

*Jesus Will
Shepherd His Flock*



David Eells



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Books of the Bible - Abbreviation List

Old Testament

Gen.	Genesis
Exo.	Exodus
Lev.	Leviticus
Num.	Numbers
Deu.	Deuteronomy
Jos.	Joshua
Jdg.	Judges
Rth.	Ruth
1Sa.	1 Samuel
2Sa.	2 Samuel
1Ki.	1 Kings
2Ki.	2 Kings
1Ch.	1 Chronicles
2Ch.	2 Chronicles
Ezr.	Ezra
Neh.	Nehemiah
Est.	Esther
Job.	Job
Psa.	Psalms
Pro.	Proverbs
Ecc.	Ecclesiastes
Son.	The Song of Solomon
Isa.	Isaiah
Jer.	Jeremiah
Lam.	Lamentations
Eze.	Ezekiel
Dan.	Daniel
Hos.	Hosea
Joe.	Joel
Amo.	Amos
Oba.	Obadiah
Jon.	Jonah
Mic.	Micah
Nah.	Nahum
Hab.	Habakkuk

Zep.	Zephaniah
Hag.	Haggai
Zec.	Zechariah
Mal.	Malachi

New Testament

Mat.	Matthew
Mar.	Mark
Luk.	Luke
Joh.	John
Act.	Acts
Rom.	Romans
1Co.	1 Corinthians
2Co.	2 Corinthians
Gal.	Galatians
Eph.	Ephesians
Php.	Philippians
Col.	Colossians
1Th.	1 Thessalonians
2Th.	2 Thessalonians
1Ti.	1 Timothy
2Ti.	2 Timothy
Tit.	Titus
Phm.	Philemon
Heb.	Hebrews
Jas.	James
1Pe.	1 Peter
2Pe.	2 Peter
1Jn.	1 John
2Jn.	2 John
3Jn.	3 John
Jud.	Jude
Rev.	Revelation

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CHAPTER ONE

The Hope of Glory

Saints, I have some good news for you: Jesus is going to be our Shepherd in the days to come! He is going to be with us and guide us through the wilderness. You see, the Bible teaches that Jesus is coming in us before He comes for us. That's the *epiphaneia*, or "epiphany," before His *parousia* or "physical return." The Bible doesn't teach that God is going to take a filthy Church out of this world; it teaches that He is coming for a spotless and blemishless Bride. ***(Eph.5:25) ... Even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself up for it; (26) that he might sanctify it, having cleansed it by the washing of water with the word, (27) that he might present the church to himself a glorious [church,] not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.*** That means "holy and without blemish" by manifestation, not just by position or only by faith. The Lord is coming in His people. The word *epiphaneia* means to "shine forth from" and it's used in the Scriptures quite often about the coming of the Lord, but it's not talking about the coming of the Lord in the air. It's talking about the coming of the Lord in His people, His "shining forth from" His people.

Allow me to lay a foundation here, so I can share something with you about how the Lord is going to bring His people through this wilderness to come. Here's one of my favorite verses: ***(2Co.3:18) But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are transformed into the same image from glory***

to glory, even as from the Lord the Spirit. We behold the Lord in a “mirror” until we come into that “same image from glory to glory.” That “glory” is Jesus Christ and that’s the Gospel in a nutshell. The Gospel is that we don’t live anymore; Christ lives in us and we confess it by faith until it comes to pass. **(Gal.2:20) *I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I that live, but Christ living in me: and that [life] which I now live in the flesh I live in faith, [the faith] which is in the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself up for me.*** We believe that we are buried with Christ and it’s not we who live, it’s Christ who lives in us. We are told, **(2Co.4:6) *Seeing it is God, that said, Light shall shine out of darkness, who shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.*** This “light ... of the glory of God” is going to shine out of the darkness of our hearts. We are also told, **(10) *Always bearing about in the body the dying of Jesus, that the life also of Jesus may be manifested in our body.*** The word translated as “manifested” there is the Greek *phanerothe* and it comes from *phaneros*, which means “a shining” or “caused to shine.” In other words, “that the life also of Jesus may be caused to shine in our body.” **(11) *For we who live are always delivered unto death for Jesus’ sake, that the life also of Jesus may be manifested*** (That is “caused to shine” or “made visible.”) ***in our mortal flesh.*** Much of the Church teaches that you have to wait to get to Heaven to have that, but the Lord warns you right here that His plan is for the life of Christ to be manifested in your “mortal flesh.” That’s the body you have right now, folks, so don’t you believe those liars because, if you be-

lieve them, then you won't be bearing fruit during all the time you've been given to be doing that. **(Col.3:4) When Christ, who is our life, shall be manifested** (Again, that's "caused to shine" or "made visible."), **then shall ye also with him be manifested in glory.** What shines out of the Christian? The glory of God shines out of the Christian. What is the glory of God? It's His righteousness and His holiness; it's His truth.

God wants to be manifested in His people before He comes for His people. **(2Th.1:10) When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be marvelled at in all them that believed (because our testimony unto you was believed) in that day.** God is going to give grace to His people to believe the promises of the Word of God. We are going to believe that we don't live anymore and that, instead, Christ lives in us (Galatians 2:20). We are going to look in the mirror and accept that we see Jesus there by faith (2 Corinthians 3:18). We're going to be able to do that because Jesus gave us His life; He made a reconciliation. **(Col.1:21) And you, being in time past alienated and enemies in your mind in your evil works, (22) yet now hath he reconciled in the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and without blemish and unreprouvable before him: (23) if so be that ye continue in the faith, grounded and stedfast, and not moved away from the hope of the gospel which ye heard, which was preached in all creation under heaven; whereof I Paul was made a minister. (Rom.5:10) For if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, shall we be saved by his life;**

(11) and not only so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation. He made an exchange of His life for our life and now we don't live anymore; He lives in us. **(2Th.1:10) When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be marvelled at in all them that believed (because our testimony unto you was believed) in that day.** Those people who are believing the Gospel in our day are beginning to manifest Christ right now. They will be the first-fruits of **(Col.1:27) ... Christ in you, the hope of glory.**

Jesus was the first-fruits in His day and we see from Revelation 12 that the Man-child of our day is going to teach and lead the Woman through the wilderness for 3-1/2 years. **(Rev.12:1) And a great sign was seen in heaven: a woman arrayed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars; (2) and she was with child; and she crieth out, travailing in birth, and in pain to be delivered. (5) And she was delivered of a son, a man child, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and unto his throne. (6) And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that there they may nourish her a thousand two hundred and threescore days** (that's 3-1/2 years). **(13) And when the dragon saw that he was cast down to the earth, he persecuted the woman that brought forth the man [child.] (14) And there were given to the woman the two wings of the great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness unto her place, where she is nourished for a time,**

and times, and half a time (or 3-1/2 years), ***from the face of the serpent***. The fruit that is to be born of that Woman is the Man-child and it will be Christ in them who is going to lead His people through the wilderness. Jesus Christ is going to lead His people through the wilderness, just as He did through Moses, folks. When Moses' face shone (Exodus 34:29-35), it represented the glory of God in Him, so who was really leading those Israelites through the wilderness? It was the Lord and that's what is about to happen again, folks. You know, I asked God to give me a verse concerning this and He gave me, ***(Isa.42:10) Sing unto the Lord a new song, and his praise from the end of the earth...*** Well, we now are at the "end of the earth," aren't we? And if we go to Revelation 14, we can see that the first-fruits Man-child company is singing this "new song." ***(Rev.14:1) And I saw, and behold, the Lamb standing on the mount Zion, and with him a hundred and forty and four thousand, having his name, and the name of his Father, written on their foreheads***. The word "name" means "nature, character and authority"; these people have the renewed mind of the Spirit. ***(2) And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and the voice which I heard was as the voice of harpers harping with their harps: (3) and they sing as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four living creatures and the elders: and no man could learn the song save the hundred and forty and four thousand, even they that had been purchased out of the earth. (4) These are they that were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they that follow the***

Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were purchased from among men, to be the firstfruits unto God and unto the Lamb. He calls them the “firstfruits” and they are singing before the throne.

So, based on those texts, I looked at the timing of the events that are going to happen leading up to the end and I saw some interesting things. I’ve shared with you in the past how the Lord spoke to me many years ago; He told me that everything that happened in the Gospels and in the Book of Acts was going to happen in the end time, but with much larger groups of people. That’s because each one of the characters in the Gospels and the Book of Acts represents a body of people in the end time. Well, I saw John the Baptist in Isaiah 40 preaching about the coming of the Man-child, Jesus. Then I looked back in Isaiah 38 and 39, and the Lord sparked my memory about something He did in my life, which helped me to get a clearer time sequence. About 27 years ago, I started passing a lot of blood. I asked the Lord about it and the Lord said that it was cancer. Then I asked the Lord to give me a confirmation of this and I opened my Bible at random and stuck my finger down by random right in the middle of “for thou shalt die, and not live.” ***(Isa.38:1) In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz came to him, and said unto him, Thus saith the Lord, Set thy house in order; for thou shalt die, and not live.*** I thought on that for a while and I said, “Lord, I can’t accept that; that’s not what Your Word says about me. You said that by His stripes, I was healed.” I had finally figured out that He was trying me, you see. So I said, “I don’t accept that, Lord, and I’m asking You to give me another verse.” Then I flipped my Bible open and stuck my

finger down by random again and this time it said, “I shall not die, but live.” (***Psa.118:17***) ***I shall not die, but live, And declare the works of the Lord.*** It was the exact opposite of the first verse and there are only two places in the Bible where it says that! Can you imagine? The only two places in the Bible and I stuck my finger right dead on them, blindly. Some people say God won’t do that, but He did it. He answered me with “I shall not die, but live,” and I said, “I’ll take that one, Lord. That’s in agreement with my Covenant with you.” And my symptoms lessened more and more until they were completely gone. Well, 15 years later, my heart began acting up and just going crazy. People came and told me that they’d had dreams that I died of a heart attack. Then my wife reminded me, “You know, it’s been 15 years since you had that problem before.” I thought, “15 years,” and the Lord sparked in my mind this text: (***Isa.38:4***) ***Then came the word of the Lord to Isaiah, saying, (5) Go, and say to Hezekiah, Thus saith the Lord, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will add unto thy days fifteen years.*** And I asked the Lord, “Lord, are You telling me that the rest of that text is for me, too? Are You telling me that You gave me 15 more years and now they’re up?” The Lord said, “Yes, that’s right.” So I thought on it a minute and I said to the Lord, “Lord, I don’t see any reason to change my mind. Your Bible says, ‘By whose stripes you were healed,’ so I am healed. I don’t see any reason to change my mind this time either.” And, to make a long story short, by holding fast to my faith, the symptoms went away and I was restored.

Well, the last place Hezekiah is mentioned in the book of Isaiah is in the end of Chapter 39, and that let’s us know

that when Hezekiah's time is up after those 15 years, the very next thing that happens is that the John the Baptist ministry comes on the scene in Isaiah 40. Looking at the time frame here, according to the sequence of Hezekiah, my 15 years were up about 12 years ago. That would mean we're now at the start of the John the Baptist ministry, which begins the Man-child ministry. Remember that John was born six months before Jesus and a man couldn't become a minister until he was 30 years old. So when John was 30 years old and he began to minister, then Jesus, who represented the Man-child, came on the scene. And we know from Isaiah that Jesus is a sign. ***(Isa.7:14) Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.*** The word "sign" there is the Hebrew word *owth* and it means "an omen ... of future events." That future event is the raising up of the worldwide first-fruits corporate body, but this Man-child coming forth has to be preceded by a worldwide John the Baptist corporate body. I firmly believe, folks, that the Lord has shown me a worldwide body that has the ministry of John the Baptist is coming forth at this time. Their message is simple: "Repent and watch for the One who comes with the message of the true Gospel."

As you know, 40 is a significant number in the Bible. It represents the wilderness; it represents trial and tribulation. Jesus went into the wilderness for 40 days (Matthew 4:1; Luke 4:2), Moses went into the wilderness for 40 years (Acts 7:30) and the children of Israel went into the wilderness for 40 years (Numbers 14:34). So Isaiah 40 starts out with something I believe represents the coming tribulation: ***(Isa.40:1) Comfort ye, comfort ye my peo-***

ple, saith your God. (2) Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem; and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she hath received of the Lord's hand double for all her sins. Wow! That sounds like a great time of grace! God has pardoned His people. They've paid a heavy penalty for their sins; they were living in bondage under the curse. It was just like that when Jesus came. The people were demon-possessed, they were sick, they had problems, they had needs, they were hungry and so on and so forth. Jesus met all those needs. He was a minister of reconciliation and it didn't seem that He cared how filthy those people were in some ways. ***(2Co.5:18) But all things are of God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and gave unto us the ministry of reconciliation; (19) to wit, that God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself, not reckoning unto them their trespasses, and having committed unto us the word of reconciliation.*** Jesus truly wasn't reckoning unto them their trespasses. All He was asking of them was to believe and, when they believed, they got what they needed from Jesus and He didn't ask any questions. These people were a stubborn, stiff-necked, hardhearted people. As a matter of fact, Jesus said that that generation lost everything He gave them. ***(Mat.12:43) But the unclean spirit, when he is gone out of the man, passeth through waterless places, seeking rest, and findeth it not. (44) Then he saith, I will return into my house whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished. (45) Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more evil than himself, and they enter in and dwell there:***

and the last state of that man becometh worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this evil generation. They were a stubborn people who did not deserve the gift that God sent to them.

(Isa.40:1) Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. (2) Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem; and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she hath received of the Lord's hand double for all her sins. We are coming to just such a place, folks. Isaiah is talking about a time for God's people when their warfare is accomplished, their iniquity is pardoned and that they have received of the Lord's hand double for all their sins. The curse is truly devouring the earth! God's people have problems. They're sickly; they're demon-possessed; they're every kind of thing you can think of. The majority of God's people are all struggling with something, but we are talking about a great time of grace that's about to come forth and we see here a prophecy of John the Baptist: **(Isa.40:3) The voice of one that crieth, Prepare ye in the wilderness the way of the Lord; make level in the desert a highway for our God. (4) Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low; and the uneven shall be made level, and the rough places a plain: (5) and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.** Matthew agreed that this was talking about John the Baptist. **(Mat.3:1) And in those days cometh John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, saying, (2) Repent ye; for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. (3) For this is he that was spoken of**

through Isaiah the prophet, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Make ye ready the way of the Lord, Make his paths straight. John the Baptist came to prepare a way for the Lord. He told the people to ***(8) Bring forth therefore fruit worthy of repentance.*** He preached repentance, a simple message of repentance, and that's just another way of saying you need to "change your mind" and "die to self." ***(Mat.16:24) Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man would come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. (25) For whosoever would save his life shall lose it: and whosoever shall lose his life for my sake shall find it.*** Repentance is a way for the Lord to come into people's lives. If you don't repent, you can't have more of the Lord. You have to lose your life to gain your life.

Malachi also speaks of John the Baptist: ***(Mal.3:1) Behold, I send my messenger*** (John the Baptist), ***and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, will suddenly come to his temple....*** This is not talking only about Jesus, as most people believe. Every prophecy in the Old Testament has a double fulfillment. The first fulfillment in the Old Testament is natural and the second fulfillment in the New Testament is spiritual. So, you see, this verse here is talking about both Jesus and the Man-child. History is just repeating. ***(Ecc.1:9) That which hath been is that which shall be; and that which hath been done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun.*** If you want to know what's going to happen in the end time, go back and read the Gospels and the Book of Acts. That's what is going to happen, except it's going to happen

worldwide because now spiritual Israel is worldwide and the Beast is worldwide. And so we see here, once again, a “John the Baptist” about to go forth and prepare a way for the coming of the Lord. God is going to anoint a people who have been faithful and have borne fruit. He is going to give them the latter rain they need to begin the Man-child ministry of our day. **(Mal.3:1) Behold, I send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant, whom ye desire....** The Covenant has been forgotten, folks. It’s been departed from for 2000 years. A great falling away from the Covenant has happened but now God is going to renew the Covenant. The truth is once again going to go forth, only this time it will go forth under the greater power and anointing of the latter rain, instead of the former rain.

(Mal.3:1) Behold, I send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant, whom ye desire, behold, he cometh, saith the Lord of hosts. (2) But who can abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner’s fire, and like fuller’s soap: (3) and he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi.... Who were the Levites in the Old Testament? They were the tribe chosen to be priests and ministers of the sanctuary. **(Num.3:5) And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, (6) Bring the tribe of Levi near, and set them before Aaron the priest, that they may minister unto him. (7) And they shall keep his charge, and the charge of the**

whole congregation before the tent of meeting, to do the service of the tabernacle. Who are the Levites today? We are the Levites, we are a kingdom of priests, are we not? And we have sacrifices to offer, do we not? ***(Rom.12:1) I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service.*** We present our bodies as living sacrifices. Our old life is the beast that burns up on the altar of the fiery trial, folks. Each one of us is a priest and we offer up an offering of our old beastly life on the altar. So He is going to “sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi.” That’s what Jesus did. He refined a group of ministers, then He sent them forth with the Gospel to refine the people of God and to raise up the five-fold ministry.

That’s what Jesus did and that’s what the Man-child in our day is going to do. ***(Mal.3:3) And he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and purify the sons of Levi, and refine them as gold and silver; and they shall offer unto the Lord offerings in righteousness. (4) Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the Lord, as in the days of old, and as in ancient years.*** Now, who is this “he”? If you say it’s Jesus, well, to that I totally agree; it is Jesus. Jesus came in that first body and the Bible calls that first body the son of David. ***(Rom.1:3) Concerning his Son, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, (4) who was declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead; even Jesus Christ our Lord.*** Jesus came in a body of David; His flesh was

real flesh and He overcame it. ***(Heb.4:15) For we have not a high priest that cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but one that hath been in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.*** You see, ***(Jas.1:14) ... Each man is tempted, when he is drawn away by his own lust, and enticed.*** Jesus was tempted by that flesh of the son of David and He overcame it because inside that flesh was the Son of God. In our day, Jesus, the Son of God, is the One who will be living in the Man-child. What brings forth Jesus, the Son of God? Humbly submitting to His Word, which is His seed, brings forth Christ in us by faith. ***(2Co.3:18) But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord the Spirit.*** Do you believe the Scriptures? This is the Gospel, the real Gospel. ***(Eph.2:8) For by grace have ye been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; (9) not of works, that no man should glory.*** The One who gets the glory here is the Son of God, Jesus Christ. The only difference is now He is coming in a corporate body of submitted servants of God and that's what the corporate John the Baptist is going to be preaching. ***(Mal.3:1) Behold, I send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me*** (This is the corporate body of the John the Baptist ministry.): ***and the Lord, whom ye seek, will suddenly come to his temple*** (This is the corporate body of the Man-child ministry.); ***and the messenger of the covenant, whom ye desire, behold, he cometh, saith the Lord of hosts.*** Yes! The first-fruits are very near to being manifest. What is their ministry? It is the ministry

of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, as a Shepherd to lead His sheep through the coming wilderness. When God sent Moses, Moses was the shepherd who led his sheep through the wilderness to the Promised Land. Once again, folks, God is going to continue to repeat history. The types and shadows tell us what is about to happen.

When we go back into Isaiah and we follow up that ministry of John the Baptist, we can see even more revelation. ***(Isa.40:4) Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low*** (That represents the flesh being humbled and the spiritual man being exalted.); ***and the uneven shall be made level, and the rough places a plain: (5) and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together*** (Notice he didn't say "the Lord"; he said the "glory of the Lord."); ***for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.*** Doesn't that sound familiar? ***(2Co.3:18) But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord the Spirit.*** The first-fruits we found in Revelation 12 is the Man-child ministry "and all flesh shall see it together" because this will be a corporate worldwide revealing of the glory of the Lord. Matthew quoted Isaiah's prophecy about Jesus' coming to the people: ***(Mat.4:14) That it might be fulfilled which was spoken through Isaiah the prophet, saying, (16) The people that sat in darkness saw a great light, And to them that sat in the region and shadow of death, To them did light spring up.*** The light that was shining out of Jesus was the glory of the Lord. It was in the flesh of the body of David and today there is a corporate body of the Lord that God

calls His “Davids.” Is it the Lord Himself, physically? No, because the Holy Spirit is using the Word to recreate in us the life of Jesus Christ. Jesus told His disciples, **(Joh.6:63) *It is the spirit that giveth life; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I have spoken unto you are spirit, and are life.*** Those Words of Spirit and life went into His disciples and recreated Christ in them, and they were called “Christians.” They walked and talked and did the works of Jesus Christ because He lived in them. And Jesus said, **(Mat.10:40) *He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me.*** So, once again, the world is about to see the glory of the Lord. Praise God! Jesus is going to walk on this earth again, folks, and He is going to minister in bodies of flesh again. It’s going to be an awesome miracle! We’re coming to a time of awesome signs and wonders and the works of Jesus going forth!

Here’s another confirmation of the “glory shining forth”: **(Tit.2:11) *For the grace of God hath appeared...*** The word “appeared” there is the Greek word *epiphaino* and it means “to give light ... to shine upon” or “to appear; to make visible.” You sometimes hear about a person having an “epiphany.” It’s almost as if a light bulb comes on in their head when they get some wonderful revelation. Well, *epiphaino* really means that. An “epiphany” is a “shining forth from.” **(Tit.2:11) *For the grace of God hath appeared, bringing salvation to all men*** (Or, “to all men bringing salvation,” is actually what it says, according to the numeric pattern; the words have been reversed there.), **(12) *instructing us*** (The glory of the Lord instructs us.), ***to the intent that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly and***

righteously and godly in this present world; (13) looking for the blessed hope and appearing (epiphaneian) of the glory of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ. He calls the epiphany of the glory of the Lord “the blessed hope.” And Colossians speaks about a mystery that’s been hidden for ages, which now is being revealed. ***(Col.1:26) Even the mystery which hath been hid for ages and generations: but now hath it been manifested to his saints, (27) to whom God was pleased to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.*** This is talking about the “hope of glory” again. What is that? The “hope of glory” is Christ in you! So now Paul is talking about the hope of glory again. ***(Tit.2:12) Instructing us, to the intent that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly and righteously and godly in this present world; (13) looking for the blessed hope and the shining forth of the glory of the great God and our saviour, Jesus Christ.*** Folks, the whole world is about to see the first-fruits. As you know, Jesus was called the first-fruits, but it didn’t stop with Him because He sowed that seed into His disciples. They went forth as two corporate witnesses in every place He was about to arrive, but then later on the people again saw the glory of the Lord. Where? They saw the glory of the Lord in these disciples! ***(Isa.40:5) And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.*** This is something that is going to come upon the whole world. The glory of the Lord is going to be manifested in the people who have believed the real Word of God. God is going to

anoint these people with the latter rain and they are going to go forth and spread the true Gospel.

(Isa.40:6) The voice of one saying, Cry. Again, this is John the Baptist. **And one said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field. (7) The grass withereth, the flower fadeth, because the breath of the Lord bloweth upon it....** Now we see who wants to do away with the old flesh: it's God. We sometimes accuse our enemies or we accuse the world, but it's God Himself who is the enemy of the flesh. **(Rom.8:6) For the mind of the flesh is death; but the mind of the Spirit is life and peace: (7) because the mind of the flesh is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can it be.** What does that mean? It means the mind of the Spirit and the mind of the flesh are enemies. We're told, **(Gal.5:17) For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are contrary the one to the other; that ye may not do the things that ye would.** The flesh and the Spirit war against each other because they are enemies. **(Isa.40:7) The grass withereth, the flower fadeth, because the breath of the Lord bloweth upon it, surely the people is grass.** The Hebrew word *ruwach* used here for "breath" is also translated as "spirit." So it is the "Spirit of the Lord" that "breatheth" or "bloweth" upon it. **(8) The grass withereth and the flower fadeth; but the word of our God shall stand forever.** Folks, everything that can be shaken will be shaken (Hebrews 12:27). Everything of the flesh, everything that is the nature of the old life, has to be crucified so that the glory of the Lord can come forth. The only thing that will be left

here, according to this, is the Word of the Lord. **(8) *The grass withereth, the flower fadeth; but the word of our God shall stand forever***. What does that mean? He's talking about His people; He's talking about how He is going to send crucifixion against that flesh, that "grass"; it's going to wither and die. The only thing that's going to be left is the Word of God, and who is the Word of God? Jesus Christ!

This is God's plan, folks. We are headed toward a crucifixion of the old life so that the new life of Christ will remain. Everything that can be shaken will be shaken, until the only thing that will be left is the Word of the Lord. **(Isa.40:9) *O thou*** (this is still John the Baptist) ***that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up on a high mountain***.... This is talking about Zion. The "high mountain," of course, is the spiritual place of the Kingdom of God where King David ruled. And it's where Jesus, as King David, will rule in a latter time body of Davids. Paul spoke about that "high mountain." He called it "the spirits of just men made perfect." **(Heb.12:18) *For ye are not come unto a mount that might be touched, and that burned with fire, and unto blackness, and darkness, and tempest ... (22) but ye are come unto mount Zion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable hosts of angels, (23) to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect***. Paul wasn't talking about physical Jerusalem because that could be touched in the natural. He was talking about a spiritual, New Testament Jerusalem of which Jesus was the ruler, the King David. **(Jer.33:17) *For thus saith the Lord: Da-***

vid shall never want a man to sit upon the throne of the house of Israel. There have always been Davids, folks, and the main David is Jesus Christ manifested in the heart of end-time believers who are going to do His work. The real Jesus is going to be in them and He's going to be doing the work that Jesus always did. He is going to lead His sheep through the coming wilderness, just like Jesus did, just like Moses did and just like Joseph did in another type and shadow. Jesus led the multitudes into the wilderness and multiplied the fishes and loaves (Matthew 14:13-21; Mark 6:30-44; Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-15). He provided for them. By the way, the Greek word *eremos* in the Gospels is translated as both "wilderness" and "desert." It basically means "a lonely or uninhabited place." What we're seeing here is that Jesus once again is coming, but He's not coming the way the Church thinks He's going to come. He's coming as an *epiphaino* to lead His people through this wilderness before He comes as a *parousia*. Think about the Gospels and what Jesus did to provide for His people, to protect His people and so on and so forth. Greater miracles and deliverances are coming (John 14:12).

(Isa.40:9) O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up on a high mountain; O thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold, your God! (10) Behold, the Lord God will come as a mighty one.... John the Baptist preached about the coming of the Lord and Jesus showed up in a body of David. So this is a prophecy for the time of John the Baptist, but it's also a prophecy about the end time, when the corporate John the Baptist will be preaching the same thing. **(10) Behold, the Lord God**

will come as a mighty one, and his arm will rule for him.... You may say, “Well, David, the arm of the Lord is Jesus.” That’s exactly right, but I’m going to prove to you that this prophecy has a second fulfillment for our time. ***(Isa.51:5) My righteousness is near, my salvation is gone forth, and mine arms shall judge the peoples; the isles shall wait for me, and on mine arm shall they trust. (6) Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look upon the earth beneath; for the heavens shall vanish away like smoke, and the earth shall wax old like a garment....*** Now what time is He talking about here? He’s talking about the end time because it’s the only time the heavens are removed as a scroll (Isaiah 13:13; Revelation 6:14) and the earth waxes old like a garment and is changed (Hebrews 1:12; Psalm 102:26). Does that mean He is talking here about a double fulfillment of His “arm” or His “arms”? Yes, He is. ***(6) Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look upon the earth beneath; for the heavens shall vanish away like smoke, and the earth shall wax old like a garment; and they that dwell therein shall die in like manner: but my salvation shall be for ever, and my righteousness shall not be abolished.*** God’s salvation is going to go forth in power once again in these days, just as when Jesus went forth and brought healing, deliverance and provision to God’s people. ***(Isa.51:9) Awake, awake, put on strength, O arm of the Lord; awake, as in the days of old, the generations of ancient times.*** If you ask, “David, do you mean the arm of the Lord has been here more than once?” Yes. That’s the whole point, folks. Who is the “arm” of the Lord? Jesus is the arm of the Lord.

Can Jesus come in another body? Yes, He can. Some

people say Melchizedek was Jesus. **(Heb.7:1) For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of God Most High, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him, (2) to whom also Abraham divided a tenth part of all (being first, by interpretation, King of righteousness, and then also King of Salem, which is King of peace; (3) without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like unto the Son of God), abideth a priest continually. (4) Now consider how great this man was, unto whom Abraham, the patriarch, gave a tenth out of the chief spoils.** Melchizedek was without earthly father or earthly mother; he had no earthly genealogy because he was born from above and, in the same way, Jesus, the arm of the Lord, is going to be manifested in His people again. **(Isa.51:9) Awake, awake, put on strength, O arm of the Lord; awake, as in the days of old, the generations of ancient times. Is it not thou that didst cut Rahab in pieces, that didst pierce the monster?** The word for “monster” there is “dragon,” and Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, was called “the dragon” (Ezekiel 29:3, 32:2; Psalm 74:13). This is a revelation about when Moses was used of God to bring God’s people out of Egypt and through the wilderness. That was a manifestation of the arm of the Lord and we have proof of that in the very next verse: **(10) Is it not thou that driedst up the sea (We know the “flesh” that God used to dry up the sea was Moses.), the waters of the great deep; that madest the depths of the sea a way for the redeemed to pass over?**

I received a dream years ago about my older sons. In that

dream, I was watching them cross the Red Sea and getting ready to go into the wilderness. The crossing of the Red Sea represents a baptism (1 Corinthians 10:2) because the old man died there and the new man came up on the other side. Well, I saw my oldest boys digging into the bank of the Red Sea so they could come up on the other side and start their wilderness. What does the Bible say the wilderness is? Tribulation! In Revelation 12 and 17, it calls the first 3-1/2 years and the second 3-1/2 years the wilderness. And, as my sons were climbing up to enter the wilderness, like you can do in a vision, I went around on the other side and I saw a rabbit there that was getting ready to run through the wilderness. It had oil all over it to show that it was anointed with the Holy Spirit and I knew that this rabbit represented God's people because they were going to be equipped to run through that wilderness. And when I saw my two boys climbing up this other bank to go into the wilderness, which would be starting the tribulation period, I saw beside them a great big turtle coming up out of the water, digging into the bank to try to get up the bank. So I went around on the other side, looking for that turtle, but there was no turtle there, just the rabbit. You see, the Red Sea represents our baptism of death-to-self. A turtle is equipped to go under water, but it's not equipped to go into a wilderness; that's where the rabbit and the anointing oil comes in. God is going to anoint and empower His people. Moses was there to lead God's people through their wilderness; he was the arm of the Lord back then. In Jesus' day, He was the arm of the Lord and it will be the same in our day. Who does this? Does man get the credit or does the Lord get the credit? It's "Christ in you, the hope of glory." He's the One Who always gets the credit. We can do nothing without Him, but

the Bible says we can do all things through Him (Philippians 4:13), so it is the Lord who is coming to be manifested in His first-fruits in order to bring His people through the wilderness. He is going to lead His sheep like a shepherd through the wilderness. ***(Isa.51:11) And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come with singing unto Zion*** (They're coming out of bondage; they're coming back to their Promised Land); ***and everlasting joy shall be upon their heads: they shall obtain gladness and joy; and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.***

A very similar verse to "Awake, awake, put on strength, O arm of the Lord," is ***(Isa.52:1) Awake, awake, put on thy strength, O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city....*** Folks, from the time Jesus was crucified, Jerusalem was never again called the "holy city." There's only one holy city and it is the people of God. It's the Jerusalem that is born from above out of Heaven. We are being born again from above: first in spirit, then in soul, then ultimately in body at the end of the tribulation period. ***(Rev.21:2) And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven of God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband.*** That represents the saints. ***(3) And I heard a great voice out of the throne saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he shall dwell with them, and they shall be his peoples, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.*** What did one of the seven angels say to John? ***(9) ... Come hither, I will show thee the bride, the wife of the Lamb. (10) And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed***

me the holy city Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, (11) having the glory of God.... Who does the Bible say is the building of God? (Eph.2:19) So then ye are no more strangers and sojourners, but ye are fellow-citizens with the saints, and of the household of God, (20) being built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the chief corner stone; (21) in whom each several building, fitly framed together, groweth into a holy temple in the Lord; (22) in whom ye also are builded together for a habitation of God in the Spirit. We are the building of God, but what does Zion represent? It represents the capital of God's people, the leadership of God's people. David and his court were there. Zion represents something spiritual, not physical, because the Jerusalem that is physical is totally corrupt and very unholy.

(Isa.52:1) Awake, awake, put on thy strength, O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem.... Now, how is a city going to put on beautiful garments? Obviously, this is people we are talking about and the "garments" being spoken of here are spiritual. ***(Rom.13:14) But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to [fulfil] the lusts [thereof].*** So Isaiah is telling us to put on Christ. ***(Isa.52:1) Awake, awake, put on thy strength, O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city: for henceforth there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean.*** That's certainly not true of physical Jerusalem today, is it? It's full of the uncircumcised and unclean. We, as God's people, have been baptized into the body of Christ

and Paul said that our baptism represents our circumcision (Colossians 2:11-12). Notice that only those who are circumcised can enter into this spiritual, holy Jerusalem. Only those who are clean can enter this “Jerusalem, the holy city” of God, so this is talking of spiritual circumcision here. **(2) *Shake thyself from the dust; arise, sit on thy throne, O Jerusalem: loose thyself from the bonds of thy neck, O captive daughter of Zion.*** He is calling upon His people to come out of bondage and come back to their Promised Land. When Israel and Judah were taken captive to Babylon, God spoke to them, **(Jer.3:14) *Return, O backsliding children, saith the Lord; for I am a husband unto you: and I will take you one of a city, and two of a family, and I will bring you to Zion.*** This is the corporate first-fruits to come out of captivity in the land of the north and come back to their holy land. In that day, Jerusalem will be called “the throne of the Lord.” **(17) *At that time they shall call Jerusalem the throne of the Lord; and all the nations shall be gathered unto it, to the name of the Lord, to Jerusalem: neither shall they walk any more after the stubbornness of their evil heart.*** What is it to be “caught up to the throne”? The throne of Jerusalem, folks, is not somewhere up in Heaven; it’s a spiritual place here of people coming into the presence of God Almighty. **(Rev.3:21) *He that overcometh, I will give to him to sit down with me in my throne, as I also overcame, and sat down with my Father in his throne.*** Jesus exercised dominion authority from the throne and He’s talking about the same thing here in Jeremiah.

(Isa.52:7) *How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings,*

that publisheth peace, that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation, that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth! (8) The voice of thy watchmen! they lift up the voice, together do they sing; for they shall see eye to eye, when the Lord returneth to Zion. Folks, when have God's people ever seen eye to eye? It's a miracle that does that. It happened in the day of Jesus. He even said they would become one flock and one shepherd. ***(Joh.10:16) And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice: and they shall become one flock, one shepherd.*** There is a time coming when God's true people are going to see eye-to-eye because they are coming out of Babylon and they are going to Zion. Do you know what Babylon is? It's all this foolishness of man building their organizations as "Babels to heaven." The Bible says that the first-fruits were not "defiled with women." ***(Rev.14:4) These are they that were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they that follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were purchased from among men, to be the firstfruits unto God and unto the Lamb.*** In the Scriptures, "women" are used to represent the divisions of Christianity, so not being "defiled with women" means the first-fruits are not going to be defiled with the sects and denominations and rules and regulations of man (Romans 16:17; 1 Corinthians 11:18; John 17:11,20-23,26). ***(Isa.52:9) Break forth into joy, sing together, ye waste places of Jerusalem; for the Lord hath comforted his people*** (We've made a full circle. That's the way it started out in Isaiah 40:1 with "Comfort ye my people."), ***he hath redeemed Jerusalem. (10) The Lord***

hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations (When Jesus came, He had a very limited travel area in that small portion of the Middle East.); ***and all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.*** Is there a greater fulfillment of this, folks? If Jesus was a sign, is there going to be a greater fulfillment of the coming of the Lord? Yes! When Jesus came the first time, He came to the literal people of God and the literal city of God. When Jesus came the first time, He was literally the Son of God and the son of David. Now, remember, folks, every time you see the literal fulfillment, what follows the literal fulfillment is the spiritual fulfillment. ***(1Co.15:46) Howbeit that is not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; then that which is spiritual.***

When Jesus comes today, He's not coming in a literal body of David, He's coming in the spiritual body of David. He's not coming to the physical Jerusalem, He's coming to the spiritual Jerusalem. He's not coming to the literal Jews, He's coming to the spiritual, born-again and grafted-into-the-olive-tree Jews! Is He ultimately going to go to a seed, a remnant, of natural Israel? Yes, He is. ***(Rom.11:5) Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace. (25) For I would not, brethren, have you ignorant of this mystery, lest ye be wise in your own conceits, that a hardening in part hath befallen Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in; (26) and so all Israel shall be saved: even as it is written, There shall come out of Zion the Deliverer; He shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob.*** When the fullness of the Gentiles has come in, the Lord is once again going to turn to a remnant of Israel "and so all Israel shall be

saved.” Notice in the text there that “all Israel” is everybody who is grafted into the olive tree, both Jew and Gentile, because of their faith. **(Rom.11:17) But if some of the branches were broken off, and thou, being a wild olive, wast grafted in among them, and didst become partaker with them of the root of the fatness of the olive tree; (18) glory not over the branches: but if thou gloriest, it is not thou that bearest the root, but the root thee. (19) Thou wilt say then, Branches were broken off, that I might be grafted in. (20) Well; by their unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by thy faith. Be not high-minded, but fear: (21) for if God spared not the natural branches, neither will he spare thee. (22) Behold then the goodness and severity of God: toward them that fell, severity; but toward thee, God’s goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off. (23) And they also, if they continue not in their unbelief, shall be grafted in: for God is able to graft them in again. (24) For if thou wast cut out of that which is by nature a wild olive tree, and wast grafted contrary to nature into a good olive tree; how much more shall these, which are the natural [branches], be grafted into their own olive tree?** The Bible says “all Israel” are only those who are grafted in; “all Israel” is not all natural Israel. It’s a remnant of natural Israel that shall be saved.

This time the arm of the Lord is going to be seen by all the nations. The Lord Jesus, manifested in His Man-child, is going to go forth and lead a people through the wilderness of all nations to their Promised Land. He is the Shep-

herd who is going to take care of His sheep in the wilderness. He is going to do the exact same thing He did before: He's going to manifest His salvation and He's going to forgive the iniquity of His people and pardon them. Glory to God! It's going to be the greatest time of grace the world has ever seen. Of course, man doesn't get the credit for this. He says through the apostle Paul, **(1Co.4:7) ... who maketh thee to differ? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? but if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory as if thou hadst not received it?** You don't have anything that didn't come to you by grace. If God uses your flesh, does that give you credit? No, it really doesn't because **(Eph.2:8) ... By grace have ye been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; (9) not of works, that no man should glory.** Folks, the Lord is coming in His people because He has chosen to do this. This is His choosing. As we read, **(Isa.40:5) And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.** The Lord Himself is coming manifested in His first-fruits to bring the true Gospel of salvation and do the same works as Jesus did in His first body. The plan of Jesus was to leave an individual body and come back in a corporate body, in order to continue doing in the worldwide corporate body what He did in the first body. Through that corporate body, Jesus is going to again work signs and wonders, healings and deliverances. In all of this, the Lord is going to lead His sheep through the wilderness and He is going to provide for them greatly. Oh, hallelujah!

CHAPTER TWO

They Shall Dwell Securely

Dear Lord, we praise You, we thank You for Your drawing power in our hearts to cause us to come unto Jesus, Lord. We thank You and we praise You for causing us to have a desire to love You, and a desire to keep Your commandments. Lord, we are very encouraged because of the things we've studied that reveal how You are going to take good care of us in the days to come. You are going to be our Shepherd in the coming times of tribulation and trouble in this world. You are going to guide Your people, as You have done historically, time and time again, through the pitfalls. Teach us, Lord, as You have taught Your people in the past, to walk by faith with You and to bear our cross. Lord, we are so encouraged by the things we see in Your Word concerning Your provision made for us in the days to come, and the great restoration of the life of Christ that will be manifested in Your people. Lord, we just thank You so much for continuing to work in us and we receive Your goodness today, Lord. As we study, we ask You to open our eyes and our ears and fill us with a desire to be humbly submissive to Your Word. We thank You for it, Lord, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Folks, we're seeing that the Bible teaches us that Jesus is going to come and shepherd His flock, although very few understand what's about to happen. No, He's not coming in the sky in a pre-Tribulation rapture; He's coming first to be manifested in His people and then He is coming for His people. He is coming for a spotless, blemishless Bride. ***(Eph.5:25) ... Even as Christ also loved the church,***

and gave himself up for it; (26) that he might sanctify it, having cleansed it by the washing of water with the word, (27) that he might present the church to himself a glorious [church,] not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. Praise be to God! In the previous chapter, we studied in Isaiah 40 and also looked at other texts that confirmed what we were seeing there and I'd like to continue with that. **(Isa.40:10) Behold, the Lord God will come as a mighty one, and his arm will rule for him: Behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. (11) He will feed his flock like a shepherd, he will gather the lambs in his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and will gently lead those that have their young.** We've learned that the "mighty one" will be His corporate first-fruits body in these days and we've seen that the "arm of the Lord" is Jesus Christ. Jesus was manifested as an "arm" to lead God's people out of Egypt and through the wilderness when it was Moses in whom the Lord visibly moved (Isaiah 51:9,10). We know that Isaiah 53 clearly talks about Jesus Christ being revealed as the "arm of the Lord" in His day. We discovered, too, that in our day, there's going to be a manifestation of the "arm of the Lord" to do the exact same thing, to bring God's people out of Egypt and through the wilderness.

(Isa.52:7) How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings (or "good news"), that publisheth peace, that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation, that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth! As a matter of fact, Paul quoted this as something that was happening

in his day and that would continue to happen until now. ***(Rom.10:14) How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? (15) and how shall they preach, except they be sent? even as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that bring glad tidings of good things!*** The “good” or “glad tidings” here, of course, is the “Good News,” the Gospel. It was some time after Jesus had been crucified when Paul quoted this, so he was talking about something that was coming in the future. These good tidings are going forth today as we speak the Good News of God’s salvation, the Gospel. And as we read on down, you’ll see that the arm of the Lord is going to be revealed once again in our time because “Thy God reigneth”! God is sovereign! God is doing His will; no one else is ruling with God. He is sovereign to save, He is sovereign to deliver and He will guide His people through the coming tumultuous days!

(Isa.52:8) The voice of thy watchmen! they lift up the voice, together do they sing; for they shall see eye to eye, when the Lord returneth to Zion. Seeing eye-to-eye is something God’s people haven’t done since the days of Paul; there’s been division all the way through the Church. There’s been schism after schism, sect after sect, denomination after denomination, from his day up to ours. But Jesus said, ***(Joh.10:16) And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice: and they shall become one flock, one shepherd.*** Seeing eye-to-eye is something God is going to do in the coming days. The first-fruits body God is raising up and anointing with the latter

rain will see eye-to-eye, folks. It will be just as when Moses was bringing God's people through the wilderness. Yes, the people fought against Moses, especially their flesh, and the people fought against Jesus, too, but both Moses and Jesus as the first-fruits were in unison with God. In our day, the corporate body of the first-fruits, which is the Man-child ministry, will see eye-to-eye. So, once again, we're looking at the arm of the Lord being revealed here when His people see eye-to-eye. ***(Isa.52:9) Break forth into joy, sing together, ye waste places of Jerusalem*** (God is once again drawing His people to New Testament, spiritual Jerusalem.); ***for the Lord hath comforted his people, he hath redeemed Jerusalem. (10) The Lord hath made bare his holy arm*** (In other words, He has revealed His strength and His arm.) ***in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.*** He is saying that the Gospel will be preached in all the world and then the end will come. This is the time, folks; these are the days when His holy arm is going to be revealed. Once again, a Moses is going to shepherd God's people through the wilderness, like Jesus did (Matthew 14:13-21; 15:29-38; Mark 6:30-34; 8:1-10; Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-15). It was Jesus Who was manifested in Moses and Jesus Who will be manifested in the Man-child to shepherd His people. The name *Jesus* means "Jah is salvation," and He is with us to be our salvation today.

(Isa.40:11) He will feed his flock like a shepherd, he will gather the lambs in his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and will gently lead those that have their young. That's a good picture of the Lord's care for His people during a time about which they

are very worried because of all the things they've heard. We need to remember that our God reigns and has total power over what's coming our way. He is bringing His people into a very controlled environment in order to cause them to make decisions. Jesus Himself was led into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. It was God's plan for Jesus to be tempted, to make the right decisions and to overcome in the wilderness (Matthew 4:1-11; Luke 4:1-13). The same thing happened when God used Moses to bring the children of Israel into their wilderness and the same thing is going to happen with His people today. We know the Bible tells us the "wilderness" is the Tribulation (Revelation 12:6-17), which is where we are headed, but He promised us that "He will feed His flock like a shepherd." There are many places in the Bible that speak of this, that tell us the Lord Himself is going to feed His people. Let's look at one in Micah. ***(Mic.5:2) But thou, Beth-lehem Ephrathah, which art little to be among the thousands of Judah, out of thee shall one come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting.*** Of course, we know that to be Jesus, don't we? ***(3) Therefore will he give them up, until the time that she who travaileth hath brought forth....*** Why did the Lord give them up when He was called to be the ruler in Israel? It's because ***(Joh.1:11) He came unto his own, and they that were his own received him not.*** He was persecuted and killed by these people and so He gave them up until "she who travaileth hath brought forth." Some people say that's talking about Jesus. No, Jesus came and He died. This is speaking of something that's going to happen again as a repetition of history. He gave them up until this happens

again. ***(Mic.5:3) Therefore will he give them up, until the time that she who travaileth hath brought forth: then the residue of his brethren shall return unto the children of Israel.*** Glory to God! He's going to give them up until the Man-child is born to the travailing woman and the remnant of natural Israel returns to their "olive tree," which is called "all Israel." ***(Rom.11:25) For I would not, brethren, have you ignorant of this mystery, lest ye be wise in your own conceits, that a hardening in part hath befallen Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in; (26) and so all Israel shall be saved: even as it is written, There shall come out of Zion the Deliverer; He shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: (27) And this is my covenant unto them, When I shall take away their sins.***

When this happens, folks, we're going to see Jesus manifested in His first-fruits in order to repeat the history that we see in the Gospels, where Jesus was the Shepherd of His flock, only now He's going to be able to shepherd a worldwide flock because He lives through His first-fruits. ***(Mic.5:4) And he shall stand, and shall feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God: and they shall abide; for now shall he be great unto the ends of the earth.*** This is going to be possible because of the latter rain poured out in these days on those who have been walking according to the Gospel. They have been receiving grace because of the Gospel. We know, too, from Hosea that He gave them up. ***(Hos.5:15) I will go and return to my place, till they acknowledge their offence, and seek my face: in their affliction they will seek***

me earnestly. Folks, affliction is coming, Tribulation is coming and God is going to come again, as He said in Micah. He's going to come when "she who travaileth hath brought forth," when a baby is once again born to a woman through a spiritual, virgin birth. Obviously, Christ cannot be manifested in His people by the seed of man. It has to be the seed of God alone, the Word of God. When does this happen? (**Hos.6:2**) ***After two days will he revive us: on the third day*** (And it's going to be in the "morning.") ***he will raise us up, and we shall live before him.*** **(3) *And let us know, let us follow on to know the Lord: his going forth is sure as the morning; and he will come unto us as the rain, as the latter rain that watereth the earth.*** So here we are after two days, on the morning of the third thousand-year day, and He is coming (2 Peter 3:8). The Lord is coming to shepherd His flock. We are learning that God's awesome plan is going to be missed by much of what's called the "Church." These shepherds in whom Jesus lives are going to be opposed by the apostate shepherds who want to keep the status quo, just as the apostate shepherds did in Jesus' day and in Moses' day. They fought against the move of God because they didn't want to give up their place of prominence, their place of authority, their place of esteem. They didn't want to give up their control of God's money or, I might say, God's people's money. They didn't want to give it up then and they don't want to give it up now. Once again, history is going to repeat and they are going to oppose this move of God, but the thing that makes me so happy is thinking about Jesus coming and shepherding His flock. Wow! Just think about that, folks!

Have you ever prayed that you could live in the time of

Jesus? You say, “Well, this is a little different, David.” A little different, yes, but remember that in the time of Jesus, that Jesus came in the likeness of sinful man and for sin, to put to death sin in the flesh. **(Rom.8:3) For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God, sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: (4) that the ordinance of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.** He came in a body of David, which is exactly what is about to happen again. The Son of God came in the son of man in that body of David. **(Rom.1:3) Concerning his Son, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, (4) who was declared [to be] the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead; [even] Jesus Christ our Lord.** The Spirit inside that body was the Son of God and the body was the son of man. God is choosing to do the same thing again now. You see, Jesus was a sign (Isaiah 7:14; Luke 2:34) and Jesus this time is coming in a corporate body of the son of man. He is coming in the first-fruits all over the world because now His people are all over the world, not just in a small area of the Middle East.

We can see this whole story in Ezekiel 34. First of all, we see that God is very unhappy with the shepherds, much as when Jesus came as the Man-child and He was very unhappy with the leadership of Israel. He had nothing but rebuke for them (Matthew 23:27-28; Luke 11:39,42-54). **(Eze.34:1) And the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, (2) Son of man** (Once again, Ezekiel was called the “son of man” and so was Jesus, and so will this

Man-child in the end time be a son of man.), ***prophecy against the shepherds of Israel*** (The Hebrew word there is *raah*, or “pastors”; this can be translated as the “pastors of Israel.”), ***prophecy, and say unto them, even to the shepherds, Thus saith the Lord God: Woe unto the shepherds of Israel that do feed themselves!*** (What does He mean by “feed themselves”? Well, they feed their ego, they feed their pocketbook, they have all the toys of the world. They have everything but an interest in bringing forth Christ in the sheep.) ***should not the shepherds feed the sheep? (3) Ye eat the fat, and ye clothe you with the wool, ye kill the fatlings; but ye feed not the sheep. (4) The diseased have ye not strengthened, neither have ye healed that which was sick, neither have ye bound up that which was broken....*** Yes, the overwhelming majority of Christianity has a form of godliness, but denies the power thereof. ***(2Ti.3:1) But know this, that in the last days grievous times shall come. (2) For men shall be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, haughty, railers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, (3) without natural affection, implacable, slanderers, without self-control, fierce, no lovers of good, (4) traitors, headstrong, puffed up, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God; (5) holding a form of godliness, but having denied the power thereof. From these also turn away.*** You see, they don’t heal the sick or bind up that which is broken because they don’t have God’s power, so most of them just claim, “All that passed away with the apostles.” ***(Eze.34:4) The***

diseased have ye not strengthened, neither have ye healed that which was sick, neither have ye bound up that which was broken, neither have ye brought back that which was driven away, neither have ye sought that which was lost; but with force and with rigor have ye ruled over them. As you know, the Pharisees and Sadducees in Jesus' day had used the Law to rule over God's people and we have the same situation today. People take their position of authority and rule over God's people. Instead of ruling by example, instead of being a sheep among the sheep, they rule with authority.

(Eze.34:10) Thus saith the Lord God: Behold, I am against the shepherds; and I will require my sheep at their hand (The Lord is going to hold them accountable for what's happening to the sheep, just as Jesus did in His day.), **and cause them to cease from feeding the sheep....** Folks, instead of feeding the sheep the pure Word of God, apostate pastors are feeding them according to their denominations and their Babylonian sects, and so the sheep are not growing up into the image of Jesus Christ. We are to walk in His steps, if we abide in Him. **(1Jn.2:5) But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily hath the love of God been perfected. Hereby we know that we are in him: (6) he that saith he abideth in him ought himself also to walk even as he walked.** But the apostate pastors are not feeding the people, the people are not coming into the image of Jesus Christ and so the people are not able to do the works of Jesus Christ. Jesus told us, **(Joh.14:12) Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than**

these shall he do; because I go unto the Father. It's obvious those pastors are not feeding the sheep because, when you look at the children, they don't look like their Father. They are "strange children," as they were called in the Scriptures. ***(Hos.5:7) They have dealt treacherously against the Lord; for they have borne strange*** (The Hebrew word is *zuwr* and the verb means to "commit adultery.") ***children: now shall the new moon devour them with their fields.*** They're "strange children," which means somebody else has been sowing the seed. If you are feeding on the pure Word of God, you should be coming into the image of Jesus Christ; you should begin to do His work, you should begin to act as He acted, you should begin to speak as He spoke and so on. ***(Eze.34:10) Thus saith the Lord God: Behold, I am against the shepherds; and I will require my sheep at their hand, and cause them to cease from feeding the sheep; neither shall the shepherds feed themselves any more; and I will deliver my sheep from their mouth, that they may not be food for them.*** That's true, folks! There's going to be a mass exodus of the elect because of this move of the Spirit and the unleavened bread of the Word of God that's going to go forth. Those who have eyes to see and ears to hear are going to flee Babylon. Glory be to God!

In the next few verses, God speaks time and time again of how He Himself will feed His sheep upon the mountains of Israel, the high places of God. ***(Eze.34:15) I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep....*** The Lord is going to shepherd His sheep, not man. Jesus said, ***(Joh.10:26) But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep. (27) My sheep hear my voice, and I know them,***

and they follow me. “Ye are not of my sheep.” He was speaking to those who thought they were His, but they were not. He is going to shepherd His sheep. How many of these people followed Jesus when He came? At first, with the fishes and the loaves, there was quite a number (Matthew 15:29-38; Mark 6:30-44; Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-15), but there was a great falling away when He spoke of eating His body and drinking His blood; or, in other words, partaking of Who He really was. ***(Joh.6:51) I am the living bread which came down out of heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: yea and the bread which I will give is my flesh, for the life of the world. (52) The Jews therefore strove one with another, saying, How can this man give us his flesh to eat? (53) Jesus therefore said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink his blood, ye have not life in yourselves. (54) He that eateth my flesh and drinketh my blood hath eternal life: and I will raise him up at the last day. (55) For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. (56) He that eateth my flesh and drinketh my blood abideth in me, and I in him. (57) As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father; so he that eateth me, he also shall live because of me. (58) This is the bread which came down out of heaven: not as the fathers ate, and died; he that eateth this bread shall live for ever. (66) Upon this many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him.*** More sheep also scattered from Him when He started talking about the cross. ***(Mar.8:34) And he called unto him the multitude***

with his disciples, and said unto them, If any man would come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

(Eze.34:15) I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will cause them to lie down, saith the Lord God. (16) I will seek that which was lost, and will bring back that which was driven away, and will bind up that which was broken, and will strengthen that which was sick: but the fat and the strong I will destroy; I will feed them in justice. “The fat and the strong I will destroy.” I remember a sister who had a vision of her pastor and in the vision his name was *Mr. Strong*. You know, man is very strong to do the work of God, but that’s not what God is after. He is after people who are weak so that He can be strong (2 Corinthians 12:10). He is after people who are simply vessels, who give their lives over to Him and let Him do the work. Notice the Lord is saying, “I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep.” You ask, “Well, then what about the five-fold ministry?” ***(Eph.4:11) And he gave some [to be] apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; (12) for the perfecting of the saints, unto the work of ministering, unto the building up of the body of Christ.*** Is there ever going to be a time that God is not going to use the five-fold ministry? No, but the problem is that the five-fold ministry is using Him. God wants to use us. He wants to flow through us and He wants us to come into agreement with Him, which we do through submitting to the Word of God. He wants us to be sent before we go. The Lord wants willing vessels through whom He can shepherd His sheep. That’s the story of Ezekiel 34.

Well, the Lord says, “I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep,” but then He says something that seems to appear opposite to this. **(Eze.34:23) And I will set up one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them, even my servant David; he shall feed them, and he shall be their shepherd.** So first the Lord said, “I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep,” and now He says He’s going to set up David as one shepherd over them. We know that when Jesus came, He fulfilled the prophecies of the coming of David but He didn’t fulfill them completely and, as we’re seeing, Jesus is coming again. The Lord spoke to me many years ago and told me that He had many “Davids” and that I was just one of His Davids. The Lord is planning to use His Davids as shepherds, but how can He Himself be the Shepherd of His sheep while He uses a David? It’s very simple: the body of David in which Jesus lived was perfectly submitted (Romans 1:3). The Lord Himself was in that body. **(Heb.10:5) Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, But a body didst thou prepare for me.** God had prepared a body of the seed of David in which Jesus would live and, through that body, Jesus is the One Who did the works. That’s exactly according to pattern. Jesus was the pattern Son. He was the sign (Isaiah 7:10-16; 8:14-18) of a much greater happening in our day, which is Jesus being manifested in His first-fruits, and so the “David” being spoken of here is Jesus being manifested in His first-fruits. **(Eze.34:23) And I will set up one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them, even my servant David; he shall feed them, and he shall be their shepherd (24) And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David prince among them; I,**

the Lord, have spoken it. This is obviously a latter-day happening. When He spoke about David feeding His sheep, this was almost 500 years after David had died, so we know this is not physical. There's no way you can insist on the letter and accept what's being said here.

Another place where it talks about David being raised up is in Jeremiah. ***(Jer.30:8) And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the Lord of hosts, that I will break his yoke from off thy neck, and will burst thy bonds; and strangers shall no more make him their bondman; (9) but they shall serve the Lord their God, and David their king, whom I will raise up unto them.*** The rest of this chapter talks about God's deliverance of His people out of Babylon. It's the same story and it's not changing the timing at all. Folks, we've been in bondage to Babylonish religion and now we're being told to "Come forth, my people, out of her." ***(Rev.18:4) And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come forth, my people, out of her, that ye have no fellowship with her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues: (5) for her sins have reached even unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.*** What happens to Babylon when God's people come out? ***(2) And he cried with a mighty voice, saying, Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great, and is become a habitation of demons, and a hold of every unclean spirit, and a hold of every unclean and hateful bird.*** When God's true people come out of these Babylonish religions, what do you think is going to be left? Not much! This whole chapter is about God's deliverance of His people from Babylon and the last verse tells us something very interesting. ***(Jer.30:24) The fierce anger of the***

Lord shall not return, until he have executed, and till he have performed the intents of his heart: in the latter days ye shall understand it. We're not going to understand exactly what God is saying here until the "latter days" when God brings forth His David again, when He brings forth the arm of the Lord again.

Is there more than one "latter days"? Yes, that's why we have a type and shadow here. Jesus, as the Man-child, came forth in a latter day. He came at the end of the Old Testament Covenant of His first people and then a few years down the road in 70 A.D., the Beast devoured the Harlot, just like we see in the Book of Revelation. There's a perfect parallel there between Jesus' day and our day. He was in a latter day and now the Man-child is going to be born also in a latter day. At the end of that, in Revelation 17, we see the Beast devouring the Harlot again, only this time it's a worldwide Harlot. History just repeats on a larger and larger scale. ***(Ecc.1:9) That which hath been is that which shall be; and that which hath been done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun.*** Every time history repeats, it repeats with more people; that's the only difference. So this "latter day" spoken of here is two-fold: it's Jesus' latter day and the Man-child's latter day, which is in our day. Why is that? It's because every prophecy speaks first physically and then spiritually. This has been fulfilled physically, now it's going to be fulfilled spiritually because the David who comes forth today, the seed of David today, is not a physical seed of David. How do we know we are Christians? ***(1Jn.2:6) He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also to walk even as he walked.*** What makes Jesus your spiritual Father? He's your spiritual Father be-

cause you walk in His steps. It's not because you were physically born of Him. In the New Testament, seed is passed on by the Word, not by physical seed. The seed of David in these days, in whom Christ will live, is a spiritual seed, not a physical seed. When you cross over into the New Testament, this is what happens. It's one of those things God has hidden from the wise and prudent but has revealed unto babes (Matthew 11:25; Luke 10:21). "In the latter days ye shall understand it." Remember that phrase because we're going to run into it again.

(Jer.31:1) At that time (this is speaking of our day), ***saith the Lord, will I be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people.*** What does that mean, "all the families of Israel"? Who is "all Israel"? ***(Rom.11:20) Well; by their unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by thy faith. Be not highminded, but fear: (21) for if God spared not the natural branches, neither will he spare thee. (22) Behold then the goodness and severity of God: toward them that fell, severity; but toward thee, God's goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off. (23) And they also, if they continue not in their unbelief, shall be grafted in: for God is able to graft them in again. (24) For if thou wast cut out of that which is by nature a wild olive tree, and wast grafted contrary to nature into a good olive tree; how much more shall these, which are the natural [branches,] be grafted into their own olive tree? (25) For I would not, brethren, have you ignorant of this mystery, lest ye be wise in your own conceits, that a hardening in part hath befallen Israel, until the***

fulness of the Gentiles be come in; (26) and so all Israel shall be saved: even as it is written, There shall come out of Zion the Deliverer; He shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: (27) And this is my covenant unto them, When I shall take away their sins. “All Israel” is everyone who is grafted into the olive tree. All the Gentiles and all the Jews who are believers in Jesus Christ are called “all Israel,” and after the “fulness of the Gentiles” has come in, then the Lord is going to bring in this remnant of natural Israel, who are also going to become believers in Jesus Christ. So when He says “the God of all the families of Israel,” He’s obviously talking about the end time.

(Jer.31:2) Thus saith the Lord, The people that were left of the sword found favor in the wilderness; even Israel, when I went to cause him to rest. There’s the Shepherd feeding His flock in the “wilderness,” which is the Tribulation. Wow! We can see something very similar to this back in Jeremiah 23. ***(23:1) Woe unto the shepherds that destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture....*** How do they scatter God’s flock? Denominationalism. Jesus prayed, ***(Joh.17:11) And I am no more in the world, and these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep them in thy name which thou hast given me, that they may be one, even as we [are]. (20) Neither for these only do I pray, but for them also that believe on me through their word; (21) that they may all be one; even as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be in us: that the world may believe that thou didst send me. (22) And the glory which thou hast given me I have given unto them; that***

they may be one, even as we [are] one. Well, we know what happened: Wolves came in to separate and scatter the flock. Of course, they call themselves pastors, but that's what they do; they divide up the flock. ***(Jer.23:1) Woe unto the shepherds that destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! saith the Lord. (2) Therefore thus saith the Lord, the God of Israel, against the shepherds that feed my people: Ye have scattered my flock, and driven them away, and have not visited them; behold, I will visit upon you the evil of your doings, saith the Lord. (3) And I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and multiply.*** This is something that is yet to happen, folks. When Jesus came, He came to draw a flock out of all the denominations of apostate Judaism and He called those disciples the "church" or *ekklesia*, which means the "called-out ones." Once again, God is about to call out a flock, one flock with one Shepherd, whom He called His "David" in Ezekiel 34. He is going to call a flock out of apostate Christianity "and they shall be fruitful and multiply." That's a great promise for our day. ***(4) And I will set up shepherds over them*** (so this is a corporate body), ***who shall feed them; and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall any be lacking, saith the Lord.*** That's right, folks! The elect are all going to be there. Not all the of called, but all of the elect, the chosen, are going to be there. Awesome God!

(Mat.22:14) For many are called, but few chosen. That's the Greek word *ekklektos* or "elect." Yes, all of the chosen will be there, so this is talking about a latter-day

event and not something that happened back before Jesus' day. ***(Jer.23:5) Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch....*** He said in verse 4, "I will set up shepherds," plural, and now He's telling you Who the branch is. Most people think the branch was only Jesus, but the branch is the latter-day body of David, those "shepherds" in whom Jesus lives. ***(Jer.23:5) Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. (6) In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely; and this is his name whereby he shall be called: the Lord our righteousness.*** Notice it is "our" because we are talking about a corporate body of people, "our righteousness." This branch is a corporate body of "Davids" or "shepherds." The text here also talks about rebuking the wicked shepherds and lying false prophets, all the way down to this next verse: ***(Jer.23:20) The anger of the Lord shall not return, until he have executed, and till he have performed the intents of his heart: in the latter days ye shall understand it*** (there's the exact same phrase) ***perfectly. (21) I sent not these prophets, yet they ran: I spake not unto them, yet they prophesied.*** This is so true. There are many people who have been ordained by religion, but not of God. ***(22) But if they had stood in my council, then had they caused my people to hear my words, and had turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their doings.*** So we see this is another latter-day prophecy of "David" being raised up and of Christ living in that David and going forth.

Now we can return to the Ezekiel 34 prophecy. ***(Eze.34:24) And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken it. (25) And I will make with them a covenant of peace, and will cause evil beasts to cease out of the land....*** We're that land, folks! Our enemies, represented by the Canaanites, must be driven from the land, so that the spiritual man, represented by the Israelite, can dwell in his house and raise a crop. Our enemies must be driven out so that the spiritual man can bear fruit unto God. ***(Heb.6:7) For the land which hath drunk the rain that cometh oft upon it, and bringeth forth herbs meet for them for whose sake it is also tilled, receiveth blessing from God: (8) but if it beareth thorns and thistles, it is rejected and nigh unto a curse; whose end is to be burned.*** The Lord is not talking about ground there, folks. He's talking about people. He said of Israel, ***(Mal.3:12) And all nations shall call you happy; for ye shall be a delightful land, saith the Lord of hosts.*** The Lord goes on to say that He will cause evil beasts to cease out of the land. ***(Eze.34:25) And I will make with them a covenant of peace, and will cause evil beasts to cease out of the land; and they shall dwell securely in the wilderness, and sleep in the woods.*** Have you ever heard of such a thing? They are going to dwell securely in the wilderness. In the New Testament, the "wilderness" is the Tribulation. ***(Rev.12:6) And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that there they may nourish her a thousand two hundred and threescore days.*** That's 3-1/2 years. ***(13) And when the dragon saw***

that he was cast down to the earth, he persecuted the woman that brought forth the man [child]. (14) And there were given to the woman the two wings of the great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness unto her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent. And that's 3-1/2 years. So the Lord says that He, in and end-time David, is going to shepherd His flock and that they are going to dwell securely in the wilderness. That's not the scary thing we've heard about, is it? **(Eze.34:26) And I will make them and the places round about my hill a blessing; and I will cause the shower to come down in its season; there shall be showers of blessing.** The rain of the Holy Spirit is going to come down. The rain of the knowledge of God is going to come down. **(27) And the tree of the field shall yield its fruit, and the earth shall yield its increase** (This is talking about God's people here.), **and they shall be secure in their land; and they shall know that I am the Lord, when I have broken the bars of their yoke, and have delivered them out of the hand of those that made bondmen of them.** The rest of this chapter seems to imply that their bondage is to the false shepherds and, of course, we know in the end time, the bondage is also going to be to the Beast and the Harlot.

The Beast and the Harlot have God's people in bondage even today. The Harlot in Jesus' day was apostate Judaism and the Beast was the Roman government. Together, they were against the Man-child, Jesus. The Roman government was propping up the apostate Harlot in order to keep God's people in bondage and the exact same thing is

going to happen again on a much larger scale today. The Beast and the Harlot are going to oppose the same entity; they're going to oppose Christ in a body of the first-fruits but God says He's going to deliver His sheep out of their hands, out of that bondage. **(Eze.34:28) And they shall no more be a prey to the nations, neither shall the beasts of the earth devour them....** Daniel told us the beasts are different kingdoms of the world (Daniel; 7; 8; 11). And, of course, individual lost man is a beast, as Solomon wrote: **(Ecc.3:18) I said in my heart, [It is] because of the sons of men, that God may prove them, and that they may see that they themselves are [but as] beasts.** So we know that the "beasts" represent God's people in bondage to men; whether it's men of religion or men of the world, it makes no difference. We have not been called to be in bondage and He's calling us out. **(Eze.34:28) And they shall no more be a prey to the nations, neither shall the beasts of the earth devour them; but they shall dwell securely** (there it is again), **and none shall make them afraid. (31) And ye my sheep, the sheep of my pasture, are men, and I am your God, saith the Lord God.** That's awesome! The Lord is going to shepherd His sheep and the flesh doesn't get any credit. If He comes in a body of David, does David get the credit? Or does the credit go to the One Who lives inside? The credit goes to the Son of God dwelling in the son of man; the credit goes to the Lord. We are not taking anything away from the Lord. This is the Lord's plan to use man. It's by man that mankind fell under the curse (Genesis 3:17) and it's going to be by man that God is going to bring mankind out from under the curse. The Son of God in the son of man is going to bring mankind out

from under the curse.

God promises to deliver His people from the bondage of men, but how is this going to be possible? How can God's elect, not the "many called" but the chosen, dwell securely when the whole world is rising up against them? ***(Mat.24:9) Then shall they deliver you up unto tribulation, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all the nations for my name's sake.*** He told them they will be hated of all nations, so how could they dwell securely? It's possible because God is their Shepherd. ***(Isa.40:11) He will feed his flock like a shepherd, he will gather the lambs in his arm*** (there's His "arm" again), ***and carry them in his bosom, and will gently lead those that have their young.*** What about the threat of the beastly nations against God's people? Well, let's read on. ***(12) Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?*** See, the magnificence, the power, the sovereignty of all-mighty God is how He is going to do this. He's talking about His greatness here. He going to shepherd His sheep and preserve them through this time. ***(Isa.40:13) Who hath directed the Spirit of the Lord, or being his counsellor hath taught him? (14) With whom took he counsel, and who instructed him, and taught him in the path of justice, and taught him knowledge, and showed to him the way of understanding? (15) Behold, the nations are as a drop of a bucket*** (Why are you worried about the threat of the nations? God is saying, "I'm the One who designed all this," and to Him, "the nations are as

a drop of a bucket.”), ***and are accounted as the small dust of the balance....*** If you are comparing the nations with God, they are dust. Do they have authority here or does our God reign? Is our sovereign God in control to raise up this crop or are the beast nations in control? No, the beast nations are not in control. God is sovereign! ***(15) Behold, the nations are as a drop of a bucket, and are accounted as the small dust of the balance: Behold, he taketh up the isles as a very little thing.*** The Hebrew word there translated “isles” also means “coast lands” or “regions.” In other words, sometimes this word is talking about continents, not just little islands. ***(16) And Lebanon is not sufficient to burn, nor the beasts thereof sufficient for a burnt-offering. (17) All the nations are as nothing before him; they are accounted by him as less than nothing, and vanity.***

Why should we fear the nations? Folks, our omnipotent, all-powerful God is in control. He’s telling you not to worry about the nations; they are nothing. He’s saying, “I’m going to shepherd my sheep! I’ll take care of them! I’ll carry them in my arm!” He is the King of kings. He is the Lord of all lords. Every principality and power is under His feet. ***(Eph.1:19) And what the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to that working of the strength of his might (20) which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and made him to sit at his right hand in the heavenly [places,] (21) far above all rule, and authority, and power, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: (22) and he put all things in subjection under his feet, and gave him***

to be head over all things to the church, (23) which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all. He is given to be the head of the body, yet He put every principality, every ruler, under the feet of the body. He's given us dominion over them, if we will learn to take it seriously. Notice, God is not the slightest bit worried about the nations that are coming against His people. ***(Isa.40:22) It is he that sitteth above the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in; (23) that bringeth princes to nothing; that maketh the judges of the earth as vanity. (24) Yea, they have not been planted; yea, they have not been sown; yea, their stock hath not taken root in the earth: moreover he bloweth upon them, and they wither, and the whirlwind taketh them away as stubble.*** God is not worried about what the nations can do to His flock.

I remember running across a man who was a brand new baby Christian and he had been given a vision of nuclear missiles hitting to the United States. He saw a sign that read "Welcome to Warrington," which is a town nearby, and afterward, he saw a nuclear missile go off and just wipe it out. Then he saw a little white church, representing a few pure saints. Next a foreign military convoy of an invading army pulled up in front of this little white church and the people in the church building came outside. This was a brand new baby Christian having the first vision he ever had and he saw the military people line up and point their guns at these people who had lived through this nuclear explosion. Suddenly, he saw what appeared to be something like angels pass between the people of the church and this military

convoy, and a wind just blew away this group of military people and the saints were saved. This was all in a vision he told me and the whole time I was thinking, “Why don’t we believe the power of God to save His people?” We are not under the curse because ***(Gal.3:13) Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us; for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree.*** We are sons of the living God. We are not under the curse. Is God going to preserve His people through the coming wilderness? Well, He says of the nations that “He bloweth upon them, and they wither, and the whirlwind taketh them away as stubble.” ***(Isa.40:25) To whom then will ye liken me, that I should be equal to him? saith the Holy One.*** The nations are no more than dust on the scales, compared to God on the other side. ***(26) Lift up your eyes on high, and see who hath created these, that bringeth out their host by number; he calleth them all by name; by the greatness of his might, and for that he is strong in power, not one is lacking.*** “Not one is lacking.” Wow! That’s an awesome, mighty God!

CHAPTER THREE

Blessed Is She that Believed

Folks, don't you just love to find wondrous things in God's Word? We all need to ask the Lord to put it in our heart to desire the truths that He has hidden there. **(Pro.25:2)** *It is the glory of God to conceal a thing; But the glory of kings is to search out a matter.* I never get tired of finding beautiful things in God's Word and He just keeps that grace going in me. Father, in the name of Jesus, Lord, I ask that same grace for everyone who will be reading this. I ask, Lord, that You would give them a desire for Your Word. The healthiest thing for eternal life that a person can do is to desire earnestly to walk in the steps of Jesus and to know the Word of God. Thank You, Father! Praise be to God!

As we've been studying, the Lord's great care is going to be with us in the days to come. **(Isa.40:11)** *He will feed his flock like a shepherd, he will gather the lambs in his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and will gently lead those that have their young.* We also touched on the grave concern and even fear many people have because of what Jesus said about the end times: **(Mat.24:9)** *Then shall they deliver you up unto tribulation, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all the nations for my name's sake.* Well, God answers those concerns for us. He tells us, **(Isa.40:15)** *Behold, the nations are as a drop of a bucket, and are accounted as the small dust of the balance: Behold, he taketh up the isles as a very little thing. (17) All the nations are as noth-*

ing before him; they are accounted by him as less than nothing, and vanity. (24) Yea, they have not been planted; yea, they have not been sown; yea, their stock hath not taken root in the earth: more-over he bloweth upon them, and they wither, and the whirlwind taketh them away as stubble. Look at that. They are nothing to worry about, folks. The nations are there to serve the King. They are there to serve us, as a matter of fact. Their hatred for us will bring about that new life. It will bring about a tiring of the old life, a tiring of this world and an appreciation of the things of God.

I'd like to continue with the last half of Isaiah 40, which is basically about relating to our enemies in the coming days. ***(Isa.40:27) Why sayest thou, O Jacob, and speakest, O Israel, My way is hid from the Lord, and the justice due to me is passed away from my God? (28) Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard? The everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary; there is no searching of his understanding. (29) He giveth power to the faint; and to him that hath no might he increaseth strength.*** You see, God is bringing us into a world where none of our might is going to be worth anything. It's going to be His strength that's going to count for everything. God is going to put us in a world where the whole world hates us and is making war against us and, yet, when we depend upon His might, we are on the winning team. ***(30) Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall....*** Of course, youths are known for being strong and energetic and doing everything they need to do. They like to take care of themselves and think themselves to be

wiser than their elders and so on and so forth, but God is going to tire-out His people with what's coming. They are going to give up. They are going to become weary in their fleshly ways of doing things and then they are going to turn to the Lord. **(30) Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall utterly fall: (31) but they that wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; they shall walk, and not faint.** Yes, the Lord is going to use this world to wear out the saints so that we will cease from our methods and cease from our youthful lusts. We will turn to Him and wait for His strength to “mount up with wings as eagles” to our places of safety from our enemies.

What's going to happen in our day is going to parallel what happened for His first-fruits Man-children in the past. For instance, we've seen there was a two-fold manifestation of judgment through Moses upon the enemies of God. Moses was sent to God's people during the time they were in bondage in Egypt, which in type represents the world. And when Jesus came, He came to bring God's people out of bondage, too. **(Luk.4:16) And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and he entered, as his custom was, into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up to read. (17) And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Isaiah. And he opened the book, and found the place where it was written, (18) The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, Because he anointed me to preach good tidings to the poor: He hath sent me to proclaim release to the captives, And recovering of sight to the blind, To set at liberty them that are bruised,**

(19) To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.

(20) And he closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant, and sat down: and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fastened on him.

Jesus came to open the prison and lead out the captives, and that's what is going to happen when the Man-child shows up in our time. Many of God's people have found themselves in prisons of a failed life or prisons of failed health and so on and so forth, and God is coming to deliver them. When Moses went to Egypt, he went there with the express purpose of bringing judgment upon Egypt so that God's people would be willing to come out from among them and be separate (Revelation 8:14). The judgments upon Egypt were for the purpose of bringing those out who were the elect of God and so it is in these days. We have a Tribulation coming and God is going to be bringing judgment upon the world all during that time. As you know, when Moses came to the end of the time in Egypt, there was a final judgment that fell — the Passover (Exodus 12). After that, of course, was the Red Sea crossing (Exodus 14), in which a great wrath of God was poured out upon the Egyptians because, obviously, all the elect had come out. We, of course, are coming to a time like that at the end of the Tribulation when all the elect will have come out and then God pours out what He calls His "wrath" (Revelation 15:7,16:1).

I also especially like Psalm 2 concerning relating to our enemies in the coming days. It's already been repeated and fulfilled several times, but I think it is appropriate for our days and not only for the days of David. **(Psa.2:1) Why do the nations rage, And the peoples meditate a vain thing?** Remember that Jesus said that in the latter times we were going to be hated of all nations for His name's

sake. **(2) *The kings of the earth set themselves, And the rulers take counsel together, Against the Lord, and against his anointed, [saying,]....*** Why would the whole world hate God's people, who are docile, loving and peaceful? Why would the world turn against them? It's because the nature of the world is so contrary to God's nature and God's nature is growing in His people. By the time these words are fulfilled, God's people will be much closer to Him than they are now. Of course, the world hates that; it's a conviction to them and the world wants to cast it off. It's painful to them to be around a person who is convicting, so the rulers and the people are going to want to cast off any kind of restraint from the Lord and His anointed. Do you know who His anointed are? The first-fruits anointed is the Man-child and His ministry is to bring God's people out of "Egypt" and to the "Promised Land." We know who the first-fruits anointed was in Moses' day and in Jesus' day, and the Lord is going to repeat that history, except now we're not talking about an individual; we're talking about a large, corporate body. Also, each of us individually, who is filled with the Holy Spirit, is God's anointed. **(2Co.1:21) *Now he that establisheth us with you in Christ, and anointed us, is God; (22) who also sealed us, and gave us the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.*** The Greek word there for "anointed" is the word *chrío*, or when used as a title, *Christos*. "Jesus Christ" means "Jesus the anointed." In Jesus' day, He was the first-fruits anointed Man-child, the anointed King. He did not keep that anointing for Himself, did He? For 3-1/2 years, Jesus, under the anointing, raised up a new leadership of 12 patriarchs for New Testament spiritual Israel. God then anointed them and they turned and continued to give this

anointing to everyone who would receive it (Acts 19:1-7). ***(Act.1:8) But ye shall receive power, when the Holy Spirit is come upon you: and ye shall be my witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea and Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.*** We need the anointing of God, but only a very small portion of the Church today has received that anointing. When God's people in another type entered into the wilderness, the first thing that happened was they were anointed by the cloud and the sea. ***(1Co.10:1) For I would not, brethren, have you ignorant, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; (2) and were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea.*** The "baptism" of the cloud is the baptism of the Spirit of God. If you haven't received that, you need to be baptized; you need to be God's anointed. It's true that everyone does not receive that anointing. They reject it because they've been taught by their religion to reject it, but you are going to need it. In our day, the first-fruits anointing that's coming is the latter rain (Hosea 6:3; Joel 2:23; James 5:7; etc.) It's going to anoint God's people to be strong, to be witnesses for Christ and to do the works of Christ.

(Psa.2:2) The kings of the earth set themselves, And the rulers take counsel together, Against the Lord, and against his anointed, [saying,] (3) Let us break their bonds asunder, And cast away their cords from us. We can see that happening even now, can't we? Of course, many so-called "Christians" have brought disrepute upon true Christianity by their actions; there's no doubt about that. If we reflect the true Jesus Christ, the people will hate us because they hate that convicting pow-

er and they want to feel comfortable with their love of the world and their idolatry. They want to feel comfortable and they like preachers who help them to feel comfortable. They don't like devoted Christianity and discipleship, which are troubling to them. **(3) *Let us break their bonds asunder, And cast away their cords from us.*** They don't want any kind of restraint. "We don't want the restraint of religion," they say. **(4) *He that sitteth in the heavens will laugh....*** Doesn't that sound a lot like what we read in Isaiah 40? You see, the Lord is not worried about what the world is threatening. There is nothing to worry about. He's going to carry His lambs in His arms and He is going to take care of His flock. Don't you worry. He will be with us through the Tribulation. **(Psa.91:14) *Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. (15) He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble: I will deliver him, and honor him. (16) With long life will I satisfy him, And show him my salvation.*** God is going to use the nations to bring us to our cross, to put to death the old life so that only the new life will remain. We can learn to rest in God and to love and appreciate our cross. **(Psa.2:4) *He that sitteth in the heavens will laugh: The Lord will have them in derision.*** The nations will be totally confused when they come against the people of God, but the will of God will be done. The nations will be used as vessels of dishonor to bring glory to God and to manifest His name in us. "Ye shall be hated of all the nations for my name's sake." To manifest His name is to manifest His nature, character and authority, which is what the Greek word for "name" means. **(Heb.12:26) *Whose***

voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more will I make to tremble not the earth only, but also the heaven. (27) And this [word,] Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that have been made, that those things which are not shaken may remain. (28) Wherefore, receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us have grace, whereby we may offer service well-pleasing to God with reverence and awe: (29) for our God is a consuming fire. Everything that can be shaken will be shaken and, while God shakes the world, the world will be shaking the Church.

(Psa.2:5) Then will he speak unto them in his wrath, And vex them in his sore displeasure: (6) Yet I have set my king Upon my holy hill of Zion. Well, folks, there's only one holy hill of Zion and it has nothing to do with a physical Zion. It has everything to do with the New Testament spiritual Zion. **(Heb.12:18) For ye are not come unto a mount that might be touched, and that burned with fire, and unto blackness, and darkness, and tempest, (22) but ye are come unto mount Zion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable hosts of angels, (23) to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect.** We need to run to Zion; it's the place of safety in the Lord. "Yet I have set my king Upon my holy hill of Zion." And the Bible prophesies that He's going to do the same thing in our day: **(Jer.33:15) In those days, and at that time, will I**

cause a Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. A “righteous Branch” is also spoken of in Jeremiah 23, where He says the “Branch” is “shepherds” to lead His people. ***(23:3) And I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and multiply. (4) And I will set up shepherds over them, who shall feed them; and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall any be lacking, saith the Lord. (5) Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.*** Of course, the shepherds are willing vessels of the presence of God to lead His people. So the Lord is going to have this “Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David” and, as we discovered in the preceding chapter, this is a promise for the latter days. ***(Jer.23:20) The anger of the Lord shall not return, until he have executed, and till he have performed the intents of his heart: in the latter days ye shall understand it perfectly.***

How do we become a “Branch” unto David when most of us are not Jews according to the flesh? Well, it’s because we are Jews according to what the New Testament calls a Jew: ***(Rom.2:28) For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision which is outward in the flesh: (29) but he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.*** As Paul taught, we are the

seed of Abraham because we walk in the faith of Abraham; we walk in his steps. **(1Jn.2:5) But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily hath the love of God been perfected. Hereby we know that we are in him: (6) he that saith he abideth in him ought himself also to walk even as he walked.** We are of the seed of Christ, we abide in Christ, if we walk in His steps. You see, in the New Testament, our fruit proves whose seed we are.

(Jer.33:16) In those days shall Judah be saved, and Jerusalem shall dwell safely.... This is not physical Jerusalem we are talking about here; this is spiritual Jerusalem that's going to "dwell safely." There's not going to be much safety for physical Jerusalem in the days ahead. You watch and see. **(16) In those days shall Judah be saved, and Jerusalem shall dwell safely; and this is the name whereby she shall be called....** Who is this "she"? Who is this body called the "Branch"? Well, we are the body of Christ and, as a corporate body, we are called a "she" in regard to being His Church. A "he" that is a "she" in the spirit realm is talking about a corporate body. Some Bible versions say "he" there because they weren't brave enough to translate it just the way it was and because Jeremiah 23 says "he" in the same text. Yet all the ancient manuscripts determine that the correct word there should be "she." **(Jer.33:16) In those days shall Judah be saved, and Jerusalem shall dwell safely; and this is [the name] whereby she shall be called: the Lord our righteousness.** The word is the plural "our," of course, because this is a corporate body. **(17) For thus saith the Lord: David shall never** (Folks, "never" is a long time!) **want a man to sit upon the throne of the house of Israel.** Now we know that there is still a house

of Israel in the New Testament and we have been grafted into the olive tree of that house of Israel. **(Rom.11:19) Thou wilt say then, Branches were broken off, that I might be grafted in. (20) Well; by their unbelief they were broken off, and thou standest by thy faith. Be not highminded, but fear: (21) for if God spared not the natural branches, neither will he spare thee.** We are a part of the house of Israel, even though we are Gentiles and the Church. **(2:28) For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision which is outward in the flesh: (29) but he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit not in the letter....** We are a part of of the house of Israel because we are Jews according to the spirit, not according to the flesh. “David shall never want a man to sit upon the throne,” so there’s still a headship of David. And, as we can see from this text, it’s a corporate body headship that God is raising up over His capital city of Jerusalem, which is over His people Israel. **(Jer.33:18) Neither shall the priests the Levites want a man before me to offer burnt-offerings, and to burn meal-offerings, and to do sacrifice continually.** We are a kingdom of priests and we offer up the continual burnt offering, which is our life. **(Rom.12:1) I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service.** The flesh of the beast is being offered up when we present our bodies as a living sacrifice.

(Jer.33:20) Thus saith the Lord: If ye can break my covenant of the day, and my covenant of the night, so that there shall not be day and night in

their season; (21) then may also my covenant be broken with David my servant, that he shall not have a son to reign upon his throne; and with the Levites the priests, my ministers. So since we still have the covenant of day and night, God is saying that we still have a David and His throne. You may say, “Well, that’s Jesus,” and that’s true, but Jesus has now become a corporate body. Those in whom Jesus lives, those in whom the fruit of Jesus is borne, are the manifested body of Jesus Christ in the earth. You know, we are all the body of Christ, but we are the body of Christ by faith. Who lives in the body of Christ? Christ does! He lives in the body of Christ and He lives through the body of Christ. He does His works through the body of Christ, just as He did 2,000 years ago, and the Bible says that there is no sin in Him. ***(1Jn.3:5) And ye know that he was manifested to take away sins; and in him is no sin. (6) Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither knoweth him.*** When we walk in the world, that means we have one foot in the world and one foot in Him, and we haven’t yet manifested being fully the body of Christ. “David” here represents being fully the body of Christ, “a Branch of righteousness,” those first-fruits in whom Jesus walks, lives and talks. ***(Jer.33:22) As the host of heaven cannot be numbered, neither the sand of the sea measured; so will I multiply the seed of David my servant....*** Is there a double meaning to this? Yes. Not only historically has God multiplied the seed of David, but also in the latter days He will have multiplied the seed of David because David, in the latter days, is a corporate body who rules in all the world, in His new capital city of spiritual Jerusalem. ***(Jer.33:22) As the host***

of heaven cannot be numbered, neither the sand of the sea measured; so will I multiply the seed of David my servant, and the Levites that minister unto me. (25) Thus saith the Lord: If my covenant of day and night [stand] not, if I have not appointed the ordinances of heaven and earth; (26) then will I also cast away the seed of Jacob, and of David my servant, so that I will not take of his seed to be rulers over the seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (The seed of Abraham's seed will be ruled by a David in the latter days.): *for I will cause their captivity to return, and will have mercy on them.* Glory to God!

(Psa.2:6) Yet I have set my king Upon my holy hill of Zion. (7) I will tell of the decree: the Lord said unto me, Thou art my son; This day have I begotten thee. We know that this is speaking about Jesus and we know that Jesus is being begotten over and over again, in the hearts and lives of the people who love Him and serve Him by His grace. Once again, the son is being born. We are like Mary: *(Luk.1:45) And blessed [is] she that believed; for there shall be a fulfilment of the things which have been spoken to her from the Lord.* What was spoken to Mary? *(31) And behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. (32) He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Most High: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: (33) and he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.* Mary was going to bear the fruit of Jesus, just as in these days the

fruit of Jesus is being borne. He is coming in His people, as He said in Hosea: ***(Hos.6:1) 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: on the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live before him. (3) And let us know, let us follow on to know the Lord: his going forth is sure as the morning; and he will come unto us as the rain, as the latter rain that watereth the earth.*** He will come in the morning of the third thousand-year day, which is where we are now. Glory be to God! He is coming, folks! He is coming as an *epiphaneia*, a “shining forth from,” His people. And it’s not because of man’s works. It’s because of God’s grace, His timing, His choosing. Everything is according to pattern and so God says, ***(Psa.2:8) Ask of me, and I will give [thee] the nations for thine inheritance*** (Now notice these phrases in the next couple of verses here because we can find them in other places in the Bible and they help verify for us the truth of Jesus coming in a corporate body.), ***And the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. (9) Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; Thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.*** This is quoted in other places in the Bible and in each instance it’s not talking about Jesus personally.

For example, ***(Rev.2:26) And he that overcometh*** (He’s addressing the churches and He’s speaking to each one of those who overcomes in the church.), ***and he that keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give authority over the nations: (27) and he shall rule them with a rod of iron, as the vessels of the potter are broken to shivers; as I also have received***

of my Father. There was a fulfillment of this in Jesus' day, when He received the authority of His Father, and there will be another fulfillment in our day. As you know, after Jesus' 3-1/2 years, there was a great tribulation and the Harlot was delivered over to the Beast for destruction. What Jesus spoke out of His mouth in Matthew 24 came to pass in 70 A.D. Great destruction came against the apostate church then and a great destruction against the apostate church will also be fulfilled in our day. We will see the same sequence of events, except they will happen with a larger group of people because history just keeps on repeating (Ecclesiastes 1:9). We also know from Revelation that the Man-child is the one who is the overcomer here because it says of him, ***(Rev.12:5) And she was delivered of a son, a man child, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron....*** There's that phrase again and we know that this is future to Jesus' time, since it was around 96 A.D. when Revelation was written. This is obviously talking about a Man-child in the latter days, in the time of the Tribulation that's being spoken about here, when a Man-child is going to be raised up to rule all nations with a rod of iron. ***(Rev.12:5) And she was delivered of a son, a man child, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and unto his throne.*** The Bible says that David sat in God's throne and ruled for Him. ***(2Ch.9:8) Blessed be the Lord thy God, who delighted in thee, to set thee on his throne, to be king for the Lord thy God: because thy God loved Israel, to establish them for ever, therefore made he thee king over them, to do justice and righteousness.*** Do you know there's also a latter-time David who's going to rule for Him? It's going to

be the new leadership of the Church. The old leadership of the Church has gone astray, exactly as their forefathers did in Jesus' day, but the Lord is going to raise up a new leadership to lead His people, righteously and quickly, through the wilderness to the Promised Land. Praise be to God!

So we see that this is not talking about Jesus physically, but Jesus manifested in a body of people who have borne the fruit of Christ. ***(Col.1:26) [Even] the mystery which hath been hid for ages and generations: but now hath it been manifested to his saints, (27) to whom God was pleased to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.***

There is no other fruit for the Church than “Christ in you, hope of glory”! The first-fruits are going to manifest Christ first and, of course, that is the “David” about whom Jeremiah 33 speaks. Jesus was the “David” Who was to come in what was Jeremiah’s future, but in what is 2,000 years ago in our past, to rule eternally over God’s people. And, as we’ve read, God is going to multiply the seed of David. If you ask, “By what right would God do such a thing through man?” it’s because God is raising up sons of God. That’s why He has us here. We’re here to bear the fruit of the Son of God and, as we bear the fruit of Jesus, which is the Word manifested in us, we bear the fruit of sonship. God raises up children in order to have them become sons. ***(Pro.29:21) He that delicately bringeth up his servant from a child Shall have him become a son at the last.*** The Greek word for “son” in the New Testament is *huios* and it expresses the relationship of the father to the son. The Greek word for “child” is *teknon* and it just expresses birth. You see, the Lord wants sons who walk in the steps of His

first Son. ***(Rom.8:29) For whom he foreknew, he also foreordained [to be] conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren: (30) and whom he foreordained, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.*** Jesus was the firstborn of many brethren because the first-fruits are going to walk in the steps of Jesus. The Lord is raising up sons of God. Glory be to God! And do you know what it is to be a Son of God? ***(1Jn.2:6) He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also to walk even as he walked.***

I want to share something with you from John 10 which bothers some people, but if anything in the Bible bothers us, the problem is with us and not with the Bible. In John 10, Jesus was having a problem with the Pharisees. He said, ***(Joh.10:29) My Father who hath given [them] unto me, is greater than all....*** Jesus always called Him “My Father” and God said in Jeremiah that we are going to call Him “My Father.” ***(Jer.3:4) Wilt thou not from this time cry unto me, My Father, thou art the guide of my youth? (19) But I said, How I will put thee among the children, and give thee a pleasant land, a goodly heritage of the hosts of the nations! and I said, Ye shall call me My Father, and shall not turn away from following me.*** When Jesus said “My Father,” it bothered the Jews because they didn’t know God as “Father.” Their relationship with Him was under the Law as God, instead of under grace as Father. It was an inferior relationship with God. They were servants only and not sons. There’s a big difference between servants and sons; they serve for different reasons. Sons serve

because they love their Father; they want to see His Kingdom promoted. Servants serve because they have to serve. Moses was a servant over His house, but Christ is a Son over His house. He is a Son over a house of sons and Moses was a servant over a house of servants. That's the difference between having a relationship through the Law compared to having a relationship through grace. ***(Joh.10:29) My Father who hath given [them] unto me, is greater than all*** (By this time, the Jews were starting to figure out Who His Father was and that He was calling Himself a Son of God.); ***and no one is able to snatch [them] out of the Father's hand. (30) I and the Father are one.*** Why? It's because the nature of the Father was in Him and the nature of the Son is in us and growing, as we submit to His Kingdom. So this angered the Jews and the Bible goes on to say, ***(31) The Jews took up stones again to stone him. (32) Jesus answered them, Many good works have I showed you from the Father*** (He said "the Father," as if there is only One, and now they know for sure that He's talking about God here.); ***for which of those works do ye stone me? (33) The Jews answered him, For a good work we stone thee not, but for blasphemy; and because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God.*** Wow! Where did we jump to the place where He was making Himself God? It was because He called God His "Father."

What did the Jews understand about God as a Father God and anyone Who claimed to be His Son? They understood that someone claiming to be the Son of God had to be God. Notice how the Jews answered Jesus; they said, "because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God," but Jesus never said that. He said that God was His "Fa-

ther.” Well, the Jews understood that every seed brings forth after its own kind and, if you are a son of man, then you are a man, but if you are a Son of God, then you’re a God. When Jesus claimed that God was His Father, He was claiming to be God and they understood that this is blasphemy. They didn’t believe that God had a Son; they didn’t understand that He has many sons because Jesus was the firstborn among many brethren (Romans 8:29). Many sons! Awesome! Jesus was making Himself God because He called God His “Father” and each seed brings forth after its own kind. Do you know that we cannot be God in this flesh? That’s because this flesh is a son of man. Jesus was a son of David according to the flesh, as the Bible declares: ***(Rom.1:3) Concerning his Son, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, (4) who was declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead; even Jesus Christ our Lord.*** But the spiritual man inside that body was the Son of God, so Jesus was the Son of man and the Son of God. We are also son of man and son of God. ***(Rom.8:9) But ye are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you. But if any man hath not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.*** Jesus Himself said, ***(Joh.6:63) It is the spirit that giveth life; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I have spoken unto you are spirit, and are life.*** In other words, He spoke the Word and the Spirit that goes into humble hearts and recreates in us His life, which is “Christ in you, the hope of glory.”

(Joh.10:34) Jesus answered them, Is it not written in your law, I said, ye are gods? Wow! Why

would God have said that to the stiffnecked and stubborn Jews? It's because they were the type and shadow for the Church. **(Rom.2:28) For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision which is outward in the flesh: (29) but he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.** They were Jews according to the letter; we are Jews according to the Spirit. What they had by position, we receive by nature. Without being born again from above and without the Word of God recreating in us the life of Christ, we cannot say that we are gods. And you cannot say that this flesh is a god. All you have to do is accept what the Bible is saying here, plain and simple, folks. Don't worry about all the people who cry "Heresy!" Just believe what the Bible says. Yes, the Mormons do teach that there is marrying, having children and all that in the next life; they say that's how we're gods. No, the flesh that does such things can never, ever be God. It's the born-again man, who's born from above, who's begotten of God, who's born again out of Heaven, that's the man who is God. **(Gen.1:27) And God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.** Do you think your flesh is made in the image of God? Or do you think God was really talking about the spiritual man being made in the image of God? What Adam was in the letter, the last Adam is in the spirit. So Jesus said to the Jews, **(Joh.10:34) Is it not written in your law, I said ye are gods?** (We'll look at where that came from in Psalm 82 a little further down.) **If He called them gods unto whom the word of God came (and the scripture cannot be broken)....**

According to Jesus, this is saying that those people who received the Word of God were gods. It's used with the lowercase "g" here, obviously, because it does mean that spiritually, but there were no capitals and lowercase letters in the ancient Greek. **(Joh.10:35) If He called them gods unto whom the word of God came (and the scripture cannot be broken)....** Jesus is interpreting Psalm 82 for us here. The people to whom God speaks are gods. In what way? Of course, there's only one God, but we are in Him. And there is only one Lord, Jesus Christ, but we are the body of Christ, are we not? **(Rom.12:5) So we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and severally members one of another. (1Co.12:12) For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of the body, being many, are one body; so also is Christ.**

(Joh.10:36) Say ye of him, whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world, Thou blasphemest; because I said, I am [the] Son of God? The Jews understood when somebody said they were the Son of God, that they had to be God. Jesus is God because each seed brings forth after its own kind. The seed of Heaven is the Word. Jesus was the Word made flesh (John 1:14) and the Word manifested inside that flesh of Jesus was the Son of God. And if the Word is manifested in you, the Word is the Son of God in you. That's where our sonship comes from: it comes by Christ being manifested in us. **(Joh.10:37) If I do not the works of my Father, believe me not. (38) But if I do them, though ye believe not me, believe the works: that ye may know and understand that the Father is in me, and I in the Father.** That applies to us, too. If His works are living

in you, He's living in you and you are living in Him. Some people argue, "No, we are not gods!" Well, I want to ask you something: ***(2Co.13:5) Try your own selves, whether ye are in the faith; prove your own selves. Or know ye not as to your own selves, that Jesus Christ is in you? unless indeed ye be reprobate.***

There are many, many teachers out there who teach only that Jesus is coming for His people. That's an anti-Christ doctrine because if Jesus doesn't live in you, you are reprobate. ***(2Jn.1:7) For many deceivers are gone forth into the world, even they that confess not that Jesus Christ cometh in the flesh. This is the deceiver and the antichrist.*** So now I want to ask you, "Who is Jesus Christ?" If you tell me He's not God, you're in trouble because Jesus told those Jews, ***(Joh.8:24) I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for except ye believe that I am [he], ye shall die in your sins.*** In fact, it says, "except ye believe that I am." The word "he" in the brackets was added by the translators. Jesus was actually saying "I am"! "Except ye believe that I am, ye shall die in your sins." You say, "Okay, David, I believe that Jesus lives in me." Well, then who is Jesus? He is God! So if Jesus is God, then God dwells in you! You can't have it both ways. Some of you are saying again, "That's heresy!" No. God dwells in your flesh. And if you will let Him be God in your flesh, He will do wonders through you. Much of the Church has a doctrine that Jesus is not coming in the flesh, which means that you are always going to be "a sinner saved by grace." No, you were a sinner and you were saved by grace. ***(Gal.2:20) I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I that live, but Christ living in me: and that [life] which I now live in the***

flesh I live in faith, [the faith] which is in the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself up for me. It's no longer you who lives, it's Christ Who lives in you and don't you dare call Him a sinner! ***(Rom.6:11) Even so reckon ye also yourselves to be dead unto sin, but alive unto God in Christ Jesus.*** "You are dead to sin but alive to God"; that's what Paul said for you to believe about yourself. Jesus Christ Himself is coming to be manifested in His people as the fruit of the Word of God and Jesus is God in you. So that's why the Bible says, "I said, ye are gods." The Lord is coming in His people. He is God and He is coming to be manifested in His people. Wow! That's awesome!

Now I'd like for us to look at Psalm 82, which is where the verse comes from that Jesus quoted in John 10. ***(Psa.82:6) I said, Ye are gods....*** We've learned that Jesus said this is speaking about those to whom the Word of God was spoken. Who is that? That's us! ***(Psa.82:6) I said, Ye are gods, And all of you sons of the Most High.*** If you are a son of a dog, you are a puppy. If you are a son of a man, you are a man-child. Each seed brings forth after its own kind. You can't be a Son of God without being a part of God! It doesn't matter what men say, it matters what the Bible says and the Bible says that all creation is waiting for the manifestation, the shining forth, of the Sons of God. ***(Rom.8:19) For the earnest expectation of the creation waiteth for the revealing of the sons of God. (20) For the creation was subjected to vanity, not of its own will, but by reason of him who subjected it, in hope (21) that the creation itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the liberty of the glory of the children***

of God. (22) For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. And where are the sons of God going to be shining forth from? They're going to be shining forth from out of this flesh. **(2Pe.1:19) And we have the word of prophecy made more sure; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day-star arise in your hearts.** The flesh is the son of man. Jesus had to be made in all things "like unto his brethren." **(Heb.2:17) Wherefore it behooved him in all things to be made like unto his brethren, that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.** What does that mean? It means He is Son of God inside the son of man. And what are we? We are Son of God inside son of man. The Son of God is growing in us, like the Son of God grew in Mary. **(Luk.1:45) And blessed [is] she that believed; for there shall be a fulfilment of the things which have been spoken to her from the Lord.** The fulfillment was that "God with us" was going to be born from her. **(Mat.1:22) Now all this is come to pass, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, (23) Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, And they shall call his name Immanuel; which is, being interpreted, God with us.** Mary was going to bear the fruit of Jesus. Jesus said, **(Mar.3:35) For whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.** **(Luk.8:21) ... He answered and said unto them, My mother and my brethren are these that hear**

the word of God, and do it. You see, faith will bring forth the fruit of Jesus Christ.

(Psa.82:6) I said, Ye are gods, And all of you sons of the Most High. (7) Nevertheless ye shall die like men.... In what way do we need to die in order to bring forth this fruit? Jesus told us very plainly, **(Mat.16:25) For whosoever would save his life** (This is the Greek word *psuche* and it refers to your “soulish” life.) **shall lose it: and whosoever shall lose his life for my sake shall find it.** Except you lose your *psuche* life, you will not gain your *zoe* life. **(Joh.14:6) Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, and the truth, and the life** (This is the Greek word *zoe* and it means “life in the absolute sense” or “life as God has it”; in other words, it refers to your “higher” life.): **no one cometh unto the Father, but by me.** So we do have to die and notice that He says, “Nevertheless ye shall die like men,” because it’s the old man that has to die. **(Psa.82:7) Nevertheless ye shall die like men, And fall like one of the princes. (8) Arise, O God....** He’s speaking to the same people as in verse 6. The word “God” here is the same word *Elohim*, as in “I said, ye are gods.” **(8) Arise O God, judge the earth; For thou shalt inherit all the nations.** There’s the same phrase we’ve looked at and found out wasn’t necessarily speaking personally of Jesus Christ, but of those people who overcome and in whom Jesus lives. And now He says that these are the sons of God.

The problem with the sons is they haven’t judged correctly; they haven’t represented Jesus Christ. We are ambassadors for Christ, but we haven’t judged justly and we haven’t served Him. If we go back in the text, you can see this plainly. **(Psa.82:1) God** (This is the Hebrew word *Elohim*

and it is the plural “Gods,” which is the same word as in verse 6, “I said, ye are gods.”) ***standeth in the congregation of God*** (This one is singular, “El.”); ***He judgeth among the gods***. Do you think this is speaking of false gods? No, He’s not talking about false gods; He’s talking about His sons, those who stand in His congregation. **(2) *How long will ye judge unjustly, And respect the persons of the wicked?*** He is rebuking His sons for judging falsely and, yes, we have respected the persons of the wicked. **(3) *Judge the poor and fatherless: Do justice to the afflicted and destitute.*** **(4) *Rescue the poor and needy: Deliver them out of the hand of the wicked.*** **(5) *They know not, neither do they understand; They walk to and fro in darkness: All the foundations of the earth are shaken.*** **(6) *I said, Ye are gods....*** In other words, “Stand up! Let the Lord live through you! Walk by faith in His Word!” We have not judged righteously. We have failed God; we have let Him down because we don’t know who we are in Him and Who He is in us. Do you know the Bible specifically says that David would “be as God,” and that the people who are raised up underneath David also would “be as God”? If you look only in the letter, you are only going to see natural Israel and the natural people of God, but there is a spiritual revelation to the letter. **(2Co.3:6) *Who also made us sufficient as ministers of a new covenant; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.*** When God speaks to His spirit people, He speaks in the spirit. When He speaks to His letter people, He speaks in the letter. What He says to the natural Jew in the letter, He says to us, the spiritual Jew, in the spirit. So He says, **(Zec.12:8) *In that day shall the Lord defend***

the inhabitants of Jerusalem: and he that is feeble among them at that day shall be as David; and the house of David shall be as God... Do you think God really means that? Yes, because God is the One Who lives in the first-fruits David, who is leading the rest of the people in the same way. God is sending reformers to bring the Church back to a revelation of who they are supposed to be in God and Who God is in them. ***(Zec.12:8) In that day shall the Lord defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem: and he that is feeble among them at that day shall be as David; and the house of David shall be as God, as the angel of the Lord before them. (9) And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.*** “He that is feeble among them ... shall be as David ... and David shall be as God.”

By the way, David represents the end-time Man-child, but the same thing was also said about the Man-child Moses. We can argue with God or we can just accept it, folks. It's self-righteousness that causes people to be puffed-up and want to make themselves better than other people, but if we are agreeing with the Word, we can't go wrong. God told Moses, ***(Exo.4:15) And thou shalt speak unto him, and put the words in his mouth: and I will be with thy mouth, and with his mouth, and will teach you what ye shall do. (16) And he (Aaron) shall be thy (Moses) spokesman (Aaron was going to be speaking for Moses) unto the people; and it shall come to pass, that he shall be to thee a mouth, and thou shalt be to him as God.*** Wow! Why was Moses going to be as God? It's because God Himself was speaking through Moses and out of Moses and living in Mo-

ses. **(Exo.7:1) And the Lord said unto Moses, See, I have made thee as God to Pharaoh; and Aaron thy brother shall be thy prophet.** In other words, whatever judgment Moses spoke upon Pharaoh and upon the kingdom of this world came to pass because he was representing God. Hasn't God given us the same authority as sons of God? **(Joh.20:21) Jesus therefore said to them again, Peace be unto you: as the Father hath sent me, even so send I you. (Mat.18:18) Verily I say unto you, what things soever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and what things soever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.** Wow!

(Psa.82:6) I said, Ye are gods, And all of you sons of the Most High. (7) Nevertheless ye shall die like men (You can't come in to manifest your sonship without death to self.), **And fall like one of the princes. (8) Arise, O Gods, judge the earth; For thou shalt inherit all the nations.** We're joint heirs with Jesus Christ, our elder Brother, the One Who lives in us as "Christ in you, the hope of glory." If Christ is in you, if Christ is being manifested in you as you submit more and more to the Word, then God is manifesting in you. There will be a time, just as with every birth, that this will be revealed to the world. Now they may not recognize it and they may not accept it, but the One Who was living through Jesus is God. You know, the Jews rebuked Jesus because they thought He, as a man, was making Himself God. No, He was not. He wasn't doing that at all. As a man, He wasn't claiming to be anything more than man, but the One Who lived inside that man was the Son of God and He was God. He wasn't making the outer man God, He was making the

inner man God, just as it is with us. You see, friends, this outer man is the enemy of God, but the spiritual man judges all things and is judged of no man. **(1Co.2:15) But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, and he himself is judged of no man.** The spiritual man is Christ in you and, as you submit to more and more of the Word of God, Jesus is being formed in you, just like Jesus was being formed in Mary. There is no curse upon Jesus in the coming wilderness and, if you are dead to self, there's no curse against you from this world. Why do you need to go to a cross, if you're already dead? The first-fruits go through their wilderness before the rest of the body goes through the wilderness. Moses went through a wilderness to die to self, so that he would be prepared to bring God's people through the wilderness and to the mountain of God where he had already gone. That's what God told Moses. **(Exo.3:12) And he said, Certainly I will be with thee; and this shall be the token unto thee, that I have sent thee: when thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall serve God upon this mountain.** Moses' job as the first-fruits to come out of Egypt, to come out of the world, was to bring God's people to that same mountain to serve God. And, just as David was as God, those who served David also became as God. God is coming to the earth, folks. Not in the way that most of the apostate church recognizes, but He is coming and He is coming in His people. He's not going to have any problem with the nations, any more than God has any problem with the nations in the days to come.

God bless you and may the Lord live in you.

CHAPTER FOUR

Rule Thou in the Midst of Thy Enemies

As we study, we've been discovering how the Lord is going to manifest Himself in His people and lead them through the coming wilderness, much like He manifested Himself through Moses, who was used of God to bring God's people through the wilderness. History just keeps repeating. ***(Ecc.1:9) That which hath been is that which shall be; and that which hath been done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun.*** We've learned that God is going to use a ministry in this day that is a corporate body of "Davids," not necessarily that their name is "David," but they are a corporate body of people who will have walked in the steps of David and have been given authority and leadership. This is wonderful because God's people are so confused in these days. It's good that God is not going to bring these things upon us without His guidance and His shepherdship.

I want to share some more with you about how God is going to be coming and living in His people, manifesting through His people. ***(Psa.110:1) The Lord saith unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, Until I make thine enemies thy footstool.*** So the Lord Jesus is sitting at the right hand of the Father, until the Father makes the enemies of Jesus the footstool of Jesus. You know, there's a doctrine out there that the Lord Jesus is physically coming back any minute for His saints, but that doesn't agree with the Bible. ***(Act.2:34) For David ascended not into the heavens: but he saith himself, The Lord said unto my Lord*** (Meaning, of course, the Father said unto

Jesus.), ***Sit thou on my right hand, (35) Till I make thine enemies the footstool of thy feet.*** This doesn't say that the Lord is coming back before He's been given dominion over all of our enemies. It says that He's sitting at the right hand of the Father until this happens. And another verse says, ***(Act.3:19) Repent ye therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, that so there may come seasons of refreshing from the presence of the Lord; (20) and that he may send the Christ who hath been appointed for you, [even] Jesus: (21) whom the heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all, whereof God spake by the mouth of His holy prophets that have been from of old.*** Notice Jesus is seated at the right hand of the Father, until His enemies are made the footstool of His feet, and He's seated in the heavens until the time of the restoration of all. I know that your versions say "until the times of the restoration of all things," but there is a rule of thumb about the use of the word "things" in the Scriptures: If it makes sense, then leave it in and, if it destroys what's being taught there, then take it out. There is no numeric pattern in the Greek text for the word "things" in that verse and, in this case, it doesn't make any sense that God is going to restore "all things." He is restoring "all," as He said over and over in the book of Joel. ***(Joe.2:23) Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the Lord your God; for he giveth you the former rain in just measure, and he causeth to come down for you the rain, the former rain and the latter rain, in the first [month]. (24) And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the vats shall overflow with new wine and oil. (25) And I will restore to you the years***

that the locust hath eaten, the canker-worm, and the caterpillar, and the palmer-worm, my great army which I sent among you. The rain of the Holy Spirit is going to be poured out in order to bring about this restoration of God's people, not things.

The heavens have received Jesus, physically, until the time of the restoration of all. **(1Co.15:21) For since by man [came] death, by man [came] also the resurrection of the dead. (22) For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. (23) But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits** (This is because, obviously, Christ was resurrected and is alive.); **then they that are Christ's, at his coming.** So there's one more resurrection of the righteous dead. **(24) Then [cometh] the end** (Notice, "they that are Christ's, at His coming, then cometh the end," not seven years before the end.), **when he shall deliver up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have abolished all rule and all authority and power. (25) For he must reign, till he hath put all his enemies under his feet. (26) The last enemy that shall be abolished is death.** The Bible tells us that Jesus is not going to return until the restoration of all and until all His enemies are put under His feet. The last enemy that has to be put under His feet is death. That tells us Jesus is not coming until the resurrection of the dead and the rapture because that's when death, which is the last enemy, will have been conquered. **(1Th.4:14) For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also that are fallen asleep in Jesus will God bring with him. (15) For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we that are alive, that are left unto the coming of**

the Lord, shall in no wise precede them that are fallen asleep. (16) For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven, with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first; (17) then we that are alive, that are left, shall together with them be caught up in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

We see that Jesus is not coming physically until the time of the resurrection and the rapture, when all things are in subjection under his feet, as the Scripture says: ***(Eph1:20) Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and made him to sit at his right hand in the heavenly [places], (21) far above all rule, and authority, and power, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: (22) and he put all things in subjection under his feet, and gave him to be head over all things to the church, (23) which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.*** We know from Revelation that at the last trump, which is the resurrection and rapture, the kingdom of this world becomes the Kingdom of our Lord. ***(Rev.11:15) And the seventh angel sounded; and there followed great voices in heaven*** (Why? It's because this is the time of the resurrection and rapture.), ***and they said, The kingdom of the world is become the kingdom of our Lord, and of his Christ: and he shall reign for ever and ever.*** So everything has been put under His feet and now the world is His Kingdom. He has taken personal control over the world at this time, not at the first trump in a pre-Tribulation rapture,

but at the last trump, which is exactly when the Bible says it will happen. Here is Jesus coming and taking authority and He is going to return when the last enemy, which is death, has been put under His feet and He has restored all of His people. By the resurrection and rapture, every one of God's people who is elect, but who has gone astray in the world, is going to be restored. Jesus will not come until the "restoration of all"!

If Jesus physically has not come during the whole Tribulation period, how is He going to do what He's going to do? That's what I want to point out to you. **(Psa.110:2) *The Lord will send forth the rod of thy strength out of Zion....*** Notice it's not the Lord personally, but the "rod of His strength" that is coming out of Zion. We saw in verse 1 that Jesus is not coming back at the beginning of the Tribulation period. He's sitting right next to the Father and is waiting until all of His enemies are made the footstool of His feet, so how is He coming back, if He is not coming back physically? Well, we've seen already that He is coming in His David ministry, He's coming in His Two Witnesses ministry, He's coming in the fivefold ministry and He's coming in His people because they are offering themselves as His vessels to bring this to pass. He is being manifested in them by the power of the Holy Spirit. That's what the Lord has been showing us so far and I want to point out to you that it's continuing to say that in our text here. Remember we saw in the previous chapter that the overcomers in Revelation 2 are the Man-child of Revelation 12 and they're going to rule with a rod of iron. **(Rev.2:26) *And he that overcometh, and he that keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give authority over the nations: (27) and he shall rule***

them with a rod of iron, as the vessels of the potter are broken to shivers; as I also have received of my Father. (12:4) And his tail draweth the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon standeth before the woman that is about to be delivered, that when she is delivered he may devour her child. (5) And she was delivered of a son, a man child, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and unto his throne. The Man-child is the David ministry and “the rod of thy strength out of Zion.” Zion, of course, is referring to New Testament spiritual Zion, not corrupt fallen Zion.

(Psa.110:2) The Lord will send forth the rod of thy strength out of Zion: Rule thou (“Thou” here is referring to Jesus manifesting in His people.) ***in the midst of thine enemies.*** How is God going to rule in the midst of His enemies? We’ve seen Jesus is not coming personally to this earth, but God is coming in His leadership out of Zion and that leadership is in the midst of their enemies. The Lord is not in the midst of His enemies. The Lord is seated next to the Father, waiting for His enemies to be made the footstool of His feet, so how are His enemies going to be made His footstool? What is He going to use to do that? He’s going to use the new leadership that He is sending. ***(Psa.110:3) Thy people offer themselves willingly In the day of thy power....*** How does the power of Jesus come to this earth, folks? He said, ***(Act.1:8) But ye shall receive power, when the Holy Spirit is come upon you: and ye shall be my witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea and Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.*** The

Holy Spirit, by the power of God, manifests Jesus Christ in us through the Word. He is using the Word, as Jesus said: ***(Joh.16:13) Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he shall guide you into all the truth: for he shall not speak from himself; but what things soever he shall hear, [these] shall he speak: and he shall declare unto you the things that are to come. (14) He shall glorify me: for he shall take of mine, and shall declare [it] unto you. (15) All things whatsoever the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he taketh of mine, and shall declare [it] unto you.***

(Psa.110:3) Thy people offer themselves willingly In the day of thy power, in holy array (or, “in the beauty of holiness”): ***Out of the womb of the morning Thou hast the dew of thy youth.*** Well, He’s been speaking of the Lord’s power manifested through man in order to do His will in the midst of His enemies. And now He says, “Out of the womb of the morning He has ... His youth.” What does that mean? We know that when Jesus was birthed as the Man-child of His day, God used Him to bring about the will of God in restoring God’s people, in bringing the former rain and so on and so forth. Now we’re coming to the “womb of the morning”; we’re at the “morning” of the third 1,000-year day, which is the time of the latter rain when the same thing is going to happen, except it’s going to happen around the world because God’s people are around the world. Jesus said, ***(Joh.16:21) A woman when she is in travail hath sorrow, because her hour is come: but when she is delivered of the child, she remembereth no more the anguish, for the joy that a man is born into the world. (22) And***

ye therefore now have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no one taketh away from you. The “woman” was in joy that a child was born into the world and here Jesus is saying that He is that child. “I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice.” Folks, we are that “woman” who is bringing forth this Man-child and that’s how the Lord is coming. When is He going to come to us? He tells us, ***(Hos.6:2) After two days will he revive us: on the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live before him. (3) And let us know, let us follow on to know the Lord: his going forth is sure as the morning; and he will come unto us as the rain, as the latter rain that watereth the earth.*** So the Lord says He’s coming to us, but we know He is sitting next to the Father and He’s not coming until the last trump. We just read that; it’s very, very plain. Now we see that He is being born out of the womb of the woman on the morning of the third day.

Back in our text, what does He mean by “Thou hast the dew of thy youth”? The Lord is coming as He did in His youth. You know, Jesus was a young man in the flesh when He was “cut off out of the land of the living,” wasn’t He? ***(Isa.53:8) By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who [among them] considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living for the transgression of my people to whom the stroke [was due]?*** Once again, Jesus is coming to be manifested in His people to continue this work. That was His plan, to be “Immanuel,” to be “God with us.” And He said, “Rule thou in the midst of thine enemies.” In our day, through His leadership and

through His people, Jesus is going to bring down the Harlot, the Beast and the False Prophet that are living and acting in the midst of God's people. I'm not talking about the people of the world here. When Jesus comes back, He's given total dominion: ***(Rev.11:15) And the seventh angel sounded; and there followed great voices in heaven, and they said, The kingdom of the world is become the kingdom of our Lord, and of his Christ: and he shall reign for ever and ever.*** And He goes on to have the great and terrible Day of the Lord. ***(18) And the nations were wroth, and thy wrath came, and the time of the dead to be judged, and the time to give their reward to thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and to them that fear thy name, the small and the great; and to destroy them that destroy the earth.*** The nations are under His feet from that time on. They are serving Him in everything, even as He is bringing destruction to them.

(Psa.110:4) The Lord hath sworn, and will not repent: Thou art a priest for ever After the order of Melchizedek. A lot of people believe that the order of Melchizedek ended with Jesus, but it didn't. An order is not just two; the order is still ongoing. So who was Melchizedek? ***(Heb.7:1) For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of God Most High, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him, (2) to whom also Abraham divided a tenth part of all (being first, by interpretation, King of righteousness, and then also King of Salem, which is King of peace; (3) without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made***

like unto the Son of God), abideth a priest continually. “Without father, without mother, without genealogy ... but made like unto the of the Son of God.” How was Melchizedek “made like unto the Son of God”? Well, how was Jesus “without father, without mother, without genealogy”? Only the Son of God on the inside was without father, without mother and without genealogy; the son of man outside had a mother, so when we say “without father, without mother, without genealogy,” we are talking about earthly genealogy. Jesus, the Son of God, dwelt in the son of man. You see, Melchizedek was a theophany, which is “a visible manifestation to humankind of God.” He was man but God was on the inside. God on the inside had no earthly genealogy, no earthly father, no earthly mother, no earthly heritage. Is that not true of God’s people today? Your spiritual man is born from above and has no earthly genealogy whatsoever. Your carnal man, which does not inherit the Kingdom of Heaven, has an earthly genealogy.

The order of Melchizedek is a priesthood which is coming as a repetition of Jesus’ ministry 2,000 years ago. Jesus was of the order of Melchizedek. The Bible tells us He’s coming back once again in His Man-child with the latter rain anointing to repeat the former rain, except this time it will be with more power and all around the world. ***(Psa.110:4) The Lord hath sworn, and will not repent: Thou art a priest for ever After the order of Melchizedek.*** In other words, Jesus is the theophany who lives in this corporate Man-child body. Let me point out to you that the Bible clearly teaches this: ***(2Co.3:18) But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord***

the Spirit. We accept that Christ lives in us; that's why we see Him in the mirror. ***(Gal.2:20) I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I that live, but Christ living in me: and that [life] which I now live in the flesh I live in faith, [the faith] which is in the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself up for me.*** That's the Gospel, folks! We no longer live; Christ lives in us. And as we behold in the mirror the glory of the Lord, we're being transformed into that same image from glory to glory. We continue to hold fast to that until God brings it to pass. There are bodies on this earth that are going to be inhabited by Christ. In fact, every one of you who is bearing fruit 30-, 60- and 100-fold, that's the percentage of Christ who lives in you. Praise be to God!

Then our text goes on to say what happens after this period of time: ***(Psa.110:5) The Lord at thy right hand Will strike through kings in the day of his wrath.*** So now we see the Lord leaving the right hand of the Father to strike through His enemies in the day of wrath, which is after the last trump. ***(6) He will judge among the nations, He will fill [the places] with dead bodies.*** All the way up until the end of the Tribulation period, God, manifesting in His people, will be bringing judgment. That's God's plan. For instance, we've seen that, ***(Isa.40:10) Behold, the Lord God will come as a mighty one, and his arm will rule for him....*** We know that in Jesus' day, He was the arm of the Lord, but, also, in our day, He is the arm of the Lord. He is manifesting Himself in people today as, for instance, He was manifested in Moses as the arm of the Lord in his day. And now we see here, ***(Isa.40:10) Behold, the Lord God will come as a mighty one, and his arm will rule for him: Behold, his reward***

is with him, and his recompense before him. And what's He going to do? **(11) He will feed his flock like a shepherd, he will gather the lambs in his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and will gently lead those that have their young.** God is raising up a new leadership that will care for His people.

(Isa.42:10) Sing unto the Lord a new song, and his praise from the end of the earth.... The Bible talks in Revelation about a new song being sung before the throne of God: **(Rev.14:1) And I saw, and behold, the Lamb standing on the mount Zion, and with him a hundred and forty and four thousand, having his name, and the name of his Father, written on their foreheads. (2) And I heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder: and the voice which I heard [was] as [the voice] of harpers harping with their harps: (3) and they sing as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four living creatures and the elders: and no man could learn the song save the hundred and forty and four thousand, even they that had been purchased out of the earth. (4) These are they that were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These [are] they that follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were purchased from among men, [to be] the firstfruits unto God and unto the Lamb.** The 144,000, who are called "the firstfruits unto God and unto the lamb," are singing this new song before the throne of God; so, in other words, they are singing unto the Lord a new song. These people who are the first-fruits unto God are also the same people who are the Man-child in Revelation 12. **(Rev.12:5)**

And she was delivered of a son, a man child, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and unto his throne. So this is speaking about the Lord coming in His people once again. ***(Isa.42:10) Sing unto the Lord a new song and his praise from the end of the earth; ye that go down to the sea, and all that is therein, the isles, and the inhabitants thereof. (11) Let the wilderness*** (Of course, we know the wilderness is the Tribulation, according to Revelation 12 and 17.) ***and the cities thereof lift up [their voice], the villages that Kedar doth inhabit; let the inhabitants of Sela sing, let them shout from the top of the mountains. (12) Let them give glory unto the Lord, and declare his praise in the islands. (13) The Lord will go forth as a mighty man....*** The Lord is not a man, is He? What was human of the Lord is now gone; flesh and blood did not inherit the Kingdom of God. ***(1Co.15:50) Now this I say, brothers, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither does corruption inherit incorruption.*** He has a glorified body and He is purely and completely the Son of God.

During this time we are talking about, until the end of the Tribulation, “the Lord will go forth.” No, He’s not going to personally leave the right hand of the Father, but ***(Isa.42:13) The Lord will go forth as a mighty man; he will stir up [his] zeal like a man of war: he will cry, yea, he will shout aloud; he will do mightily against his enemies.*** There is a battle going on in this earth between the saints and the Beast that is making war on the saints. We know it’s not a physical warfare the saints are waging, but it’s a spiritual one. ***(Eph.6:12) For***

our wrestling is not against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual [hosts] of wickedness in the heavenly [places]. (13) Wherefore take up the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and, having done all, to stand. (14) Stand therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, (15) and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; (16) withal taking up the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the evil [one]. (17) And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: (18) with all prayer and supplication praying at all seasons in the Spirit, and watching thereunto in all perseverance and supplication for all the saints. The saints have the “sword of the Spirit,” they have the defense of the Word of God and they are not under the curse. ***(Isa.42:14) I have long time holden my peace; I have been still*** (In Hosea, we learned it was for two 1,000-year days that He had been still. He returned on the morning of the third 1,000-year day, which is where we are now.), ***and refrained myself: [now] will I cry out like a travailing woman.*** When does this start? When is the Lord going forth as a mighty man? It’s when the “woman” is in travail. It’s when God in His people is crying out, bringing forth the birth of the Man-child. Oh, glory to God!

I think a really good example of the Lord going forth as a mighty man would probably be David, whom the Lord

chose to replace Saul. **(1Sa.16:1) And the Lord said unto Samuel, How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from being king over Israel?** Saul was a man who had been given authority by God but he walked in self-will. The Lord knew it was going to happen and He wanted to teach His people a lesson. He didn't want them to have a king; He wanted them to be led by Him through His prophets, but, instead, they wanted a king like all the other nations. So God said, "Okay, I'll give you a king, but here's what's going to happen to you," and He warned them through Samuel what kind of king they were going to get (1 Samuel 8:7-18). Saul was a good-looking man but he was big in the flesh. **(1Sa.9:2) ... Saul, a young man and a goodly: and there was not among the children of Israel a goodlier person than he: from this shoulders and upward he was higher than any of the people.** The people were very proud of Saul, even though it turned out that he wasn't submissive to the Lord. You know, the Lord told me many years ago, "I'm moving the Sauls out of the way and I'm making room for the Davids." He told me about a group of Davids who were coming on the scene who were going to take the real authority in the Kingdom. **(1Sa.16:1) And the Lord said unto Samuel, How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from being king over Israel? fill thy horn with oil, and go: I will send thee to Jesse the Beth-lehemite; for I have provided me a king among his sons. (6) And it came to pass, when they were come, that he looked on Eliab....** This is the first of the eight sons of Jesse, David being the eighth. Keep in mind that Samuel had anointed Saul to be king, a man who was tall and good-looking, but

he wasn't holy and he certainly didn't stay submissive to the Lord. This is the kind of king that Samuel thought the Lord was going to choose again. **(1Sa.16:6) And it came to pass, when they were come, that he looked on Eliab, and said, Surely the Lord's anointed is before him. (7) But the Lord said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have rejected him: for the [Lord seeth] not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart.**

What was God trying to show His people? **(Zec.4:6) ... Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts.** It's not by man's might. "The Lord will go forth as a mighty man," and we noticed in Psalm 110 that it was His might and His power that was ruling in the midst of His enemies, not man. It was not anybody who is supremely gifted, but God's power and His anointing coming upon man. Even Saul was turned into another man when the Holy Spirit came upon him (1 Samuel 10:6). Now we see that God is not looking for somebody this time who is big in the flesh, as Saul was. So Samuel went on through Jesse's sons and when he came to the last one, Samuel perceived from the Lord that none of these big, muscular, sturdy-looking men was the one whom God had chosen. **(1Sa.16:11) And Samuel said unto Jesse, Are here all thy children? And he said, There remaineth yet the youngest, and, behold, he is keeping the sheep.** (The Lord said, "Don't look on their outward appearance"; God looks on the heart. God saw something in this youngest son.) **And Samuel said unto Jesse, Send and fetch him; for we will not sit down**

till he come hither. (12) And he sent, and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and withal of a beautiful countenance, and goodly to look upon. And the Lord said, Arise, anoint him; for this is he. (13) Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. So Samuel rose up, and went to Ramah. (14) Now the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the Lord troubled him. God was moving the Sauls out of the way here and taking away what anointing they did have. This time He anointed little David, not the big strapping Saul. He anointed a young shepherd boy who was weak in himself and needed the power of God to come upon him. And so the first thing we find when Saul was given over to this evil spirit, is that they sought for someone to play the harp for him to calm the demon spirit. They found David, the son of Jesse, who was anointed of the Lord to do this work (1 Samuel 16:14-23). Folks, the great work that David did had nothing to do with who he was personally; it was the Spirit of the Lord who came mightily upon a young shepherd boy. God picked this young boy to prove that it's "Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts."

A mighty work happened through David in the very next chapter and that is he slew Goliath the giant. Everybody was shocked, but they probably didn't perceive in the spirit what was happening because this is a parable for us today. ***(1Sa.17:50) So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and with a stone, and smote the Philistine, and slew him; but there was no sword in the hand of David.*** Little David, with what I would say

is the least of weapons, conquered the mighty warrior Goliath. You know, when I was young, I made a sling and I practiced and practiced with it, and I learned it can be very powerful. A three-foot sling with a fairly heavy stone in it will knock a pretty good dent in a tree. I used to practice on the white picket fence that went across my dad's front yard to see if I could hit that fence and, after a while, I got to where I could hit it, and pretty hard, too. It doesn't surprise me a bit that a sling would fell a great giant like this. The only problem with a sling is hitting a target as narrow as between a man's eyes, but, amazingly, that's exactly what David did. Another amazing thing is what this giant represents. **(1Sa.17:4) And there went out a champion out of the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span.** Notice that: "six cubits." It mentions, by the way, a total of six pieces of weaponry and armor. **(5) And he had a helmet of brass** (that's one) **upon his head, and he was clad with a coat of mail** (that's two); **and the weight of the coat was five thousand shekels of brass. (3) And he had greaves of brass upon his legs** (that's three), **and a javelin of brass between his shoulders** (that's four). **(7) And the staff of his spear** (that's five) **was like a weaver's beam; and his spear's head [weighed] six hundred shekels of iron: and his shield-** (that's six) **bearer went before him.** So we see here 666. What do you think this giant represented? Little David, who had no personal power of his own but was mightily anointed of the Holy Spirit, conquered this giant for the people of Israel. And when he conquered this giant, all of the people of Israel were freed from the bondage of the Beast kingdom of the Philistines, which Goliath

represented. Why did God pick little David? (**2Co.12:9**) ***And he hath said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my power is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.*** God's power is made perfect in our weakness. You see, folks, it's not the little Davids, it's the big God on the inside. It's the power of the Holy Spirit that is going to be upon these relatively weak people whom God is going to use. It is the Lord who is coming to do this work, folks, not personally, but manifested in His people.

We also see this 666 giant described in Daniel and what was it? (**Dan.3:1**) ***Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, whose height was threescore cubits (that's 60 cubits), and the breadth thereof six cubits: he set it up in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon.*** [Ed.Note: The following portion in italics is excerpted from the book, *Hidden Manna for the End Times*, which is available at ubm1.org without charge.] *The image was on the plain of Dura, which in Hebrew means "circle" and "dwelling," symbolizing the world, which has a gematria of 600. Notice that the kingdoms of the world make up the full measure of the Beast: 600+60+6 = 666.* It was an image of a great man and the image represented all of the kingdoms of the world and the peoples within them, all the way down to our day. It was the image of the Beast and there it was also 666. It's amazing that little David here is a type and shadow of something that is going to happen in the end of days.

Notice how God did not choose a big man who had a lot of power, but He chose a man with heart. "God looketh on the heart." No doubt David was holy, but he had no power

to save his people out of the hand of the Beast. That was something God was going to have to do, “and the Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward.” **(1Sa.17:40) And he took his staff in his hand, and chose him five smooth stones out of the brook, and put them in the shepherd’s bag which he had, even in his wallet; and his sling was in his hand: and he drew near to the Philistine.** We are supposed to be exercising our senses to discern good and evil, but how do we do that? Well, Paul tells us, **(Heb.5:13) For every one that partaketh of milk is without experience of the word of righteousness; for he is a babe. (14) But solid food is for fullgrown men** (Fullgrown men experience the Word of righteousness.), **[even] those who by reason of use** (That is, they use the Word of God; they apply it to their life.) **have their senses exercised to discern good and evil.** Our five senses need to become spiritual and powerful in God. We exercise them with the Word of God. **(Jas.1:22) But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deluding your own selves.** The Word of God is what gives us spiritual senses; it gives us spiritual eyes, spiritual ears and so on and so forth.

We see that David chose five stones that had been smoothed by the water of the brook, which represents the five senses having been exercised by the Word of God. **(Eph.5:26) That he might sanctify it, having cleansed it by the washing of water with the word.** If you take a rough stone and throw it into the water, eventually the water washing over it and banging it around against the other stones will smooth it out and make it perfect for a sling. Then David went on to boldly profess something he had no power at all to bring to pass and he knew

it! The “stone” David was using was the tongue. The tongue can taste, but it also speaks. **(Rom.10:8) But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach: (9) because if thou shalt confess with thy mouth Jesus [as] Lord, and shalt believe in thy heart that God raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved: (10) for with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.** His faith was in God. **(1Sa.17:45) Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a javelin: but I come to thee in the name of the Lord of hosts....** That’s something that even the very youngest and smallest of us can do. It doesn’t prove any personal power; it proves Spiritual power. **(45) Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a javelin: but I come to thee in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied.** We know that when the world comes against the Word of God, they are doomed; the curse is upon them. The Beast kingdom is doomed to fall and God is going to use something as small as David to bring it to its end.

(1Sa.17:46) This day will the Lord deliver thee into my hand.... David was very bold in his speech, wasn’t he? God has given a very powerful weapon to each of us: if we believe in our heart and confess with our mouth, God brings it to pass. When we are bold to confess before men what has been promised to us in the Word, then Jesus will confess us before the Father. **(Mat.10:32) Every one therefore who shall confess me before men,**

him will I also confess before my Father who is in heaven. When we boldly come against His enemies, God is in it and His power is with us. **(1Sa.17:46) This day will the Lord deliver thee into my hand; and I will smite thee, and take thy head from off thee** (Now this was the Spirit of the Lord talking here because David had no way of knowing this. It was the anointing of God upon him.); **and I will give the dead bodies of the host of the Philistines this day unto the birds of the heavens, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel, (47) and that all this assembly may know that the Lord saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the Lord's, and he will give you into our hand.** As you know, it came to pass exactly the way he said it. That one "stone" was all that he needed to bring down Goliath; that Word of faith that he spoke was all he needed to bring down this Beast kingdom. **(51) Then David ran, and stood over the Philistine, and took his sword, and drew it out of the sheath thereof, and slew him, and cut off his head therewith. And when the Philistines saw that their champion was dead, they fled.** He was just a youth, as Saul called him, and yet God used him to bring down this kingdom. He was small in comparison to the Sauls. Folks, God's not looking for man's might or man's wisdom. He's looking for a true heart that He can use. He's looking for a people who are in agreement with His Word, a people who speak the Word, a people who know who they are in Jesus Christ. God's might will be their might and so the *Davids* will prevail. Notice how God brought down this Beast kingdom by using what would give glory only to God Himself. His power was made

perfect in man's weakness. No one could take credit for it. You know, the Man-child ministry will be a great ministry because of God's anointing upon it. It's going to be the Lord Himself, manifested in these people, that is going to bring this to pass.

Another example is in the story of Samson. You know, people like to give a lot of credit to Samson. In all the kiddie comics and Hollywood movies, they always portray him as a mighty man in the natural with muscles rippling all over him, but that's as far from the story and the truth as is possible. I'd like to begin where we find that the men of Judah didn't want to fight with the Philistines. The Philistines were coming against them because Samson had made a great slaughter among them. Well, 3,000 men of Judah went to Samson, ***(Jdg.15:12) And they said unto him, We are come down to bind thee, that we may deliver thee into the hand of the Philistines. And Samson said unto them, Swear unto me, that ye will not fall upon me yourselves. (13) And they spake unto him, saying, No; but we will bind thee fast, and deliver thee into their hand: but surely we will not kill thee. And they bound him with two new ropes, and brought him up from the rock. (14) When he came unto Lehi (which means "jawbone"), the Philistines shouted as they met him: and the Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon him, and the ropes that were upon his arms became as flax that was burnt with fire, and his bands dropped from off his hands. (15) And he found a fresh jawbone of an ass, and put forth his hand, and took it, and smote a thousand men therewith.*** Folks, I don't care how strong you are, there's no way one man is

going to conquer 1,000 men without the Spirit of the Lord. In himself, Samson really had no strength whatsoever. It was the Spirit of the Lord who gave him this strength. We are not giving credit to men when we talk about the great move of God that is coming upon the world. The credit all goes to the Lord. ***(Jdg.15:16) And Samson said, With the jawbone of an ass, heaps upon heaps, With the jawbone of an ass have I smitten a thousand men.*** Wow! The Philistine Beast was slain here with the jawbone of an ass.

Why would God use a jawbone? Isn't the jawbone what we use when we speak? Notice that God used David to speak those words of faith and bring down that Beast kingdom. ***(1Sa.17:46) This day will the Lord deliver thee into my hand; and I will smite thee, and take thy head from off thee; and I will give the dead bodies of the host of the Philistines this day unto the birds of the heavens, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel, (47) and that all this assembly may know that the Lord saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the Lord's, and he will give you into our hand.*** Now we see Samson, somebody whom a lot of people credit with great physical strength, yet he was just like any other man until the Spirit of the Lord came upon him, and then he used the jawbone of an ass to smite 1,000 Philistines. What could the jawbone of an ass symbolize? Well, I don't know if you know much about asses, but they are not generally credited with having a whole lot of intelligence or a great vocabulary. It doesn't appear to me that Samson was a very smart person. He didn't seem to necessarily be making the wisest choices and isn't that

just like many of us before, and even after, we come to the Lord? However, just like God used young David to speak those words, He used the jawbone of an ass here to bring down this Beast kingdom.

By the way, we know in the natural that Samson didn't look like a strong person. When the Philistines bribed Delilah to find out the secret of his strength, it wasn't because they thought he had big muscles; it was a secret. And when Delilah did ultimately wear down Samson to find out what his secret was, his secret was that he was a Nazirite from his mother's womb (Judges 13:2-7) and so his hair had never been cut. ***(Num.6:1) And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, (2) Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When either man or woman shall make a special vow, the vow of a Nazirite, to separate himself unto the Lord, (3) he shall separate himself from wine and strong drink; he shall drink no vinegar of wine, or vinegar of strong drink, neither shall he drink any juice of grapes, nor eat fresh grapes or dried. (4) All the days of his separation shall he eat nothing that is made of the grape-vine, from the kernels even to the husk. (5) All the days of his vow of separation there shall no razor come upon his head: until the days be fulfilled, in which he separateth himself unto the Lord, he shall be holy; he shall let the locks of the hair of his head grow long. (6) All the days that he separateth himself unto the Lord he shall not come near to a dead body. (7) He shall not make himself unclean for his father, or for his mother, for his brother, or for his sister, when they die; because his separation unto God is***

upon his head. (8) All the days of his separation he is holy unto the Lord.

Samson's long hair was a symbol of his submission to the Lord and, in the New Testament, we see that the "woman," symbolizing the Church, was given long hair as a sign of her submission to her "husband," who is the Lord. ***(1Co.11:3) But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God. (4) Every man praying or prophesying, having his head covered, dishonoreth his head. (5) But every woman praying or prophesying with her head unveiled dishonoreth her head; for it is one and the same thing as if she were shaven. (6) For if a woman is not veiled, let her also be shorn: but if it is a shame to a woman to be shorn or shaven, let her be veiled. (7) For a man indeed ought not to have his head veiled, forasmuch as he is the image and glory of God: but the woman is the glory of the man. (8) For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man: (9) for neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man: (10) for this cause ought the woman to have [a sign of] authority on her head, because of the angels. (11) Nevertheless, neither is the woman without the man, nor the man without the woman, in the Lord. (12) For as the woman is of the man, so is the man also by the woman; but all things are of God. (13) Judge ye in yourselves: is it seemly that a woman pray unto God unveiled? (14) Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a dishonor to him? (15)***

But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for her hair is given her for a covering.

Samson's strength was in the fact that he was submitted to the Lord. If he lost his submission, he would lose his strength. (***Jdg.16:15***) ***And she*** (Delilah) ***said unto him, How canst thou say, I love thee, when thy heart is not with me? thou hast mocked me these three times, and hast not told me wherein thy great strength lieth. (16) And it came to pass, when she pressed him daily with her words, and urged him, that his soul was vexed unto death. (17) And he told her all his heart, and said unto her, There hath not come a razor upon my head; for I have been a Nazirite unto God from my mother's womb: if I be shaven, then my strength will go from me, and I shall become weak, and be like any other man.*** He foolishly gave Delilah the revelation that if his hair was cut off, he would lose his strength and he would be weak like any other man. So, in other words, he wasn't strong at all! All those pictures you see in the comic strips and the movies don't make any sense because Samson was just a normal man. He had no strength beyond any other man and, yet, with the jawbone of an ass he slaughtered a 1,000 Philistines because the Spirit of the Lord came upon him. (***19***) ***And she made him sleep upon her knees; and she called for a man, and shaved off the seven locks of his head; and she began to afflict him, and his strength went from him. (20) And she said, The Philistines are upon thee, Samson. And he awoke out of his sleep, and said, I will go out as at other times, and shake myself free. But he knew not that the Lord was departed from him. (21) And the***

Philistines laid hold on him, and put out his eyes; and they brought him down to Gaza, and bound him with fetters of brass; and he did grind in the prison-house. (22) Howbeit the hair of his head began to grow again after he was shaven. The Philistines did one foolish thing, though: they didn't shave him every day. Well, after that, an even greater work was done through Samson because when he lost his eyes, then he wasn't walking by sight at all.

(Jdg.16:23) And the lords of the Philistines gathered them together to offer a great sacrifice unto Dagon their god, and to rejoice; for they said, Our god hath delivered Samson our enemy into our hand. (24) And when the people saw him, they praised their god; for they said, Our god hath delivered into our hand our enemy, and the destroyer of our country, who hath slain many of us. They even called Samson the destroyer of their country! ***(28) And Samson called unto the Lord, and said, O Lord God, remember me, I pray thee, and strengthen me, I pray thee, only this once, O God, that I may be at once avenged of the Philistines for my two eyes.*** Samson asked of the Lord that His strength might be used through him one more time. So, spiritually speaking, he came back under the submission of the Lord with the anointing of the Spirit of the Lord and this time he killed more of the Philistines than he had killed in all his life. In fact, we don't really know how many he killed. ***(Jdg.16:27) Now the house was full of men and women; and all the lords of the Philistines were there; and there were upon the roof about three thousand men and women, that beheld while Samson made sport.***

If the house had 3,000 people on the roof, that means it probably could hold at least 3,000 in the building, so there could have been 6,000 people! **(29) And Samson took hold of the two middle pillars upon which the house rested, and leaned upon them, the one with his right hand, and the other with his left. (30) And Samson said, Let me die with the Philistines. And he bowed himself with all his might; and the house fell upon the lords, and upon all the people that were therein. So the dead that he slew at his death were more than they that he slew in his life.** This is one man in the power of the Holy Spirit! How many people did we lose on 9/11? There were 2,996 people killed and here one man brought down this temple and killed possibly 6,000. This was just a normal mortal man, not some super muscular bodybuilder or anything like that, until the Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon him.

Do you think the Spirit of the Lord can come mightily upon the people in the New Testament to tear down the Beast kingdom? I can tell you that before the Israelites left Egypt, God used Moses to speak the judgments that ruined the land of Egypt, which in type represented the world. **(Exo.10:3) And Moses and Aaron went in unto Pharaoh, and said unto him, Thus saith the Lord, the God of the Hebrews, How long wilt thou refuse to humble thyself before me? let my people go, that they may serve me. (7) And Pharaoh's servants said unto him, How long shall this man be a snare unto us? let the men go, that they may serve the Lord their God: knowest thou not yet that Egypt is destroyed?** And we've seen that God can use the jawbone of an ass or He can use the words spoken

by a simple shepherd boy to tear down Beast kingdoms. These are all types and shadows of what God is going to do in our day with men who physically have no strength or power and are greatly outnumbered by the Beast kingdom. God's Spirit is going to work miraculously through them in the spirit, not in the flesh, not by using physical things, but just by the spoken Word of God. They are going to be used to tear down the kingdom of this world, which is persecuting His saints. All these types and shadows are going to be fulfilled. Jesus said, ***(Mat.5:18) ... Till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass away from the law, till all things be accomplished.*** So God can and does use people who are weak in themselves, in order that His presence alone will do the work. ***(Isa.42:8) I am the Lord, that is my name; and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise unto graven images.*** Amen to that, folks!

CHAPTER FIVE

They that Wait for the Lord

We're seeing that Jesus is coming soon, but not necessarily in the way people think because He's coming to be manifested in His saints, as Paul said: ***(2Th.1:10) When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be marvelled at in all them that believed (because our testimony unto you was believed) in that day.*** He's coming to shepherd His sheep and He is going to lead us through the wilderness. Glory be to God! Father, in the name of Jesus, we thank You for what You are showing us, Lord. We thank You for the encouragement to know that You are going to be with us in that fiery furnace, Lord. You are going to be with us in the Tribulation trial, Lord. You are going to lead us through, like Moses led the flock, like Joseph prepared for the seven years of famine and like Jesus led and provided for the people through the wilderness tribulation in those days. Thank You, Father! Thank You! We trust You, Lord. We know this is going to be a great experience of coming into more and more of You, Lord, and we praise You for it. We praise You for it in Jesus' name, Father. Amen.

Folks, I'd like to point out to you that Isaiah 42 speaks somewhat about idolatry. Of course, it's a type and shadow of idolatry in the church today because ***(1Co.10:11) ... These things happened unto them by way of example; and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages are come.*** God says of those people who hold on to this idolatry, ***(Isa.40:24) Yea, they have not been planted; yea, they have***

not been sown; yea, their stock hath not taken root in the earth: moreover he bloweth upon them, and they wither, and the whirlwind taketh them away as stubble. So they will not be planted and will be put to shame. **(Isa.42:17) They shall be turned back, they shall be utterly put to shame, that trust in graven images, that say unto molten images, Ye are our gods** (This is the Hebrew word *elohiym*). Do you know, folks, that when Israel went into the wilderness, they called that molten image of a calf “God”? **(Exo.32:1) And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mount, the people gathered themselves together unto Aaron, and said unto him, Up, make us gods, which shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we know not what is become of him. (2) And Aaron said unto them, Break off the golden rings, which are in the ears of your wives, of your sons, and of your daughters, and bring them unto me. (3) And all the people brake off the golden rings which were in their ears, and brought them unto Aaron. (4) And he received it at their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool, and made it a molten calf: and they said, These are thy gods** (This is the same Hebrew word *elohiym*.), **O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.** Multitudes of Christians today are putting their trust in something that is not God, nor even godly. They’re trusting the institutions of men; they’re trusting the leadership of men. It’s an idol to them because they believe in those more than they believe in the Word of God, but God tells us that this is not going to preserve God’s people in the

time to come. Only God's power manifested in His people is going to preserve them.

(Isa.40:27) Why sayest thou, O Jacob, and speakest, O Israel, My way is hid from the Lord, and the justice [due] to me is passed away from my God? Sounds like one of the complaints of Job, doesn't it? There's no doubt that those people who misjudge what justice is in our day all believe that God has done wrong; or in the days to come will believe that God is doing wrong and that they don't deserve what they're going through. They don't understand this is talking about justice, as far as the Kingdom of Heaven is concerned, not as men see. On the earth, Christians don't think that they deserve the things that are coming their way, but what does God say? ***(Isa.40:6) The voice of one saying, Cry. and one said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodness thereof is as the flower of the field. (7) The grass withereth, the flower fadeth, because the breath of the Lord bloweth upon it; surely the people is grass. (8) The grass withereth, the flower fadeth; but the word of our God shall stand forever.*** Folks, "justice" is whatever is necessary to bring us into the Kingdom of God! We are not here to be compared with the world or to compare ourselves with the world, and we are not here to seek the justice of the world. Unjust things, as far as the world is going to be concerned, are going to happen to God's people, but they will not be unjust according to the Kingdom of God. The justice of God is never going to pass away. He has already spoken that this old flesh must die. Whatever we must go through to bring an end to this flesh and to grow up in Him is what we need for eternal life in the Kingdom. No, justice hasn't passed away from

God. We are to reckon the fiery trials we go through as a part of our Christianity. **(1Pe.4:12) Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial among you, which cometh upon you to prove you, as though a strange thing happened unto you.** It's not a strange thing that fiery trials come upon you to prove you; it is the justice of God. In the Kingdom of God, this old man has to die and therefore you go through suffering, not so that you physically die, but so that self dies. Our methods and our ways that we lean upon and trust in will come to an end.

(Isa.40:27) Why sayest thou, O Jacob, and speakest, O Israel, My way is hid from the Lord, and the justice [due] to me is passed away from my God? It does sound a lot like Job and God gives a similar answer as He gave to Job: **(Isa.40:28) Has thou not known? hast thou not heard? the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary, and there is no searching of His understanding.** God rebuked Job for judging Him and asked Job all these very deep questions (Job 38-41). *Where were you when I did this and that? Where were you when I created this? What makes you think you are wise enough to judge God?* Of course, Job repented in dust and ashes (Job 42:6), put his hand over his mouth (Job 40:3-5) and shut up because he understood that God's justice is the only justice. He is the ruler, He is the Creator and He's been faithful in creating our souls in the image of Jesus Christ. It's not according to what men see in the world as justice; that has nothing to do with what we are talking about here. We commit our souls into the hands of a faithful Creator; we trust in Him. **(1Pe.2:21) For hereunto were ye called: because**

Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, that ye should follow his steps: (22) who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: (23) who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously. We know He will keep us in everything we go through. Isaiah goes on to say, ***(Isa.40:29) He giveth power to the faint; and to him that hath no might he increaseth strength.*** What is this being “faint” or having no “might”? Isn’t it the place where the flesh is not ruling anymore? Isn’t it the place where your methods of the world are not there to help you anymore? Is God trying to wear us down, to cause us to give up on the methods of the world and the power of the world? Well, I’d say so. God told Paul, “My power is made perfect in weakness.” ***(2Co.12:9) And he hath said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for [my] power is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.*** The weakness of the old man, the weakness of the flesh, is the place of God’s power. His power comes on the scene when we learn to enter into weakness and enter into rest; His power comes when we cease from our works and trust in Him. ***(Isa.40:30) Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: (31) but they that wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; they shall walk, and not faint.***

Yes, “Even the youths shall faint and be weary.” Youths are known for their strength, they’re known for their en-

durance, they're known for their capability and yet God doesn't want any of that in us. It reminds me of how much young children want to be like dad and mom when they grow up. The boys want to put on Daddy's shoes and shuffle around in them. They act like their daddy and pretend that they're going to work, or pretend like they're cutting the grass, or whatever. They love to act like Daddy, but they can't yet fill his shoes. All their methods are very immature. Of course, Daddy looks on and he's tickled. He understands it's good that the child wants to be like Daddy, but he also knows there's not going to be much practicality in it until that child fills up those shoes and matures some. And what is our maturing but finding out that it's not our strength, our methods, our mind that brings this to pass? I woke early one morning, as usual, and started studying. I went into the kitchen after a while and I found a chair pulled up to the stove, and saw a frying pan on the stove with some remnants of egg in it. I have two granddaughters and they had spent the night at our house, and I knew they had cooked their eggs. They pulled up the chair and stood on it, and did what their nana does. Of course, she was very happy to show them how to cook the eggs, and they love that, but, again, it's not very practical until they can actually "fill up those shoes."

It reminds me a lot of what the Lord said to Peter. Peter was a very self-confident man, wasn't he? And Peter went through a very fiery trial when the Lord said that he was going to deny Him. **(Mat.26:33) But Peter answered and said unto him, If all shall be offended in thee, I will never be offended. (34) Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, that this night, before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. (35) Peter**

saith unto him, Even if I must die with thee, [yet] will I not deny thee. Likewise also said all the disciples. So Peter said, “Who, me? No, I’ll never do it, Lord; even if all of these do it, I won’t do it. I’ll go with You to death.” (***Mat.26:69***) ***Now Peter was sitting without in the court: and a maid came unto him, saying, Thou also wast with Jesus the Galilaeen. (70) But he denied before them all, saying, I know not what thou sayest. (71) And when he was gone out into the porch, another [maid] saw him, and saith unto them that were there, This man also was with Jesus of Nazareth. (72) And again he denied with an oath, I know not the man. (73) And after a little while they that stood by came and said to Peter, Of a truth thou also art [one] of them; for thy speech maketh thee known. (74) Then began he to curse and to swear, I know not the man. And straightway the cock crew. (75) And Peter remembered the word which Jesus had said, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. And he went out, and wept bitterly.*** He was very self-confident, but he failed miserably. Of course, he needed to fail miserably because he was depending upon his own strength to bring to pass the work of God. I once had a man tell me that he knew that the Lord could depend upon him. I thought, “No, I don’t think it works that way. I think the Lord really knows He can depend upon Himself. He knows He can’t depend upon us.” Peter thought that the Lord could depend upon him. Peter would be there; even if everybody else left, he would be there, but it didn’t work out that way. Peter found out the power of the enemy and he found out the weakness of self. And, you know, it was the best thing that could

ever happen to him. Well, the Lord tried Peter again after the fact: **(Joh.21:15) So when they had broken their fast, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, [son] of John, lovest** (The Greek word there is *agape*.) **thou more than these?** (But Peter didn't exactly give the right answer to Him.) **He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love** (The Greek word there is *phileo*.) **thee....** *Phileo* is what we would call "brotherly love"; it means "to have affection for." It's not the same kind of love at all. Suddenly, Peter wasn't as confident in his love for God. Why? That's because *agape* love is always connected in the Scriptures with obedience. Jesus said, **(Joh.14:15) If ye love (agape) me, ye will keep my commandments.** *Agape* means "preferring to live through Christ"; "Embracing God's will (choosing His choices) and obeying them through His power." So Peter wasn't convinced anymore that he was going to obey the Lord.

What Peter needed now, of course, was faith in the Lord. Peter didn't realize the problem was that he was still a "youth," a youth in the Lord, and God pointed that out to him: **(Joh.21:18) Verily, verily, I say unto thee, When thou wast young, thou girdedst thyself, and walkedst whither thou wouldest....** Isn't it that way? Most Christians don't walk in the Spirit; they walk after their mind. They walk like a child trying to fill the shoes of a grown-up. They walk with their mind and they try to serve God in the way they think He wants to be served, but really it's only God Who can serve God. Only He can please Himself. He's the only One He can count on. The only way to get Him inside of you is to humbly submit to His Word and His methods, and learn to trust in Him and not in your own strength. Peter was trusting in his own strength. He

needed to give up what youths have, which is plenty of personal strength, vitality, ingenuity and all those things. He needed to give them up, rest in the Lord and let God do His work in him. As a matter of fact, that's exactly what Jesus goes on to say: ***(Joh.21:18) Verily, verily, I say unto thee, When thou wast young, thou girdest thyself...*** Instead, we are told, ***(Rom.13:14) But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to [fulfil] the lusts [thereof]***. We are to put on the Lord Jesus Christ, which is His nature, His works and so on and so forth. When you gird yourself, it's self-righteousness, self-confidence, your own wisdom, your own strength. What has to happen is that we have to be worn down until we become weary enough to just give up on self and Peter here was showing weariness because he was losing confidence in self. ***(Joh.21:18) Verily, verily, I say unto thee, When thou wast young, thou girdest thyself, and walkedst whither thou wouldest: but when thou shalt be old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee*** (Wow! The Lord will put upon you His strength, His might and His wisdom and so on and so forth.), ***and carry thee whither thou wouldest not***. The Lord will carry you where you would not have gone and could not have gone, and He will do what you could not have done. Now God has dressed you up with Jesus Christ and you are not following Him with just your mind.

That's one of the main differences between people who are not filled with the Holy Spirit and those who are. Those who are have a deeper confidence in God, a better hearing of His voice and a better faith, as far as resting in Him to bring things to pass. People who aren't filled with the

Spirit are at the mercy of their minds. The non-Spirit-filled churches obviously think they have things pretty well figured out; they think they've figured out what God is going to do, so they've gone and done it. They don't rest in Him. Their whole structure is a man-made structure and most of the full-Gospel churches are, too. Their church government looks more like the government of the United States than it does the Biblical church government we read about in the Scriptures. ***(Eph.4:11) And he gave some [to be] apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; (12) for the perfecting of the saints, unto the work of ministering, unto the building up of the body of Christ: (13) till we all attain unto the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a full-grown man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: (14) that we may be no longer children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, in craftiness, after the wiles of error; (15) but speaking truth in love, we may grow up in all things into him, who is the head, [even] Christ; (16) from whom all the body fitly framed and knit together through that which every joint supplieth, according to the working in [due] measure of each several part, maketh the increase of the body unto the building up of itself in love.*** It's because they are following their mind and so they have the works of youth, not the works of maturity. It's not God dressing them up with the works of the Lord Jesus Christ.

(Joh.21:19) Now this he spake, signifying by what manner of death he should glorify God. We

have to die! We have to lose our life in order to gain our life. Jesus said, **(Luk.9:24) For whosoever would save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it.** Giving up the works of youth in order to rest in God is something we have to learn to do. We have to give up the works of youth and let God dress us up with His works, His wisdom, His ability. **(Joh.21:19) Now this he spake, signifying by what manner of death he should glorify God. And when he had spoken this, he saith unto him, Follow me. (20) Peter, turning about, seeth the disciple whom Jesus loved following; who also leaned back on his breast at the supper, and said, Lord, who is he that betrayeth thee? (21) Peter therefore seeing him saith to Jesus, Lord, and what shall this man do?** Well, again, Peter still had a little competition in him, but all these things of the flesh have to die in us. We have to give them up. We have to cease from walking as a child. What the Lord said unto Peter, He says unto all of us. When we mature, God is going to dress us up with Jesus Christ. When we give up our own self-efforts to bring it to pass, God does it in us. And remember what we just read: **(Isa.40:31) But they that wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles** (This means, of course, they will overcome the world like eagles overcome gravity. They will be overcomers.); **they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk, and not faint.** Oh, praise God!

I remember one time when I was a machinist many years ago and I was working on the third story of a building. I could go all the way to the other end of the building to ride the elevator up or I could go the quick way and take

the stairs that were on my side of the building. Well, I was in a hurry and the quick way was that three flights of stairs. After a while, you know, I became kind of weary. I would begin to move slower and slower going up and down those stairs for materials, tools and whatever. Then I remembered this verse that “they shall run and not be weary.” So I started confessing, “they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk, and not faint,” as I was going up and down those stairs. You know, the power of the Lord hit me one day when I was going up those stairs and I ran all the way to the top and wasn’t even short of breath. The power of God came upon me simply because I was confessing His Word. All the things I was doing in my own strength were just making me more and more tired, but I turned to the Lord and the Lord’s power came upon me.

(Isa.41:1) Keep silence before me, O islands; and let the peoples renew their strength... God is in control, folks, and He is going to make sure no one will be able to restrain the work of God in us. “They shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint,” and that is, of course, the people who are depending upon God’s power and not upon their own. Those who are depending upon their own power are “the youths” that “shall faint and be weary.” ***(Isa.41:1) Keep silence before me, O islands; and let the peoples renew their strength: let them come near; then let them speak; let us come near together to judgment.*** And I also like, ***(Isa.26:8) Yea, in the way of thy judgments, O Lord, have we waited for thee; to thy name, even to thy memorial [name,] is the desire of our soul.*** You see, we learn to wait on the Lord in times of judgment. That’s what this is talking about here — not going to judgment

but being in judgment. “Let us come near together to judgment.” When we learn to wait upon the Lord, we don’t become anxious and troubled. When we are depending upon our own strength, then it’s a different story. We have to do something, we have to handle it. We can’t just wait for God to bring to pass what we’ve prayed for because we’re not trusting Him. As long as you are trusting in yourself, you won’t see the power of God and “Even the youths shall faint and be weary.” You’ll only wear yourself out. God is saying that this maturity is His to give.

(Isa.41:2) Who hath raised up one from the east, whom he calleth in righteousness to his foot? I believe that this probably has a type and fulfillment in Cyrus, the king of the Medo-Persian empire, because God’s people were in bondage in Babylon and God used Cyrus to set them free to go back to their earthly “New Jerusalem.” Cyrus is also a type of Jesus Christ, who is going to come and visit His people. He will deliver them out of the hands of the Babylonish Harlot in Revelation 17 and 18 so they can go to their spiritual New Jerusalem (Revelation 3:12; 21:2). There is a type and shadow there, but Cyrus is also called God’s “anointed.” ***(Isa.45:1) Thus saith the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have holden, to subdue nations before him, and I will loose the loins of kings; to open the doors before him, and the gates shall not be shut.*** Cyrus represents the Christ because it is Jesus who is actually going to deliver His people out of bondage in Babylon to go to their spiritual New Jerusalem. If we see Jesus in this text here, I believe we will see something that will be beneficial to all of us. ***(Isa.41:2) Who hath raised up one from the east, whom he calleth in righteousness to his***

foot? he giveth nations before him, and maketh him rule over kings; he giveth them as the dust to his sword, as the driven stubble to his bow. We know the Lord is coming back this time as a Lion and not as a Lamb (Genesis 49:9-12; Hosea 5:14; Micah 5:8). And we see here that God has raised up “one from the east.” In a type and shadow, that is Jesus Christ whom God has raised up to conquer our enemies and, by the way, notice that He also conquers the enemies in us. As we saw in the previous chapter, the Lord Jesus is seated at the right hand of the Father, ***(Psa.110:1) ... Until I make thine enemies thy footstool.*** What does that mean? It means until God in His people has conquered all of His enemies, which is when the Bible says that His people will “reign upon the earth.” ***(Rev.5:9) And they sing a new song, saying, Worthy art thou to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou was slain, and didst purchase unto God with thy blood men of every tribe, and tongue, and people, and nation, (10) and madest them to be unto our God a kingdom and priests; and they reign upon the earth.*** God in His people will bring this to pass.

(Isa.41:2) Who hath raised up one from the east, whom he calleth in righteousness to his foot? he giveth nations before him, and maketh him rule over kings; he giveth them as the dust to his sword, as the driven stubble to his bow. In Revelation, the white horse rider also has a bow. ***(Rev.6:2) And I saw, and behold, a white horse, and he that sat thereon had a bow; and there was given unto him a crown: and he came forth conquering, and to conquer.*** I think most people believe that the white

horse rider is either some charismatic antichrist ruler or the *parousia*, the physical return of the Lord at the beginning of the Tribulation period. He's not coming in either of those ways, folks. He's coming as Moses came to deliver God's people out of Egypt and Moses came with judgment. When Moses brought those judgments upon the land of Egypt, God's people were set free and the first judgment that came was Moses himself. God spoke through Moses to bring the other judgments. Well, the first rider is the white horse rider and he brings judgment with a "bow," but a bow needs arrows, doesn't it? And do you know that the Bible speaks about children being as "arrows" going forth as lightning? (***Psa.127:3***) ***Lo, children are a heritage of the Lord; And the fruit of the womb is his reward. (4) As arrows in the hand of a mighty man, So are the children of youth. (5) Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: They shall not be put to shame, When they speak with their enemies in the gate. (Zec.9:13) For I have bent Judah for me, I have filled the bow with Ephraim; and I will stir up thy sons, O Zion, against thy sons, O Greece, and will make thee as the sword of a mighty man. (14) And the Lord shall be seen over them; and his arrow shall go forth as the lightning; and the Lord God will blow the trumpet, and will go with whirlwinds of the south.*** Jesus called His disciples His children (Mark 10:24; John 13:33) and He sent them forth like arrows. The Greek word *apostolos*, where we get the word "apostle," literally means "one sent forth." (***Luk.10:1***) ***Now after these things the Lord appointed seventy others, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself***

was about to come. His disciples spoke and did the same things Jesus did. They spread the judgment, but they also spread the blessings to God's people. So you see that this "one from the east" being "raised up" could very well be God raising up in His people.

Now, further down in our chapter, we read, (***Isa.41:25***) ***I have raised up one from the north, and he is come; from the rising of the sun one that calleth upon my name: and he shall come upon rulers as upon mortar, and as the potter treadeth clay.*** So here again is judgment upon the nations and upon the leaders. But notice there is "one from the north" and one "from the rising of the sun." The word translated "east" is the Hebrew word *mizrach* and it means "place of sunrise"; it's the same word translated "east" in our previous text of Isaiah 41:2. How can "one" be coming from the north and from the sunrise? How can it be both? Well, I believe the Lord has given this to me. We know that the Lord Jesus is coming from the sunrise because the Bible says, (***Pro.4:18***) ***But the path of the righteous is as the dawning light, That shineth more and more unto the perfect day.*** The path of the righteous is always into the "east" because they are always facing toward the coming of the "sun," or Son, in their life. (***2Co.3:18***) ***But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord the Spirit.*** In other words, the Son of Righteousness is rising in our life as we walk into the Son because "the path of the righteous is as the dawning light that shineth more and more unto the perfect day." And the "perfect day" is when the sun is straight overhead and there are no shadows; we are not walking in

any shadows and we see very clearly.

In our life this is actually happening, according to Peter: **(2Pe.1:19) And we have the word of prophecy [made] more sure; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a lamp shining in a dark place....** Now the Bible says that **(Pro.20:27) The spirit of man is the lamp of the Lord, Searching all his innermost parts.** Of course, the spirit that's full of the Lord is like the wise virgins whose lamps were full of oil: there was a bright light shining forth from them (Matthew 25:1-13). **(2Pe.1:19) And we have the word of prophecy [made] more sure** (This word of prophecy is more sure than any personal prophecy out there.); **whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a lamp shining in a dark place** (The "dark place" is our soul.), **until the day dawn, and the day-star arise in your hearts....** We want the light of the Son shining in our soul, shining forth from our life. "Day-star" is an archaic term for the "morning star" or the "star which ushers in the day"; in other words, it's the "sun, as the orb of the day." The Hebrew is *helel ben-shachar* and it literally means "light-bringer." *Strong's* says, "It is applicable, therefore, not only to the planet Venus, seen as a morning star, herald of the dawn, but to the sun itself, and is used here as a title of our Lord." Later on, when the term "day-star" was also applied to Venus, I think it was for the purpose of hiding many things that the Scriptures have to say about the "sun" or the Son. "Until the day dawn, and the day-star arise in your hearts" is talking about the maturity of Christ in you, which is the only hope of glory (Colossians 1:27). **(2Pe.1:19) And we have the word of prophecy made more sure; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a**

lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day-star arise in your hearts: (20) knowing this first, that no prophecy of scripture is of private interpretation. (21) For no prophecy ever came by the will of man: but men spake from God, being moved by the Holy Spirit. So the true interpretation of the “word of prophecy made more sure” is what enables the life of Christ to become manifested in us. The Greek word for “day-star” is the word *phosphorus*, which comes from *phos* and *phero*, meaning “light-bearer.” The “sun” and the Son are coming to be manifested in God’s people, as Proverbs 4:18 also teaches. Whom we see coming from the east, of course, is Christ. Again, we are always walking toward the face of Christ. We don’t have Christ to our back; we’re looking into His face and that’s the revelation of the Gospel in 2 Corinthians 3:18.

So now who is it who comes from the north? (***Isa.41:25***) ***I have raised up one from the north, and he is come; from the rising of the sun one that calleth upon my name: and he shall come upon rulers as upon mortar, and as the potter treadeth clay.*** If you spoke to the people of God in Israel and you talked about them “coming from the north,” you would be talking about them coming out of bondage. (***Jer.3:12***) ***Go, and proclaim these words toward the north, and say, Return, thou backsliding Israel, saith the Lord; I will not look in anger upon you; for I am merciful, saith the Lord, I will not keep [anger] for ever.*** You see, the north was where they were taken into captivity by both the Assyrians and the Babylonians. And, spiritually speaking, there is a first-fruits in our day who is coming out of the north, but they are being filled by one who is coming

from the east — the Lord Jesus Christ. God is setting free a first-fruits out of Babylon, much like the builders of the new temple and the new wall when they came out of Babylon to rebuild Jerusalem (Book of Ezra; Book of Nehemiah; etc.) That’s where we are right now, folks! God is bringing a first-fruits to experience the fullness of the Lord. The “day-star” is arising in their hearts and the perfect day is being manifested for them. ***(Pro.4:18) But the path of the righteous is as the dawning light, That shineth more and more unto the perfect day.***

(Isa.41:3) He pursueth them, and passeth on safely, even by a way that he had not gone with his feet. Wow! Look at that, folks! Jesus traveled with His feet almost 2,000 years ago over a very small area of the world in the Middle East. Now He is about to go in many places He never went with His feet; He’s going to be manifested in His body and walk all over this earth. What He did in His first individual body, He’s going to do again in His corporate body, and He’s going to begin with His first-fruits, just as we have been speaking about here. He’s going to do it first in the Man-child. ***(Joh.6:63) It is the spirit that giveth life; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I have spoken unto you are spirit, and are life.*** Of course, as Jesus passed on His Words of spirit and life into His disciples, He was recreated in them. They began to walk more and more into the light of the Lord. Their soul became more and more enlightened with the *phosphorus* and they passed it on to others. This is what the Lord is getting ready to do: He’s coming to be “glorified in his saints and to be marvelled at in all them that believed (because our testimony unto you is believed) in that day”; He’s coming “by a way that he had not gone with his feet.”

(Isa.41:4) Who hath wrought and done it, calling the generations from the beginning? (Who is the “beginning”? The Lord is the beginning and the end. He is the first and the last. He is the Alpha and the Omega. But notice He says something a little differently here.) I, the Lord, the first, and with the last, I am he. The Lord is coming to be with His people in these days like never before in history. He is coming around the world to be with the last people. Glory be to God! You know, *Immanuel* means “God with us.” ***(Isa.7:14) Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.*** In our day, which is the morning of the third thousand-year day, God is going to be manifested in the midst of His people like never before. ***(Hos.6:1) 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: on the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live before him. (3) And let us know, let us follow on to know the Lord: his going forth is sure as the morning; and he will come unto us as the rain, as the latter rain that watereth the earth.*** The Lord is going to be with us to shepherd His sheep and He’s coming as the latter rain. Now He says in Isaiah here, “I, the Lord, the first, and with the last, I am He,” but when you go to Revelation, He says, ***(Rev.22:13) I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.*** He says that He is the last and He says He is with the last! We know that the Lord came at first manifested in the body of the son of David: ***(Rom.1:2) Which he promised afore through his prophets in the holy***

scriptures, (3) concerning his Son, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, (4) who was declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead; even Jesus Christ our Lord.

He was with and in the midst of God's people. He was the Kingdom of God in the midst of God's people. He was with the last and now He is the last. How can He be with the last and yet be the last Himself? Well, the answer is really neat: ***(1Co.15:25) For he must reign, till he hath put all his enemies under his feet. (26) The last enemy that shall be abolished is death. (27) For, He put all things in subjection under his feet. But when he saith, All things are put in subjection, it is evident that he is excepted who did subject all things unto him. (28) And when all things have been subjected unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subjected to him that did subject all things unto him, that God may be all in all.*** The Lord wants to "be all and in all"! In other words, the body of Christ is truly becoming the body of Christ! He is not only with us, He is us! This is God's plan. What was us will be gone and what will be left will be God. The crucifixion of the old man and the coming to life of the new man is God's plan and He's going to do it before the end.

We can read the same thing again here: ***(Col.3:5) Put to death therefore your members which are upon the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry; (6) for which things' sake cometh the wrath of God upon the sons of disobedience: (7) wherein ye also once walked, when ye lived in these things;***

(8) but now do ye also put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, railing, shameful speaking out of your mouth (In other words, we are talking about coming to the end of the old man, the end of the one who is you and not the Lord. The old man is not going into the Kingdom. Only Christ in you is the hope of glory): **(9) lie not one to another; seeing that ye have put off the old man with his doings, (10) and have put on the new man, that is being renewed unto knowledge after the image of him that created him** (The “new man” is “after the image of him that created him.” Who is that? That’s you becoming Christ — Christ manifesting Himself in you.): **(10) where there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, bondman, freeman** (There is no racism in Christ, no levels in Christ, as there are in society.); **but Christ is all, and in all.** In other words, only Christ remains! Doing away with this old man leaves the new man and the new man is created in the image of Him who created him. Christ becomes all and in all.

We see that story also in Colossians, where it continually speaks about us being in Christ. For instance, **(Col.1:14) In whom we have our redemption, the forgiveness of our sins: (15) who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; (16) for in him were all things created....** Again, I want to point out to you a rule of thumb. Since there is actually no Greek word for “things” there in the original, you can leave that out and, in many cases, a verse will make a whole lot more sense. In this text, “in him were all things created,” it’s not things that are created in Christ; it’s people. His people are in the body of Christ. Notice I’m leaving out the word

“things” and the text makes sense: **(16) For in him were all created, in the heavens and upon the earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers; all have been created through him, and unto him; (17) and he is before all things, and in him all things consist** (Or, the Greek word means “hold together.” We are one body in Christ). **(18) And he is the head of the body, the church** (Here, again, we are seeing that everybody is in Him and the Church is the body of Christ.): **who is the beginning....** Now He says He’s the beginning and the end. Notice, in the beginning of the new creation of God, was Jesus as individual, but the end of the creation of God, is Jesus as corporate body. He is the beginning and the end. God is going to “be all and in all.” Jesus Christ is coming to live in His body. He is the beginning and the end, He is the first and the last, and He is with the last. **(18) And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all he might have the preeminence.** He was the firstborn of all creation and He was the firstborn of the dead because He had to be first in everything and He still is the first in everything. What God is creating is a much larger body of Christ, in whom Christ lives. **(19) For it was the good pleasure [of the Father] that in him should all the fulness dwell** (What “fulness” is He talking about? From the text you see plainly that He’s talking about the fullness of His body, the Church.); **(20) and through him to reconcile all unto himself.** “Reconcile” from the Greek *katallasso* means “exchange.” We are being placed in the body of Christ; we are being manifested in the body of Christ. Oh, praise God!

(Col.2:8) Take heed lest there shall be any one that maketh spoil of you through his philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ: (9) for in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead.... Jesus said, **(Joh.17:23) I in them, and thou in me, that they may be perfected into one; that the world may know that thou didst send me, and lovedst them, even as thou lovedst me.** Folks, what dwells in Christ? His people! **(Col.2:9) For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead....** The actual word is *theotes*, meaning “fulness of Deity” or just “divinity.” The word “Godhead” is something people made up. The “fulness of Deity” is in Jesus Christ. What does that mean? We know that the Father is in the Son; we know that the whole Church, the fullness of the Church, is in the Son. We just read that. Now He’s saying the “fulness of divinity” because, as we studied in the previous chapter, **(Psa.82:6) I** (this is God speaking) **said, Ye are gods, And all of you sons of the Most High.** So you see that the born-again man on the inside, the one who’s created to live eternally with Christ, is a son of God. That is God manifested in you. That is the life of Christ, Who is God, manifested in you as your spiritual man. All of this is in Christ. **(Col.2:9) For in him dwelleth the fulness of divinity bodily, (10) and in him ye are made full** (now this is the real meaning of this text), **who is the head of all principality and power.** And that’s not just the principalities and powers of wickedness, but principalities and powers in His Kingdom. Both of those are true. So we see when Christ is all and in all, and the Father is in Him, this is the fulfillment of God’s plan. And when is it going to happen?

It's going to happen in these days.

(Isa.41:4) Who hath wrought and done it, calling the generations from the beginning? I, the Lord, the first, and with the last, I am he. (5) The isles have seen, and fear; the ends of the earth tremble; they draw near, and come. As we saw in Psalm 2, the world is going to fear the people of God in these coming days. The world is going to persecute them, but the world is going to fear them because the world will know that the power of God is manifested in them. The people of the world are all idolaters. They are all trusting in other things. **(6) They help every one his neighbor; and [every one] saith to his brother, Be of good courage. (7) So the carpenter encourageth the goldsmith, [and] he that smootheth with the hammer him that smiteth the anvil, saying of the soldering, It is good; and he fasteneth it with nails, that is should not be moved.** In other words, these are idol makers. Folks, the whole world outside of Christ is nothing but idol makers: the things that they trust in have no power. And many who call themselves “Christians” are trusting in false gods, too. **(8) But thou, Israel, my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham my friend....** Who is the seed of Abraham? According to the New Covenant, we are. **(Rom.4:16) For this cause it is of faith, that it may be according to grace; to the end that the promise may be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all.** We who walk by faith are the seed of Abraham. He is the father of many “nations” or *gowyim*, which is the Hebrew word for “Gentiles.” **(Isa.41:8)**

But thou, Israel, my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham my friend, (9) thou whom I have taken hold of from the ends of the earth, and called from the corners thereof, and said unto thee, Thou art my servant, I have chosen thee and not cast thee away; (10) Fear thou not, for I am with thee (There it is again, Immanuel, or “God with us”!); be not dismayed, for I am thy God; I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness. Think about this, folks. Don’t worry about the days to come because God Almighty is going to be with you. His plan is to manifest Himself in you, to not only be the last, but to be with the last. (11) ***Behold, all they that are incensed against thee shall be put to shame and confounded: they that strive with thee shall be as nothing, and shall perish. (12) Thou shalt seek them, and shalt not find them, even them that contend with thee: they that war against thee shall be as nothing, and as a thing of nought. (13) For I, the Lord thy God, will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee. (14) Fear not, thou worm Jacob, and ye men of Israel; I will help thee, saith the Lord, and thy Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel. “Thou worm”! That’s a pretty lowly statement of poor Jacob. Of course, He used his old name Jacob here and not Israel, his new name, his born-again name of the spiritual man. *Israel* means “He will rule as God,” but He calls him “thou worm Jacob,” and that’s a good description of the carnal man of those who are the chosen of God. “My servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham.”***

The old man is like a worm, isn't he? He's very lowly, very useless. He lives in the dirt of the earth, but God says, "Fear not, I am with thee. I'm going to hold your hand, I'm going to provide for you and all of your enemies are going to be smitten and destroyed." Wow! The Lord obviously doesn't want us to fear. He wants us to know that the Lord God is going to live in His people. The Lord God is going to manifest Himself in us in the days to come. He is coming first in the first-fruits and then progressively through the body of Christ. Glory to God, folks! We have everything to be encouraged about. God keeps speaking to us out of the Scriptures and revealing the power that He is going to manifest for His people. He tells us, "Fear not, thou worm Jacob." Oh, praise You, Father! That gives us hope, doesn't it? We're qualified, aren't we? All praise to Your name! Thank you, Father, thank You! Lord, go with Your people today. Manifest Yourself in Your people. We thank You so much, Lord, for all Your precious promises. Amen and the Lord be with you!

CHAPTER SIX

Remember Ye Not the Former Things?

These are some awesome days, folks, when Jesus is coming to shepherd His sheep. Father, in the name of Jesus, Lord, we're excited about what You are going to do. Lord, we see Your promises being fulfilled in these days as in no other days and to no other people, and we thank You so much! We are looking forward to seeing the days like they were in the Book of Acts, Lord, and like they were in the Gospels, when we saw Jesus providing for His sheep and meeting their needs and shepherding them. Lord, we thank You, we just thank You! We've gone through so many years of apostate ministry, Lord, of people calling themselves shepherds but not teaching the true Word and not meeting the needs of the people. We're looking forward to ministers like we see in the Gospels and in the Book of Acts; that's what we're looking for, Father. We praise You for it! We know that You have wonderful plans for restoring the Church, as Your prophecies say is going to happen. We know that You are going to restore everything that has been stolen for the last 2,000 years and we're overjoyed, Lord! Thank You! Thank You for helping us to be just a little part of that, Father. In the name of Jesus, amen.

We've been studying in Isaiah, but I want to go back to Exodus and lay a little bit of a foundation because a strange thing happened when the children of God were in the wilderness. You know, when God came to the people of Israel in Egypt to deliver them from bondage, they had lost track of God for quite a few years. They had lost the revelation of who He was and they had been pretty much as-

simulated into Egyptian society, which means their ideas about God were very Egyptian. Well, here we see the story of Moses, who had gone up onto the mountain to get the Word for the people, but he'd been gone a little too long and they were getting nervous, so they decided to help God out. **(Exo.32:1) And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mount, the people gathered themselves together unto Aaron, and said unto him, Up, make us gods** (The Hebrew word there is *Elohim*.), **which shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we know not what is become of him.** They said, "make us *Elohim*," and that's actually the name that they used for God in the Scriptures, although it's not normally translated "gods," except when the translators thought it was referring to false gods. But *Elohim*, nine times out of 10, is speaking about our God because God is Father, Son and Holy Spirit. And so His name is plural in the Scriptures, except when speaking of one of them in particular. **(Exo.32:2) And Aaron said unto them, Break off the golden rings, which are in the ears of your wives, of your sons, and of your daughters, and bring them unto me.** Of course, the golden earrings were symbols of their bondage (Exodus 21:6; Deuteronomy 15:17; Judges 8:24-27), which is why they lost their earrings when they came out of Egypt. **(3) And all the people brake off the golden rings which were in their ears, and brought them unto Aaron. (4) And he received it at their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool, and made it a molten calf: and they said, These are thy gods** (Again, the Hebrew word is *Elohim*.), **O Israel, which brought thee**

up out of the land of Egypt. (5) And when Aaron saw [this,] he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation, and said, To-morrow shall be a feast to the Lord. So they called this molten calf “Elohim,” or “Jehovah,” or “Yahweh,” or the Tetragrammaton YHWH, depending on how far back you want to go.

Why did they make a molten calf? They made a molten calf because that was the god that they knew about in Egypt. They were discovering a lot about God in the wilderness, but they reverted back to worshipping the bull god Apis, the golden calf they knew from when they were in bondage. To the Egyptians, Apis was god in flesh and there are many stories surrounding Apis, including one by the historian Herodotus. They all differ as to the details of what was done by Cambyses II, who was the son of that Cyrus mentioned in the Bible (Isaiah 45:1; Ezra 1:2; Daniel 10:1; etc.), but the story in general is that after Cambyses had conquered Egypt, he attempted to conquer Ethiopia and was miserably defeated. He returned to Memphis, which was the holy city of Apis, and the very next day, as he woke up, Cambyses heard this great celebration going on and he became angry because he believed the Egyptians were celebrating his failed campaign against the Ethiopians. So he called in some of the rulers and asked, “Why are you celebrating?” They told him, “A god has come down in flesh to appear to us and all Egypt rejoices whenever that happens.” At this, Cambyses said that they lied and he punished them with death. Then he called in the priests, who told him the same thing. Cambyses said, “If a tame god has come to the Egyptians, I would know it,” and he told the priests to bring Apis before him. So they brought their little newborn calf in there, probably still wobbling around and, according to

reshafim.org.il: *When the priests led Apis in, Cambyses drew his dagger and, meaning to stab the calf in the belly, stuck the thigh; then laughing, he said to the priests, "Simpletons, are these your gods, creatures of flesh and blood that can feel weapons of iron? That is a god worthy of the Egyptians. But for you, you shall suffer for making me your laughing-stock."* So saying he bade those, whose business it was, to scourge the priests well, and to kill any other Egyptian whom they found holiday-making. So the Egyptian festival ended, and the priests were punished, and Apis lay in the temple and died of the wound in the thigh. When he was dead of the wound, the priests buried him without Cambyses' knowledge. Other accounts state that Cambyses threw a party and they actually ate the calf. Well, you can imagine how this really angered the Egyptians, but they couldn't do anything about it because the conquering force was there. Cambyses was doing a good job of proving that this calf could not possibly be a god. First of all, he had conquered the Egyptians and their god didn't have any power to stop him. And now their god couldn't even save himself because when he stabbed it, it eventually died.

The Lord makes a lot of references throughout Scripture to the false gods that people worship and how they have no power. They are just wood or stone or whatever; they do nothing, yet here God's people reverted back to this false god very quickly after Moses was out of the way. Moses had shown them the power and miracles of God. Moses had been used of God to part the Red Sea, to bring the manna, to get them water out of a rock, and so on and so forth, but the people still reverted back to their Egyptian ideas of God. They reverted back to the god that didn't save them

from the Egyptians in the first place and couldn't save the Egyptians from judgments spoken by God through Moses. You know, I once came across a rabbit laying in the road. The rabbit had been totally flattened by cars but it had all of its feet still attached. Now, lots of people say that a rabbit's foot is a lucky charm and they'll carry that rabbit's foot around with them, totally convinced it will help bring them good luck. Well, four rabbit's feet didn't save this rabbit; he was just as flat as he could be on that road. For several days, as I walked past that rabbit, I thought about how once people really get convinced about something, they will just cling to it. The golden calf of the Egyptians didn't help them at all and yet they continued to believe in it. A demon spirit had deceived them into accepting an idol to trust in. **(Exo.32:11) And Moses besought the Lord** (That's the Hebrew *Yahweh* or "YHWH" or "Jehovah.") **his God** (That's the Hebrew *Elohim*.).... The people were calling their golden calf, their idol, their false god, by the same name they used for the true God, but this golden calf had no power to save them. God's people were reverting back to their worldly thinking about God from before they came out of Egypt. Spiritually speaking, they reverted back to before when they were saved and filled with the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 10:12).

An interesting thing is that this history was repeated after Jeroboam became king of the northern 10 tribes: **(1Ki.12:26) And Jeroboam said in his heart, Now will the kingdom return to the house of David: (27) if this people go up to offer sacrifices in the house of the Lord at Jerusalem, then will the heart of this people turn again unto their lord, even unto Rehoboam king of Judah; and they will**

kill me, and return to Rehoboam king of Judah.

So what did Jeroboam do? He decided to make two golden calves! You would think, “Now, wait a minute ... these are Hebrews; why would they do that? Don’t they remember their own history? Don’t they remember what happened in the wilderness?” No, they probably wouldn’t have copied the golden calf, if they had known a lot about their history. They probably were not reading their Bible any better than a lot of Christians do today, otherwise they would have known from their time in the wilderness that this was an abomination to God and that God would judge them for doing this. ***(1Ki.12:28) Whereupon the king took counsel*** (Apparently, some religious people, who should have known better, were counseling him to do this.), ***and made two calves of gold: and he said unto them, It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem: behold thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.*** Jeroboam made these golden calves for these people to worship and notice how close even the wording is to a total repetition of history. God forced it or else I don’t think they would have done it. When I first read this, I thought, “Why, knowing their history, would they have done this?” They evidently didn’t know it. They didn’t know they were repeating history and I think today a lot of Christians don’t know they are repeating history. ***(1Ki.12:31) And he made houses of high places, and made priests from among all the people, that were not of the sons of Levi.*** That means, of course, the priests were not ministers ordained of God, but they made these people pastors of the church anyway and churches today are doing the same thing.

God says that history will be repeated and it usually

doesn't stop with just twice; history keeps on repeating in a pattern, in a regular series of events. It's a cycle, you see. ***(Ecc.1:9) That which hath been is that which shall be; and that which hath been done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun. (10) Is there a thing whereof it may be said, See, this is new? it hath been long ago, in the ages which were before us. (11) There is no remembrance of the former (or "first") [generations;] neither shall there be any remembrance of the latter [generations] that are to come, among those that shall come after.*** In other words, people never remember history. They never remember what happened to the "former generations" and they are doomed to repeat it. The Bible even tells you that the Church will repeat what happened to Israel: ***(Ecc.3:15) That which is hath been long ago; and that which is to be hath long ago been*** (Everything that is happening now has already happened.): ***and God seeketh again that which is passed away.*** God desires to repeat history. Why? It's because we have a more sure word of prophecy in the repetitions of history in the Scriptures. ***(2Pe.1:19) And we have the word of prophecy [made] more sure; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day-star arise in your hearts: (20) knowing this first, that no prophecy of scripture is of private interpretation. (21) For no prophecy ever came by the will of man: but men spake from God, being moved by the Holy Spirit.*** Many people prophesy things that are supposed to come to pass, but they are prophesying with their mind and they are wrong because

their prophecies don't follow history. This is one lesson that Scripture gives us over and over: history keeps repeating. Usually, the first time a prophecy comes to pass, it happens literally; after that, it happens more and more in a spiritual way. Now we know that we crossed over a line from letter to Spirit when we came into the New Testament: **(2Co.3:6) *Who also made us sufficient as ministers of a new covenant; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.*** And we need to understand that, as born-again people, we are spiritual Israelites in a spiritual nation called "Israel." Prophecies are fulfilled quite often spiritually in the New Testament and, spiritually, the people of God today are about to come out of Egypt and go into the wilderness. In the wilderness, their false god is going to be proven to be just that. Notice, it was the people of God who were idolaters in that they put the name of the true God on a false image and they were judged for this idolatry.

We've studied in the past how each of these Beast kingdoms — Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece and Rome — represented the end-time Beast kingdom (Revelation 12:3; 17:9-13) and each of them have types and shadows of the end-time Beast kingdom. In other words, God's people went through cycles of rebellion and so God would send a Beast kingdom to conquer them, to humble them and to bring them to repentance. When they repented, God would bring them deliverance. Then, as they began to prosper and things went well, they would forget God again and go through the same cycle. Folks, it's still true today: God's people still go through this cycle. **(Isa.39:5) *Then said Isaiah to Hezekiah, Hear the word of the Lord of hosts: (6) Behold, the days are coming, when all***

that is in thy house, and that which thy fathers have laid up in store until this day, shall be carried to Babylon: nothing shall be left, saith the Lord. Here we have the prophecy about going into bondage in Babylon and then, in the very next chapter, there's a prophecy about John the Baptist, who prophesied about the coming of the Lord. **(Isa.40:3) The voice of one that crieth, Prepare ye in the wilderness the way of the Lord; make level in the desert a highway for our God.** Of course, he was prophesying about God coming in flesh. What is the way we prepare for the coming of the Lord in flesh? **(Jas.4:10) Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall exalt you.** It is through humility and it is through repentance. That's what John the Baptist preached (Matthew 3:1-12; Mark 1:1-8; Luke 3:1-20; John 1:19-28) and there's going to be a repetition in our day of a "John the Baptist" ministry. We have seen that when you go from the Old Testament to the New Testament that corporate bodies of people represent their individual forefathers, just as when Jesus shed the blood of the Covenant, He immediately became a corporate body in the earth. The Beast kingdom is a corporate body. The seven heads of Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece and Rome have now come together as a corporate body in the last Beast kingdom. There is a corporate body of Judases, there is a corporate body of the Pharisees, there is a corporate body of the Two Witnesses and so on and so forth, in the New Testament. Not only does history repeat, but it repeats each time with larger and larger groups of people. This is something that the Jews never caught on to and, according to Ecclesiastes, people do not remember the "former generations." They don't have eyes to see the spiritual

type and so they don't realize that they're repeating history.

(Isa.40:4) Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low; and the uneven shall be made level, and the rough places a plain: (5) and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. Isaiah was prophesying here of the coming of the Lord in a body of flesh. This has nothing to do with Apis because he was a weak and worthless god. Even though the people of God called him "Jehovah," even though they called him *Elohim*, he was not God. Do you suppose today that many of the people of God are calling their Jesus, "Jesus," but he's not Jesus? Yes, that's exactly what they're doing. There's only one Jesus whom we know is the Jesus of the Bible. The Bible describes Him, describes what He does, how He saves His people, what He believes, what He commands us to believe, what is His Word, what is not His word and so on; it tells us all those things. It's very obvious that God's people, too, have accepted an "Apis," "a golden calf," a false *Elohim*. They've accepted a false image in their mind of what God is like and what He will do, and what He believes, and what He wants them to believe. You don't have to read the New Testament but one time and, if you believe what you read there and you look around you at religion, you're going to ask, "What happened?" Well, what's happened is that there's been a great falling away; history has repeated. Now we see from Isaiah that there's going to be a repetition of John the Baptist, only in our day John the Baptist is a corporate body of people. They will prepare the way of the coming of the Lord in a body of flesh and that body of flesh is His people: "Christ in you, the hope of glory." ***(Col.1:26)***

[Even] the mystery which hath been hid for ages and generations: but now hath it been manifested to his saints, (27) to whom God was pleased to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: (28) whom we proclaim, admonishing every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ. The John the Baptist corporate body will be preaching repentance and proclaiming the glory of the Lord being manifested in His people, as also the Apostle Paul did. He said, ***(2Co.3:18) But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord the Spirit.*** God is coming in a body of first-fruits called the “Man-child” (Revelation 12:5,13; 14:1-5). These first-fruits are a people in whom the Lord is going to be manifested first and then they are going to be used to lead the rest of God’s people in a repetition of how God used Joseph and Moses and the other types of the Man-child, all the way through the Scriptures.

(Isa.40:10) Behold, the Lord God will come as a mighty one, and his arm will rule for him.... We know His “arm” was Jesus. ***(53:1) Who hath believed our message? and to whom hath the arm of the Lord been revealed?*** Of course, this was talking about Jesus in His day and, as we have already seen, it’s also talking about the Man-child of our day in whom Jesus lives. ***(Isa.40:10) Behold, the Lord God will come as a mighty one, and his arm will rule for him: Behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense***

before him. (11) He will feed his flock like a shepherd, he will gather the lambs in his arm, and carry them in his bosom, [and] will gently lead those that have their young. So we see the John the Baptist ministry and the Man-child ministry are coming as a repetition of history with larger groups of people. What was it that Jesus came to do? He came to deliver His people out of bondage. God's people were in bondage to the old man, the Egyptian. They were in bondage to the Beast kingdom. They were in bondage to Harlot religion. They were in bondage, but Jesus came to open the door to the sheepfold, and **(Joh.10:3) To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. (4) When he hath put forth all his own, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice.** The sheepfold in that day was Judaism and, of course, they were divided up into their sects and denominations. Each one of those had a different idea about God and each one of those called their god "Lord." And each one of them was wrong, as Jesus plainly tried to tell them. Not one of those denominations followed Jesus; only His sheep followed Jesus out of those denominations, out of those sects.

The same thing is happening in our day. History is repeating and God is delivering His people from bondage to the old man, bondage to fleshly religion, bondage to religious leaders who have gone totally astray to follow "golden calves," so to speak. These are their "gods" and I use the word "gods" in the plural because each different sect of God's people has a different god, but they all call him "Jesus." We know from the Scriptures that is not true: **(2Co.11:4) For if he that cometh preacheth another**

er Jesus, whom we did not preach, or if ye receive a different spirit, which ye did not receive, or a different gospel, which ye did not accept, ye do well to bear with [him]. (Gal.1:6) I marvel that ye are so quickly removing from him that called you in the grace of Christ unto a different gospel; (7) which is not another [gospel] only there are some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. (8) But though we, or an angel from heaven, should preach unto you any gospel other than that which we preached unto you, let him be anathema. Once again, God's people have apostacized to worship a useless, worthless god that has no power to save. He doesn't heal, he doesn't deliver, he doesn't do miracles and he doesn't provide. There's a long, long list of things he doesn't do. Basically, their god doesn't do anything supernatural except save them so they can go to Heaven. When Cambyses killed and, by some accounts, ate the Egyptians' Apis calf, he was saying, "Look, your god is nothing; he has no power whatsoever. Here I am, a man, eating your god." Today, it's the same as when Jesus came to reveal the one true God. All those apostate sects were powerless and they were jealous because He had power. They were jealous because His God was a supernatural God who loved them enough to meet their needs, heal their bodies, deliver them, provide for them and so on and so forth. What all those apostates believed in was just another "golden calf." Is anything different in our day, folks? Most of the church is doing without. They are not being saved from the curse, they are not being saved from sickness, they are not being delivered or provided for because they don't know the supernatural power of God. And if you tell them about it,

they'll say anything supernatural is of the devil. They have mistaken the true God for the devil and replaced Him with a powerless, worthless god that is nothing but an idol.

(Isa.40:18) To whom then will ye liken God? or what likeness will ye compare unto him? Again, He's talking to His people. He's not talking to the people of the world. ***(19) The image, a workman hath cast [it,] and the goldsmith overlayeth it with gold, and casteth [for it] silver chains. (20) He that is too impoverished for [such] an oblation chooseth a tree that will not rot; he seeketh unto him a skilful workman to set up a graven image, that shall not be moved.*** "Graven" basically means "anything made by man." It can be something carved or engraved to shape it, so, in other words, this is talking about a worthless, man-made god that has no power to save. That let's you know whose god is the real God. ***(Heb.13:8) Jesus Christ [is] the same yesterday and to-day, [yea] and for ever.*** So when people say their god is "Jesus" and you find out that their god doesn't do the things Scripture says He used to do, that's not the true God. That's an idol. That's a false "Jesus." As Paul said, "another Jesus" and a "different gospel" and a "different spirit." He warned the people of God not to get caught up in that, but it didn't do a lot of good because history keeps repeating. People who have religious spirits will tell you, "If our religion doesn't do it, it's not God. If your religion is getting signs and wonders and ours is not, then it's not God." And, of course, that's a very dangerous, very foolish ideology.

So God rebukes the idolaters here and He says, ***(Isa.40:22) [It is] he that sitteth above the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as***

grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in; (23) that bringeth princes to nothing; that maketh the judges of the earth as vanity. (24) Yea, they have not been planted; yea, they have not been sown; yea, their stock hath not taken root in the earth: moreover he bloweth upon them, and they wither, and the whirlwind taketh them away as stubble. (25) To whom then will ye liken me, that I should be equal [to him]? saith the Holy One. He's warning them, "If you are going to be an idolater, you're not going to last very long, either." The curse is being multiplied in these days, folks. Look around and you'll see that the old diseases are coming back and new ones are showing up. Country after country is finding reasons to go to war. There are natural disasters such as flooding in one area while another area is suffering from drought, and so on and so forth. ***(Isa.24:3) The earth shall be utterly emptied, and utterly laid waste; for the Lord hath spoken this word. (4) The earth mourneth and fadeth away, the world languisheth and fadeth away, the lofty people of the earth do languish. (5) The earth also is polluted under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, violated the statutes, broken the everlasting covenant. (6) Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth, and they that dwell therein are found guilty: therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men left.*** The curse is going to devour the earth and you had better have the true God because the other ones are powerless and the whirlwind is coming to blow them away. He says something similar

here: ***(Isa.41:16) Thou shalt winnow them, and the wind shall carry them away, and the whirlwind shall scatter them; and thou shalt rejoice in the Lord, thou shalt glory in the Holy One of Israel.*** God commands us to come out from apostate religion that has no power. ***(2Co.6:16) And what agreement hath a temple of God with idols? for we are a temple of the living God; even as God said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. (17) Wherefore Come ye out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, And touch no unclean thing; And I will receive you.***

The true people of God, even those among the people who worship the golden calf in our day, are going to get this revelation when they see the power of God through the Man-child. In Jesus' day, when the people saw the power of God that came through Jesus, they knew it had to be God. ***(Joh.9:30) The man answered and said unto them*** (He was speaking to the Pharisees.), ***Why, herein is the marvel, that ye know not whence he is, and [yet] he opened mine eyes. (31) We know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and do his will, him he heareth. (32) Since the world began it was never heard that any one opened the eyes of a man born blind. (33) If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.*** And we know at least one Pharisee recognized that, too: ***(Joh.3:1) Now there was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews: (2) the same came unto him by night, and said to him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come***

from God; for no one can do these signs that thou doest, except God be with him. Folks, bondage to religion is an idol. It's amazing that the world can recognize God more easily than religious people.

(Isa.42:14) I have long time holden my peace; I have been still, and refrained myself: [now] will I cry out like a travailing woman; I will gasp and pant together. We know that's the time of the coming of the Man-child, God in flesh. ***(15) I will lay waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their herbs; and I will make the rivers islands, and will dry up the pools.*** In other words, the curse is going to shake the whole earth. ***(16) And I will bring the blind by a way that they know not; in paths that they know not will I lead them; I will make darkness light before them....*** Oh, thank God! How many of God's people are blind? Aren't we all coming out of blindness? Don't we all need the grace of God, no matter where we are in our walk with the Lord? Praise God that He's promising us help! Not everyone is going to be helped; they were not in Jesus' day. Some of them stayed with their idols no matter what and they persecuted the Christians, but others came out from among them. They didn't have to be taken away by the judgments that were coming. ***(16) And I will bring the blind by a way that they know not; in paths that they know not will I lead them; I will make darkness light before them, and crooked places straight. These things will I do, and I will not forsake them.*** The mercy of Jesus Christ came to a people who were in total idolatry with a god that did not exist. He said even their leaders were of the devil: ***(Joh.8:42) Jesus said unto them, If God were your Father,***

ye would love me: for I came forth and am come from God; for neither have I come of myself, but he sent me. (43) Why do ye not understand my speech? [Even] because ye cannot hear my word. (44) Ye are of [your] father the devil, and the lusts of your father it is your will to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and standeth not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father thereof. We're in the same situation today, folks; it's a repetition of history because God is still on the throne and because we have "the word of prophecy made more sure."

(Isa.42:17) They shall be turned back, they shall be utterly put to shame, that trust in graven images, that say unto molten images, Ye are our gods. Obviously, whomever Isaiah was talking to, history was repeating for them. ***(1Co.10:11) Now these things happened unto them by way of example; and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages are come.*** This is going to be repeated in Christianity, not in the letter, but in the spirit. There are many people who go to church every Sunday and proclaim they worship Jesus, but they are worshipping an idol. The person they believe to be "Jesus" is not and has no power to save them. ***(Isa.42:19) Who is blind, but my servant? or deaf, as my messenger that I send? who is blind as he that is at peace [with me,] and blind as the Lord's servant?*** These people who thought they were worshipping the true and the living God needed a reformer to come straighten them out. Jesus was the greatest reformer and He still is because He is coming in His first-

fruits to reform the apostasy of Christianity. **(20) Thou seest many things, but thou observest not; his ears are open, but he heareth not.** Jesus said, **(Mat.13:13) Therefore speak I to them in parables; because seeing they see not, and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. (14) And unto them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall in no wise understand; And seeing ye shall see, and shall in no wise perceive: (15) For this people's heart is waxed gross, And their ears are dull of hearing, And their eyes they have closed; Lest haply they should perceive with their eyes, And hear with their ears, And understand with their heart, And should turn again, And I should heal them.** They all had eyes and ears, but not in the spirit. They didn't perceive in the Kingdom at all and it's that way today, too, folks. Remember we're looking at the time following John the Baptist, which was the coming of the Lord Jesus as the Man-child. In our day, again, the church is very dull of hearing and dull of seeing in the Spirit because of their idolatry. **(Isa.42:21) It pleased the Lord, for his righteousness' sake, to magnify the law, and make it honorable. (22) But this is a people robbed and plundered; they are all of them snared in holes, and they are hid in prison-houses: they are for a prey, and none delivereth; for a spoil, and none saith, Restore.** But God says, **(Isa.43:8) Bring forth the blind people that have eyes, and the deaf that have ears.** Not only is He bringing His people out of bondage in Egypt, but He's getting Egypt out of them. Again, this is happening with a remnant, it's not going to happen with a multitude.

(Mat.22:14) For many are called, but few chosen.

A great many will decide to remain with their idols, rather than choosing the true and the living God, and they will not be protected in the shaking that's coming upon the world.

How is God going to deliver His people in the wilderness?

(Isa.41:17) The poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue faileth for thirst; I, the Lord, will answer them, I, the God of Israel, will not forsake them. Israel was a stubborn and stiff-necked people, just as is His New Testament spiritual Israel today. They worshipped a false god, although they called Him by the name of the true God.

(18) I will open rivers on the bare heights, and fountains in the midst of the valleys.... We know that God did bring water out of a rock up on the top of a hill (Numbers 20:11; Psalm 78:20), high above the water table.

(18) I will open rivers on the bare heights, and fountains in the midst of the valleys; I will make the wilderness a pool of water.... Jesus said, ***(Joh.7:38) He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, from within him shall flow rivers of living water.***

God is going to provide the water of life, which is the Word of God, and the Word of God provides everything that you need in the wilderness.

Do you thirst after God? God is going to quench that thirst in the days to come.

(Isa.41:18) I will open rivers on the bare heights, and fountains in the midst of the valleys; I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water.

(19) I will put in the wilderness the cedar, the acacia, and the myrtle, and the oil-tree; I will set in the desert the fir-tree, the pine, and the box-tree together.

All through Scripture, God likens His people to

trees and here He mentions seven trees, which I think symbolize the seven churches of our day really well (Revelation 1:4,11). Notice how different they are from one another, but He says here that He puts them in the wilderness together. **(20) That they may see, and know, and consider, and understand together, that the hand of the Lord hath done this** (The real Lord has done this, but His people have not yet come to know the real Lord.), **and the Holy One of Israel hath created it**. When they were in Egypt, the Israelites worshipped the golden calf that the Egyptians worshipped, so you know when they came out of Egypt that they were mixing what they were used to with YHWH. God took all those different mixtures, all those different denominations of their day, and put them out in the wilderness together. And when Jesus called His sheep by name out of the flock of apostate Judaism, He had all the different sects of Judaism with Him and He was teaching them together in the wilderness. Yes, they had some strange ideas about God and not the kind that would save them, not the kind that brought power and deliverance, but He was going to teach them the truth.

Folks, the false prophets who have ruled over the people of God have no answers and there's a reason that the things they say don't come to pass: **(Isa.41:21) Produce your cause, saith the Lord; bring forth your strong reasons, saith the King of Jacob. (22) Let them bring forth, and declare unto us what shall happen....** There's a big difference here between the different sects of Christianity, the different "trees" in the wilderness and what they each say is going to happen to the Church in the end time. **(22) Let them bring forth, and declare unto us what shall happen: declare ye the former**

things (or “first things”), **what they are, that we may consider them, and know the latter end of them....**

God is talking to these false leaders of His people and saying, “Okay, you tell Me what it’s going to be like. You tell Me what’s going to happen, if you really know, and here’s how it’s going to be. You’re going to declare the first things, so that we know what’s going to happen in the latter times.” But you see, they can’t do that because they don’t know the repetition of history and Ecclesiastes tells us that’s exactly so. There’s no remembrance in the following generations of what happened to the previous generations. False prophets always make their false prophecies easy on the flesh by not agreeing with the types and shadows from history; there is no repetition of history with them. It doesn’t matter if you point out to them, “Look, what you’re saying cannot happen because it has never happened in the Scriptures and this is our more sure word of prophecy.” When we read these types and shadows, we know they are telling us what is going to happen. You have to find out what happened in the first times, so you will know what happens in the latter times. **(22) Let them bring forth, and declare unto us what shall happen: declare ye the former things, what they are, that we may consider them, and know the latter end of them; or show us things to come.** In other words, this is the only way you are going to know the things to come.

(Isa.41:23) Declare the things that are to come hereafter, that we may know that ye are gods....

Jesus said, **(Joh.10:34) ... Is it not written in your law, I said, ye are gods? (35) If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came (and the scripture cannot be broken), (36) say ye of him, whom**

the Father sanctified and sent into the world, Thou blasphemest; because I said, I am [the] son of God? We've pointed out previously that He was saying these people were gods because they were sons of God and God was to live in them, at least according to type. Psalm 82 tells us the same thing about our day. ***(Isa.41:23) Declare the things that are to come hereafter, that we may know that ye are gods: yea, do good, or do evil, that we may be dismayed, and behold it together.*** In other words, these "gods" were not able to do good or evil and, of course, their prophets weren't able to tell them the things that were to come because they did not know these simple principles. God is saying here that the people who come with the truth are going to understand these principles; they're going to understand that history just keeps on repeating with larger and larger groups of people. Jesus spoke in parables, did He not? ***(Luk.8:10) And he said, Unto you it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God: but to the rest in parables; that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.*** He spoke in parables so that only the people who had the gift of God to see and hear would understand.

(Isa.41:24) Behold, ye are of nothing, and your work is of nought; an abomination is he that chooseth you. (25) I have raised up one from the north, and he is come; from the rising of the sun.... Well, that's two different directions and I pointed out in the last chapter that God is raising up a people in whom Jesus is going to live. Where are these people coming from? They are coming out of the north because that's coming out of bondage. God's people returned to Israel out of the north,

where they were held in captivity to the Assyrians and the Babylonians, and so on and so forth. Notice that the “one” in them is from the “rising of the sun,” which is also the word for “east.” This ministry that is coming, is coming out of captivity from the north and the “sun,” representing Jesus the Son, is rising up in them from the “east.” **(Isa.41:25) *I have raised up one from the north, and he is come; from the rising of the sun; one that calleth upon my name: and he shall come upon rulers as upon mortar, and as the potter treadeth clay. (26) Who hath declared it from the beginning, that we may know? and beforetime, that we may say, [He is] right? yea, there is none that declareth, yea, there is none that showeth, yea, there is none that heareth your words.*** First, the things from the former generations have to be revealed so that you have a perfect prophecy of what’s going to happen in these days. **(Ecc.3:15) *That which is hath been long ago; and that which is to be hath long ago been: and God seeketh again that which is passed away.*** Through the Scriptures, God is telling us exactly what’s going to happen in our day. Don’t think that the Christians have escaped the pitfalls of the Jews because Israel was a type and shadow of what is going to happen in Christianity and it is coming to pass even now.

(Isa.41:27) *[I am the] first [that saith] unto Zion, Behold, behold them; and I will give to Jerusalem one that bringeth good tidings.* Well, He’s already spoken about the “one” that comes from the north and “from the rising of the sun,” but notice He says “behold them,” and “one that bringeth good tidings,” so this is obviously a corporate body “that bringeth good tidings.” **(28)**

And when I look, there is no man: even among them there is no counsellor, that, when I ask of them, can answer a word. (29) Behold, all of them, their works are vanity [and] nought; their molten images are wind and confusion. And of course, the Hebrew word for “Babylon” means “confusion.” Folks, there’s no answer in almost all of the leadership or people of Christianity, but God is raising up wisdom. It’s going to come with revelation that’s clearly already in the Scriptures and God’s going to confirm it with signs and wonders and power. God’s going to confirm it exactly the way He did for the ministry of Jesus and the ministry of His disciples after Him.

(Isa.43:8) Bring forth the blind people that have eyes, and the deaf that have ears. (9) Let all the nations be gathered together, and let the peoples be assembled: who among them can declare this, and show us former things? let them bring their witnesses, that they may be justified; or let them hear, and say, It is truth. Only through the former things can we get a revelation of what is about to happen. God says that’s how it has to be. ***(Isa.43:12) I have declared, and I have saved, and I have showed; and there was no strange [god] among you....*** Notice these are all past tense: “declared,” “saved,” “showed.” God says He has already done all of this! All through the Scriptures, He has revealed to His people what He is going to do in the end time and this is how we should be getting the revelation. ***(Isa.43:12) I have declared, and I have saved, and I have showed; and there was no strange [god] among you: therefore ye are my witnesses, saith the Lord, and I am God. (13) Yea,***

since the day was I am he; and there is none that can deliver out of my hand: I will work, and who can hinder it? (14) Thus saith the Lord, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: For your sake I have sent to Babylon, and I will bring down all of them as fugitives, even the Chaldeans, in the ships of their rejoicing. (15) I am the Lord, your Holy One, the Creator of Israel, your King. (16) Thus saith the Lord, who maketh a way in the sea, and a path in the mighty waters; (17) who bringeth forth the chariot and horse.... Now, why is God mixing types here? He's talking about the people escaping Babylon as they did when they left Egypt by crossing the Red Sea, by putting to death the "old man" in the Red Sea. He's mixing types to point out here that history keeps repeating and the former things speak of the latter things.

We've seen how Moses came to deliver God's people out of Egypt. And Cyrus, who was even called "God's anointed" (Isaiah 45:1), is also one of the types that's very clearly speaking of Jesus. He came to conquer Babylon so that God's people could be set free to go to the new Jerusalem. Jesus came to deliver God's people out of corrupt, apostate religion and, folks, the Man-child ministry is coming in another repetition of history to do the same thing. **(Isa.43:17) Who bringeth forth the chariot and horse, the army and the mighty man (they lie down together, they shall not rise; they are extinct, they are quenched as a wick).** God is going to deliver His people. He's going to deliver them from those who took them captive in Babylon and from their fleshly, Babylonish old man. You know, the whole world came from Babel, where God confounded the language of the people

to spread them out on the continent (Genesis 11:9) and where God then broke up the continent (Genesis 10:25). The whole world came from Babel and so the whole world is Babylon. It's just headed up by a Babylon called "America." **(18) Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old.** This could very well be asking a question; there's no way to tell from the Hebrew. **(18) Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old?** **(19) Behold, I will do a new thing; now shall it spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.** Well, that's not a new thing; it's only a new thing to that generation. It's already happened in the former times. "Remember ye not the former things?" Some of you don't think you're going to have to go through a wilderness; you think you're going to jump over the wilderness and go straight into the Promised Land, but you've been lied to. It's not going to happen because that's not according to history. We're going through the wilderness for the purpose of God delivering us from these same traditions of men, these same golden calves and so on and so forth. Thank God, folks, that He is so faithful to us!



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