assist them. Acts 6:3 says, “...whom we may appoint over this business.” The helpers were appointed and not elected. The Greek word for “**deacon**” is a “**servant**” or “**helper**”. God only promotes the meek of heart who are willing to serve. **Are you serving others? Or are you waiting to be served?**

The Laying on of Hands to Separate People for a Specific Task

Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. Acts 13:2b KJV

As they were worshipping, the Holy Spirit spoke the above words. This implies that someone was prophesying under the influence of the Holy Ghost. The Spirit appointed the best disciples for the job!

Paul and Barnabas preached the Gospel under severe tribulation and persecution. They appointed elders in all the churches by the laying on of hands.

*Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God. ²³ And when they had **ordained them elders in every church**, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed. Acts 14:22-23 KJV*

Paul wrote to Timothy and gave him special instructions for appointing elders. These elders had to adhere to strict requirements.

Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine. 1 Timothy 5:17 KJV

Today, very few elders are worthy of double honour. Most are not underlaid in word and doctrine! We should appoint only people who fit the profile as described in Titus and Timothy.

Laying on of Hands for the Transference of Gifts

Paul reminded Timothy to not neglect the spiritual gifts he had received when Paul had laid his hands upon him. Adonai imparted gifts using Paul's hands.

I'm writing to encourage you to fan into a flame and rekindle the fire of the spiritual gift God imparted to you when I laid my hands upon you.

2 Timothy 1:6 TPT

The laying on of hands was so important to the early believers that Paul longed to go to Rome to impart unto the believers some spiritual gifts.

For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end ye may be established. Romans 1:11 KJV

The Laying on of Hands for Prophecy versus Fortune-telling

The laying on of hands to receive prophecy should not be confused with fortune-telling. In Macedonia, Paul met a woman operating under the spirit of divination.

As we were on our way to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who was possessed by a spirit of divination [claiming to foretell future events and to discover hidden knowledge], and she brought her owners much gain by her fortunetelling.¹⁷ She kept following Paul and [the rest of] us, shouting loudly, These men are the servants of the Most High God! They announce to you the way of salvation!¹⁸ And she did this for many days. Then Paul, being sorely annoyed and worn out,

turned and said to the spirit within her, I charge you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her! And it came out that very moment. ¹⁹ But when her owners discovered that their hope of profit was gone, they caught hold of Paul and Silas and dragged them before the authorities in the forum (marketplace), [where trials are held]. ²⁰ And when they had brought them before the magistrates, they declared, These fellows are Jews and they are throwing our city into great confusion. ²¹ They encourage the practice of customs which it is unlawful for us Romans to accept or observe! ²² The crowd [also] joined in the attack upon them, and the rulers tore the clothes off of them and commanded that they be beaten with rods. ²³ And when they had struck them with many blows, they threw them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely. Acts 16:16-23 AMPC

Paul immediately identified the spirit of divination. This spirit, too, immediately identified Paul and his travellers as people of God. Be very cautious who lays hands on you! If a person is in bondage under the influence of the Jezebel spirit, pornography, etc., those spirits may be transferred to you. Be very sensitive to the warning of the Holy Spirit. Become spiritually mature so you can distinguish between good and evil.

The marks of His crucifixion remained in the hands of Christ even after His resurrection. They will be visible to eternity! This depicts the important role the acts of our hands play in the Kingdom.



SECTION 9: RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD

The Greek word “*anastasis*” is translated into English as “**resurrection**”. It means to stand up or be upright again or to arise again. In this case, resurrection from the dead.

I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live. John 11:25 KJV

This implies that even when we are knocked down flat to the ground, He has the power to put us back up on our feet! He is the “anastasis”, the Resurrection! He is our power to stand up!

Without resurrection, there is no hope, no Christianity, no faith. It is the central doctrine of the Faith. If for this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable, as Paul said to the Corinthians. We have a better hope, and that hope is in the resurrection of Christ Jesus.

If the only benefit of our hope in Christ is limited to this life on earth, we deserve to be pitied more than all others! ²⁰ But the truth is, Christ is risen from the dead, as the firstfruit of a great resurrection harvest of those who have died. 1 Corinthians 15:19-20 TPT

Christ was risen from the dead, and He never died again. There will be yet another harvest of resurrection, but each according to its appropriate order.

But each one in his proper order: Christ, the firstfruits, then those who belong to Christ in his presence. 1 Corinthians 15:23 TPT

Yashuah stood at the tomb of Lazarus, called him forth, and he came alive. But he died again! The Father resurrected His Son from the dead, and He will never die again! Glory to God! That is resurrection power!

Yes, God raised Jesus to life! And since God's Spirit of Resurrection lives in you, he will also raise your dying body to life by the same Spirit that breathes life into you! Romans 8:11 TPT

We have resurrection power inside of us. This is called Dunamis Power! Believers should not only acknowledge this Biblical truth but also apply the “dynamite” power that He put within us.

Christ's Resurrection Confirmed in the Old Testament

Because I set you, Yahweh, always close to me, my confidence will never be weakened, for I experience your wraparound presence every moment. ⁹ My heart and soul explode with joy—full of glory! Even my body will rest confident and secure. ¹⁰ For you will not abandon me to the realm of death, nor will you allow your Faithful One to experience corruption. ¹¹ Because of you, I know the path of life, as I taste the fullness of joy in your presence. At your right side I experience divine pleasures forevermore! Psalm 16:8-11 TPT

The Jubilee Bible states in verse 10 that God would not leave Christ's soul in Sheol.

I have set the LORD always before me: because when he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. ⁹ Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory

rejoices: my flesh also shall rest secure. ¹⁰ For thou wilt not leave my soul in Sheol; neither wilt thou suffer thy Merciful One to see corruption.

¹¹ Thou wilt show me the path of life: in thy presence is fullness of joy; in thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore. Psalm 16:8-11 JUB

After the outpouring of the Holy Ghost on the day of Pentecost, Peter spoke to the people.

...whom God has raised up, having loosed the pains of death because it was not possible for him to be held by it. ²⁵ For David speaks concerning him, I foresaw the Lord always before my face, for he is on my right hand, that I should not be moved, ²⁶ therefore did my heart rejoice, and my tongue was glad; moreover even my flesh shall rest in hope ²⁷ because thou wilt not leave my soul in Hades, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption. ²⁸ Thou hast made known to me the ways of life; thou shalt make me full of joy with thy countenance. Acts 2:24-28 JUB

Peter quoted David from Psalm 16, referring to the prophetic word that “**Sheol**” (Hebrew for “**Hades**”) could not hold the Messiah, nor did His body see any corruption.

Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day. ³⁰ Therefore being a prophet and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne; ³¹ he, seeing this before, spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that his soul was not left in Hades, neither did his flesh see corruption. ³² This Jesus God has raised up, of whom we all are witnesses. Acts 2:29-32 JUB

Read the profound words that David wrote in Psalm 71. Here, he refers to “US” instead of “him”.

*Even though you’ve let **us** sink down with trials and troubles, I know you will revive **us** again, lifting us up from the dust of death. ²¹ Give **us** even more greatness than before. Turn and comfort **us** once again.*

Psalm 71:20-21 TPT

The Old Testament prophetic word declared that Christ would be raised from the dead and we would be raised with Him one day. What a glorious and victorious day when the Father raised His Son and stripped all the powers and principalities of darkness!

Then Jesus made a public spectacle of all the powers and principalities of darkness, stripping away from them every weapon and all their spiritual authority and power to accuse us. And by the power of the cross, Jesus led them around as prisoners in a procession of triumph. He was not their prisoner; they were his! Colossians 2:15 TPT

The foundational New Testament scripture about the resurrection was recorded by Paul.

*For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins **according to the scriptures**; ⁴ And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day **according to the scriptures**.*

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 KJV

The apostles had access to the Old Testament only, and they knew these Old Testament Scriptures very well. Paul referred to these prophetic words from the Old Testament.

Hosea also prophesied that we would be revived after two days and that He would raise us up on the third day.

Come, and let us return unto the LORD: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up. ² After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight. Hosea 6:1-2 KJV

This Old Testament prophecy not only brought facts but also revealed the inner spiritual significance of the facts stated and predicted. The first is the prediction that the resurrection of Christ would take place on the 3rd day. The second is that His resurrection would indeed also be our resurrection! Christ's resurrection is the cornerstone of our FAITH!

When Yashuah was raised from the dead, He stripped the enemy of all its powers. God quickened us together with Christ and raised us up together with Him. We are seated together with Christ in heavenly places. Saints, we are already victorious because of Christ's resurrection!

But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, ⁵ Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) ⁶ And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. Ephesians 2:4-6 KJV

The outward act of the above scripture is water baptism.

Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead. Colossians 2:12 KJV

How can there be any doubt that there must first be a funeral before we can be raised with Christ! Our bodies must be buried!

Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. Romans 6:4 KJV

When we believe in Him and are baptised, we are identified with His burial and resurrection and are seated with Him on the throne in the heavenly realm. There is, however, a condition - *"If we follow on to know Him!"*

Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the LORD: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth. Hosea 6:3 KJV

Resurrection is only for those who pursue and follow on to know the Lord. Christ commanded us to be witnesses of this Gospel, and for this purpose, we need the Holy Spirit.

But ye shall receive the virtue of the Holy Spirit which shall come upon you, and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem and in all Judaea and in Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth. Acts 1:8 JUB

NEW TESTAMENT WITNESSES OF THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS

For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; ⁴ And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures: ⁵ And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: ⁶ After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater

part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep. ⁷ After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles. ⁸ And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time. 1 Corinthians 15:3-8 KJV

There were several eyewitnesses recorded in the New Testament:

- Cephas (Peter) - Luke 24:33-34
- The twelve disciples - Acts 1:1-3; John 20:19-22
- Two men on the road to Emmaus – Luke 24:13-32
- Five hundred other men – 1 Corinthians 15:6
- James and other disciples – 1 Corinthians 15:7
- Paul - 1 Corinthians 15:8

And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time.

⁹ Yes, I am the most insignificant of all the apostles, unworthy even to be called an apostle, because I hunted down believers and persecuted God's church. 1 Corinthians 15:8-9 KJV

Notice Paul's humble heart as he sees himself as most insignificant and unworthy because he persecuted the church of Christ. His attitude proves that he was saved. Therefore, he thoroughly preached ONLY this message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

- His Death.
- His Burial.
- His Resurrection.

Begotten Again / Born Again

The Old Testament foresaw the born-again experience that would follow Christ's resurrection.

After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight. Hosea 6:2 KJV

We are identified with His death and resurrection. Even though we were dead, He made us alive, raised us up and seated us with Him.

But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, ⁵ Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) ⁶ And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.
Ephesians 2:4-6 KJV

We are quickened and raised “together” with Him in baptism, and “together” with Him we now sit in heavenly places (Romans 6:4; Colossians 2:12).

For it is written: The first man, Adam, became a living soul. The last Adam became the life-giving Spirit. ⁴⁶ However, the spiritual didn't come first. The natural precedes the spiritual. ⁴⁷ The first man was from the dust of the earth; the second Man is Yahweh, from the realm of heaven. ⁴⁸ The first one, made from dust, has a race of people just like him, who are also made from dust. The One sent from heaven has a race of heavenly people who are just like him. ⁴⁹ Once we carried the likeness of the man of dust, but now let us carry the likeness of the man of heaven.
1 Corinthians 15:45-49 TPT

In this passage, we see how we are being transformed.

- From the old creation to the new creation.
- From the First Man who was a living being, to the Last Adam who became a life-giving spirit!
- The First Man was from the dust of the earth, but the Second Man was from heaven!
- He rose on the 3rd day and is now the Head of the new creation man!

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath **begotten us** again unto a **lively hope** by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, ⁵ Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. 1 Peter 1:3-5 KJV*

Through the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, He has **granted us a new birth**, resulting in an immortal hope. He did this because of His great mercy! Now we can see that there can be no new birth without the resurrection of Christ. A new birth cannot be established by man's effort! It is a gift of God, so no man can boast of his salvation.

Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. Ephesians 2:9 NLT

We pass over from the old nature into the new order. We become a new race - an Emmanuel race with the Messiah as the Head. We are now the "GOD WITH US" race! We have received a new source of life in Christ, who is in heaven.

We are now born from above, just as the Second Adam is from above. Our resources are not from the earthly realm. Every need is covered and provided for. We should be at rest because we also sit enthroned with Christ and have all the power and authority given to us.

So no wonder we don't give up. For even though our outer person gradually wears out, our inner being is renewed every single day. ¹⁷ We view our slight, short-lived troubles in the light of eternity. We see our difficulties as the substance that produces for us an eternal, weighty glory far beyond all comparison, ¹⁸ because we don't focus our attention on what is seen but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but the unseen realm is eternal. 2 Corinthians 4:16 TPT

Justification

Because of His righteousness, we are justified. That means we are made right with Christ after the first Adam had failed. Because of Christ's resurrection, we have right standing with Adonai. Paul used Abraham as an example of righteousness imputed to someone because of his faith and not for keeping the law. Now we must receive this righteousness through faith! We must believe that Christ delivered us from all our offences and justified us through His resurrection! **We cannot earn right standing before God by keeping any law or**

doing anything right! It is solely because Christ was raised from the dead for our justification!

Christ's resurrection brings justification to the believer. Righteousness was credited to us for free. We did not earn it! Now we must exercise the same faith as Abraham did to receive our righteousness. Christ paid in full the final penalty for our sins. God's justice was satisfied by Jesus' death. By His resurrection, the Father provided complete righteousness to the believer. My dear brother and sister, if Christ were not alive, we would still be lost in our sins, and our faith would be a fantasy (1 Corinthians 15:17 TPT). By His resurrection, He reversed the death penalty.

For God made the only one who did not know sin to become sin for us, so that we might become the righteousness of God through our union with him. 2 Corinthians 5:21 TPT

This justification made us completely righteous, as if we had never sinned. Complete sinlessness is the only righteousness ever accepted in heaven.

Commitment

Many make it to salvation, but few ever make a sincere commitment to the Christian life. According to Romans 10:6-10 (TPT), there are two requirements, namely believing in the heart, which brings righteousness, and confessing with our mouth, which brings salvation. Commitment to His Lordship is key to our salvation. Christ's victory over the enemy is also our victory over all enemies. Yes, even DEATH! We must realise our bodies are perishing and we have a better hope of resurrection. Because of Christ's resurrection, Christianity is the only religion with an answer to the problem of death.

Don't yield to fear. I am the Beginning and I am the End, 18 the Living One! I was dead, but now look—I am alive forever and ever. And I hold the keys that unlock death and the unseen world.

Revelation 1:17-18 TPT

The Messiah declared, *"I was dead, but now I am alive and hold the keys of death."* Do you truly want to experience resurrection? Or are you living your earthly life without any hope of an eternal future?

One day, when Christ calls us unto resurrection, we will be changed in the twinkling of an eye and receive our glorified bodies! Not even death can separate us from His love. Are you hearing His voice so that you might live and never experience death?

Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live. John 5:25 KJV

He is the Head of his body, which is the church. And since he is the beginning and the firstborn heir in resurrection, he is the most exalted One, holding first place in everything. Colossians 1:18 TPT

Christ, *"holding the first place"*, implies that others will follow. We are the body that will follow Him in resurrection!

Seated in Rulership

Resurrection leads to the throne and rulership! Christ, the Firstborn of the resurrection harvest, is already sitting on the throne, from where He is ruling over the earth! We, as His body, will follow, as John confirms.

And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them. Revelation 20:4a KJV

Overcomers

To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. Revelation 3:21 KJV

Being Witnesses

Just before Yashuah ascended into heaven, He declared we would be His witnesses.

*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my **witnesses** in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. Acts 1:8 NIV*

Just as the apostles were witnesses of Yashuah's death, burial and resurrection, we must be witnesses, too. When He ascended, the world could not see Him anymore, but we, as believers, can still see Him.

Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. John 14:19 NIV

To be effective witnesses, we need the infilling of the Holy Spirit. We need supernatural power to bear witness to this supernatural event. In our own power and knowledge, this would be impossible. All believers must be witnesses of His resurrection. When the disciples chose a replacement for Judas Iscariot, they made sure to choose a believer who could also be a witness to His resurrection.

After the Holy Ghost had filled the 120 men in the upper room in Jerusalem, they bore witness and testified of the Lord's resurrection.

The apostles gave powerful testimonies about the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great measures of grace rested upon them all.

Acts 4:33 TPT

Have you experienced the Messiah as your Risen Lord? Then be a witness!

Our Hope

The Doctrine of Christ points us to the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment. The moment we understand these two concepts, the veil will be lifted so we can understand that Christ is indeed coming back to take us where He is – His Father's house!

*And my **hope is in God**, the same hope that even my accusers have embraced, the hope of a resurrection from the dead of both the righteous and the unrighteous. Acts 24:15 TPT*

Paul received a revelation that Christ had risen from the dead as the First Fruit of a great resurrection harvest and that each one (the righteous and the unrighteous) would be resurrected in his proper order!

But the truth is, Christ is risen from the dead, as the first fruit of a great resurrection harvest of those who have died. ²¹For since death came through a man, Adam, it is fitting that the resurrection of the dead has also come through a man, Christ. ²²Even as all who are in Adam die, so also all who are in Christ will be made alive. ²³But each one in his proper order: Christ, the first fruits, then those who belong to Christ in his presence. 1 Corinthians 15:20-23 TPT

The Different Harvests

Scriptures reveal different harvests. Christ has risen as the First Fruit of a great resurrection harvest. There is a harvest to follow. *“But each one in his proper order”* means not all will be of the same harvest (1 Corinthians 15:20-23).

*But when it dies, God gives it a new form, a body to fulfil his purpose, and he sees to it that each **seed gets a new body** of its own and becomes the plant he designed it to be. 1 Corinthians 15:38 TPT*

Different seeds yield different harvests, as John wrote in Revelation.

The Harvest of the Earth

I looked and behold—I saw a white cloud, and sitting upon it was one like the Son of Man, wearing a golden crown and holding a sharp sickle. ¹⁵ Another angel came out of the temple, shouting out to the one sitting upon the cloud, “Take your sickle and reap, for the time of reaping the harvest has come and the harvest of the earth is ripe!” ¹⁶ So the one sitting upon the white cloud gave his sickle a mighty swing over the earth and reaped its harvest. ¹⁷ Then another angel came out of the heavenly temple, and he too had a sharp sickle. ¹⁸ And another angel came out from the altar of incense—the angel with authority over fire. He shouted out with a loud voice to the one who had the sharp sickle, saying, ‘Take now your sharp sickle and harvest the clusters of the vine of the earth, for its grapes are ripe.’ ¹⁹ So the angel gave his sickle a mighty swing over the earth and gathered the grapes from the vine of the earth and threw them into the great winepress of the wrath of God. ²⁰ And the winepress was trodden outside the city until blood poured out

of the winepress as high as the horse's bridle for a distance of one thousand six hundred stadia. Revelation 14:14-20 TPT

From this passage, three different harvests can be identified according to the ancient Jewish tradition of harvests.

- The Barley Harvest.
- The Wheat Harvest.
- The Wine Harvest.

Barley is harvested by winnowing, which symbolises those who have come into spiritual maturity before others. This group is the called-out ones, the Bride of Christ. They are being harvested under the correction of the Ruach HaKodesh.

Wheat, however, requires a more severe method of harvesting, predominantly because of the hardening of the chaff. In ancient Jewish tradition, wheat was harvested after the Barley Harvest. It was harvested by using a tribunal, where the word “tribulation” comes from. The wheat is part of the Body of Christ, but these people have not yet reached spiritual maturity. They will need further correction while going through the Tribulation before being ready to be harvested.

The final harvest is the **Wine Harvest**, which indicates the Nation of Israel. A small remnant will survive the Great Tribulation, although they will be misled by the false messiah at first. Their eyes will eventually be opened to receive their true Messiah, Yashuah HaMashiach. They are the elect whom the angels will gather from the four winds of the earth.



SECTION 10: ETERNAL JUDGMENT

Judgment follows Resurrection

According to Hebrews 6, eternal judgment will follow resurrection. It is a Biblical principle that God never judges the righteous together with the unrighteous. One example is that the angels could not destroy the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah before Lot and his family were removed. We can be assured of this Biblical principle because the Lord cannot and never will violate His word. He will return for us and will never judge the righteous along with the unrighteous.

God can't break his word. And because his word cannot change, the promise is likewise unchangeable. Hebrews 6:18 MSG

Understanding the different resurrections and judgments will help us better understand the “snatching away” of the called-out ones.

The Likeness of His Resurrection

Christ's resurrection is your resurrection too. Colossians 3:1 TPT

Blessing or Punishment

Since the beginning, God has been rewarding the obedient. On the other hand, there has always been judgment or punishment for disobedience.

Thou shalt have no other gods before me. ⁴ Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven

*above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: ⁵ Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, **visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;** ⁶ And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments. Exodus 20:3-6 KJV*

Israel constantly rebelled against Adonai and went astray into idolatry. Punishment for disobedience is repaid to the fourth generation, but for those who obey, the reward stretches unto a thousand generations.

You, the great God, the mighty one, show gracious love to thousands and repay the parents' iniquity to their children after them. The LORD of the Heavenly Armies is his name. Jeremiah 32:18 ISV

We are directly responsible for either the blessing or the punishment of our generations.

If the clouds be full of rain, they empty themselves upon the earth: and if the tree fall toward the south, or toward the north, in the place where the tree falleth, there it shall be. Ecclesiastes 11:3 KJV

The remark that the tree will remain where it falls indicates that the condition you are in when you die will determine your eternal condition.

Romans gives **five principles** of God's judgment.

1. Judgment according to the truth.

We know that God's judgment falls upon those who practice these things. God is always right, because he has all the facts. Romans 2:2 TPT

2. Judgment according to our deeds.

For: He will give to each one in return for what he has done.

Romans 2:6 TPT

Each of our actions and thoughts has been noticed and recorded. John says that “books” will be opened on judgment day.

And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which I the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. Revelation 20:12 KJV

3. Judgment will be fair.

There will be no partial judgment, but everything, even our thoughts, will be fully exposed. Adonai’s judgment will not be unfair or based on favouritism.

...for God sees us all without partiality. Romans 2:11 TPT

4. Judgment will be according to the amount of light available.

When people who have never been exposed to the laws of Moses commit sin, they will still perish for what they do. And those who are under the law of Moses and fail to obey it are condemned by the law.

Romans 2:12 TPT

Those who want to be teachers will be subject to more severe judgment!

Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. James 3:1 NIV

5. Judgment according to our secrets

So this judgment will be revealed on the day when God, through Jesus the Messiah, judges the hidden secrets of people's hearts. And their response to my gospel will be the standard of judgment used in that day. Romans 2:16 TPT

The Righteous Judge

His work is perfect, For all His ways are just; A God of faithfulness and without injustice, Righteous and upright is He. Deuteronomy 32:4 NASB

God always does what is right and good toward all men. Although hard for many to accept, His sentencing of unrepentant sinners to hell is also right and good.

We can rest assured that His judgment will be fair and without favouritism!

Two Patterns of Judgment

The Parable of the Minas

This parable is about a Master who gave each of His servants a certain amount of minas, which was a small amount of money. Read Luke 19:11-27 in TPT. He expected them to steward the money well. Some were faithful, and some were not. The faithful servants received yet more and the wicked lost everything. Faithful service while waiting for the Messiah's return will determine our position in eternity. **We must use what we have received from God, or we might lose it all!**

The Parable about Stewardship

An important Kingdom principle is to steward everything on earth well. Believers often desire to own a lot but do not steward what the Lord has already put in their hands. In this parable, the Master entrusted his finances to His servants. Talents were distributed according to their ability. The Master expected them to multiply it. Later, when He returned, He called them to settle accounts. This means to execute judgment. Read Matthew 25:14-30 in TPT.

Notice that the rewards were not according to the amount each servant had received but according to the percentage of the profit made. The return on investment for all of them was the same, but one of them did absolutely nothing to multiply what he had received. The Master dealt with his laziness even more severely than with drunkenness. Churches often tolerate laziness! If you cannot multiply what the Lord has given in your hands for His Kingdom, then at least put it in a ministry, for you will receive interest on your investment. The reward for the servant's laziness was severe! He was thrown into the outer darkness, where there would be great misery and anguish!

Summary

- The service we offer determines our position in the next life.
- If we do not use our talent, we will lose it.
- If we don't do good whenever there is an opportunity to do so, we commit sin (James 4:17).

Different Judgments

Let us distinguish between **seven** different judgments.

- Judgment of the believer. This is the Bema Seat Judgment.
- Judgment of the world. This will happen when Christ returns to earth with His Bride to execute judgment. This will involve the following judgments:
 - Judgment of Israel.
 - Judgment of satan and his demons.
 - Judgment of the False Prophet and the Antichrist.
 - Judgment of the Nations of the Earth.
 - The White Throne Judgment. This will take place at the end of the Millennium Reign.

1. The Bema Seat

Paul condemned judging each other. Only God can judge, and He will judge ALL. This means every person will be judged by God!

*But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall **all** stand before the judgment seat of Christ. ¹¹ For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. ¹² So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God. Romans 14:10-12 KJV*

But the Scriptures are clear that the righteous and unrighteous will never be judged simultaneously.

Far be it from you to do such a thing--to kill the righteous with the wicked, treating the righteous and the wicked alike. Far be it from you! Will not the Judge of all the earth do right? Genesis 18:25 NIV

We see that the righteous will be resurrected first, and later the unrighteous. We also know now that judgment will follow each resurrection. The righteous will indeed one day appear before the judgment seat of Christ. This judgment seat is the “**Bema Seat**” in Greek.

*“For we must all appear before the **judgment seat** {G968 - Bema} of Christ; that every one **may receive the things done in his body**, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.”* 2 Corinthians 5:10 KJV

The Bema Seat is a platform of reward and not of judgment or punishment. Those who died in Christ will be resurrected first unto eternal life. Immediately thereafter, judgment will follow. The righteous will receive their rewards. 2 Corinthians 5:10 is clear that we will be recompensed for our actions, whether it be good or bad.

For one day we will all be openly revealed before Christ on his throne so that each of us will be duly recompensed for our actions done in life, whether good or worthless. 2 Corinthians 5:10 TPT

The Bema Seat is not a platform for giving an account of our sins.

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. Romans 8:1 KJV

“**Bema**”, therefore, refers to a platform on which a judge or governor gives judgment or rewards. It is a place of evaluation and designation. In ancient times, athletes were judged according to their obedience to the rules of the

specific game they had competed in. The victors were led to the platform (the Bema) where the judge rewarded them. Paul pictures believers before the Bema as competitors receiving the victor's crown.

A true athlete will be disciplined in every respect, practicing constant self-control in order to win a laurel wreath that quickly withers. But we run our race to win a victor's crown that will last forever.

1 Corinthians 9:25 TPT

Losers will not be condemned at the Bema Seat, but victors will be rewarded and recompensed! We will not stand hunched to be whipped, but upright to receive our rewards, whether we did good or bad.

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad. 2 Corinthians 5:10 NIV

Also, we see that the Bema Judgment will take place in front of the throne.

*For one day we will all be **openly revealed before Christ on his throne** so that each of us will be **duly recompensed for our actions done in life**, whether good or worthless.* 2 Corinthians 5:10 TPT

When we come unto salvation, we come under the Blood of the Lamb who paid the debt for our sins. Once true repentance has taken place, the Messiah will never deal with our sins again.

We must Give an Account

When the Master gave His servants talents, He came back and called them to give an account. The Greek word for “**reckon**” is “**logidzomai**”, which refers to a bookkeeping term that means to compare accounts. It pictures an accountant

who put together a profit and loss statement - a thorough examination of books to determine the real financial status of the corporation. This tells us how He will deal with us when we stand before Him at the Bema Seat.

PASSING THE TEST

Before we can participate in the first resurrection, we must first pass the test. A born-again experience is only the starting point of a new life in Christ Jesus. Jesus explained to Nicodemus that a born-again experience is for us to **see** the Kingdom of God. Then we need to be baptised into Christ to **enter** the Kingdom of God. Then we must move through cleansing and purification to become whole and holy to **inherit** the Kingdom of God. Many Christians are still captive in sexual immorality, drunkenness or hatred toward a brother or sister in Christ. Such people will **not** inherit the Kingdom of God.

*Know ye not that the **unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God?***

Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, ¹⁰ Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. 1 Corinthians 6:9-10 KJV

We are now completely convinced that the righteous will inherit the Kingdom. But, how does the righteous qualify for inheriting the Kingdom?

*We feel a personal responsibility to continually be thanking God for you, our spiritual family, every time we pray. And we have every reason to do so because **your faith is growing** marvelously beyond measure. **The unselfish love each of you share for one another is increasing and overflowing!** ⁴ We point to you as an example **of unwavering faith** for all the churches of God. We boast about how you continue to*

demonstrate unflinching endurance through all the persecutions and painful trials you are experiencing. 2 Thessalonians 1:3-4 TPT

Is your faith and unselfish love growing beyond measure? Or are you daily walking in conflict with the people around you?

Do you demonstrate unflinching endurance when going through persecutions and painful trials, meaning that you do not show fear or hesitation in the face of danger or difficulty? Or are you constantly complaining about difficult situations?

If you truly can say “**yes**” to the positive side of all the questions above, you will be worthy of inheriting the Kingdom of God!

All of this proves that God’s judgment is always perfect and is intended to make you worthy of inheriting the kingdom of God, which is why you are going through these troubles. 2 Thessalonians 1:5 TPT

All trials and persecutions are tests for every believer to overcome, not only to be set apart from the rest but to receive the qualification to participate in the first resurrection. When we endure to the end, we will receive the **victor’s crown**, which is the reward waiting for us in the heavens! **It is crucial to pass the test!**

Both Paul and James point us to the **victor’s prize** – a crown waiting for us in heaven if we endure to the end! We must remain faithful and pass every test. Paul was very concerned about being disqualified from receiving a crown as a reward.

COUNTED WORTHY

We should pray to be counted worthy. Part of the test is to wait patiently for the soon return of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Meanwhile, brothers and sisters, we must be patient and filled with expectation as we wait for the appearing of the Lord. Think about the farmer who has to patiently wait for the earth's harvest as it ripens because of the early and latter rains. ⁸ So you also keep your hopes high and be patient, for the presence of the Lord is drawing closer.

James 5:7-8 TPT

According to 2 Thessalonians 1, we are worthy of inheriting the Kingdom of God when we persevere and endure to the very end. We must realise that our faith is being tested and we should choose to remain strong, even while surrounded by life's difficulties. Expect to receive the victorious crown! Run the race victoriously to win a victor's crown that will last forever!

Those who never give in, whose hearts never grow cold and who never reject the love of the truth, will be worthy of the resurrection of the dead!

Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man (at the Bema Seat Judgment). Luke 21:36 KJV

PURIFICATION

Resurrection is about our transformation. We will be changed from mortal to immortal when we slip out of our earthly bodies to receive our new glorified bodies.

*Dear friends, we are now God's children, **but what we will be like has not been revealed yet.** We know that when the Messiah is revealed, **we will be like him**, because we will see him as he is. 1 John 3:2 ISV*

Paul says not all of us will die, **but all will be transformed** (1 Corinthians 15:51). John says it is not yet revealed what we will be like when we change, but one thing is clear – we will be like the Messiah (1 John 3:2). This is an amazing realisation!

It will happen in an instant—in the twinkling of his eye. For when the last trumpet is sounded, the dead will come back to life. We will be indestructible and we will be transformed. ⁵³For we will discard our mortal “clothes” and slip into a body that is imperishable. What is mortal now will be exchanged for immortality. ⁵⁴And when that which is mortal puts on immortality, and what now decays is exchanged for what will never decay, then the Scripture will be fulfilled that says: Death is swallowed up by a triumphant victory! ⁵⁵So death, tell me, where is your victory? Tell me death, where is your sting?
1 Corinthians 15:52-55 TPT

We will overcome the last enemy, which is death! We will be like Jesus in the twinkling of an eye! We will also receive our glorified bodies!

*And all who focus their hope on him will always be **purifying themselves**, just as Jesus is pure. 1 John 3:3 TPT*

Throughout the Bible, God commands that we need to be **pure**, for He is pure.

...let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God. 2 Corinthians 7:1 KJV

Jesus gave Himself for us that we might be redeemed from all iniquity, and to **purify** unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works (Titus 2:14).

Our Rewards

The Incorruptible Crown

And everyone who strives for the mastery is temperate in all things. Then those truly that they may receive a corruptible crown, but we an incorruptible. 1 Corinthians 9:25 MKJV

The Crown of Rejoicing

For what is our hope or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are you not even to be in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming? 1 Thessalonians 2:19 MKJV

The Crown of Righteousness

Now there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give me at that Day; and not to me only, but also to all those who love His appearing. 2 Timothy 4:8 MKJV

The Crown of Glory

Feed the flock of God among you, taking the oversight, not by compulsion, but willingly; ³ nor for base gain, but readily; nor as lording it over those allotted to you by God, but becoming examples to the flock. ⁴ And when the Chief Shepherd shall appear, you shall receive a never-fading crown of glory. 1 Peter 5:2-4 MKJV

The Crown of Life

Blessed is the man who endures temptation, because having been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him. James 1:12 MKJV

The remaining question for the believer is WHEN the Bema Seat Judgment will happen. Let us study the remaining judgments to discover when each judgment will take place.

2. Judgment of the Earth

Enoch, the seventh descendant of Adam, saw the judgment of the unrighteous. His vision confirms that the righteous will be before the throne in heaven, in front of the Bema Seat Judgment to receive their rewards. Jude indicates judgment of ungodly deeds on earth.

Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, ¹⁵ To execute judgment upon all and to convict each one of them for their ungodly deeds and for all the terrible words that ungodly sinners have spoken against him. Jude 1:14b-15 KJV

The following information will bring more clarity.

- John saw thrones, and those who sat on them were given judgment (Revelation 20:4).
- This is the **Barley Harvest**, which will be part of the “snatching away”. Those who will be alive during the resurrection of the dead will be caught up in the clouds to meet the Messiah for the marriage ceremony.

- John also saw the souls of those who were beheaded because they witnessed of Jesus. They are part of the **Wheat harvest**. They had not worshipped the Beast nor his image, neither had they received his mark upon their foreheads or in their hands, and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.
- Both groups will be part of the thousands of saints descending with Christ to rule and reign during the Millennium.

3. Judgment of Israel

Sometimes we forget that we, as Gentiles, have the privilege to make it unto salvation because of the temporary blindness of Israel (Romans 11:11-15). This is a major revelation! The temporary rejection of Israel released the reconciling power of grace into the world. This reconciling power is a Gentile harvest. Billions of souls have come in since the death of Christ. When Israel is reinstated into the original olive tree, their reconciliation with Christ will unleash resurrection power all over the earth.

*My beloved brothers and sisters, I want to share with you a mystery concerning Israel's future. For understanding this mystery will keep you from thinking you already know everything. A **partial and temporary hardening to the gospel has come over Israel, which will last until the full number of non-Jews has come into God's family.** ²⁶ And then God will bring all of Israel to salvation! The prophecy will be fulfilled that says: "Coming from Zion will be the Savior, and he will turn Jacob away from evil." ²⁷ For this is my covenant promise with them when I forgive their sins." ²⁸ Now, many of the Jews are opposed to the gospel, but their opposition has opened the door of the gospel to you who are not*

Jewish. Yet they are still greatly loved by God because their ancestors were divinely chosen to be his. ²⁹ And when God chooses someone and graciously imparts gifts to him, they are never rescinded.

Romans 11:25-29 TPT

Saints, this is the purpose of the Tribulation. The seven-year Tribulation is Jacob's trouble. In the fullness of time, when the full number of non-Jews has made it into God's family, Adonai will again turn to Israel and give them His full attention and bring them home. For those who are against Israel as a nation, let this be a warning! God will deal severely with those who turn against Israel.

Blessing and Judgment

Yehôvâh Elohim blessed Israel directly so they could be a blessing to the Gentiles.

Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jew. John 4:22 KJV

But when judgment comes, Adonai will judge the Gentiles directly, and He will judge Israel through the Gentiles. Jude quoted Enoch when he said that the Lord would come with ten thousands of His saints to execute judgment upon all and to convict each one of them of their ungodly deeds and all the terrible words that ungodly sinners have spoken against Him (Jude 1:14-15).

Jeremiah foresaw the Tribulation and prophesied that Adonai would rescue them from it. The judgment of Israel will take place at the end of the seven-year Tribulation. At the end of the tribulation, the Son of Man will appear (Matthew 24:29-30).

4. Satan bound for a thousand years

Revelation 20 gives information about the judgment of the earth. Remember, at that stage, satan would have been thrown down onto the earth.

And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, serpent of old, which is the Devil and Satan and bound him a thousand years. Revelation 20:1-2 JUB

After a thousand years, Satan will be released to deceive the nations again. That will be the final Gog and Magog battle, where he will finally be destroyed, after which he will be thrown into the lake of fire for eternity.

5. The Antichrist and the False Prophet

After the seven-year Tribulation, the antichrist and the false prophet will also be taken directly into the lake of fire (Revelation 20:10).

6. Sheep and Goats

Immediately after the Tribulation, the Son of Man will appear in the heavens. The angels will gather His elect, which is Israel, from the four winds, and He shall separate the nations as a shepherd would divide sheep from the goats. The goats (the unrighteous) will go directly into the lake of fire.

And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: ³³ And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. ³⁴ Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come,

ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. Matthew 25:32-34 KJV

The importance of serving each other.

Serving each other will greatly determine whether we will be sheep or goats.

Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: ⁴² For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: ⁴³ I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. ⁴⁴ Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? ⁴⁵ Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me. ⁴⁶ And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal. Matthew 25:41-46 KJV

To the sheep on His right, Jesus said:

*Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, **inherit the kingdom** prepared for you from the foundation of the world. Matthew 25:34 KJV*

The Lord Will Judge the Nations

Look, now! In those very days and at that time, when I restore prosperity to Judah and Jerusalem, ² I will gather all nations, bringing them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat. I will set out my case against them there, on behalf of my people, my heritage Israel, whom they

scattered among the nations, apportioning my land among themselves.

Joel 3:1-2 ISV

May the Lord have mercy on those who divided the land of Israel or oppressed the Jewish people. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth on that day.

7. The Great White Throne

There remains another resurrection and final judgment at the end of the thousand-year reign. This is the Great White Throne Judgment.

*And I saw a **great white throne**, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. ¹² And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which **is the book of life**: and the **dead were judged** out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. ¹³ And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. ¹⁴ And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. ¹⁵ And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.* Revelation 20:11-25 KJV

The purpose of the White Throne Judgment is to judge the dead. These are the unrighteous. They are those who have never received the Messiah as their Saviour. It also refers to the second death, which implies that this is a second resurrection. It confirms what John wrote in the same chapter.

But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. ⁶ Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power,

but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years. Revelation 20:5-6 KJV

This is the final judgment for the wicked, and they are all destined for the lake of fire. Those who are worthy of the first resurrection will not be influenced by the second death. The second death will have no power over them. They have already overcome the last enemy! *“Death, where is your sting?”*

Let us pause for a moment to recap and remind ourselves of the following.

A new Race

The Good News, preached by the apostles and recorded in the New Testament, is the message of the Messiah who was crucified, buried, and resurrected. These actions paid in full the price for the human race, which was born in sin because of Adam and Eve’s disobedience in the Garden of Eden. Because of disobedience, all humanity is born from the dust, with a sinful nature. The first Adam is the father of a race just like him.

Christ, the Second Adam, was born from an incorruptible seed, from a virgin, and He never saw decay. He was the first to be born from above. This explains why we need to be born again if we want to share in His likeness. If we are not born again from an incorruptible seed, we will stay in our old, sinful nature, which is in the likeness of Adam. As the first Adam has a race like him, likewise does the Second Adam. This race is born from above and is permanently grafted into Christ.

Raised from the Dead

Our true Messiah was raised from the dead. If we are permanently grafted into Christ, we will share in His resurrection.

We need to understand the harvest pattern that the ancient Jewish people followed in the Old Testament. The principle of the first fruits is that the rest of the harvest is redeemed. This is profound, and we must understand this concept to fully embrace the “snatching away” of the called-out ones. Christ is the First Fruits of the resurrection harvest. Those who are permanently grafted into Him will also be resurrected, but each according to its own order (1 Corinthians 15:23). This confirms there is indeed more than one harvest.

Scriptures on the harvests are meant for the righteous - those who will eventually be harvested, each according to its own order. The **Barley harvest** is those in early spiritual maturity who will be snatched away before the Tribulation. The **Wheat harvest** is those who still need further correction. They will go through the tribulation for at least three and a half years. These are the saints who did not worship the beast or take the mark of the beast. They are the beheaded saints John saw before the throne in heaven (Revelation 20:4).

Clearly, we find two major groups of people in the heavens - those sitting on the throne (Barley Harvest saints) and the beheaded saints standing before the throne (Wheat harvest). No flesh and blood can inherit the Kingdom of God. Therefore, we will all be transformed (changed). The purpose of the resurrection, therefore, is to be transformed, to receive our glorified bodies and stand on the platform of reward, the Bema Seat, to receive reward for our deeds, whether good or bad.

Only in the middle of the Tribulation will satan be cast down onto the earth to persecute the woman (Revelation 12:13). The woman is the Nation of Israel, who will be deceived by the antichrist, pretending to be the Messiah. They will go through the wine press and at the end of the seven-year Tribulation accept the Messiah. Romans 11 will then come into fulfilment when Christ grafts the original branches back into the Olive Tree. Then there will be only one nation with one King. Gentiles and Jews will be one.

Judgment

Judgment follows resurrection. The first resurrected saints, following the First Fruits, will appear in front of the Bema Seat Judgment to receive their rewards. Both the Barley and Wheat harvests will appear before the Bema Seat. After the seven-year Tribulation, the Messiah will return with His Bride to judge the earth and rule and reign for a thousand years. Satan and his demons will be bound in the bottomless pit. The false prophet and the antichrist will go directly into the lake of fire. Then, the nations will be separated. The goats will be on the left of the Messiah. They are the unrighteous and will also go into the lake of fire. The sheep will stand on His right. They are the righteous who will inherit the Kingdom of God. Predominantly, they will be the nation of Israel, a small remnant which will still live and die during the Millennium Reign.



Rev 22:2
HEALING FOR THE
Nations

"Ask me for the Nations as your inheritance," says the Lord in Psalms 2:8. This text is often overlooked. Over the past decade, the Lord has equipped, trained and ignited this Ministry to bring healing to the Nations. This is an assignment only the Holy Spirit can accomplish, in partnership with those who are obedient to His call.

The assignment is clear. "Go and lay down a solid foundation on which I, your God, will build my Ecclesia (Government) to manage and steward my Estate and shepherd my sheep. Prepare the way for the Messiah for an everlasting and unshakable Kingdom to come on Earth. For My judgment is near when a final separation will come between the light and darkness, good and evil, clean and unclean. So, call unto me while I am still near (Isaiah 55:6), for there will come a time when you call on me, but I will not answer. You will seek me diligently, but you will not find me (Proverbs 1:28). There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth (Matthew 13:42), but it will be too late."

Behold, says the Lord, for I will bring it health and cure, I will cure them, and I will reveal unto them the abundance of peace and truth. I will cause the captivity of my people to return, and I will cleanse them from their iniquities, whereby they have sinned, and whereby they have transgressed against me. And it shall be to me a name of joy, a praise and an honour before all the nations of the Earth, which shall hear all the good that I do unto them; and they shall fear and tremble for all the goodness and for all the prosperity that I procure unto it (Jeremiah 33:6-9).

The river was flowing in the middle of the street of the city, and on either side of the river was the Tree of Life, with its twelve kinds of ripe fruit according to each month of the year. The leaves of the Tree of Life are for the healing of the nations. Revelation 22:2 TPT

"This treasure in your hands will become Life and Life will become the Light in this world, once you are done with this manual," says the Lord!