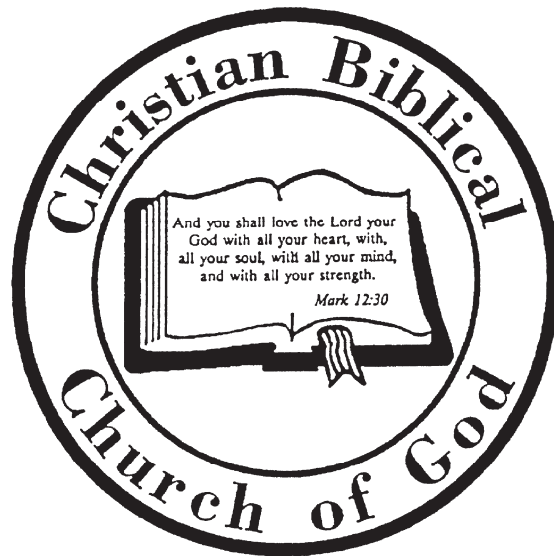


# Spring Feast 2021



## Transcript Book

By Fred R. Coulter

© 2021, 2024  
Fred R. Coulter  
Christian Biblical Church of God  
P. O. Box 1442  
Hollister, California 95024-1442

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## Why We Need a Savior

(Sabbath Before Passover)

*“The heart is deceitful and desperately wicked above all things!”*

Fred R. Coulter—March 20, 2021

Greetings, brethren! Welcome to Sabbath services, the Sabbath before Passover! My, the time flies, and here we are just about ready for the Passover, which will be this coming Friday night.

- Why does the world, and all human beings, need a Savior? *If that is the case:*
- How is that going to come about? *Since God is a God Who lives in eternity*
- When did He have this plan?
- When did He come up with this?

Yes, there is a plan to save mankind, as many as will repent and come to Christ—*past, present and future!*

God’s plan is so great that it encompasses all of that. As we know—through the Holy Days—it reveals the plan of God for mankind.

- *the Sabbath* is the key of constant connection with God
- *the Passover* is the renewal of the New Covenant of Eternal Life for those who are called in this age
- When did God work this out?
- What happened that there has to be a Redeemer?

2-Tim. 1—Paul is writing to Timothy, and Paul knew that he was about ready to die. He wanted Timothy to have broad overview of what God is doing and how important that it really is, especially when it came around to the time to canonize the New Testament just before John, the apostle, died.

2-Timothy 1:8: “Therefore, you should not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner...”

Think about that! We’re going to suffer some very tough times. It looks like it’s going to be difficult. But there have always been tough times for those who follow Christ. Following God and Christ in the world the way that it is becomes difficult:

- physically
- mentally
- spiritually

*So, we’re not to be ashamed!*

“...but jointly suffer with *me for the sake of* the Gospel, according to *the* power of God” (v 8).

*You need the Holy Spirit of God to go through what we’re going to face:*

- what Paul faced
- what Timothy faced
- all of the saints faced down through time

Verse 9: “**Who has saved us...**” *Remember that salvation comes step-by-step:*

1. you **have been saved** from your sins
2. you **are being saved** day-by-day as we stay close to God, love Him and keep His commandments
3. you **shall be saved** at the resurrection

*Salvation encompasses those three steps!*

Verse 9: “Who has saved us and **called us with a Holy calling...**”

Think about that! The very fact that we have the Holy Spirit of God.

Verse 6:<sup>[transcriber’s correction]</sup> “For this reason, I admonish you to **stir up the gift of God...**”

- through prayer
- through study
- through yearning for the Kingdom of God
- through yearning for His Way
- through yearning for the whole plan of God to be fulfilled

Verse 9: “...not according to our works...” *Yes, we have to have our works, as we have covered; we know that.*

“...but **according to His own purpose and grace...**” (v 9).

Think about that! Our relationship with God is direct access to the Father and Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit:

- through prayer
- through study
- through living God’s way

“...**which was given us in Christ Jesus...**” (v 9).

Notice this next phrase. We’ve covered this before, but let’s really zero in on it:

“...**before the ages of time**” (v 9).

- How far back does that go?
- How was God preparing for that?
- What did He make so it would work?
- How did He work it out so when there are

difficulties and problems they can be overcome?

*That's an important thing that we need to realize!*

Down through the history of mankind up to the coming of Jesus Christ there were prophecies concerning Jesus Christ, but salvation granted to ordinary human beings did not begin until Jesus came. We will see that:

- He had to live His life
- He had to die for our sins
- He had to shed his blood
- He had to be in the grave three days and three nights
- He had to be resurrected from the dead to be:
  - ✓ our High Priest
  - ✓ our Intercessor
  - ✓ our Brother
  - ✓ our great King in the coming world, which is coming during the Millennium

***All of this was planned out before the ages of time!***

Verse 10: “But has **now been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ...**” (v 10).

So we need a Savior. Every human being, past, present and future, and when you understand the flow of the Holy Days, that shows how God is going to do it!

“...Who has annulled death...” (v 10)—*meaning to make it so it never happened!* That's only something that God can do!

“...and has brought to light *eternal life...* [which is what He wants to give us] ...and incorruptibility through the Gospel” (v 10).

- How do we know that it's going to take place?

There are a lot of people out there in the world; maybe even some in the Church are really not sure, You have to know:

- God is true
- His Word is true
- His plan is true

***His plan, before the ages of time, is being worked out!***

Let's see where Paul repeats some of this again. Notice how important this is:

Titus 1:1: “Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to **the faith of God's elect** and *the knowledge of the Truth* that is according to Godliness.” *That's us!*

- we have faith to God
- God gives us His faith

It's kind of like a two-way circuit! *Our faith to God, His faith to us! **Our faith to God, His faith to us day-by-day as we pray, study, live and walk in God's way!***

“...**and the knowledge of the Truth...**” (v 1). *We've covered that recently!*

Everything that God has done is true, ***and that the Truth of the Scriptures are written in heaven!*** That's an amazing thing! Isn't that going to be a wonderful thing when we're in the Kingdom of God and we can look at the Scrolls of Truth recorded in heaven! That's going to be an amazing thing.

Verse 2: “**In the hope of eternal life...**”

Christianity is not to be better, nicer people in this world, which we should be. God's plan is greater, better and reaches out way beyond that. ***He wants us to be converted,*** as we will see with the upcoming days of Unleavened Bread. Conversion means ***a complete change of:***

- heart
- mind
- attitude
- purpose
- destination

Verse 2: “In the hope of eternal life, which God [the Father] **Who cannot lie...**”

- that's why the Scriptures are called *the Word of Truth*
- that's why there are warnings against those who would add to or take away from

***That's how important that it is!*** Today we have the whole Bible in our language! We have the time, the means, the ability to learn the Word of God:

- to study it
- to know it
- to memorize it
- to have it written in our mind

“...**promised before the ages of time**” (v 2).

If God promises something, it will be; *it's as good as done!* That's why God is called the God of the living, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. All three of them are dead, but because of the promise of eternal life to them it's as good as done. Remember that we saw that ***God is going to annul death!***

Verse 3: “But revealed in its own set time in the proclamation of His Word, with which I was entrusted according to *the* commandment of God our Savior.” *Jesus Christ Who is also God!* That's quite

a tremendous thing to happen!

We know that Genesis 1:1 says: “In the beginning God...” So, *God was there before anything else was created*, and Jesus Christ was with Him.

We have in the Old Testament the Most High God, the One Who became the Father of the New Testament. Then we have YHVH, the Lord God Who was the God the Old Testament leading up to the beginning of the New Testament. This is confirmed and verified by:

John 1:1: **“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and not even one thing that was created came into being without Him”** (vs 1-3)—*He created it!*

That verifies Genesis 1:1: “In the beginning God created the heavens...”

He did all of that first, all the heavens. After He created the heavens then we will see something else. We will see that God created the angels.

Sidebar: For all of those of you who have heard about Genesis as history—which it is—and believe in a 6,000 year age of the earth, miss the whole point of when the angels were created.

So, God created the heavens and then we’re going to see that He created angels. We find that in the book of Job. Let’s understand something very important. Of course, the book of Job is always difficult to understand, especially the first time you read it. Here you are as a new Christian, newly baptized and you know you have to read the Bible, study the Bible. So, you read the book of Job.

That happened to me. This was when I was about a year and a half or so after baptism. I was reading about Job, and it said that Job was blameless! Even the *King James* says, ‘perfect’! I thought that all that’s written here in the book of Job. I wonder if God could be wrong? *It took me quite a while to read through it and understand it!* At the end the thing is this for Job: ***everything that he did was what God required!*** That was not Job’s righteousness, ***but God’s righteousness!***

Since Job though he was so good, and he was almost as righteous as God, maybe even a little more, he challenged God to come and speak to him. Well, God obliged him! ***Be careful what you ask God for, because it’s going to happen!***

Job 38:1: “Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said, **‘Who is this that**

**darkens counsel by words without knowledge?’**” (vs 1-2).

Have you ever done that, blithered words out of your mouth without knowledge, and you think you’re so right? *Then someone comes along and shows you that you weren’t so right!*

So, God tells Job,; v 3: “Now gird up your loins like a man; for I will demand of you, and you shall answer Me.”

‘Okay, Job, let’s hear you.’ The first thing He wants to know from Job, since he’s so righteous and important:

Verse 4: Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth?....”

So, we have in Genesis that He created the heavens; then He created the angels, and then He created the earth.

“...Declare it if you have understanding! Who has determined its measurements if you know? Or who has stretched the line upon it? On what are the foundations fastened to?” (vs 4-6),

The earth and the bodies in the heavens hang in space! How does God do that? *One of these days we’re going to find out!*

“...Or who laid its cornerstone” (v 6).

Now, v 7 becomes very important in understanding why we need a Savior, and all about free choice. What happens with free choice? *That is the key!*

Verse 7: “When the morning stars... [the angels] ...sang together and all the sons of God... [higher angels] ...shouted for joy? So, we have this:

God created the heavens, the angels and then created the Earth. As we will see they—the angels—lived on the earth; that was their first habitation. After God created the angels, and He really began to reveal His plan to them, something happened, because they didn’t like part of the plan of God, because it directly affected them! It would put—in God’s plan for mankind—angels underneath the jurisdiction of those human beings who qualify for eternal life. They (the angels) would be their servants.

They were supposed to be servants of God for physical mankind before the advent of Christ’s coming. However, something took place.

Let’s look at that, and this affects every human being who has ever been. Here is something that describes a very old part of God’s plan:

Revelation 12:1: “Then there appeared a

great wonder in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and *having* the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.”

That one verse is a reflection of God’s plan that He proposed before the ages of time. Then He created the angels and created the Earth for them. They were happy, joyful and singing and everything was great, ***until something happened!*** There was a rebellion.

Why was there a rebellion? *Because God did not make the angels robots!* God wants free moral agency—independent free moral agency—so that we choose; so that the angels would choose:

- choose *to love* God
- choose *to obey* God
- choose *to work out God’s plan* as He instructs them
- What kind of world would you have with robots and artificial intelligence?
- What kind of world would you have if the only thing it could do is repeat back to you what you put in it?

That’s what human being are trying to do now, saying, ‘Oh how great this is!’ They even have artificial intelligence, ‘Emily, tell me this or that.’

Verse 2 shows that there has to be a Savior. So, this plan depicted by a woman comes down to the one who was called *Mary*—or in the Greek: *Miriam*—who brought forth Jesus Christ.

Verse 2: “And being with child, she cried in travail, and was in pain to deliver.”

As soon as the angels understood this, there was a leader, a shining star; so bright was his glory that he rebelled. How he persuaded the angels who followed him to believe him instead of God.

Verse 3: “And another sign was seen in heaven: and behold, a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns on his heads; and his tail **swept away a third of the stars of heaven, and cast them to the earth.**...” (vs 3-4).

When that rebellion took place, then we find in Gen. 2 the earth was covered with a flood to destroy everything that the angels had on the earth. Let’s see that. Ezek. 28 tells us partly how the rebellion took place. They had to have free moral agency to do it and to be able to do an awful lot of things. This talks about the prince of Tyre and he declared himself to be ‘God.’

Why did he do that? *Because of the power behind him who was the one who became Satan!* He called the king of Tyre. It says there that he was in the Garden of Eden, the Garden of God. Well, who

all was in the Garden of Eden?

- God
- Adam
- Eve
- the serpent

Nobody else was there. After Adam and Eve sinned, God cut off entrance so they couldn’t get in there, because at the east entrance of the Garden of Eden He placed cherubim with flaming swords. Here’s what Satan was before the rebellion: he was an anointed cherub and a cherub covers the Throne of God.

Ezekiel 28:14: “You *were* **the anointed cherub that covers**, and I set you so; you were upon the Holy mountain of God... [where God’s Throne is] ...you have walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire”—*the glorious pavement that is all around God’s Throne!*

Verse 15: You *were* perfect in your ways from the day that you were created...”

Yes, as soon as God was creating the Earth, they were filled with joy. They were perfect, ***but there is free moral agency!*** That perfection can be broken with lust, vanity and greed by free choice.

“...until **iniquity was found in you**...” (v 15). Aside from the merchandizing that is mentioned there (v 16), what was his sin?

This is why when we study the Bible, we have to do it God’s way: *here a little, there a little, line upon line, precept upon precept*, and put it together so that we get the complete story. In some cases it works out that even one sentence can be part of an isolated prophecy that fits into other prophecies. That’s the way God designed the Word of God.

Why did He do it that way? *So that when people would read it, if they’re not willing to obey it, they would have no understanding!* That’s called ***spiritual blindness!***

But what came upon us with the Holy Spirit of God so that we could understand it? *God’s instruction on how to study!*

Isaiah 14:12: “How you are fallen from the heavens...”—*because they were cast down to the earth (Rev. 12);* and a third of the angels believed him.

When they were cast down to the earth, there was a great war! Then the flood covered the whole earth until God was ready to continue His plan and create mankind.

“...O shining star, son of the morning! *How*

you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations!” (v 12). *Yes, that’s what he’s done to all nations! Look at it!*

Verse 13: “For you have said in your heart... [free choice] ... ‘**I** will ascend *into* the heavens...”

If you ascend \that means you’re going up. Going up from the earth up into the heavens to come after God and fight Him.

“...I will exalt my throne above the stars of God...” So, he was in charge of all the angels on the earth; he had a throne. It talks about that in Ezek. 28; all the precious stones and everything that consisted of what was around his throne.

“...I will also sit upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north” (v 13).

In other words, he saying that he was going up to take over God’s Throne. So, this was a great sin!

Verse 14: “**I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the Most High.**’ Yet, you shall be brought down to the grave, to the sides of the pit” (vs 14-15).

- Where will Satan be contained when Christ returns? *In the abyss!*
- What is that also called? *The bottomless pit!*

### ***See how accurate all the Scriptures are?***

After whatever length of time it was that God caused the first flood to come upon the earth, He re-created everything on the earth in preparation for human beings. A key, important thing is that it revealed a great aspect of the plan of God, part of the way, which is when it came to creating man and woman, God said, ‘Let **Us**...’

Who are the **Us**? *John 17 says that it’s the Father and the Son!* “Let Us make man in Our image after Our likeness.” Isn’t that something? “Let him have dominion over the earth.”

Think about what a great blessing that was for the earth to be given to mankind. Just like the earth was given originally to the angels. Now God creates it for mankind, everything we need. *You read it!*

It also says that ‘He made them male and female’ and told them to be ‘fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth.’ God is the One Who designed genders.

So, all of those deluded people who think that they are a different gender than they really are, you’re only kidding yourself. It doesn’t matter how

many alphabet genders you may create in your own scheme of things, *there are only two: **man and woman!***

Isn’t it a profound thing that God gave the ability for human beings to reproduce themselves? *That’s an amazing thing! And **all the animals and the plants**—everything that is living on the earth—**reproduces it’s own kind!***

We also know that when God made the first man—Adam—He made him with His own hands, and then breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and man became a living being. It says ‘soul’ in most translations, but a ‘soul’ is your whole physical body and the physical mechanism within it to make it run. The mind is what God gave for thought, and He also put *the spirit of man* in the mind so that there would be life.

Then He placed him—the man Adam—in the Garden of Eden and told him to dress it and keep it. God also said that ‘it’s not good for man to be alone, I will make a help compatible for him.’ He took one of Adam’s ribs and made a woman and brought her to him. Then we have our first marriage. Adam said, ‘She shall be called *woman* because she was taken from man, from my flesh and bone.’

What does that tell us about God creating Adam and Eve? *He created them with a working language!* The only persons brought into being that had a language programmed in their brain so God could talk with them and teach them, and they could talk to God.

We don’t know how long Adam and Eve lived in the Garden of Eden before the serpent was let loose, but we know God well enough from the Scriptures that He gave them a good amount of basic knowledge. So, before the testing came with the serpent coming into the garden, they must have known an awful lot.

We don’t know how long they were there before that occurred. But we know what happened when the serpent came in. He tempted Eve and said,

You won’t die, you will become like gods. God hasn’t told you that. Well, He’s hiding something from you, so if you want it, if you want to know something that God hasn’t told you, take the fruit and eat it.

*So, Eve took the fruit, and Adam sat there and watched her do it!* She ate and came over and said, ‘Oh, this is good, try it, you’ll like it!’ So, Adam ate it!

What is this? *This is the improper use of free moral agency to go against the instructions of God to do something that you want instead of what God*

wants! That's called *lust!* You can see the whole operation of how this end took place:

- the idea came
- the persuasion came
- the action came to pick'
- the action came to eat
- the action came to give to her husband and he ate

***So, sin entered into the human realm!***

The first thing that God did before He pronounced His judgment against them—which He did—was to say that there would be a Savior to come. Let's look at that, because right at the very beginning God revealed that there needed to be a Savior. We know from the rest of the Bible, later on, that that Savior had to be One Who was God in the flesh.

Genesis 3:15—*concerning the Savior*: “And I will put enmity between you [the serpent] and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed... [the final seed would be Christ] ...He will bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.”

***Because there was sin, there had to be a Savior!***

God's judgment came, and He said to the man that the field would bring forth thorns and thistles and ‘you will work in the sweat of your brow. In sorrow shall you work and bring forth the labor of your hands.’

To the woman, God said, ‘You shall have sorrow in child-bearing.’ That goes beyond the child-bearing into child-rearing, and every woman always remembers her children as babies regardless of old they are.

Then they were cutoff from going into the Garden of Eden after that.

Let's read a Scripture that tells us the whole truth. A lot of preachers like to read where it says that Eve was deceived, so therefore we can blame all women from now on for the sin of Adam, because she did it. That's not true! She started it, but Adam could have stopped it at any time. He could have said to Eve:

Hey, get away from the tree! What are you doing touching it? Remember that God said don't touch it!

Adam could have stopped it! He could have used his free moral agency to do so, but he didn't, did he?

Romans 5:12: “Therefore, as by one man sin entered into the world... [human sin] ...and by means of sin *came* death...”—*you shall die! The*

***wages of sin is death!***

“...and in this way death passed into all mankind...” (v 12).

Every human being from that time on had a death gene and they all die! Even those who have the Holy Spirit of God ***die the death in faith awaiting the resurrection!*** It says in Hebrews:

It's given man once to die, as in Adam we all die. Even so, in Christ shall all be made alive!

*That's the other half of the story!*

“...and it is for this reason that all have sinned” (v 12)—*because of having the potential of dying, sin comes right along with that!*

Later, Paul labels this as ***the law of sin and death!*** We're born with it, and that's the way it is.

How is God going to correct all of this? *That's why we need a Savior!* That's why we need God, Who then wanted to demonstrate:

- His love
- His justice
- His righteousness

By the One Who was the Lord God of the Old Testament to become a speck of human life and to be impregnated into the womb of the virgin Mary:

- to be born as a human being
- to live
- to have a ministry
- to die a very cruel death
- to take all the sins of all mankind upon Himself
  - ✓ that is a ***Great God***
  - ✓ that is a ***loving God***

That's why He's got His plan that He's going to take care of all: *past, present and future!* That's why ***we need a Savior!***

Paul describes it: *The human mind without the Spirit of God ***has the law of sin and death within its very nature!*** The only thing to change that is through the purpose of God and our Savior, our Lord Jesus Christ!*

We will see why we need a Savior for ***all*** mankind!

(break)

After Adam and Eve ate of the fruit of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, mankind's nature was changed. As we have talked about, the *death gene* was given. The environment was changed.

Man nature had some good, and if people

would have followed the way of God, they would have had some or more good. But because of their sin, Satan was left to dwell on the earth with them—Satan and the demons. So, this led things to become even worse.

The first great sin was Cain killing Abel. From then on the whole line of Cain was dedicated to Satan the devil and evil. It began the whole cycle of civilizations rising up, developing, becoming corrupt, evil and disintegrating. This happened to the whole earth, because of that.

Let's see the result of human nature rejecting God and following Satan and the demons. You check through history and this repeated over and over again.

Genesis 6:5: "And the LORD saw that the wickedness of man *was* great on the earth..." *All mankind, men and women, the wickedness!*

We're seeing today in this generation again how wicked and evil it can become. In the few generations before us, we saw how evil it could be with WWI & WWII. It became progressively more evil until finally the ones who perpetrated the evil had to be literally destroyed.

But then the Americans made the mistake of bringing as many German scientists as they could over here. So, what do we end up with today? *A civilization that is destroying itself!* Notice what happens when you give yourself over to evil:

**"...and every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually"** (v 5). Isn't that what we have today?

**Test:** take an afternoon, morning or whole day and go through all the television channels that you have coming into your home. Have the Ten Commandment in one hand and your remote in the other hand.

Look at all the things that are going on and how much evil is presented with humor, games and fun. Look at the depth of evil and Satan with the movies and things that they advertise.

So, we have it there!

There was before the Flood, so the Flood had to be given to destroy all mankind at that time. Every living thing except that which God sent to Noah to put into the ark to come to the other side of the Flood.

What happened then? *After that it finally got to the point of the Tower of Babel!* Let's look at the Tower of Babel and what God saw and what God had to do. Remember that Jesus said, *'As it was in the days of Noah—before the Flood and then later*

*after the Flood—so shall it be in the days of the coming of the Son of man!'*

So, in spite of wiping the slate clean, destroying all human beings except the eight that were in the ark, having a clean start. After a number of generations, they turned their backs on God *again*. Let's read what the society became like at that time. This also tells us:

- why we need a Savior
- why we need God
- why we need His Word
- why we need His Spirit

*Left to ourselves, under the sway of Satan the devil and the demons, there would be no flesh saved alive, as Jesus said!*

Genesis 11:1: "And the whole earth was of one language and one speech. And it came to pass, as they traveled from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar.... [Iraq today] ...And they settled there. And they said to one another, 'Come, let us make bricks and burn them thoroughly.' And they had brick for stone, and they had asphalt for mortar. And they said, 'Come, let us build us a city... [that's a good idea, let's have a great city] ...and a tower..." (vs 1-4)—*men love towers!*

Sidebar: What does it say about all the skyscrapers in the cities of the earth just before Christ returns? *They all collapse!*

"...with its top reaching into the heavens..." (v 4).

Just like today, they want to go up into the heavens. 'Let's go the moon.' We've been there, 'we want to go further; let's go to Mars.' How are you going to do that? *We'll have to wait and see if that actually happens;* probably might happen.

"...And let us establish a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered upon the face of the whole earth" (v 4).

They knew they were going to have to go where God decided would be the boundaries of their habitation on the various lands of the earth.

Verse 5: "And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men had built. And the LORD said, 'Behold, the people *are* one and they all have one language....'" (vs 5-6).

We're at that point today with digital language. The spoken language that is almost universal is *English!*

"...And this *is only the beginning of what they will do—now **nothing, which they have imagined to do...***" (v 6).

Remember Gen. 6, that *every thought of the imagination of man was only evil continually!* Here is again, right here:

**“...nothing, which they have imagined to do will be restrained from them”** (v 6).

- think about that
- think about how powerful the human mind actually is
- think about how powerful it is with the addition of Satan the devil’s inspiration and input

So, God confused all the languages and they were went into all the earth. Then God selects one man, because he was the only righteous man, Abram who became Abraham.

God made the promise to him of a child, which happened, and the promise of a Savior that would come through that child later on (Gen. 22). So, all the way through the prophecies of the Bible, we have the prophecy of the coming Messiah.

Then we come to Isaac and Jacob, all the children of Israel, and then we come down to the time of Moses and the children of Israel being brought before God at Mt. Sinai after being taken out of Egypt.

God gave a prophecy again of the coming Messiah, *that God would raise One up like unto Moses, a Prophet Whom you will hear*, and that’s the One Who became Jesus Christ. But even in spite of all of that, in spite of:

- all the promises that God gave to Israel
- all the blessing that He gave to Israel
- all of the good things that He did to Israel:
  - ✓ forgiving their sin
  - ✓ dealing with them
  - ✓ giving them what they needed to live by

***They still ended up like it was in Gen. 6!***

Human beings, without the Spirit of God—the Word of God and the ability to have the Spirit be put in them—this is what happens to all human beings.

Jeremiah had a ministry of 40 years, and he saw the downfall of all of the Jews in Judea. *Every single prophecy that God gave came to pass!* Jeremiah gave warning, ‘Don’t do this... God says, ‘Don’t do that...’ God says:

- don’t offer your children to Molech as a sacrifice to Molech
- remember the Sabbath and keep it

***But they wouldn’t listen!***

Jeremiah was the son of a priest from the city of Anathoth, and the men of Anathoth—which then was a Levitical priestly city—wanted to kill Jeremiah for what he was preaching and condemning them for what they were doing.

Jeremiah 10:23: “O LORD, I know... [from living, watching and experiencing] ...that **the way of man is not in himself...**”

- though we like self-reliance
- though we like to go out and do things for our own and do it our way
- though we like to make great things and so forth

But it **“...is not in himself; it is not in man who walks to direct his steps”** (v 23). *He can’t do it correctly!*

What is in society, and what is brought into our mind growing up is *the knowledge of good and evil* and Satan the devil and the demons are there.

Always remember that *it’s not how you start out, it’s how you finish!* Look what happened to Judea. God warned them and warned them, but instead of repenting, they go worse and worse!

Let’s see it! We can take this and we can superimpose it upon the history of every nation that has ever existed. Here’s a basic lesson for us to learn and why **we need a Savior** and why **we can’t** save ourselves!

Jeremiah 17:5: “Thus says the LORD, ‘Cursed is the man who trusts in man, and makes flesh his arm, and whose heart departs from the LORD.’” *That’s quite a thing; we there today!*

- How many people are rejecting God?
- How many atheists are there?
- How many even within the so-called ‘Christian’ world of the churches of this world are really righteous?

There are a few, but their righteousness is only partial, because they only come to God so far and they stop. ***They’re not willing to cross that bridge:***

- from Sunday to Sabbath
- from holidays to Holy Days
- from the Lord’s Supper to the true Passover

*Here’s what happens to every society:*

Verse 6: “For he shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when good comes. But he shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land that is not inhabited.” *Isn’t that happening to our nation? Yes, indeed!*

Notice the contrast; free moral agency is still

available, still there to exercise:

Verse 7: “Blessed *is* the man who trusts in the LORD and whose hope is the LORD.”

That’s for us, brethren! Do we trust in the Lord with all our heart? *That’s what Prov, 3 says. ‘Lean not to your own understanding’!*

- that’s why we need a Savior
- that’s why the world needs a Savior

If you trust in Him, life will be better, even if you’re not converted.

Verse 8: “For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters; *it* sends out its roots by the river, and *it* shall not fear when the heat comes, but its foliage shall be green; and he is not worried in the year of drought, nor will it cease from yielding fruit.”

Apply that to us today. We’re living in a society that is becoming progressively more evil, and the evil is deeper than we have ever thought.

Verse 9: “**The heart...**” *This is what God wants changed, and this is why we need a Savior. Remember what Jesus said was the very first commandment, and it’s the most important of all. Everything else will come by it:*

***We need to love the Lord our God with all our heart, mind, soul and strength, and to love our neighbor as our self!***

And then Jesus added:

***To love one another as He has loved us!***

Then one more:

***To love our enemies!***

That’s far from doing away with the Law, because Jesus said, ***‘On these two commandments hang all the Law and all the Prophets!’*** Because everything that God does is based on that!

*Remember the Scripture: John 3:16: “For **God so loved the world that He gave His only Begotten Son**, so that everyone who believes in Him **may not** perish, but **may have** everlasting life.” *Do you see the free choice that is exercised there?**

Jeremiah 17:9: “The heart *is* deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?” *That’s the nature every human being has!*

If they’re taught ‘good’ when they’re growing up, it won’t be so evil. But if they’re not taught ‘good,’ look at what it comes to:

Just like what was in Louisiana recently where four girls went into Walmart and attacked another girl, stabbed her in the heart and bragged about it, and put it out on Facebook for everybody to see. They were 12-15-years-old.

See what happens the human mind and heart when there is no God, where there is Satan the devil and the demons.

Verse 10: “**I the LORD search the heart...**” *He knows the heart and mind; everything about what we do!*

“...**I try the reins...**” (v 10).

God has a special creation within us called *reins*, that He can tap into any time to know anything that we are thinking, doing, have done or we are contemplating doing.

“...even to give to each man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings” (v 10).

Verse 13 tells us a little foretaste of what the world is going through right now in rejecting God and worshipping Satan the devil:

- to have all the religions come together
- to have all the governments come together
- to have everybody made to think alike
- to worship the devil
- to worship the beast who is coming
- to worship the false prophet who is coming

Verse 13: “O LORD, the Hope of Israel, all who forsake You shall be ashamed. ‘Those who depart from Me shall be written in the earth because they have forsaken the LORD, the Fountain of living waters.’”

Notice what Jeremiah asked the Lord, because he had to live right in the middle of all of this:

Verse 14: “Heal me, O LORD... [from the heart that’s deceitful above all things and desperately wicked] ...and I shall be healed, save me, and I shall be saved; for You *are* my praise.” *That’s was Jeremiah’s plea!*

Now, we won’t go into all the details concerning the birth of Christ; we’ve covered those recently {messages: *The Birth of Christ* #s 1 & 2}

We’ve also got a booklet: *Prophecies of Jesus Christ in the Old Testament* by James Meister; there are 356 of them.

Now we’ll look at some things about Christ being our Savior. There’s only One Who is the Savior! It had to be God coming in the flesh as a human being, as we have gone through and understood.

Isaiah 45:11: “Thus says the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, and the One who formed him, ‘Ask Me of things that are to come concerning My sons...’” *That has to do with two things:*

1. with Israel
2. Jesus Christ

“...and concerning the work of My hands. I have made the earth and created man upon it; I *with* My hands have stretched out the heavens; and all their host have I commanded. I have raised him up in righteousness...” (vs 11-13).

This is talking first of all about Cyrus to release the Jews from Babylon, but this also goes over to Christ.

“...and I will make straight all his ways; he shall build My city, and he shall let My captives go, not for price nor reward,’ says the LORD of hosts” (v 13).

Verse 15: “Truly You *are* a God Who hides Yourself, O God of Israel, the Savior” *He’s hidden to the world, but He reveals Himself to those who are seeking Him!*

Verse 17: “*But* Israel shall be saved by the LORD *with* an everlasting salvation.... [past, present and future; that’s what God’s plan is all about] ...You shall not be ashamed nor disgraced *even* into the ages of eternity.” *That’s talking about eternal life, as well!*

Verse 18: “For thus says the LORD the Creator of the heavens, He Himself *is* God, Who formed the earth and made it; He has established it. He created it not in vain, *but* formed it to be inhabited. ‘I *am* the LORD, and *there is* no other.’” *Quite an amazing thing, indeed!*

Eventually the earth is going to be re-created again for the ‘new heavens and the new earth.’ So, this verse goes clear out to there.

Verse 21: “Declare and bring near... [that’s what we are to do] ...yea, let them take counsel together. Who has declared this of old?...” *God has!*

All the way through the Bible is the message: ***mankind needs a Savior***, and *God applies that on an individual basis to every single one of us!*

“...*Who* has told it from ancient times? Have not I, the LORD?... [Didn’t He begin right in Gen. 3? *Yes, indeed!*] And ***there is no other God besides Me***; a just God and a Savior; ***there is none besides Me. Turn to Me, and be saved, all the ends of the earth...***” (vs 21-22).

*A prophecy of the Gospel going to all the ends of the earth; the conversion of nations:*

- a prophecy of the Millennium
- a prophecy of the 100-year period

*See how much is contained in the Word of God! It’s layered precept upon precept!*

Verse 22: “Turn to Me, and be saved, all the ends of the earth; for I *am* God, and there *is* none else.... [notice how sure that this is]: ...I have sworn by Myself, the word has gone out of My mouth *in* righteousness, and shall not turn back, that unto Me ***every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear***” (vs 22-23)—*by the Lord!*

That’s how it’s going to be! Now, let’s look at how this is explained in Heb. 1, which is a summary of how God undertook to do it, to bring a Savior. We will see in Heb. 1 & 2 quite a few things that wrap up a lot of the Scriptures together. It shows us that

- God is the One Who is doing this
- Jesus Christ is His Son
- the angels are only servants
- none of the angels who rebelled are going to be saved

*Notice how this starts:*

Hebrews 1:1: “***God...***”—*because it was God before the ages of time, and then He created the heavens and the Earth.*

“...Who spoke to the fathers at different times in the past ***and in many ways by the Prophets...***” (v 1).

What does it say about the Prophets? *The Word of the Lord came to:*

- Isaiah
- Jeremiah
- Ezekiel
- Hosea
- Joel
- Habakkuk
- Nahum
- Zephaniah
- Haggai
- Zechariah

*All the Prophets*

“...***has spoken to us in these last days by His Son***” (v 1)—*Jesus Christ!*

*It tells what’s going to be for Him, as well as for us; v 2: “Whom He has appointed heir of all things, by Whom also He made the ages; Who, being the brightness of His glory and the exact image of His person... “ (vs 2-3)—character!*

That’s why we’re to grow and overcome, to have the character of God, the mind of Christ!

“...and upholding all things... [notice how

important the Word of God is]: ...**by the word of His own power**, when He had by Himself purged our sins...” (v 3).

It’s talking all about His life, ministry and everything to do with His crucifixion, death and resurrection, right there.

“...sat down at *the* right hand of the Majesty on high” (v 3). *That’s something!* And He’s right there, right now to:

- help us
- guide us
- lead us with Spirit
- help us understand
- help us to come to conversion
- deeper repentance
- yieldedness to God
- loving God more with all our heart, mind, soul and being

*Right there; that’s Jesus’ ministry that He’s carrying out!*

Verse 4: “Having been made so much greater than *any* of the angels, inasmuch as He has inherited a name exceedingly superior to them.”

That’s why when Satan comes along and appears as an angel of light, how deceiving is that? *Mighty, mighty indeed!* Remember that **Christ is exceedingly superior in being, name and authority!**

Verse 5: “For to which of the angels did He ever say, **‘You are My Son; this day I have begotten You’?** And again, **‘I will be a Father to Him, and He will be a Son to Me’?**” *My Beloved Son in Whom I have delight!*

Verse 6: “And again, when He brought the Firstborn into the world, He said, **‘Let all the angels of God worship Him.’**”

Didn’t that happen when Jesus was born? Two shepherd boys out watching the sheep, a host of angels came singing ‘Glory to God!’ They told them to go into Bethlehem and they will ‘find a babe wrapped in swaddling clothes.’ Isn’t that an amazing thing, that here the most glorious birth that has ever been of anyone who is a baby, **the One Who became Jesus Christ begotten and born of the virgin Mary!** So important was His birth that it was the salvation of the world, but He only revealed it to two little shepherd boys. They were the only ones to announce it!

Verse 7: “Now, on the one hand, of the angels He says, ‘Who makes His angels spirits, and His ministers a flame of fire.’ [they are to be ministering to people] ...But on the other hand, of the Son *He* says, **‘Your Throne...’**” (vs 7-8). *Look*

*at that difference, how much more highly exalted that Jesus is!*

“**...O God...**”—*Jesus was God before He came in the flesh!* He was resurrected from the dead and is God now.

“...*is* into the ages of eternity; a scepter of righteousness *is* the scepter of Your Kingdom” (v 8).

Notice how we are to have the behavior. Yes, we are to be merciful for those who repent. But here’s what we need to do. This needs to be our attitude, and this is why we have the Feast of Unleavened Bread come up every year.

- we understand that we need to draw closer to God
- we need to get rid of the things of the flesh
- we need to concentrate on the things of the Spirit

Verse 9: “You loved righteousness... [Do you love righteousness?] ...and hated lawlessness...” *You look at that and see how contrary that is to God!*

- we are to get away from it
- we are to hate it
- we are to despise it
- we are not to be partakers of it

“...because of this, God... [think about how that will apply to us also in a lesser degree] ...*even* Your God, has anointed You with *the* oil of gladness above Your companions. And, You, Lord, in the beginning did lay the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are *the* works of Your hands” (vs 9-10).

But imagine what’s going to happen when there are all of those who are going to saved—mankind: past, present, future—from the way we view it. When that day comes, notice what God is going to do. There’s going to be a new heaven and new earth:

Verse 11: “They will perish, but You remain *forever*; and *they* will all grow old like a garment, and You will roll them up like a covering, **and they shall be changed...**” (vs 11-12).

Imagine how that’s going to be. That’s hard for us to do, but let’s make sure that we’re there to see it. That’s going to be a thing! Rev. 21 says, ‘Behold, I make all things new’—new heaven, new earth, New Jerusalem! That’s the end of salvation for us.

“...but You are the same, and Your years will not end.’ But unto which of the angels did He ever say, **‘Sit at My right hand, until I make Your**

**enemies a footstool for Your feet**? Are they not all ministering spirits, being sent forth to minister to those who are about to inherit salvation?” (vs 12-14).

Then it talks about what Jesus did, and how important that this is. This is tremendous.

Hebrews 2:5: “For *it is* not to *the* angels that He has placed in subjection the world that is to come, of which we are speaking. But in a certain place one fully testified, saying, ‘What is man... [David, Psa. 8] ...that You are mindful of him, or *the* son of man, that You visit him? You did make him a little lower than *the* angels...’” (vs 5-7).

In the Hebrew in Psa. 8, it is lower than ‘Elohim,’ or lower than God. The word for angels in Hebrew is ‘malak’ and ‘angelos’ in the Greek. Yes, He was made lower than the angels, and yes, we are lower than the angels, so both are true.

“...You did crown him with glory and honor, and You did set him over the works of Your hands; You did put all things in subjection under his feet.’ For in subjecting all things to him, He left nothing *that was* not subjected to him. But now we do not yet see all things subjected to him” (vs 7-8)—*not yet!*

Verse 9: “But we see Jesus, Who *was* made a little lower than *the* angels, **crowned with glory and honor on account of suffering the death**, in order that by *the* grace of God He Himself might taste death for everyone.” *We know that come upon:*

- repentance
- baptism
- receiving the Holy Spirit
- being faithful to the end of our lives
- being resurrected from the dead

Verse 10: “Because it was fitting for Him, for Whom all things *were created*, and by Whom all things *exist*, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the Author of their salvation perfect through sufferings.”

There is benefit that comes from suffering. You learn the value of the righteousness and love of God, and we learn to overcome. *It’s necessary!* Every one of us are going to have a trial to the lowest pit of despair that we may go to, so that we will:

- look to God
- look to Christ
- trust in the salvation
- believe God

God will lift us out of that so we can grow, change

and overcome, and really understand everything about God that we’re able to through His Spirit and through His Word!

Verse 11: “For both He Who is sanctifying and those who are sanctified *are* all of one; for which cause He is not ashamed to call them brethren.”

***Think of that! We are the firstborn, the brethren of Jesus Christ!***

- He’s our King
- He’s our High priest
- He’s our Lord
- He’s our Master
- He’s also our Brother

Verse 12: “Saying, ‘I will declare Your name to My brethren; in *the* midst of *the* Church I will sing praise to You.’ And again, ‘I will be trusting in Him.’ And again, ‘Behold, **I and the children whom God has given Me**’” (vs 12-13).

Verse 14—*then Paul says why we need a Savior*: “Therefore, since the children are partakers of flesh and blood, in like manner He also took part in the same, in order that through death He might annul him who has the power of death—that is, the devil; and *that* He might deliver those who were subject to bondage all through their lives by *their* fear of death” (vs 14-15).

- releases us from the bondage of sin that’s within
- releases us from the bondage of sin that’s in society through Satan the devil and the demons

Verse 16: “For surely, He is not taking upon Himself to help *the* angels; but He is taking upon Himself to help *the* seed of Abraham.”

Galatians 3:29: “And if you *are* Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to *the* promise.” *This is not talking just about physical Israel, this is talking about the Church!*

Hebrews 2:17: “For this reason, it was obligatory...” *Mandatory because of what happened with the sin of Adam and Eve, what happened with the sin of the angels, in order for there to be justice and truth that He partake of flesh!*

“...for *Him* to be made like *His* brethren in everything... [where He is tempted] ...that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest *in* things pertaining to God, in order to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For because He Himself has suffered, having been tempted *in like manner*, He is able to help those who are being tempted” (vs 17-

18).

*This is why we need a Savior, a great Savior Jesus Christ Who came to be a man, go through that we do as human beings, to be faithful to God the Father unto the suffering of death, as we will see with the coming Passover. So that*

- we might enter into the Kingdom of God
- we might have our sins forgiven
- we might receive the Spirit of God

***for all of this to be accomplished! That's why we need a Savior!***

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Scriptural References:

- 1) 2 Timothy 1:8-9, 6, 9-10
- 2) Titus 1:1-3
- 3) Genesis 1:1
- 4) John 1:1-3
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- 6) Job 38:1-7
- 7) Revelation 12:1-4
- 8) Ezekiel 28:14-15
- 9) Isaiah 14:12-15
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- 12) Genesis 6:5
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- 16) John 3:16
- 17) Jeremiah 17:9-10, 13-14
- 18) Isaiah 45:11-13, 15, 17-18, 21-23
- 19) Hebrews 1:1-14
- 20) Hebrews 2:4-16
- 21) Galatians 3:29
- 22) Hebrews 2:17-18

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Genesis 2
- Ezekiel 28:16
- John 17
- Genesis 22
- Proverbs 3
- Revelation 21
- Psalm 8

Also referenced:

- Messages: *The Birth of Christ* #s 1 & 2
- Booklet: *Prophecies of Jesus Christ in the Old Testament* by James Meister

## The True Bread of God

(Sabbath on the Passover Day)

*“For My flesh is truly food, if anyone eats Me he shall live forever!”*

Fred R. Coulter—March 27, 2021

Greetings, brethren! Welcome to Sabbath services! This is a special Sabbath service, because it is the day portion of the Passover. This happens about every five years; there’s a Passover on Friday night, which is the beginning of the Sabbath. Then the rest of the Sabbath Day flows from that.

So, this is Passover Sabbath, or Sabbath Passover *not the Holy Day*, because that comes tomorrow. Yet, we still have the Night to Be Much Observed unto the Lord tonight.

I’ve designed this so that you can have your Sabbath services later in the day, say about 4 or 4:30, have this message and then you can start fixing up all the food and everything. Then you can have the message for the Night to Be Much Observed unto the Lord. So, this makes it a little unusual, because tomorrow, the first day of the week, is the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. Next Sabbath will be the seventh day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread

Some people get confused, because the Wave Sheaf Offering is to be waved *during Unleavened Bread*, and it is to be the day *after the Sabbath!* If it’s the last day of Unleavened Bread, the Wave Sheaf offering is waved outside the days of Unleavened Bread, and that can’t be, because Jesus Christ—our Perfect Sacrifice—without sin ascended to the Father on the first day of the week.

Now then, the flow events, when we have the Passover on Friday night is different from the Passover week, where we have the Passover in the middle of the week, and then we have the regular Sabbath. So it would be Passover on Wednesday, then we have Thursday night to Friday being the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

Then from Friday night to Sabbath night is the Sabbath during Unleavened Bread. So, the Wave Sheaf Offering is waved then.

The problem that you have with this is that when the Passover and Sabbath combine together, the Passover Day is also a day of Unleavened Bread, because as I have explained: the Passover is a separate day of Unleavened Bread, so therefore, when the Passover falls on the regular Sabbath, the Sunday following—or the first day of the week—then becomes the first day of Unleavened Bread *and* the Wave Sheaf Offering Day, as well.

I know that’s a little complicated, because of the way the days fall. But that’s what it has to be. As I have shown before, the day of the Passover is called ‘the first of the unleaveneds.’

The True Bread is Jesus Christ! Because the Passover is so important, and the coming of Christ to be the Passover Lamb for all mankind, and to begin the Church, all of that is the work of God. As Jesus said, ‘Many would come in His name and deceive many.’

So, the Passover itself becomes the #1 thing that Satan wants to destroy *first*, any way he can!

- change the time of the day
- change the day
- change the emblems

*Everything that has been against the Passover is to keep people from being in Covenant with God!* That’s why we have to understand this day.

More human ideas—religious, secular, and just satanic—have been added to or taken from the Passover: the ceremony, the bread and the wine and the service itself. Remember, as we have found out, the first thing to go is *foot-washing!* Why? *Because Jesus said, ‘If I don’t wash your feet you don’t have any part with Me.’* The next thing to do is to:

- move it to the 15<sup>th</sup>
- move it to—as the Seventh Day Adventists—the first Sabbath of every quarter
- as the Protestants do—calling what they take Sunday morning—as the Lord’s Supper
- as the Catholics do, they say it’s the Sacrifice of the Mass

Then all of the idolatry and all of the things that men add to it—rituals, kneeling, prayers—to make it appear that they’re righteous. *But they’re not!*

1-Corinthians 10:12: “Therefore, let the one who thinks he stands take heed, lest he fall.... [How many people have we seen *fall?*] ...No temptation has come upon you except what is common to mankind. For God, Who *is* faithful **will not permit you to be tempted beyond what you are able to bear...** [then you have to God and cry out to Him for it] **but with the temptation, He will make a way of escape, so that you may be able to bear it**” (vs 12-13).

Verse 14: “Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry”—*because the first thing that comes in is that:*

We need to identify ourselves. Since we’re Christians we need a cross to differentiate ourselves from the Jews.

That’s how it all started. Then they went from Sabbath to Sunday and from Passover to the Lord’s Supper. Read Samuele Bacchiocchi’s book *From Sabbath to Sunday*; absolutely eye-opening, all known in history.

But today, people don’t want to read or study; they have been absolutely spoiled with 10-12 minute concentration by television, smart phones. That’s why you need a regular Bible with no batteries.

Verse 15—*Paul says*: “I speak as to those who are wise; you judge what I say. The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not *the* fellowship of the blood of Christ?....” (vs 15-16). *That’s important because:*

- you can’t have forgiveness of sin without the blood of Christ
- you can’t have that without repenting
- you can’t have access to it unless you keep the Passover

So, you can see why it’s so important that Satan come and destroy as much as he can of the true knowledge of the Passover. As I’ve mentioned many times up to today, *read the Passover book!*

“...The bread that we break, is it not *the* fellowship of the Body of Christ?” (v 16).

Why? *Because as Jesus prayed, He wants all of us to be one in Him and God the Father as He and God the Father are one!* That can’t happen without the Passover. So, Paul emphasizes this:

Verse 17: “For we, being many, are one body *and* one bread, **because we are all partakers of the Bread.**” *The true Bread is Christ!* We are going examine that in detail today.

Verse 18: “Consider Israel according to the flesh. Are not those who eat the sacrifices partakers of the altar?.... [yes, indeed] ...What then am I saying? That an idol is anything, or that which is sacrificed to an idol is anything?” (vs 18-19)—*because it’s nothing!*

But people get involved in it because they’re superstitious, and there are demons wherever there are idols. There is a spiritual presence and essence that emanates out to keep people deluded.

Verse 20: “But that which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons, and not to God...”

Do you think that anyone can ignore the instructions of Jesus Christ for the Passover and how to take it, *and:*

- change it?
- ignore it?
- modify it?
- eliminate it?
- ***and be right with God?***

***Absolutely not! Never happen!***

Verse 20: “But that which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons, and not to God; **and I do not wish you to have fellowship with demons.**”

Now listen carefully here because this is important, and today is the Passover Day; we had the Passover last night.

Verse 21: “You cannot drink *the* cup of the Lord, and *the* cup of demons. **You cannot partake of the table of the Lord, and the table of demons.** Now do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? **Are we stronger than He?**” (vs 21-22).

Think of the presumptuousness that goes on in relationship to the various things concerning the Lord’s Supper, the Mass of the Eucharist.

Heb. 10 is important. This was *hard, hard, hard* for the Jews to accept this, because they had the temple, the sacrifices, the Law, the Passover, and most of them kept it on the 14<sup>th</sup>, and a lot of them kept it on the 15<sup>th</sup>. They had all the Feasts of God, and they were the ‘people of God.’ ***But they didn’t realize that all of their traditions*** that they had and added to the Law, the contrary way that they lived, ***and the rejecting of the Messiah would cost them the temple, their land and be scattered in the Diaspora for 2,000 years!***

**“...You cannot partake of the table of the Lord, and the table of demons....”**

Hebrews 10:4: “Because *it is* impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins”—*to remove it completely!*

Under the Old Covenant with the temple, they were justified to the temple through the sacrifice and blood of the animals.

But the truth is, it takes a superior human sacrifice—***that is God manifested in the flesh: Jesus Christ***—to remove sin! ***It takes the blood of Jesus Christ to do that!*** Nothing else can do it.

As we have seen, only through the blood and sacrifice of Jesus Christ do we have justification, **and justification is right standing before God or with God!**

Verse 5: “For this reason, when He comes into the world, He says, ‘Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, but You have prepared a body for Me.’ **A body, a physical body!**”

Jesus divested Himself of being God to become a pinpoint of life and be impregnated into the womb of the virgin Mary, be born as any ordinary human being so that He could live a perfect life and become a perfect sacrifice.

But He went through every experience that every human being goes through, **so that no one could say, ‘Lord, You don’t understand.’ He did!**

Verse 6: “You did not delight in burnt offerings and *sacrifices* for sin. Then said I, ‘Lo, I come (as it is written of Me in the Scroll of the Book) to do Your will, O God’” (vs 6-7).

That’s what we are to do! We’re to do the will of God the Father and Jesus Christ. It’s all recorded right here in the Bible. Yes, there are some things that are difficult to understand, but there are a lot of things that are easy to understand. So, if you first understand the things that are easy, then you can approach the more difficult.

Verse 8: “In the saying above, *He said*, ‘Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings and *sacrifices* for sin (which are offered according to the *priestly law*) You did not desire nor delight in.’ Then He said, ‘Lo, I come to do Your will, O God.’....” (vs 8-9).

This is a quote from the Old Testament. The Jew could have known if they would have been like the Bereans in the synagogue in Berea and ‘checked the Scrolls of the Old Testament to see if these prophecies were true or not.’

“...He takes away the first *covenant* in order that He may establish the second *covenant*” (v 9)—**because the second covenant is for eternal life!**

The first covenant was **letter of the Law, physical land, physical blessings!**

Verse 10: “**By Whose will we are sanctified... [made Holy] ...through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.**” *That’s all time!*

That’s why the plan of God goes back in time for all of those who never had an opportunity for salvation. It come to the present time and forward into the future time so that everyone will

have an opportunity for salvation. But it **begins with Christ**, and the Church, which is us, and the return of Christ and resurrection of the saints to accomplish the whole plan of God.

Verse 10: “**By Whose will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.**”

Verse 11: “Now, every high priest stands ministering day by day, offering the same sacrifices repeatedly, which are never able to remove sins’ but He, after offering **one sacrifice for sins forever**, sat down at *the right hand* of God. Since that time, He is waiting until His enemies are placed *as a footstool* for His feet. For by one offering **He has obtained eternal perfection for those who are sanctified**” (vs 11-14).

Perfection is a process. Sanctified means *you have the Holy Spirit*, but here you are alive at this point and you have to be faithful unto the end. It’s given to everyone *once to die* in Adam. *So, the perfection comes over that period of time!*

The Protestants have it that you’re perfected instantly if you profess the little prayer and accept Jesus. **Not so! We have to grow in grace and knowledge, and overcome!**

Verse 15: “And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after He had previously said, ‘**This is the covenant...**’” (vs 15-16)—*the covenant that we are in!*

When we took the Passover last night—washed the feet, ate the bread and drank the wine—we are remembering the death of Christ. Jesus said, ‘**This is the New Covenant in My blood! This do in the remembrance of Me!**’ We’ve done that!

“...that I will establish with them after those days,’ says *the Lord*, ‘I will give My Laws into their hearts, and I will inscribe them in their minds’” (v 16). *Our mind is to be transformed:*

- by the Spirit of God
- with the Laws of God
- through the Word of God
- through prayer
- through study
- through living the way that God wants us to live

Verse 17: “And their sins and lawlessness I will not remember ever again. Now, where remission of these *is, it is* no longer *necessary to offer sacrifices for sin*” (vs 17-18)—*that’s animal sacrifices are no longer necessary!*

Now let’s see a magnificent part of the

Bible, and it's directly connected to:

- the sacrifice of Jesus Christ
- our relationship with Him
- the purpose of His coming
- our receiving the Holy Spirit
- our receiving the things that we need for eternal life

All of that is right here in John 6; **the true Bread of God!** We find in the first part of the chapter that this was just before the Passover, so this is a Passover message.

He fed the thousands there, 5,000, and they wanted to make Jesus king, so He escaped out of their hands and went on His way, and they found Him over in Capernaum, because He went across and when they got there they said, 'Rabbi, how did You get here?'

John 6:26: "Jesus answered them and said, 'Truly, truly I say to you, you do not seek Me because you saw *the* miracles... [the healings, the bread] ...**but because you ate the bread and were satisfied.**'"

Think about that! Their idea was, 'let's get this man, make Him king and He can feed us and we don't have to work.' That would be a big deal!

So, here's what Jesus said, and He talked in terms relating to the spiritual meaning of everything and *not into the physical meaning of it!* Keep that in mind as we go along.

Verse 27: "Do not labor *for* the food that perishes, but *for* the food that endures unto eternal life, which the Son of man shall give to you; for Him has God the Father sealed"—*as the Messiah, and:*

- to do all these works
- to call the disciples
- to train them
- to prepare for Himself to be sacrificed on the Passover Day

*They didn't understand that!*

Verse 28: "Therefore, they said to Him, 'What shall we do... [everybody wants something to do] ...in order that we ourselves may do the works of God?'"

Notice that they didn't say 'in order to receive eternal life.'

Verse 29: "Jesus answered and said to them, 'This is the work of God: that you believe in Him Whom He has sent.'"

Stop and think about this. The work of God

is to **believe in Him**—Jesus—**Whom God has sent!** Belief is work, because if you believe you will do. That's what we've covered recently concerning Abraham. He believed, but he also had works.

Verse 30: "Therefore, they said to Him, '**What sign will You perform that we may see it and believe You?**' What work will You do?'"

*They still wanted the food;* v 31: "'Our fathers ate manna in the wilderness, as it is written: 'He gave them bread to eat *that came down* from heaven.''"

Notice that He did not answer that question in a physical sense, **He answered the spiritual meaning:**

Verse 32: "Then Jesus said to them, 'Truly, truly I say to you, Moses did not give you the bread from heaven; but **My Father gives you the true Bread from heaven**'"—*Jesus Christ!*

Verse 33: "For the Bread of God is He Who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

John 3:16: "For **God so loved the world**—past, present, future] ...**that He gave His only Begotten Son**, so that everyone who believes in Him **may not** perish... [not exist] ...but **may have** everlasting life."

That's the correct translation, because it's in the subjunctive in the Greek, which means there are conditions. What are the conditions?

- believe God
- believe Christ
- keep their laws and commandments

Isn't that what God wants? **That's all part of belief!**

John 6:34: "Therefore, they said to Him, 'Lord, give this bread to us always.'"

Now Jesus is getting into something that they couldn't understand, but He was telling the truth!

Verse 35: "Jesus said to them, 'I AM the Bread of Life; the one who comes to Me shall never hunger; and the one who believes in Me shall never thirst at any time.' *That's defining eternal life!*

- we get hungry
- we thirst
- we need food, water, liquid

Verse 36: "But *as* I said to you, you also have seen Me, yet, you do not believe." *They could have, but they didn't!*

Verse 37: All whom the Father gives Me shall come to Me...”

We’re going to see, brethren, that eating this *True Bread of Jesus Christ*, as we do for the Passover, everything initiates with the calling of God, which we will see God the Father. ***Every single one of us, God the Father intervened in our lives and then gave us to Christ to be perfected!*** I want you to think on that!

I want you to think about how important it is that you have a relationship with God the Father directly ***because of Jesus Christ!***

Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church; that’s why everything has to be done according to

- His will
- His instruction
- what God the Father shows us we need to do

“...and the one who comes to Me I will in no wise cast out” (v 37).

Think about what Jesus was as God and all He had, to divest His glory and everything that He had as He became that pinpoint of life and become a human being.

That was His burning thought all His physical life. The Father was there to call those whom He wanted and gave them to Christ.

Verse 38: “**For I did not come down from heaven to do <sup>[#1]</sup>My own will, but <sup>[#2]</sup>the will of Him Who sent Me.**”

Notice how many times that is the *will*, there are two right in that one verse. He defines what it is:

Verse 39: “And **this is <sup>[#3]</sup>the will of the Father Who sent Me: that of all whom He has given Me, I should not lose any, but should raise them up in the last day.**”

This is not talking about the last day of the Feast of Tabernacles, the Last Great Day. *This last day has to do with Pentecost!*

- What do I mean?
- How many weeks are there in counting to Pentecost? *Seven complete weeks!*

Tomorrow begins the first full week, and seven complete weeks is 49 days, but Pentecost is the 50<sup>th</sup> day. *In that count:*

- Which day is the last day? *The 50<sup>th</sup> day!*

That’s why we will be raised on the last day, the 50<sup>th</sup> day, in the first resurrection! This has nothing whatsoever to do with the Last Great Day after the Feast of Tabernacles.

***“...raise them up...” means resurrect them!***

Verse 40: “And this is <sup>[#4]</sup>**the will** of Him Who sent Me: that **everyone who sees the Son, and believes in Him, may have eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.**”

All of those people there had the opportunity to see Jesus; we don’t have the opportunity, but we have the Word of God, which helps us to understand:

- Who He is
- what He did
- how He did it
- why He did it

*Very important to know!*

(break)

Here in John 6 Jesus is telling us some very deep and profound things concerning what God is doing with us, and how God the Father and Jesus Christ are working in our lives. What They are trying to achieve and what we need to achieve and how we have seen that belief is also equated to a spiritual work.

John 6:29: “...**This is the work of God: that you believe in Him Whom He has sent.**” *That’s an amazing thing!*

Jesus said that He would give them eternal life and raise them

Verse 40: “...**everyone who sees the Son, and believes in Him, may have eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.**”

*Notice that there were four* “...will of the Father...” and now He’s going to tell us in just a little bit that God the Father is working in our lives and has been from the very beginning of our calling.

Because of that, you see a hierarchy of men between you and God doesn’t work too well. ***God has setup the relationship that it is to Him, through Christ, directly!***

Verse 41: “Then the Jews were complaining against Him, because He said, ‘I AM the Bread that came down from heaven.’ And they were saying, ‘Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? Why then does He say, “I came down from heaven”?’” (vs 41-42).

In John 8 Jesus says, ‘I’m from above, you’re from beneath.’ Notice how Jesus responded:

Verse 43: For this reason, Jesus answered them and said, ‘Do not be complaining among one

another. **No one can come to Me unless the Father, Who sent Me, draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day**” (vs 43-44). *That's the third time He said that!*

It's impossible to come to God because you want to be a good person! ***God the Father has to draw you!***

- How does He do that? *Think about the time when you came to the point that you needed to have God!*
- How did you come to that point?
  - ✓ whether through difficulty
  - ✓ whether through trial
  - ✓ whatever the circumstances turned out to be
- What was the power doing the drawing? *The spiritual power of God the Father directly to each one of us!*

*Think on that! Let that sink in for just a bit!*

The Father Himself loves you, because the Father Himself drew you and made it possible for you come to Christ so that you could have your sins forgiven. As we read, the Holy Spirit is the power of God, which comes from God the Father and Jesus Christ. There are two aspects to the Holy Spirit:

1. the begetting for eternal life from the Father
2. the mind of Christ from Jesus, that we learn and think like Him

Verse 44: **“No one can come to Me unless the Father, Who sent Me, draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.”**

What comes next after you are drawn?

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

How do you learn the Word of God? *Through the Spirit of God! Through the Word of God!* That's how the Father teaches you and me and all whom He has called, so that we may have the understanding He wants us to have.

Yes, there are ministers and teachers, and there needs to be. But these are instruments that God uses to teach His people. That's why all who are elders need to *teach, teach, teach!* Isn't that what they called Jesus? *Teacher!*

“...Therefore, **everyone who has heard from the Father**... [when you answer the call, God is the one Who makes it possible for you to comprehend it] **...and has learned, comes to Me.**” (v 45)—*They both work together in it!*

Verse 46: “No one has seen the Father except He Who is from God; He has seen the Father. Truly, truly I say to you, **the one who believes in Me has eternal life**” (vs 46-47).

- ***IF*** you believe in Him, then you'll be baptized
- ***IF*** you believe in Him, you will want to do the will of God
- ***IF*** you believe in Him, you will believe God the Father
- ***IF*** you believe in Him, you will believe the Word of God

***All of that is the work of God!***

***“...has eternal life”***—*not yet given, but you have the down payment, which is the Holy Spirit!* (Eph. 1:13-14).

Now, notice what Jesus says next, a very short verse:

Verse 48: **“I AM the Bread of Life”**—*which is Christ!*

We eat the bread, symbolically of His broken body, and we drink the wine, symbolically of His shed blood. *True!* But He is the Bread of Life, because these are the words of Christ. These words, when we read them, feed our mind and spirit. So therefore, that is Life!

You can see how great and wonderful that John 6 is.

Verse 63: “It is the Spirit that gives life... [has to be the Spirit of God] **...the flesh profits nothing**.... [spiritually] **...The words that I speak to you, they are Spirit and they are Life.**”

So, when you read the words of Christ, what is happening? *They are the Bread, because Jesus is the Bread of Life and the words He is speaking are Spirit and Life*, which then gives us understanding of the Word of God in preparation for the resurrection when Christ returns.

Let's see what Jesus means by “**...the flesh profits nothing**....”

Verse 49: “Your fathers ate manna in the desert, but they died.”

*That didn't give them eternal life!* The only way that you can have eternal life is through God the Father and Jesus Christ!

Verse 50: **“This is the Bread, which comes down from heaven so that anyone may eat of it and not die”**—*will not see death forever* (John 8)—*anyone!* BUT :

- you have to come God *HIS way*
- you have to *answer the call* of God the Father
- you have to *believe and be baptized*
- you have to *receive the Holy Spirit* of God

*All of that we find in other places that adds to what we're covering here!*

Verse 51: "I AM the living Bread, which came down from heaven; **if anyone eats of this Bread, he shall live forever**; and the bread that I will give is even My flesh, which I will give for the life of the world" *Talking about His coming sacrifice!*

- He had to be perfect
- He had to be the Creator of mankind
- He had to be the only One Who could qualify to bring us redemption from God the Father

*Can't come any other way! That's what Jesus said! No one comes to Me, except or unless the Father draws him!*

Notice their reaction, because remember how the Jews were concerning clean and unclean foods. They even categorized people as clean, common or unclean.

- *clean* was a Jew
- *common* was circumcised Gentile
- *unclean* were all Gentiles not circumcised

Verse 52: "Because of this, the Jews were arguing with one another, saying, 'How is He able to give us *His* flesh to eat?'"

Didn't we learn in the synagogue that human flesh is unclean? How is He going to do that?

It is symbolic, because it is the spiritual food. Like He said, 'The words that I speak to you are Spirit and Life.'

So, when you read the words and assimilate them in your mind and they become part of your thinking—just like we read in Heb. 10—being written our heart and mind. That's feeding the mind! That's more important than feeding the body.

Since we're still human we have eat, drink, sleep and all this sort of thing, that's true. But all of that in the long run *profits nothing!* Without the Spirit of God, when you come to the end of your life and die, there's nothing!

Verse 53: "Therefore, Jesus said to them, 'Truly, truly I say to you... [or in Truth] ... unless you eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink His blood, you do not have Life in yourselves.'" *That's direct reference to the Passover!*

Think about this: You do not have Life in you unless you eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink His blood. What does this tell us? *There's no such thing as an immortal soul!* If there were, you would have immortality dwelling in you! But you must receive the Spirit that comes from God that unites with the spirit of your mind so that we become the begotten children of God the Father awaiting the resurrection and our lives are dedicated to growing and overcoming, learning everything that we can about the Word of God and Truth, and how to live, think and all of that sort of thing.

Verse 54: "The one who eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and **I will raise him up in the last day. for My flesh is truly food, and My blood is truly drink**" (vs 54-55).

When you take the Passover, you are doing as God has desired, and you are blessed of Him and receive of His Spirit, His Truth and of eternal life. *If you don't take the Passover, you won't receive it!*

Then you live by every Word of God and the words that He spoke *they are Spirit and they are Life!* That is, again, spiritually to eating His flesh and drinking His blood. You need that daily!

- you need study daily, *feeds your mind*
- you need prayer daily, *forgiveness of sin*

Verse 56: "**The one who eats My flesh and drinks My blood is dwelling in Me, and I in him.**" *That can only be done with the Spirit of God!*

What does that mean? *It gets down to a practical thing!* All of this has a lot of symbolism in it, a lot of spiritual understanding to understand, but it gets down to one simple principle.

Verse 57: "As the living Father has sent Me, and I live by the Father; **so also the one who eats Me shall live by Me.**"

How is that? *Through the words of God!* All of the words we have are the voice of God! Jesus was the Lord God of the Old Testament. All those words of God apply to us in the way that Jesus has shown that they ought to. That's why we keep the Sabbath, the Passover and the Holy Days. There are special blessings that come when we do. *Every year we get a little more, a little more and a little more!* Every day we grow in grace and knowledge!

When we sin, which we do because we're not perfect, we can come to the Father and have our sins forgiven through the sacrifice and shed blood of Jesus Christ. That way daily repentance is like a cleansing to get rid of the things that are contrary to God.

Just like in our bodies, we have daily processes to get rid of the waste. The food we eat is good, but it produces waste. The drink that we drink is good, but it produces waste. Likewise, when we're living in the world, but we're not of the world, there are things, sins and problems that come along that we need to repent of. That's how we grow in grace and knowledge.

That's why we study the Word of God. That's why we go over it and over it, because every time we do we learn more.

Verse 57: "As the living Father has sent Me, and I live by the Father; so also the one who eats Me shall live by Me. This is the Bread, which came down from heaven; not as your fathers ate manna, and died. The one who eats this bread shall live forever" (vs 57-58).

He spoke that in the synagogue and they didn't quite know what to do.

Psa. 119 is one of the most magnificent Psalms in the book of Psalms. I might mention that in my Bible I have circled all the 'I's' most of the time when there are a lot of 'I's' that's a lot of vanity and a lot of self. But here in Psa. 119 it is individual direction to God, for God to direct him. So, every time it's 'I' it is not in vain, and it's very positive.

Psalms 119:97: "O how love I Your Law! It is my meditation all the day.... [that explains John 6] ...Your commandments make me wiser than my enemies, for they are ever with me" (vs 97-98)—*the commandments are!*

Think of these as words of Christ in relationship to when He was living in the flesh.

Verse 99: "I have more understanding than all my teachers, for Your testimonies are my meditation.... [feeding the mind] ...I understand more than the ancients because I keep Your precepts" (vs 99-100).

Notice that obedience gives you understanding!

Verse 101: "I have held back my feet from every evil way, so that I might keep Your Word."

The Word of God in your mind helps you direct how to live so that you're not walking in sin! That's eating the flesh of Christ and drinking His blood!

Verse 102: "I have not departed from Your ordinances, for You have taught me."

Remember what Jesus said, 'All who have heard of the Father and have been taught by the Father comes to Me.' We come to Christ every day!

Verse 103: "How sweet are Your words to my taste!...."—*mentally and spiritually*, not physically. He wasn't eating scrolls of the Old Testament.

"...Yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth! Through Your precepts I get understanding; therefore, I hate every false way" (vs 103-104).

Quite interesting, indeed! Now let's see exactly what it tells us in Psa. 34, and this agrees exactly with what Jesus said, 'My flesh is food, indeed! And My blood is drink, indeed!' Now notice the attitude that springs from that kind of relationship with God.

Psalms 34:1: "I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall always be in my mouth." ***Think of that! Everything you do comes from God!***

Verse 2: "My soul shall make its boast in the LORD; the humble shall hear and be glad. O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt His name together" (vs 2-3). *You exalt God!*

He's given free moral agency, that's true; but free moral agency by itself without the Word of God and the Spirit of God is nothing but vanity. There's nothing that lasts forever with that. But this is what God wants us to do.

Verse 4: "I sought the LORD, **and He answered me...**"

- when you pray, *there are answered prayers*
- when you don't pray, *there's no solution*
- when you study:
  - ✓ *you learn how to live*
  - ✓ *you learn how to think*

*and with God's Spirit*

- ✓ *you learn how to direct your life*
- but if you don't study, *you're not eating spiritually*

"...**and delivered me from all my fears.** They looked to Him and were radiant; and their faces were not ashamed. This poor man cried, and the LORD heard, **and saved him out of all his troubles**" (vs 4-6).

Now here's a little something extra besides that:

Verse 7: "The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear Him and delivers them." *There are angels that are:*

- with you
- protect you
- help you

Verse 8: “**O taste and see that the LORD is good...**” How do you taste the Lord?

- by studying His Word with His Spirit
- by living your life with His Spirit
- by meditating on the Word of God
- by delighting in the Word of God

“...blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him” (v 8). *When trouble comes you turn to God!*

Verse 9: O fear the LORD, all you saints, for there is nothing lacking to those who fear Him.”

That’s quite a thing to look at! “...fear the Lord, all you saints...” You’re not going to be lacking anything. There may be people in the world who have more physical things than you, but ***IF you have the spiritual things:***

- God’s Spirit
- God’s Word
- His blessings
- His grace

***You have more than they have!***

Now let’s see what Peter says. 1-Peter 2 tells and answers the question: Where is all of this leading? Especially when you look out and see the world going the way that it is, and seeing the things that are taking place; how the wicked are ‘riding high.’ Where is all of this going to lead?

- to the resurrection
- to the saving of the world
- to all the saints will be resurrected

*And we, under Christ, will save the world!*

- that’s why we’re in training
- that’s why we have to eat His flesh and drink His blood

*Symbolically!*

1-Peter 2:1: “Therefore, having put away **all wickedness...** [that’s a constant battle] ...and **all deceit...** [don’t let your carnal mind deceive you] ...and **hypocrisies and jealousies, and all slanders,** as newborn babes... [that’s how we start out when we receive the Holy Spirit] ...yearn after **the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow**” (vs 1-2).

Then, as Paul says, we can have strong meat; what we’re covering today is strong meat!

Verse 3: “**If you yourselves have indeed tasted that the Lord is gracious.** To Whom coming, *as to a living Stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God, and precious*” (vs 3-4). ***And we’re chosen and precious, too!***

Verse 5: “You also... [because you’re chosen by God] ...as living stones, **are being built up as a spiritual house—a Holy priesthood...** [not yet installed, but will be at the resurrection] ...to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.”

Verse 9: “But you *are* a chosen stock, **a royal priesthood, a Holy nation, a people for a possession of God,** that you might proclaim His *excellent* virtues, Who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light”—*that’s what God has for us!*

Psa. 22—we’re not going to go over the whole Psalm, because these are the words of Jesus prophesied while He was hanging on the cross. But ***Jesus had His mind on the goal!*** Always remember that; that’s a very important principle. Whenever there are troubles, ***keep your mind on the goal, which is the Kingdom of God and eternal life in the Family of God!***

Psalm 22:25: “From You comes my praise in the great congregation...”

That’s a prophecy of Jesus and the great congregation is the first resurrection with all of the saints on the Sea of Glass. We’re going to see Him and the Father. He is going to proclaim all the children of God that God the Father has given Him, which is all of us, and present us to the Father.

That’s what Christ was looking to! He knew the end result of it!

“...I will pay my vows before those who fear Him. The meek shall eat and be satisfied...” (vs 25-26)—*eating His flesh and drinking His blood, living by every word of God!*

“...those who seek the LORD shall praise Him; may your heart live forever” (v 26). *Notice where it comes to:*

Verse 27: “All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD...”—*because of:*

- His sacrifice
- those He has called now
- all of those from the time of the apostles, the patriarchs down through history to our very day

“...and all the families of the nations shall worship before You, for the Kingdom is the LORD’S and He rules over the nations” (vs 27-28).

*The people then will do the same as we’re doing now.*

Verse 29: “All the rich of the earth shall eat

and worship; all those who go down to the dust shall bow before Him... [resurrected and serve Him] ...even he who cannot keep his own soul alive”—*resurrected from the dead!*

Verse 30: “A seed shall serve Him; it shall be told of the LORD to the coming generation. They shall come and shall declare His righteousness **unto a people that shall yet be born**, that He has done this” (vs 30-31).

What a prophecy, and we will be able to do that starting with the Millennium!

Remember that the *true Bread is Christ*, and if you eat of this Bread and drink of this Blood you will have eternal life, *and you will be raised on the day of the resurrection!*

***Have a wonderful Night to be Much Observed to the Lord!***

#### Scriptural References:

- 1) 1 Corinthians 10:12-22
- 2) Hebrews 10:4-18
- 3) John 6:26-33
- 4) John 3:16
- 5) John 6:34-40, 29, 40-48, 63, 49-58
- 6) Psalm 119:97-104
- 7) Psalm 34:1-9
- 8) 1 Peter 2:1-5, 9
- 9) Psalm 22:25-31

#### Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Ephesians 1:13-14
- John 8

#### Also referenced: Books:

- *From Sabbath to Sunday* by Samuele Bacchiocchi
- *The Christian Passover* by Fred R. Coulter

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## The Night to Be Much Observed to the Lord

*Showing that we belong to God the Father through Jesus Christ*

Fred R. Coulter—March 27, 2021

Greetings, brethren! Welcome to *the Night to Be Much Observed unto the Lord!* Why do we keep this night?

Things come around in circles, and people even within the Church are beginning to say that ‘*we don’t need to keep the days in the Old Testament.*’ But they still keep the Sabbath. Now, you figure that one out.

This day is a special day, because we know that it refers to the covenant that God gave to Abraham in Gen. 15. God is a God Who keeps every word that He says He’s going to do.

I’ve already explained in detail how Gen. 15 figures into this, and how we get the 430 years, so I’m not going to go into a detailed explanation of that. But let’s read it:

Exodus 12:40: “Now, the sojourning of the children of Israel in Egypt *was* four hundred and thirty years.” *This ended the 430 years, which began with Gen. 15!*

Verse 39: “...they were driven out of Egypt and could not stay, neither had they prepared any food for themselves for the journey.”

Verse 41: “And it came to pass at the end of the four hundred and thirty years... [there it is, right there] ...**it was even on that very same day...**”

Well, the 430 years refers back to when the covenant was made with Abraham, and on that day that God made the pledge that they would come out, that’s when He gave the promise. So, here it is being fulfilled *literally!*

“...all the armies of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt. It is **a night to be much observed to the LORD...**” (vs 41-42).

Some people say that this is because one of the apostles in one of the Churches of God said that we’re to keep it; but we don’t have to keep it.

- How do you answer that?
- What did Jesus say? *Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God!*

If there are any changes in anything, ***only God*** can make those changes. So, you think on that!

What does this say? Verse 42: “It is **a night to be much observed to the LORD...**” ***It’s to God!***

“...for bringing them out from the land of Egypt. This *is* that night of the LORD to be observed

by all the children of Israel in their generations” (v 42).

Well now, guess what? The Church is spiritual Israel, and all of those who are Christ’s and have been baptized into Christ, they are the ones who are also the spiritual seed of Abraham. Referring to taking the children out of the land of Egypt. We will see that God always remembers His covenant. The ones who forget it are people.

Exodus 6:2: “And God spoke to Moses, and said to him, ‘I am the LORD. And I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob *as* God Almighty. But I was not known to them *by* My name JEHOVAH... [YHVH in Hebrew] ...And **I have also established My covenant with them,** to give them the land of Canaan, the land of their pilgrimage, in which they were strangers.... [He remembers that] ...And I have also heard the groaning of the children of Israel, those whom the Egyptians are keeping in bondage. **And I have remembered My covenant**” (vs 2-5).

That whole ceremony that we have in Gen. 15 is a covenant. We’ve already explained what a covenant is, so let’s look at what it is for us today in keeping the Night to Be Much Observed. This is something that we need to understand. Today we don’t have Egypt as it was back then, but we have Babylon!

Rev. 18—so we go from one end of the Bible to the other end of the Bible. Here’s where we are today. God tells us to do something. Very similar to coming out of Egypt, we are to come out of spiritual Egypt, which is also called Babylon the Great. The city of Jerusalem in Rev. 11 is called ‘Sodom and Egypt.’ So, you can see that it all connects together.

Revelation 18:1: And after these things I saw an angel descending from heaven, having great authority; and the earth was illuminated with his glory. And he cried out mightily with a loud voice, saying, ‘Babylon the Great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a habitation of demons, and a prison of every unclean spirit, and a prison of every unclean and hated bird’” (vs 1-2).

Look at what God has said of Egypt and compare the two. Just as God brought the children of Israel out of Egypt, so ***his calling for us to come out of the world is also based upon the covenant that God made with Abraham in Gen. 15,*** which is the stars of heaven, meaning the sons and daughters of God. So, God calls us out of this world! We know

how it starts:

- God is the One Who draws us
- God is the One Who brings us to Christ
- God is the One Who brings us to repentance

*Now let's look at this and see how great our calling is!* It's part of eternal life. Always remember: **every word of God is true; every word of God will be fulfilled and carried out completely!**

1-Corinthians 7:17: "Let each one walk only as God has apportioned to him, according as the Lord has called him; and this is what I command in all the churches." *We've all be called, a Holy calling!*

Now let's look and see when God planned this fantastic calling for us. Brethren, this is always important to remember, because this is tremendous. God has called us to the most important thing that's going on in the world:

***The conversion and preparation for the people of God to rule the world under Christ when He returns!***

*This plan of God was started way before there was, as we will see, the ages of time!* But I want to emphasize saving us and calling us, because when we answer the call then we repent, are baptized, and now we grow in grace and knowledge in the understanding of the Lord! That's all in preparation for the return of Jesus Christ, all in preparation so that we can be prepared to help rule the world under Jesus Christ. Look at the world the way that it is, and see what a fantastic calling that God's calling is!

2-Timothy 1:8: "Therefore, you should not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner; but jointly suffer with me for the sake of the Gospel, according to the power of God." ***God's power is right there with us!***

Notice how he explains it, v 9: "Who has saved us..."

- saved us from Satan the devil
- saved us from the world
- saved from death by the power of the first resurrection

"...and called us with a Holy calling..." (v 9)—*from God Himself: God the Father and Jesus Christ with the Spirit of God!*

***They are teaching us, as we come out of this world, how we need to be to help Him rule!*** That's what's important.

"...but according to His own purpose and grace..." (v 9).

Think on that! We are part of ***God the Father and Jesus Christ's personal purpose and grace!*** When you think of all the billions of all the human beings there have been down through history, that's quite a thing to understand.

- He hasn't chosen the rich
- He hasn't chosen the important
- He hasn't chosen the wise

To the rest of the world *we're foolishness!* But to God ***we have been called to be His sons and daughters!***

"...which was given us in Christ Jesus ***before the ages of time***" (v 9).

God had it all planned out, worked out, *and He calls us to come out of the world!* How do we come out of the world? *First of all we will see what this calling is for!*

Isn't it interesting that the phrase ***before the ages of time*** is in the last two epistles that Paul wrote? We don't find it in the early epistles. We find some of it in Eph. 3. and in Col. 1, but not expressly like this:

Titus 1:1: Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, **according to the faith of God's elect...**—*selected!* Think on that! How important are you to God? ***So important that He selected you!***

"...and **the knowledge of the Truth...**" (v 1). *That's what it has to be for all of us in everything; the Truth always!*

"...that is **according to Godliness; in the hope of eternal life...**" (vs 1-2). *There it is right there! ***To be in the Family and Kingdom of God!****

"...which God Who cannot lie **promised before the ages of time**" (v 2). *That's something to think about!*

God has called us out; He wants us to change and grow so it's expressed in this way by Jesus Himself. We are ***in*** the world ***but not of*** the world! What separates us from the world?

1. the Spirit of God
2. the Sabbath and Holy Days of God, and the fact that we keep them

*That's what sets us apart!*

1-Thessalonians 2:12: "And earnestly testifying, **that you may walk worthily of God...**" How?

1. keeping His commandments
2. having His Spirit

***Using His Spirit to change, grow, overcome, and studying and praying; living our lives:***

“...**worthily of God** Who is calling you to His own Kingdom and glory” (v 12). *Think of that; God Himself!*

Let’s see what Jesus said about our calling, and about the world. This was Jesus’ prayer on the Passover night before He was arrested.

John 17:5: “And now, Father, glorify Me with Your own self, with the glory that I had with You **before the world existed**. I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me **out of the world**. They were Yours, and You have given them to Me, and they have kept Your Word” (vs 5-6). *Everything that comes from God initiates with God the Father!*

Verse 7: “Now, they have known that all things that You have given Me are from You. For I have given them the words that You gave to Me; and they have received *them* and truly have known that I came from You; and they have believed that You did send Me. I am praying for them; I am not praying for the world, but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours” (vs 7-9).

Think about that with your calling, and why keeping the Night to Be Much Observed to the Lord is important. It shows that we belong to God the Father through Jesus Christ.

Verse 10: “All Mine are Yours, and all Yours *are* Mine; and I have been glorified in them. And I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world... [so we’re still here in the world] ...and I am coming to You. Holy Father, keep them in Your name...” (vs 10-11). **How are we kept in the Father’s name?**

- by loving God
- by keeping His commandments
- by observing the Sabbath
- by observing the Holy Days

And the Night to Be Much Observed *is part of a Holy Day*, the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the 1<sup>st</sup> month!

“...so that they may be one, even as *We are one*. When I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. I protected those whom You have given Me, and not one of them has perished except the son of perdition, in order that the Scriptures might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to You; and these things I am speaking *while yet* in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in them. I have given them Your words, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world” (vs 11-14).

*Yes, we’re in the world, but we’re **not of the world**, because we don’t do things the way the world does.*

Verse 15: “I do not pray that You would take them out of the world, **but that You would keep them from the evil one.**”

It says in Col. 1 that ***God the Father rescues us from Satan the devil!*** Look back on your life and everything you’ve gone through, and when you were called, baptized and up to this point. Think on that! God the Father is right there with you, all the way!

Verse 17: “Sanctify them... [keep them Holy; here is how we’re not part of the world]: ...**in Your Truth; Your Word is the Truth.**” *That’s how we’re not part of this world!*

Just as God called the children of Israel and brought them out of the land of Egypt—from that evil satanic place, from the oppression and sin that they were suffering—and brought them out to fulfill His promise to Abraham. On that very night that He gave the promise, 430 years later it happened.

Now then, God’s promise to us comes on an individual basis as He calls us. ***So, we are to not be part of this world!*** As we started: ***Come out of the world, My people!*** This Babylon the Great! In Rev. 17, John in the message that was given to him by Jesus that the world is going to fight Christ and us, *and it says of us that **we are the called, the chosen and the faithful!***

That’s why ***this Night to Much Observed unto the Lord*** is mightily important for us to remember and do.

Have a wonderful night, a great meal and see you tomorrow on the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

#### Scriptural References:

- 1) Exodus 12:40, 39, 41-42
- 2) Exodus 6:2-5
- 3) Revelation 18:1-2
- 4) 1 Corinthians 7:17
- 5) 2 Timothy 1:8-9
- 6) Titus 1:1-2
- 7) 1 Thessalonians 2:12
- 8) John 17:5-15, 17

#### Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Genesis 15
- Ephesians 3
- Colossians 1

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## Understanding the Sinfulness of Sin

*Be transformed and become new from the inside out!*

(1<sup>st</sup> Day of Unleavened Bread)

Fred R. Coulter—March 28, 2021

Greetings, brethren! Welcome to first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread! Today is a great day; it means an awful lot for us. It shows God's plan and how He is going to *rescue all of mankind beginning with those who are called, chosen and faithful*; the firstfruits and those in first resurrection.

But in order to get there, *we have a lot of things to do; we have a lot of things to overcome!* Let's see that from the very beginning, God intended us to keep the Sabbath. We know that, don't we? *Gen. 2!* He also has commanded us to keep the Feast.

So, in Exo. 23 we see something very interesting, indeed! It's mixed in with a whole lot of other commands of God.

Exodus 23:12: "Six days you shall do your work, and on the seventh day you shall rest, so that your ox and your donkey may rest, and the son of your handmaid, and the stranger, may be rejuvenated."

They've also found that when they give animals the day of rest they work better. Just like us, when we keep the Sabbath—with God's blessing—then we work better; likewise with the very Feasts of God.

Verse 13—*referring to the first commandment*: "And be watchful in all that I have said to you. And make no mention of the name of other gods, **neither let it be heard out of your mouth.**"

We know that He mentions other gods, so what is the purpose here for "...neither let it be heard out of your mouth"? *That is in a worshipful way!*

For example: you can say to stop sacrificing your children to Molech. You mentioned it, but that's in a way that would not be worshipful. These things fit right in with the commands of how to worship God: Sabbath and then this one right here.

So, we have the fourth commandment, the first commandment and then we have something very interesting here:

Verse 14: "You shall keep a Feast unto Me three times in the year. **You shall keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread....**" (vs 14-15). *That's what we're going to do; that's what we are doing!*

"...You shall eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded you, at the time appointed in the month of Abib, for in it you came out of Egypt. And no one shall appear before Me empty" (v 15).

Yes, we are to bring offerings on the Holy Days. Then He goes right into the next one, which will be Pentecost.

Verse 16: "Also, the Feast of the Harvest of the Firstfruits of your labors, which you have sown in the field. And the Feast of Ingathering, in the end of the year, when you have gathered in your labors out of the field."

Then He says the same thing again in Exo. 34; this was after the golden calf problem with Aaron and those who wanted to follow the Egyptians' gods *and not trust in the true God!*

Exodus 34:17: "You shall make no molten gods for yourselves." *Second commandment!*

Why does He do it this way? *To show the importance of the Feast days! That's why He does it!* So, it means that it's on an equal level, and we'll see that in just a little bit, with all of His commands.

Verse 18: "You shall keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread. You shall eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded you, in the time of the month Abib, for in the month Abib you came out from Egypt."

*Egypt is a type of sin, and it is also a type of Babylon, and we are to 'come out of her My people.'* Then He talks about the firstborn.

It's very interesting, indeed, how God does things, isn't it? God has given the meaning for all of these days in the Bible.

- some here, some there
- some in the Old Testament, some in the New Testament
- some in the Psalms
- some in the Proverbs
- some in Ecclesiastes
- some in the Prophets

*Here a little, there a little; line upon line; precept upon precept!*

So, when the average person reads this, they won't understand the significance of it. Why?

*Because there's one vital key that must always be followed:*

***When you read something in the Bible and you understand it and know what it means, you are to keep it!***

So, it says to keep the Sabbath Holy; ***so we do!*** It says that you are to keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread; ***so we do!*** Here's the secret:

***When you do, you have understanding! When you do not do it, you cut yourself off from understanding,*** because you don't realize what's actually being said, what it means or why we should do it. So, here in Lev. 23 we find something very interesting, though how many times have we gone over it.

Leviticus 23:1: "And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying."

***Remember that we are to obey the voice of the Lord your God,*** and Moses wrote it down so we can.

Verse 2: "Speak to the children of Israel and say to them, '*Concerning the appointed Feasts of the LORD...*'"

This means that God has made an appointment for us. He will come and put His presence in that time and in that day if we keep it and come to Him.

***"...which you shall proclaim to be Holy convocations, even these are My appointed Feasts"*** (v 2).

What does that start out with? *The Sabbath, just like we found back there in Exo. 23!!*

Verse 3: "Six days shall work be done, but the seventh day *is* the Sabbath of rest, a Holy convocation. You shall not do any work. It *is* a Sabbath to the LORD in all your dwellings"—*everywhere you are!* That's the weekly Sabbath, an ***appointed*** time! When we come to God on the Sabbath Day:

- we study His Word
- we learn from it
- we apply it to our lives

*And during the week we pray and study, in contact with God!*

- Don't we learn a lot?
- Doesn't God teach us a lot of things?
- Isn't this so important in our lives?
- What is there out there in the world that's more important than the Sabbath and the Feast Days of God?

- Can anything be compared to it?

*Of course not!*

Verse 4: "These *are* the **appointed** Feasts of the LORD, Holy convocations, **which you shall proclaim in their appointed seasons.**"

It doesn't mean that you pick and choose and do what you want. Just like I have said, every year I get papers on '*we don't have to keep the Holy Days, but we have to keep the Sabbath.*' How does that work? *They're all attached one to another!* Let's see it here:

Verse 5: "In the fourteenth *day* of the first month, between the two evenings... [between sunset and dark] ...is the LORD'S Passover."

There are other instructions for it other places. Jesus Christ—as we saw and we will see today—is our Passover, crucified on the Passover Day. Then people say we don't have to keep it!!! 'Oh, we keep the Lord's Supper'! You need to read 1-Cor. 11, 'It is not to eat the Lord's Supper.' ***It's not even to be called 'the Lord's Supper.' It's the Lord' Passover!***

Verse 6: "And on the fifteenth day of the same month *is* the Feast of Unleavened Bread **to the LORD**... [not to the Jews] ...**You must eat unleavened bread seven days.** On the first day you shall have a Holy convocation. You shall not *do any servile work therein*, but you shall offer a fire offering to the LORD seven days...." (vs 6-8). *That was at the temple!*

We also see that we are to bring an offering. We will see that the animal sacrifices, which were to be offered on those days, is separate from what we bring ourselves to God as an offering.

Deuteronomy 16:16: "Three times in a year shall all your males appear before the LORD your God in the place which He shall choose: in the Feast of Unleavened Bread, and in the Feast of Weeks, and in the Feast of Tabernacles. And **they shall not appear before the LORD empty.**"

These are personal offerings that were offered in addition to the commanded Levitical priest offerings that they would offer at the temple. And there were great offerings that they would offer there; read that in 2-Chron. 35 about what they did during the days of Josiah. Thousands and thousands of animals over a period of seven days.

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

So, we take up an offering, and that's the

only time we take up an offering during Church services; on the Holy Days. Why? *Because God says so!* That's a wonderful thing!

***IF we do it from the heart, willingly***—as God desires us to be toward Him—***THEN we receive blessings!***

(pause for the offering)

Thank you, brethren, for the offering that you have given. We will put it to good use in reaching out to the brethren and producing the things that we do to preach the Gospel, and everything goes toward those activities all the time.

Exo. 12—let's pick up the flow of events from the Night to Be Much Observed to the Lord. We had that last night.

Exodus 12:42: “It *is* a night to be much observed to the LORD for bringing them out from the land of Egypt....”

Lesson here: *only God can bring us out of sin!* But we must do what God wants. We can't stay in Egypt, we must come out. When we come out, we're walking:

- in the path of the Lord
- in the way of God
- in the way that Jesus Christ has said

“...This *is* that night of the LORD to be observed by all the children of Israel in their generations” (v 42). *The Church is spiritual Israel and we are the seed of Abraham!*

Now, in Exo. 13 are some instructions that God gives concerning the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. This becomes very important for us to know and understand.

Exodus 12:51—*should be v 1 of Exo. 13:* And it came to pass the very same day, *when* the LORD brought the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt by their armies.”

Exodus 13:1: “Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying.”

*Here's something very important and applies to the Church, spiritually applies to us; we are the Church of the Firstborn, registered in heaven* (Heb. 12).

Verse 2: “Sanctify all the firstborn to Me, whatever opens the womb among the children of Israel, of man and of beast. It *is* Mine.”

Why does God claim that? *Because He's the Creator of everything!*

Verse 3: “And Moses said to the people,

‘Remember this day *in* which you came out of Egypt, out of the house of bondage...’”

We're brought out of the bondage of sin in the New Testament; same parallel, same thing.

“...for the LORD brought you out from this place by the strength of His hand. There shall be no leavened bread eaten.” *He's speaking there on the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread!*

Verse 4: “On this day you are going out, in the month Abib. And it shall be when the LORD shall bring you into the land of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, which He swore to your fathers to give you, a land flowing with milk and honey, that you shall keep this service in this month.... [notice what Moses reiterates]: ...**You shall eat unleavened bread seven days...**” (vs 4-6).

As we have seen, the Passover is a separate, one day of unleavened bread, followed by seven days of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. This year that's especially easy to see, because the Passover falls on the Sabbath Day.

Verse 7: “**Unleavened bread shall be eaten seven days.** And there shall be no leavened bread seen with you, nor shall there be leaven seen with you in all your borders.” *So, you have to put out everything that's leavened!*

Verse 8: “And you shall tell your son in that day, saying, ‘This is because of what the LORD did for me when I came out from Egypt.’ And it shall be a sign to you upon your hand, and for a memorial between your eyes...” (vs 8-9)—*a very part of you!*

Then it gives the reason why, because this reminds us of what sin is—coming out of Egypt—and coming to God and walking in His way.

- What do we do when we walk in God's way?
- Do we just do any ole thing we want to do?

**OR**

- Do we follow what God says?

Verse 9: “And **it shall be a sign to you upon your hand, and for a memorial between your eyes ...**”

What's between your eyes? *Your brain! It's to be part of your memory!*

“...that the LORD'S Law may be in your mouth, for with a strong hand the LORD has brought you out of Egypt. You shall, therefore, keep this law in its season from year to year” (vs 9-10).

It helps us understand why we have to keep the Laws of God. Leaven is a type of sin, and we

need to get sin out of our lives. We need to do what God wants us to do in everything that we set our hands to do.

We've already covered concerning the firstborn and so forth, so we won't go there. Why is 1-Cor. 5 a very important part of the New Testament in relationship to the Feasts of God. We know that Jesus was crucified on the Passover. We know very well that those who were watching everything take place when Jesus was crucified that they were keeping the Laws of God. Even after Jesus was dead the women who were going to come and anoint Him with oil and aromatics—as they would do for dead people—rested on the Sabbath. The first day that came after Jesus died was the Feast of Unleavened Bread, day one.

What does it say in the New Testament with the Gospel: *To the Jew first, then to the Gentile!* Same Law. Why is this so important here, because the Church of Corinth was a Greek church in a very corrupt Greek city. If they didn't have to keep the Feasts of God why are they commanded to keep it? *Paul explains to them that sin is leaven:*

1-Corinthians 5:6: "Your glorying is not good. Don't you know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump?" **Isn't that true? Sin is likened to leaven, and leaven is likened to sin!**

Verse 7: "Therefore, purge out the old leaven..."

What were we told in Exo. 13? *Get the leaven out of your home and eat unleavened bread!* Here's why:

**"...so that you may become a new lump..."—figuratively speaking of our conversion; that we become new from the inside out!**

Leaven is in the bread; it's not outside of the bread! **So, it's the sin within!** Notice how Paul explains it:

Verse 7: "Therefore, purge out the old leaven, **so that you may become a new lump, even as you are unleavened**.... [meaning they were baptized and had their sins forgiven] ...For Christ our Passover was sacrificed for us."

There are a lot of people who believe in the death of Christ for the forgiveness of sin. Very few even know that He was crucified on the Passover Day. But why do we have to get the old leaven out of our lives? *Because Christ, our Passover, died for us and made it possible!* So, we have forgiveness of sin, and we can come to God and receive that forgiveness every day.

Verse 8—*this is of paramount importance:*

"For this reason, let us keep the Feast... [this is not referring to Passover] ...not with old leaven, nor with *the* leaven of malice and wickedness, **but with the unleavened bread of Sincerity and Truth**."

That's what it symbolizes; that we get sin out of our life and we have Sincerity and we have Truth, which is the Word of God. The Word of God leads us in what we need to do by the power of the Holy Spirit. This is the interaction that follows.

It's like anything else, you must do what God says, get the leaven out of your home, you must eat **unleavened** bread<sup>[transcriber's correction]</sup> for seven days and then you need to think about the spiritual symbolism and meaning and knowledge of it **so that you get sin out of your life!** That's what is so absolutely important in all of this.

How did we get sin in the first place? *Sin became a very part of our being*, part of our genes because of the judgment of God against Adam and Eve when they sinned. Paul calls this *the law of sin and death!* You can even see this working in little babies.

- that's why we need God
- that's why we need His Spirit
- that's why we need to teach our children

*Their brains, when they are born have nothing in them, except how to nurse!* Everything else is automatic in the functions of the body. God says in Deuteronomy that we're to **teach our children, teach our children!** So, if you leave your children to the sinfulness of the public schools, then you're not being the kind of parent that you need to be. How did sin come?

Romans 5:12: "Therefore, **as by one man sin entered into the world**..." *Eve had a hand in it, but Adam was the one who was responsible!*

Note the message: *What Would the World have been Like If Adam and Even Had Not Sinned?*

"...and by means of sin came death; and in this way death passed into all mankind; *and it is* for this reason that all have sinned."

None of us like the effects of sin, but how many people want to get rid of it of themselves? **Because there is pleasure in sin for a season!** Then the boomerang comes!

"...and by means of sin came death... [the wages of sin is death (Gen. 3)] ...and in this way death passed into all mankind..." (v 12).

That's why it says *in Adam we all die*, and it's given men once to die and after this *the judgment!*

“...and it is for this reason that all have sinned” (v 12).

- Why? *Because when you have a nature of sin inherent, you're going to sin!*
- What does this produce?
- How is the world without God?

*Here's the contrast:*

Romans 1:17: “For therein *the* righteousness of God is revealed from faith unto faith, according as it is written: ‘The just shall live by faith.’”

Paul is talking about the Gospel. He's talking about what He's writing in the New Testament, to the Romans and so forth so that they can learn

Verse 16: “For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ because **it is the power of God**... [the power of God to overcome] ...unto salvation to everyone who believes...”

As we saw, real belief in God and doing what God says **is the work of God!**

“...both to *the* Jew first, and to *the* Greek. For therein *the* righteousness of God is revealed from faith unto faith...” (vs 16-17)

Your faith to God, God's faith to you, your faith to God, God's faith to you right in a circuit. That's why we pray and study every day.

“...according as it is written: ‘The just shall live by faith’” (v 17)—*and faith produces good works* (James 2)!

Here's what God has done. He has revealed it to mankind, but they refuse to acknowledge Him as God.

Verse 18: “Indeed, *the* wrath of God is revealed from heaven upon all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the Truth in unrighteousness.”

- that's what they do with the Word of God
- that's what they do with the knowledge that there is a Creator; that God made everything

Verse 19: “Because that which may be known of God is manifest among them, for God has manifested *it* to them.” *They know!*

Even the smallest thing you can find, and you ask: How did that get there? Well, **God** put it there!

Verse 20: “For the invisible things of Him

are perceived from *the* creation of *the* world...”

Now we can see a lot of those invisible things, and they are fantastic!

“...being understood by the things that were made—both His eternal power and Godhead—so that they are without excuse, because when they knew God, they glorified *Him* not as God, neither were thankful; but they became vain in their own reasonings, and their foolish hearts were darkened” (vs 20-21).

*Here is the truth and a great leaven:*

- **IF** you don't believe God
- **IF** you don't accept Him as Creator
- **IF** you don't serve Him

***your hearts are dark, called spiritual blindness, and you cannot understand the things of God! Why? That is an automatic penalty that comes!***

Verse 22: “While professing themselves to be *the* wise ones, they became fools.”

Look at what is happening in society today, now; look at all of the stupid laws, the dumb things that men do in their supposed pseudo intelligence, which is stupidity and lawlessness.

Verse 23: “And changed the glory of the incorruptible God into *the* likeness of an image of corruptible man, and of birds, and four-footed creatures, and creeping things.... [snakes; notice what happens, it's automatic]: ...For this cause, God also abandoned them to uncleanness through the lusts of their hearts, to disgrace their own bodies between themselves, who exchanged the Truth of God for the lie... [Satan's lie; there are many of them] ...and they worshiped and served the created thing more than the One Who is Creator, Who is blessed into the ages. Amen” (vs 23-25).

Let's see what happens when we have a whole society that comes who don't believe in God:

- why we're surrounded by so many fools
- why so many things are going wrong
- we have more atheists
- we have more satanists
- we have more witches
- we have more people who don't believe in God than ever before

*Many of them are in the pulpits as ministers!*

Notice what happens; here's what it means to be abandoned by God and left to your own devices. Read the rest of Rom. 1 and see how absolutely perverse and base that human nature is when it's left on its own, just like it was before the

Flood. *That every thought of the imagination of man's heart was only evil continually!* That's what we have today.

Psalm 53:1: "**The fool**... [we just read that they became fools] ...has said in his heart, 'There is no God.' They are corrupt, and have worked out abominable wickedness; there is no one who does good."

Think about that today! That's where we are, just like it was in the days of Noah!

Verse 2: "God looked down from heaven upon the children of men to see if there were any who understand, who are seeking after God."

If there are any seeking after God, God would make sure that He would find them and reveal Himself to them. So, here's what happens:

Verse 3: "Everyone has turned away; they have altogether become corrupt; no one is doing good, **no, not even one**. Will the workers of iniquity never learn? They eat up my people as they eat bread; they have not called upon God. There they were in great fear where no fear was, for God has scattered the bones of him who camps against you; you have put them to shame **because God has rejected them**" (vs 3-5). *That's what it is!*

Let's see how bad it gets. When human nature becomes so satanic from that great serpent Satan the devil, here is a perfect description of them:

Psalm 58:1: "Do you indeed speak righteousness, O mighty lords?...."

All you great politicians out there, do you know anything that's really right? *You may one or two things*, but for every one that you may know there are dozens that come against you to say, 'No, no, no we don't need that.'

"...Do you judge uprightly, O sons of men? Yea! **In your heart you work wickedness...**" (vs 1-2).

That's what it is! That's what we see! That's what runs Congress. Yes, there are a few trying to fight against it, but they're so outnumbered and the fake media ignores them, so people never hear even a little bit of something that is right.

"...you weigh out the violence from your hands in the earth" (v 2).

Look at the earth, filled with sin and wretchedness, war, everything; it's just unreal! All the drugs, all the sex, all the corruption!

Verse 3: "The wicked are estranged from the womb; they who speak lies go astray from birth.

Their venom is like the venom of a serpent; he stops his ear like the deaf adder" (vs 3-4). *So evil you won't listen to anything!*

- that's why Christ has to return
- that's why we have to get sin out of our lives

*God has called us to save the world!* We will see God's solution.

(break)

**Understanding the sinfulness of sin;** and of course, we know the author of sin is Satan the devil. He is the author of sin who comes as 'an angel of light' bringing benefits. That's what he told Adam and Eve, wasn't it?

*If you eat of this fruit, you'll have a benefit! You'll be like God; you can decide what is right and wrong, what is good and evil!*

No you can't, because men never know. *Their minds:*

- without the Spirit of God
- without the Law of God
- without repentance unto salvation

**cannot find the way to live!** As we read, 'It's not in man to know his way.'

Today we're headed in the same direction, because there are too few people who want to believe in God. There are too few people who want to obey God. What happens? *The society gets worse and worse, because a little leaven leavens the whole lump!* Let's see where we are today; let's see what this society is like, just like it was before the fall of Jerusalem.

Jeremiah 16:9: "For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, 'Behold, I will cause the voice of mirth to cease out of this place... [no more good times; no more partying; *no, no, no*] ...before your eyes, and in your days, the voice of gladness, and the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride. And it shall come to pass, when you declare to this people all these words, and they shall say to you, 'Why has the LORD pronounced all this great evil against us?... ['we're good people'] ...Or what *is* our iniquity, or what is our sin that we have committed against the LORD our God?'" (vs 9-10).

What does it tell us it is? *You tell them, but they won't hear, even in the Church!*

Verse 11: "Then you shall say to them, 'Because your fathers have forsaken Me,' says the LORD... [It started way back when?] '...and have walked after other gods...'" *Whatever god that is; it can be:*

- your work
- what you build
- what you think
- a position
- *whatever*

“...and have served them, and have worshiped them, and have forsaken Me, and have not kept My Law” (v 11).

How do you forsake God? *By doing your own thing and not keeping His laws and commandments!*

Verse 12: “And you have done worse than your fathers; for, behold, you walk each one after the stubbornness of his evil heart, without hearkening to Me.”

- Isn't that true?
- What happens?
- What happens to human nature when it gets that way?

Jeremiah 17:5: “Thus says the LORD, ‘Cursed is the man who trusts in man, and makes flesh his arm, and whose heart departs from the LORD.’” *Compared to that:*

Verse 7: “Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD and whose hope is the LORD.” *This has to be us! In the middle of this evil world the way that it is!*

Verse 9: “The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?”

You don't even know why you do the things that you do! *That's why you've got to come to God!* That's why your conscience tells you that you've sinned and you better repent. God is not way off someplace, *He knows!*

Verse 10: “I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give to each man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings.”

That's where we are. *This whole society is evil and wicked beyond hope!* Let's see how God gives a solution. Let's see what it is. *We have to recognize our own sins!* We have to understand them. *Sin is the transgression of God's Law! Sin is lawlessness!*

Once we sin and put away the sin, we are to quit doing it. We are to quit walking in that way! That's why we are to put it out, and why we have the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

We know that the New Testament tells us that Christ died for our sins. What has happened is this: the One Who created mankind—the Lord God

of the Old Testament—became Jesus Christ of the New Testament so that He could live a perfect life, even though He carried within Him *the law of sin and death*, so that His perfect sacrifice would take care of our sins.

1-Corinthians 15:3—*here we have it summed up by Paul:* “For in the first place, I delivered to you what I also had received: that Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures”—*His shed blood! That's what pays for our sins!* That's a phenomenal thing to really understand and realize.

Let's see what else it does, there are quite a few things with Christ that helps us overcome the sin.

Galatians 1:3: “Grace and peace be to you from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, Who gave Himself for our sins...” (vs 3-4).

What do we find that Jesus said about that? *I lay My life down, no one takes it from Me! I have authority to lay it down, and authority to receive it back'* so that He could pay for the sins of all mankind—past, present and future—as we know with the whole plan of God.

“...**in order that He might deliver us from the present evil world**... [whose god is Satan; the god of this world (2-Cor. 4:4)] ...**according to the will of our God and Father**” (v 4). *Think about that!* As we covered:

- God draws us
- God leads us
- God helps us
- God brings us to repentance

*So that we can see that sin is sin*, and then understand that that's leaven in our lives. Our lives from that time forward are dedicated to understanding God:

- to know more about His Word
- to live by every word of God

*So that we can recognize sin within and repent!* It's a constant thing because of the way that we are made. And it's a constant thing we need to work at!

Verse 5: “To Whom be the glory into the ages of eternity. Amen.”

1-Peter 2—talking about Christ. Too often when things come up, we talk back or retaliate. *Christ*—though unjustly judged, falsely accused—*didn't resist!* That's something, because He knew that He could not sin! He chose to do the will of God, even in spite of the circumstances. He knew they were coming, because it was prophesied in Isa. 53.

- that He would be despised
- that He would be rejected
- that He would be crushed
- that He would become an offering for the sin of all the world

***So that we could be reconciled to the Father!***  
That's really something!

That's why Unleavened Bread is putting out the leaven—sin—and put in the unleavened—the unleavened bread of Sincerity and Truth, which is the Word of God: Jesus Christ.

1-Peter 2:21: “For to this you were called because Christ also suffered for us, **leaving us an example, that you should follow in His footsteps.**”

If we're to follow in His footsteps—which we are, it says so right there:

- Did He keep the Sabbath? *Yes!*
- Did He keep the Passover? *Yes!*
- Did He keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread? *Yes!*
- Did He keep Pentecost? *Yes!*
- Did He keep the fall Festivals seasons? *Yes!*
- Did He keep the Feast of Tabernacles? *Yes!*

How can any say that we don't have to keep them today? *Because they have listened to Satan's 'swan song' coming as an angel of light!*

Verse 22: “Who committed no sin; neither was guile found in His mouth; Who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; *when* suffering, He threatened not, but committed *Himself* to Him Who judges righteously” (vs 22-23).

Think about that kind of behavior and that's what we are to do, because He carried all the sins of the world. He was to be the sacrifice for all sin: *past, present and future!*

Verse 24: “Who Himself bore our sins **within His own body** on the tree...”

How could He do that? *If He took upon Himself human nature, with the law of sin and death, and did not sin, then He as Creator would become the perfect sacrifice for the sins of everyone!*

Now for the Church—the Church of the Firstborn, the Firstfruits—that's for us so we can walk in His footsteps!

“...so that we, **being dead to sins**...” (v 24). How are we dead to sin? *Baptized!* That baptism, as we have seen, is a death and burial, ***and our covenant pledge with God!*** To come out of that watery grave *and walk in newness of life!* “...dead to

sins...” is the leaven!

“...may live unto righteousness...” (v 24).  
*Taking in the unleavened bread of*

- Truth and Sincerity
- the Word of God
- walking in the right way

“...by Whose stripes you were healed. **For you were as sheep going astray**... [yes, we all sin] ...but you have now returned to the Shepherd and Guardian of your souls” (vs 24-25). *All because of Christ!*

1-John 3:5: “And you know that He appeared in order that He might take away our sins; and in Him is no sin.”

This tells us what we need to do when we have our sins forgiven, and we need that every day in one form or another, because the battle against sin is always there.

Verse 6: “Everyone who dwells in Him **does not practice** sin...”

It doesn't say that you don't sin, and when we find sin and unrighteousness in our lives we repent and are forgiven. Once we're baptized and received the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of God, to live our lives the way God wants us to live, we have access to God for the forgiveness of our sins on a continually basis.

With that, when we have these sins out of our lives and we put in the way of God, study and pray, then God writes His Laws in our heart and mind.

1-John 1:6: If **we**... [John is including himself] ...proclaim that we have fellowship with Him, but we are walking in the darkness, **we are lying to ourselves**... [that's worst kind of sin and lie, because you believe it] ...and we are not practicing the Truth.”

On the one hand you're not practicing sin, and on the other hand we're to be practicing the Truth.

Verse 7: “However, if we walk in the Light, as He is in the Light, *then* we have fellowship with one another, and **the blood of Jesus Christ, His own Son, cleanses us from all sin.**”

- not some
- not part
- not most
- ***But ALL***

Verse 8: “If we say that we do not have

sin...”—meaning ‘we don’t have the law of sin and death in us, we’re righteous people.’ **NO! All** human beings have that!

“...we are deceiving ourselves, and the Truth is not in us. **If we confess our own sins**, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His Word is not in us” (vs 8-10).

Let’s see what we are to do, and how that works. Col. 3 shows us the whole operation:

- put out/put in
- put out leaven/put in unleaven

Colossian 3:1: “Therefore, if you have been raised together with Christ.. [baptized and raised out of the water with Christ] ...seek the things that are above, where Christ is sitting at *the* right hand of God.”

*Always have that as the central thing in your mind, and keep that there!*

Verse 2: “Set your affection on the things that are above, and not on the things that are on the earth. For you have died... [through baptism and to the world and Satan] ...and your life has been hid together with Christ in God” (vs 2-3).

Notice the promise right here, v 4: “When Christ, *Who is* our life, is manifested, then you also shall be manifested with Him in glory.” *That’s the goal!* We do have to fight sin:

- the sin within
- Satan the devil
- the society and world around us

*All present as problems!*

But as we love God and keep His commandments, pray and study, and yield to Him, then we can grow and overcome.

Verse 5: “Therefore, **put to death** your members, which *are* on earth... [What are they? *Right here*]: ...**sexual immorality, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil desires...** [lust] ...**and covetousness, which is idolatry.**”

These are gross big sins! But Paul says **to put them out, put them to death, get them out of your life!** That’s the process to conversion! Yes, God has provided the way out through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, that is true; **but He’s given us the Holy Spirit and expects us to do our part!** To do it in such a way that we recognize the sin, we repent of it and we get it out of our lives. Here in v 5 are gross sins!

So, Paul says, v 6: “Because of these things, the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience... [we’re not to live that way anymore] ...among whom you also once walked, when you were living in these things” (vs 6-7).

And you have a lot of thoughts in your mind and memories of those things that you need to ask God to help cleanse you. We are cleansed from our sins through Jesus Christ. We have His blood applied to our lives and our sins to remove them! God says that He **removes our sins as far as the east is from the west!**

Verse 8: “But now you should also put off all *these* things: **wrath, indignation, malice, blasphemy, and foul language** from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, *seeing that* you have put off the old man together with his deeds” (vs 8-9)

- put off
- put out
- get rid of

Verse 10: “And have **put on the new man, who is being renewed...** [present tense] **...in knowledge according to the image of Him Who created him.**”

Remember that conversion is a process. This is what we’re talking about, and why we have the Sabbath, the Passover and Holy Days, because in them we learn of the plan of God and through them and God’s Holy Spirit we get rid of sin, put these things out of our mind. What does that do? *That renews our mind*, or as the Greek has it: ‘metamorphoses’ or changes our mind.

Romans 12:1: “I exhort you, therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living sacrifice...”

You don’t just come to church on the Sabbath and that’s all. **NO! You live it all the time, every day, day and night!**

“...Holy *and* well-pleasing to God, which is your spiritual service” (v 1).

What is that service? *The way that you live your life! The way that you help other people, etc.*

Verse 2: “Do not conform yourselves to this world, but be transformed... [metamorphose] ...by the renewing of your mind... [constantly being renewed] ...in order that you may prove what is well-pleasing and good, and the perfect will of God.”

This shows active overcoming, overcoming our sins. Remember what Jesus says to the seven

churches: to the one who overcomes...!

Colossians 3:11: “Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, barbarian *nor* Scythian, slave *nor* free; but Christ is all things, and in all. **Put on** then...” (vs 11-12).

All of these have to do with attitude of mind, the way you think with the Holy Spirit of God, with the laws and commandments of God being written in our heart and mind.

“...as the elect of God...” (v 12). **What does that mean?** *You have been selected of God!*

“...Holy and beloved, deep inner affections, kindness, humility, meekness *and* long-suffering... [all having to do with an attitude of love and service] ...forbearing one another...” (vs 12-13).

If someone isn't the way you think they ought to be, who are you to judge them how they should be? *Forebear!* If there is a problem, pray about it.

- Is God able to change things?
- Is God able to change people?
- Is God able to convert people?

*Of course! That's His business!*

“...and forgiving one another if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so also you *should forgive*. And above all these things put on love, which is the bond... [binding] ...of perfection” (vs 12-14). *We'll see that in a minute!*

Verse 15: “And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which you were called into one body, and be thankful.... [notice how all of this is done; this is quite fantastic when we understand it]: ...Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And in everything—whatever you do in word or in deed—do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him” (vs 15-17). *That's how we are to do it!*

The first part of Rom. 8 is tremendous from this point of view: In Rom. 7 Paul shows the difficulties of overcoming the sin within, and when he wanted to good, he couldn't do it. He had to repent of it. He said:

The Law is Holy, spiritual, good and true, the problem is not the Law, the problem is not God, the problem is my conversion.

He would sin when he didn't want to. He would do

things that he would be abhorred at doing, so he repents. In this process of overcoming, using the Spirit of God, this tells us:

- How does God look at us because we're fighting sin?
- How does God look at us because we sin and repenting and trying to overcome?
- Does He condemn us?
- Does He throw us away?
- Does He reject us?

**NO!** He wouldn't do that unless He has *warned you, warned you, warned you*, and you had every warning necessary. But *if you are practicing what is unleavened bread, putting out the sin within and putting in the righteousness of God, the love of God and everything like that... If you're loving God with all your heart, mind, soul, being and strength that's what's important!*

Romans 8:1: “Consequently, *there is* now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who are not walking according to *the* flesh, but according to *the* Spirit... [that's what we do] ...because the Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus has delivered me from the law of sin and death” (vs 1-2). *Yes, and constantly delivering!*

Verse 3: “For what *was* impossible for the Law to do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God having sent His own Son in *the* likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin condemned sin in the flesh.”

Why? *So that we can have forgiveness and overcome and be in His Kingdom!*

Verse 4: “In order that the righteousness of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who are not walking according to *the* flesh, but according to *the* Spirit.”

That's what it means for the Feast of Unleavened Bread:

- put out the sin
- put in the righteousness
- grow and overcome
- repent
- stay close to God
- let you mind be renewed
- develop the very mind of Christ

That's how it's done, brethren! That's why the Feast of Unleavened Bread is important. We need to do this every year, and need to be taught how we can do it better.

- how God loves that

- how God loves us
- how God has called us

Continue to have a good Feast of Unleavened Bread, go online during the week and download different studies and by all means go online and download *True Fellowship with God!* That will inspire you to want to grow, change and overcome tremendously. *It shows the love of God and the love of Christ.*

You do that! If you have the DVD get it out and watch it again: *True Fellowship with God!* That will help you become unleavened in Christ Jesus! Amen!

#### Scriptural References:

- 1) Exodus 23:12-16
- 2) Exodus 34:17-18
- 3) Leviticus 23:1-8
- 4) Deuteronomy 16:16-17
- 5) Exodus 12:42, 51
- 6) Exodus 13:1-10
- 7) 1 Corinthians 5:6-8
- 8) Romans 5:12
- 9) Romans 1:17, 16-25
- 10) Psalm 53:1-5
- 11) Psalm 58:1-4
- 12) Jeremiah 16:3-12
- 13) Jeremiah 17:5, 7, 9-20
- 14) 1 Corinthians 15:3
- 15) Galatians 1:3-5
- 16) 1 Peter 2:21-25
- 17) 1 John 3:5-6
- 18) 1 John 1:6-10
- 19) Colossians 3:1-10
- 20) Romans 12:1-2
- 21) Colossians 3:11-17
- 22) Romans 8:1-4

#### Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Genesis 2
- 1 Corinthians 11
- 2 Chronicles 35
- Hebrews 12
- Genesis 3
- James 2
- 2 Corinthians 4:4
- Isaiah 53
- Romans 7

#### Also referenced: Messages:

- *What Would the World have been Like If Adam and Even Had Not Sinned?*

- *True Fellowship with God*

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## Learn the Lessons of the Children of Israel

*Go forward and fight the spiritual battle in the mind!*

**(7th day of Unleavened Bread)**

Fred R. Coulter—April 3, 2021

Greetings, brethren! Welcome to the seventh day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, which also is a weekly Sabbath!

We know the command from God that we are to bring an offering on the Holy Days, and we have the command right here in Lev. 23. This is very interesting, isn't it? One of the main keys to understanding what God is doing in the world, and an important one to help unlock the timing of the fulfilling of the prophecies, is all found in Lev. 23, which is the sequence of the Holy Days. The Holy Days themselves and the sequence of them.

Leviticus 23:6: "And on the fifteenth day of the same month *is* the Feast of Unleavened Bread to the LORD. **You must eat unleavened bread seven days.**"

Now tonight after sundown you can have leavened bread. Why is it that He commands us to eat unleavened bread all seven days? *So that we learn the lesson that sinful human nature cannot accomplish of itself any spiritual good that will last forever!* So, God's plan is to change and convert us:

- by relying on Him
- by trusting in Him
- by looking to Jesus Christ as our sacrifice

Verse 7: "**On the first day** you shall have a Holy convocation. You shall not *do any servile work therein*, but you shall offer a fire offering to the LORD seven days. **In the seventh day** *is* a Holy convocation. You shall do no servile work *therein*" (vs 7-8).

We know the importance of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, and it's really very interesting **WHEN** those who have been in the Church but left, end up not keeping the Sabbath the way they should, if they keep it, and not keeping the Feasts of God and the Passover the way that Jesus has said, at the time He has said, ***THEN you have no life in you!***

What happens? *They're left to leading their lives by human 'good.'* Human good can be spiritual leaven. In fact, ***without the Holy Spirit it is spiritual leaven!***

- How do we lead our lives?
- How do we live our lives?
- How do we look to God
- What do we do?

*Here is a profound principle; it's like sowing*, and you know the Parable of the Sower: some of the seed fell on good ground, some fell on rocks, some fell on the shallow soil, some fell in thorns and thistles. But only the good ground brought forth fruit. He said that some produced 30-fold, 60-fold, 100-fold. Here's the principle:

2-Corinthians 9:6: "But this *I say*: **the one who sows sparingly shall also reap sparingly; and the one who sows bountifully shall also reap bountifully.** Each one as he purposes in his heart..." vs 6-7).

In other words, it's between you and God. That's why we don't beg for money. We don't send out letters of solicitation, 'send money!' We always operate on the budget that God sends. God always provides, and He will provide for you! It just works that way!

"...so let him give, but not grudgingly or by compulsion; for God loves a cheerful giver" (v 7).

- in keeping the Feast of Unleavened Bread
- in keeping all the Feasts of God
- staying close to God in prayer and study
- staying close to God in growing and overcoming
- keeping our eyes on the goal

*here's what God will do:*

Verse 8: "For God *is* able... [has the power] ...to make all grace abound toward you so that in every way you may always have sufficiency in all things, and may abound unto every good work." ***That's what it all lead to!***

(pause for the offering)

Thank you very much, brethren, for the offerings that you provide. We always use them to:

- serve the brethren
- preach and publish the Gospel
- help as many people as we can

*We thank you very much for it!*

Today is a very good day with many, many lessons to learn. Those many, many lessons:

- have to do with our relationship with God
- have to do with how we need to trust God in everything that we do

We know that we are to trust God with all our heart. The lessons that we learn are the lessons from the children of Israel.

They went out from Rameses with a high hand, loaded down with wealth, clothing and all the spoil that they could possibly take. Moses had them all organized in a marching order, and they left Rameses. That was the day after the Passover.

Let's look at that, and see what that tells us. This also tells us that the Passover and Unleavened Bread are separate days, contrary to what some people think.

Numbers 33:1: "These *are* the journeys of the children of Israel, who went forth out of the land of Egypt with their armies under the hand of Moses and Aaron. And Moses wrote their goings out according to their journeys by the command of the LORD...." (vs 1-2).

***So, what we read here is by command of the LORD!***

"...And these *are* their journeys according to their starting places. And they set out from Rameses in the first month, on the fifteenth day of the first month.... [we already saw that] ...On the *next* day after the Passover *Day*, the children of Israel went out with a high hand in the sight of all the Egyptians, while the Egyptians were still burying all *their* firstborn whom the LORD had stricken among them. The LORD also executed judgments upon their gods" (vs 2-4).

Remember, that's what He said that the Passover was for. Then they took their journeys; went Succoth (v 5) and then to "...Etham on the edge of the wilderness" (v 6). From there to "...Baal Zephon. And they pitched in front of Migdol" (v 7).

What happened at Baal Zephon? Here is the lesson: Regardless if circumstances get difficult, you have to trust God. Many times, like He did here with the children of Israel, He did lead them the easy way to the Holy Land, but they came down to the western shore of the Red Sea. Along the Red Sea there's a nice little plateau, but the mountains rise sharply right after that.

Marching in a column they couldn't be in a big group like the later were when they had set up the tabernacle and everything. When they set up the tabernacle they had it right in the middle and then they had four tribes on the east, four tribes on the north, four tribes on the west and four tribes on the south.

Here they were in their marching column,

because they couldn't gather together in any other order. This was on the last day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. So, they came there—of course, that was a Sabbath—and they were settled down the evening before.

*Well, Pharaoh had a change of heart!* Remember that Pharaoh is a type of Satan the devil. Satan the devil always likes to work circumstances to come after us if he can. We're told in Eph. 6 that we 're to have the full armor to protect us from Satan. We will also see something else that is greater when we go through this in Exo. 14:

Exodus 14:3: "For Pharaoh will say of the children of Israel, 'They *are* trapped in the land; the wilderness has shut them in.' And I will harden Pharaoh's heart that he will follow them. And **I will be glorified through Pharaoh and all his army, so that the Egyptians may know that I am the LORD.**' And they did so" (vs 3-4).

Verse 5: "And the king of Egypt was told that the people fled. And the heart of Pharaoh and of his servants was turned against the people. And they said, 'Why have we done this, that we have let Israel go from serving us?' And he made his chariot ready and took his people with him. And he took six hundred chosen chariots, and all the chariots of Egypt, and captains over every one of them. And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh, king of Egypt. And he pursued the children of Israel, and the children of Israel went out with a high hand" (vs 5-8). *Oh they were happy; they were glad!*

Verse 9: "So, the Egyptians pursued them, all the horses *and* chariots of Pharaoh, and his horsemen, and his army. And they overtook them camping by the sea, beside Pi Hahiroth, before Baal Zephon."

Notice how quickly the carnal mind changes. When everything is going good, 'Oh we're so happy for God.' But when things get tough, like it is here, we're going to learn some lessons. We're going see that regardless of what happens, regardless of the circumstances:

- God is with you
- God is in you
- God is for you

*The children of Israel didn't realize this, because they were not converted!* Here's what happened:

Verse 10: "And when Pharaoh drew near, the children of Israel lifted up their eyes. And behold, the Egyptians marched after them. And they were very afraid...."

Stop and think for a minute. How many of

the plagues took place in Egypt to get to the point of Pharaoh letting them go? *The final plague was the death of the firstborn of animals and beasts, and the firstborn of all the children!* So, they saw all the plagues and the last ones never came near them in the land of Goshen.

So, here comes Pharaoh. What should they have done at that point? *They should have gone to Moses and say:*

Moses, help us all to trust in God. We'll get on our knees here and pray and ask for God's intervention, and you pray to God, because we remember all the plagues that were done in Egypt, and God has the power to turn back the armies of Pharaoh.

*No, they didn't do that!*

"...And the children of Israel cried out to the LORD. And they said to Moses, 'Have you taken us away to die in the wilderness because *there were no graves in Egypt?....*'" (vs 10-11).

- What do you do when you find that there is something that God has asked you to do, or circumstances that come upon you that you don't know how to handle?
- Do you complain to God?

***or***

- Do you pray?
- Do you accuse God?

***or***

- Do you ask for mercy?

Verse 11: "And they said to Moses, 'Have you taken us away to die in the wilderness because *there were no graves in Egypt?....*'"

In other words, 'we're just going to die out here in the wilderness and there is no place to bury us!'

"...Why have you... [accusing Moses] ...dealt this way with us to carry us forth out of Egypt?" (v 11).

Here's another lesson: ***Never look at the immediate short term!*** Look at the overall goal. We can have perspective when we do that.

Notice that before God started to bring them out of the slavery of the Egyptians, they were crying and moaning, 'O God, help us, we are oppressed by the Egyptians. We have to serve them day and night.' Notice how human nature is. Turning clear around instead of praising God for deliverance, here's what they told Moses:

Verse 12: "Did we not tell you this word in

Egypt, saying, 'Let us alone so that we may serve the Egyptians?' for it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than that we should die in the wilderness."

We need to always look at things God's way, so notice what Moses said. What could Moses do himself?

- he had to trust in God
- he had to believe God

This is something for all elders and ministers to know: ***you must always trust God in all circumstances!***

Even when they are totally bleak and it looks like a dead end road has closed in on you. Don't look for an excuse to not follow God or not teach the Truth.

Verse 13: "And Moses said to the people, '***Fear not!***.... [first thing, don't be afraid] ...***Stand still and see the salvation of the LORD,*** which He will work for you today..."—*and He did!*

As we read these things, I want you to think about all the things in your life that you have gone through,

- that God has delivered you
- that God has rescued you
- that God has blessed you
- that God has given you life and longevity

*Everything that God can give you!*

"...for the Egyptians whom you have seen today you shall never see them again! ***The LORD shall fight for you...***" (v 14).

We are those whom God has called, ***so He will fight for us!*** But we have to trust in the Lord, yield to Him, stay with the Scriptures. We can't start looking to our own carnal ways to try and solve the problem that we are in. Yes, we are to do what we are to do, with God's blessings, but we can't do the things that only God can do. That's why God brought them into this place ***so they would have to trust God completely!***

He wanted to show His final great miracle in dealing with the Egyptians and getting them out of slavery.

Verse 15: "And the LORD said to Moses, 'Why do you cry to Me? ***Speak to the children of Israel that they go forward.***'"

How could they go forward when they're right up against the Red Sea, and Pharaoh and his armies were right behind them?

Verse 16—*God said*: “And you—lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea, and divide it. And the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea.”

***An impossible miracle!*** How many of those has God done for us? *Think about it!*

Verse 17: “And behold, I *am* about to harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they shall follow them. And I will get honor for Myself upon Pharaoh, and over all his army, over his chariots and over his horsemen. And **the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD** when I will be glorified through Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen” (vs 17-18).

So, what happened? Verse 19: “And **the angel of God, who went before the camp of Israel, moved, and he went to the rear of them...**” *between the two of them!*

Verse 20: “...**It was a cloud of darkness to one, but gave light by night to the other,** so that the two did not come near one another all night.”

There was “...a strong east wind...” (v 21) that came in. consider this: Since they were in a marching column on the west shore of the Red Sea, it was not like a long column like you see in the movie *The Ten Commandments* that they would cross over the Red Sea. That would take hours and hours.

So, the crossing of the Red Sea had to be quick! That’s why they were in this position in their marching column, though they camped right there. The wind came and God split the sea wide—probably about 2-3 miles long—so this was a phenomenal thing! *God wanted them to remember!*

Verse 21: “And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. And the LORD drove the sea back with a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon the dry ground. And the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left” (vs 21-22).

Here they go; it was in the morning watch. They got across, so it was probably right at sunrise when the sun was beginning to come up they all marched across the Red Sea, that whole column. They probably didn’t take anymore than about 45 minutes to an hour, because everything got across.

Verse 23: “And the Egyptians pursued and went in after them to the middle of the sea...”

Think about this, this is another lesson: Sometimes difficulties pursue us, sometimes sin

pursues us! ***But:***

- **God is able to help us**
- **God is able to intervene**

That’s where fasting along with prayer comes in, in beseeching God that He will intervene and help.

“...all Pharaoh’s horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. And in the morning watch it came to pass that the LORD looked down upon the army of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and of the cloud, and the army of the Egyptians was thrown into confusion” (vs 23-24).

That’s the best way to do it, throw them into confusion. What did God do at the Tower of Babel? *He confused the languages!* He changed their languages so they couldn’t communicate to one another. God didn’t have to do a single other thing! They just all quit and gave up, so God led them to the places that they had to be for their inheritance, which He had set aside for them. Likewise here; threw them into confusion!

Verse 25: “And He loosened their chariot wheels...”—*to make sure that no one escaped, and all the wheels of all the chariots fell off!* That’s quite a miracle!

“...and made them go heavily, so that the Egyptians said, ‘Let us flee from the face of Israel, for the LORD fights for them against the Egyptians.’” (v 25).

Yes, we have battles to fight ourselves, but God is the One Who fights for us, especially in the difficult things. Sometimes the blessing of what God does doesn’t appear until quite a while after that. But here it was very immediate.

Verse 26: “And the LORD said to Moses, ‘Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the waters may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen.’ And Moses stretched forth his hand over the sea. And the sea returned to its strength when the morning appeared...” (vs 26-27).

Can you imagine the noise of the water coming right there at that spot? *It tore up and destroyed all the chariots, and all the chariots had their wheels removed!*

“...And the Egyptians tried to flee from it. And the LORD overthrew the Egyptians in the middle of the sea. And the waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen...” (vs 27-28).

The Israelites were wonderful, happy, joyful. Miriam and the women sang songs of praise

and victory. Everyone was just on a tremendous high!

Here's another lesson: *memory is short!* Three days later they were at Marah and the water was bitter. They didn't know what to do. What did they do?

Exodus 15:24: "And the people murmured against Moses, saying, 'What shall we drink?' And he cried to the LORD. And the LORD showed him a tree. And when he had cast it into the waters, the waters were made sweet. There He made a decree and a law for them, and there **He proved them**" (vs 24-25).

*A lot of these things are to prove us, to test us.*

- Do we really believe God?
- Do we really trust God?
- What is it that we do?
- How is it that we do it?

*That's why we have to come to God in prayer every day! Study every day!* So, that we can stay close to God and His Word! So, when these difficulties come, we will believe God and trust in Him!

Notice what this covenant was, and it shows how our behavior has to be.

Verse 26: "And He said, '**If you will diligently** <sup>[#1]</sup>**hearken...** [listen to obey] **...to the voice of the LORD your God, and will** <sup>[#2]</sup>**do that which is right in His sight,** and will <sup>[#3]</sup>**give ear to His commandments,** and <sup>[#4]</sup>**keep all His laws,** I will put none of these diseases upon you, which I have brought upon the Egyptians; **for I am the LORD Who heals you.**'"

That's still true today. Take those four things:

1. diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD your God
- Remember the three words: **obey My voice***
2. do that which is right in His sight
  3. give ear to His commandments
  4. keep all His laws

**THEN** here's the promise: **IF** (v 26)... All of the **Ifs** are conditional upon **us!** *God doesn't need conditions!*

Verse 27: "And they came to Elim, where *there were* twelve wells of water and seventy palm trees. And they camped there by the waters.

**IF** you will:

1. diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD your God

2. do that which is right in His sight
3. give ear to His commandments
4. keep all His laws

**THEN** "...**I will put none of these diseases upon you,** which I have brought upon the Egyptians; **for I am the LORD Who heals you**" (v 26).

There are times when we need help and a proper use of physicians is true. But we need to be trusting in God in these things, because that's important for us to do all the time. Remember that the conditions are there upon us.

Let's see the other things we are to do. **We are to fight, and let God fight for us.** God will fight for us!

- we trust in Him to take up the battle
- we trust in Him to come against those foes that we can't do anything about
- we need God's help
- we need His intervention
- we need His angels
  - ✓ to help us
  - ✓ to show us

Psa. 35—here's what the children of Israel should have done when they first saw the Egyptians. This is what we need to do when we're confronted with problems and difficulties that only God can solve.

Psalms 35:1: "Contend, O LORD, with those who contend with me; fight against those who fight against me. Take hold of shield and buckler, and stand up for my help" (vs 1-2).

Spiritual action that can only come from God and His angels to intervene and help us. **God will!**

Verse 3: "Also draw out the spear and the lance against those who pursue me; say to my soul, 'I am your salvation.'" *Only God can save us from those situations!*

There was no way that they could be saved by themselves without any arms. They didn't have spears, didn't have that arrows, didn't have lances. didn't have the chariots, *none of that, just the people carrying their goods out Egypt!* The Egyptians came and here's a perfect definition of how God intervenes: "...say to my soul, '**I am your salvation.**'"

Verse 4: "Let them be ashamed and **brought to confusion**... [Didn't we see that in Exo. 14?] ...those who seek after my soul; let them be turned back and humiliated, those who devise evil against me."

Some of this also can be attributed to how Christ was treated when He was here in the flesh on the earth.

Verse 5: “Let them be as chaff before the wind; and let the angel of the LORD drive them away.” **Isn’t that something? God can do that!**

Verse 6: “Let their way be dark and slippery; and let the angel of the LORD pursue them.” *Sounds almost like a repeat of Exodus!*

Verse 7: “For without cause they have hidden their net for me; without cause they have dug a pit for my soul. **Let destruction come upon him in a time he will not know...**” (vs 7-8).

Doesn’t that describe perfectly what happened at the Red Sea? You can look at some other things that God has done in the same way.

“...and let his net, which he has concealed catch him, let him fall into destruction” (v 8). **When you’re trusting God that way:**

- asking God to fight the battle for you
- asking God to intervene for you
- crying out to Him in tears and pleas, and praise and glory to Him for all that He can do

**God is right there!**

Verse 9: “And my soul shall be joyful in the LORD; it shall rejoice in His salvation. All my bones shall say...”

Isn’t that interesting your bones speak? *Not in a way that we would understand!* There’s not the bitterness and chivalness of hatred that causes rottenness of the bones. This is joy and righteousness and salvation, which adds to the whole body. He reflects in:

Verse 10: “All my bones shall say ‘O LORD, Who is like You, Who delivers the poor from him stronger than he; yea, *even* the poor and the needy from him who plunders him?’”

God will fight our battles for us, and this is really a tremendous thing for us.

(break)

We’re learning how to have the right attitude when difficult times come. We can look on horizon and see that they are coming in a determined way.

The reason that they are coming upon the nation and then will come upon us, is because the nation has forgotten God. We have to live in the

middle of it, we have to learn in a time when all these difficulties are coming upon the nation.

We need to be wise as serpents and harmless as doves. We need to do the Truth and speak the Truth and let God fight our battles for us. As I have mentioned before, the Psalms help us draw close to God. These are prayers of David, and I tell you, David was some kind of man in everything that he did. He was that way because he was trusting in God.

Remember what happened when he sinned; God forgave the sin but took away his protection for quite a while. Even David’s whole family turned against him. And there was the rebellion of Absalom and he died. Let’s learn some lessons from all of that.

Psa. 16—Here’s what we need to do; here’s how we can have the kind of attitude toward God that we need, and how we can trust in Him, and what God will do for us.

Psalm 16:1: “Preserve me, O God, for in You do I take refuge. I have said to the LORD, ‘You are my LORD; I have no goodness apart from You’” (vs 1-2).

That’s a great lesson to learn. Of and by ourselves we can do ‘good,’ **but we don’t have goodness the way God measures goodness, apart from what comes from God!** A lot of the goodness in the world that people do is for their own advantage.

Verse 3: “As for the saints in the earth... [that’s us] ...they are the excellent ones in whom is all My delight.” *When we have these kinds of attitudes that we are going through:*

- trusting God
- fighting against the evil
- overcoming and changing
- letting God fight for us

**notice what it says: “...they are the excellent ones in whom is all My delight.”**

God delights in us coming to Him and praying, pouring out our heart and mind to Him, asking for His help. God looks upon all the saints; they’re going to be His children. We’re going to help Jesus rule the world. This is going to be a magnificent thing.

Verse 4: “Their sorrows shall be multiplied who run after another god. I will not pour out their drink offerings of blood; and I will not take their names upon my lips. The LORD is the portion of my inheritance and **of my cup**; You shall uphold my lot” (vs 4-5). *The cup, Passover!*

Verse 6: “The lines have fallen to me in pleasant places; yea, I have a beautiful inheritance.”

Look at what it’s going to be; we’re going to shine like the sun and live forever! Who knows how God is going to clothe us with spiritual clothing! We will be in New Jerusalem.

Verse 7: “I will bless the LORD Who has given me counsel; my heart also instructs me in the nights.”

Isn’t it true that sometimes at night you can’t go to sleep. You toss and turn and think about God, praying to him while you’re right there in bed. Sometimes those are the best prayers that there are. It’s quiet, dark and no one is there, and you just pray to God.

Verse 8: “I have set the LORD always before me. Because He is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. Therefore, My heart is glad, and My glory rejoices; My flesh also shall rest in safety” (vs 8-9). *This also applies to Jesus Christ directly, a direct quote!*

Verse 10: “For You will not abandon My soul to the grave; neither will You allow **Your Holy One** to see corruption.” *That’s of Christ!*

We go back to corruption, but God is going to overcome that with the resurrection!

Verse 11: “You will make known to Me **the path of life**... [that’s why we’re here] ...in Your presence... [look how he was looking forward to God always] ...is fullness of joy. At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.”

Why is that? *Because he trusted in God!* It goes right on:

Psalm 17:1: Hear the right, O LORD; attend unto my cry; give ear unto my prayer, for it is not from lips of deceit. Let my judgment come forth from Your presence...” (vs 1-2).

In other words, God is going to give you the understanding that you need; there it is right there, “...from Your presence...”

“...let Your eyes behold things that are upright. **You have tried my heart**...(vs 2-3). *That’s what God wants to know:*

- Do we really love Him?
- Do we really believe Him?

*There it is!*

“...You have visited me in the night; You have tested me, and You shall find nothing; I have purposed *that* my mouth shall not transgress” (v 3).

*Overcoming the sin and all of that, that is connected with changing and growing!*

Verse 4: “Concerning the works of men, by the words of Your lips, I have kept *myself* from the paths of the violent. My steps have held fast to Your paths, my feet have not slipped. I have called upon You, for You will answer me, O God; incline Your ear to me; hear my speech. Show Your marvelous loving kindness, O Savior of those seeking refuge in You; by Your right hand *save them* from those who rise up against them” (vs 4-7). *That’s what God does, He intervenes!*

We are to fight, and God is to fight for us. He leads the way. How do we fight? *We fight against the pulls of the flesh of self!*

Psalm 46:1: “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.” *Never forget that!*

When trouble and difficulties come, turn to God. Don’t do like the children of Israel did and accuse Him, and wonder, ‘O God, why did You let this happen?’ Well, it happens!

- What are you going to do?
- Are you still going to love God?
- What is it?

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

Talk about steadfast in heart and mind! That’s something! Even in spite of the earth changing and mountains going into the sea.

Verse 3: “Though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains shake with the swelling of it. Selah.”

Verse 5: “God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God shall help her at the approach of the morning. The nations raged, the kingdoms were shaken; He uttered His voice, the earth melted” (vs 5-6).

That’s talking about the return of Christ! Of course, all of these lessons that we are learning today are all necessary because we’re headed for some of the worst times that are coming upon the face of the earth since the creation of the world. This tells us how strong we need to be in the Lord.

Verse 7: “The LORD of hosts is with us...”—*even though it appears that there is none helping!*

***The greatest and final help, the lasting and permanent help, is the resurrection!***

“...the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah” (v 7).

Now let’s see some very important verses. Think of this concerning the Church, because we are spiritual Israel. Think of this concerning you, because God loves you and delights in you.

Isaiah 41:8: “But you, Israel... [put your name there, the Church there] ...are My servant, Jacob whom I have chosen...”

We are the *called, chosen and faithful*; chosen means *selected*! God has *selected* us; all the saints above all the people in the world. Let that sink in!

“...the seed of Abraham, My friend” (v 8). ***IF you are Christ’s, you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise!***

Verse 9: “Whom I have taken from the ends of the earth, and called you from its uttermost parts. And I said to you, ‘You are My servant; I have chosen you, and have not cast you away.’”

That’s important to understand. When you have a trial that is really difficult to handle, God doesn’t cast you away.

Verse 10: “**Do not fear; for I am with you...**”

That’s important to understand because God is always with us with His Spirit:

- the Spirit of Christ in our mind
- for the mind of Christ
- the begetting of the Father

*To be His sons and daughters!* “...**I am with you...**” what does it say in John 14? *The Father and Christ will make Their abode or dwelling place in us!* Talk about being with you!

“...be not dismayed... [or discourage, down at the mouth] ...for I am your God. I will strengthen you; yea, **I will help you; yea, I will uphold you with the right hand of My righteousness**” (v 10). *Look at how strong those words are!*

Verse 11: “Behold, all those who were angered against you shall be ashamed and confounded; they shall be as nothing. And those who strive against you shall perish. You shall seek them, and shall not find them; men warring against you shall be as nothing, and as a thing of naught, **for I, the LORD your God, will hold your right hand...** [How many times have we read that] ...**saying to you, “Do not fear; I will help you”**” (vs 11-13).

Think about all the circumstances that you have gone through, however long you have been in

the Church. Look at what God says that He will do:

- He will help you
- He will help all of us

Verse 14: “**“Do not fear, you worm Jacob and men of Israel; I will help you,” says the LORD and your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.**”

Isaiah 44:6: “**Thus says the LORD...**” *Whenever God says something, it’s going to happen!* Every word of God is like a promise:

- for blessing if we love God
- for cursing if you go against Him

***It will happen!***

“...the King of Israel, and His Redeemer even the LORD of hosts, ‘I AM THE FIRST, AND I AM THE LAST...’” (v 6).

That’s what Jesus said in Rev. 1; *I am the First and the Last, the Beginning and the Ending, the Alpha and Omega!*

“...and besides Me *there is no god*. And who, as I, shall call and shall declare it and set it in order for Me...” (vs 6-7).

He’s done it all during the history of mankind.

- Isn’t it marvelous that we have the Word of God?
- Isn’t it a tremendous thing that it is the most translated book in the world?

***With all the digital Bibles, all the digital things that are available—plus the printed word and the spoken word—there’s more knowledge of God than ever before!*** Yet, there’s more knowledge of Satan the devil and his ways than ever before.

Verse 7: “And who, as I, shall call and shall declare it and set it in order for Me, since I appointed the ancient people?... [He’s done it from the beginning] ...And the things that are coming...”

All the prophecies in the Bible at the end-time are going to take place!

“...and shall come, let them declare it to us. **Fear not, nor be afraid**; have I not told you from that time; and have declared it? So, you are My witnesses...” (vs 7-8). *That’s what we are, witnesses for God:*

- by what we believe
- by what we teach
- how we act
- God is holding our right hand
- God is leading us

*That's the whole story of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, especially the last day!*

"...Is there a God besides Me? Yea, *there is* no other Rock; I know not *one*" (v 8).

Isa. 12 is the shortest chapter in Isaiah. Let's see what this tells s. God's Word is to

- help us
- inspire us
- uplift us
- change us
- convert us
- lead us
- help us to think like God

*That's an amazing thing!* Think about what that is like! We're going to see ***the greatest thing to unleaven is the mind!***

Isaiah 12:1: "And in that day you shall say, 'I will give thanks to You O LORD; though You were angry with me, Your anger is turned away, and You do comfort me.'"

There will come a time when the testing will be over. Of course, that's the resurrection. In problems that we deal with and correction that God gives us, His anger is turned away.

Verse 2: "Behold, God *is* my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid; for the LORD God is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation."

Wonderful! Look at how we need to look to God in everything! That's the whole purpose of the seventh day of Unleavened Bread.

Verse 4: "And in that day you shall say, 'Praise the LORD! Call upon His name; declare His doings among the people, make mention that His name is exalted. Sing *to* the LORD; for He has done gloriously; this *is* known in all the earth.... [not yet, but it will] ...Cry out and shout, O inhabitant of Zion; for great *is* the Holy One of Israel in your midst" (vs 4-6).

What an absolute thing that is! Great is God, and think about what He is going to do! Let's understand this:

- God is going to fight for us
- God will be with us
- God will show us and teach us

***We have our part, God has His part!*** This is why we let the Word of God tell us what He wants us to know on His days, according to His Word and Truth. Here's how God is going to fight for us:

Psalm 35:1: "Contend, O LORD, with those who contend with me; fight against those who fight against me. Take hold of shield and buckler, and stand up for my help" (vs 1-2).

***Yes, indeed! God is our help as we have seen.***

Verse 3: "Also draw out the spear and the lance against those who pursue me; say to my soul, **'I am your salvation.'**"

- nothing else can save
- nothing else can do it
- ***Only God!***

Whatever we need to do, *God is going to take care of it!*

Heb. 12—we will see our part:

- how we have to fight against sin
- how we have to trust in Christ

*It is a marvelous thing, indeed!* Here is how we go forward from this seventh day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread:

Hebrews 12:1: "Therefore, *since* we are surrounded by such a great throng of witnesses... [all the Word of God] ...let us lay aside every weight... [put it down; don't carry it around] ...and the sin that so easily entraps *us*... [yes, it does] ...*and* let us run the race set before us with endurance, **having our minds fixed on Jesus, the Beginner and Finisher of our faith;** Who for the joy that lay ahead of Him endured *the* cross, *although* He despised *the* shame, and has sat down at *the* right hand of the Throne of God" (vs 1-2).

Verse 3: "Now **meditate deeply on Him**... [it takes some thought, meditation, living and experience] ...Who endured such great hostility of sinners against Himself so that you do not become weary and faint in your minds. You have not yet resisted to the point of *losing* blood in your struggle against sin. And you **have already forgotten the admonition that He addresses to you as to sons:** 'My son, do not despise *the* chastening of *the* Lord, nor grow weary of being reproved by Him; for whom *the* Lord loves He chastens, and He severely disciplines every son whom He receives.' If you endure chastening, God is dealing with you as *a Father* with *His* sons. For who is the son whom *the* Father does not chasten?" (vs 3-7).

Let's see what we are to do with our heart and mind. The greatest battles are not out here, the greatest battles are in the mind. as we have covered with the renewing or transformation of the mind.

- let's see what we are to do

- let's see how we are to do it
  - let's see the way that it's being done
- so that we can*
- change
  - grow
  - overcome
  - have God fight our battles for us
  - be cleansed
  - be brought to God
  - be close to Him
- He can hold our right hand
  - He can fight our battles for us

***But the one battle we have to fight is right in the mind!***

Let's see what the Apostle Paul wrote. Remember that when you read Rom. 7, even as an apostle for more than 20 years, ***Paul was still fighting the sin within! Paul was still struggling!***

How can it be that way? *Yet, we know—through Christ—that we can overcome!*

2-Corinthians 10:3: "For although we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh."

***No amount of psychology or thinking of men's ways will help you overcome spiritually!***

Verse 4: "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the overthrowing of strongholds"—*those holds in our mind:*

- our memories
- our sins
- our transgressions

*All of the things that we have done has been recorded in our mind, and we need that cleansed!* That's how God does it:

- He cleanses our heart
- He cleanses our mind
- He leads us in what we need to do

***Here's what to do; this takes mind-control with the Spirit of God:***

Verse 5: "Casting down *vain* imaginations, and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God..."—*the Truth of God, the Word of God!*

One of the greatest sins of men and women is that ***they think*** that they can add to the Word of God and make it better, ***but they cannot!***

***“...and bringing into captivity every thought into the obedience of Christ”*** (v 5). *That's*

*done by the Spirit of God!*

We're not like the children of Israel who accuse God. We're not like others who don't produce the fruit who get caught up in the cares of world and have no root in them. "...**bringing into captivity every thought into the obedience of Christ.**" *That is mind-control by choice in the inner part of your mind through the Spirit and the Word of God!*

***Every thought!*** You think about that and see how you do day-by-day.

- that's why there's repentance every day
- that's why there's forgiveness every day
- that's why God is merciful and kind to us every day

***If we are bringing every thought to the obedience of Christ:***

Verse 6: "And having a readiness to avenge all disobedience, whenever your obedience has been fulfilled."

*Our obedience is fulfilled with the Word of God!* Let's see how that is done. We know that the Holy Spirit is likened unto water.

Eph. 5—Paul is talking about the Church, so Christ is there to always help us. The Holy Spirit is in us to help us; God the Father and Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 5:26: "So that He might sanctify it... [the Church and each one individually] **...having cleansed it with the washing of the water by the Word.**"

With the Spirit of God, that's the water, and the Word of God ***together cleanses our mind and helps us bring every thought into captivity*** so that we yield ourselves to God in every way, and for the Truth of God.

Verse 27—*tie in with John 17: "That He might present it to Himself as the glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it might be Holy and without blame."*

When we look at it that way, then we know that we will be able to go through the things that we need to go through with the help of God.

- here's what we need to understand
- here's what we need to realize
- here's how we need to look at everything that comes along

*so we can*

- grow, change and overcome
- be washed with the water by the Word

- bring every thought into captivity

**Through the power of God!** That is the spiritual goal mentally, in our mind, heart and thoughts!

*Remember that regardless of what comes along, Romans 8:28: “And we know... [this is what we need to know all the time and keep in mind] ...that **all things**... [each and every one] ...**work together for good**...”*

Even when we do things that aren't right and we repent and learn the lesson, then that works for good because of repentance.

**“...to those who love God...** [with all their heart, mind, soul, being and strength] **...to those who are called according to His purpose**” (v 28). *Yes, and those who are chosen!*

Verse 29: “Because those whom He did foreknow He also predestinated *to be* conformed to the image of His own Son, that He might be *the* Firstborn among many brethren.”

*God wants to do a finished work in all of us!* We have to be willing and ready to.

Verse 30: “Now, whom He predestinated, these He also called; and whom He called, these He also justified... [put in right standing with God] ...and whom He justified, these He also glorified.” *A perfect tense of future fulfillment! We will be glorified!*

What else can you say about this? *That's why this day is so great!* Think of what the children of Israel had in their mind when they were standing on the other side of the Red Sea and looking down into it. All the Egyptians were struggling and dying, and the water was coming upon them because of the power of God.

Verse 31<sup>[transcriber's correction]</sup>: “What then shall we say to these things? **If God is for us**... [which He is] **...who can be against us?**” *Nothing can!*

Verse 32: “He Who did not spare even His own Son, but gave Him up for us all, how shall He not also grant us all things together with Him?” *That's quite a statement!*

Verse 33: “Who shall bring an accusation against *the* elect of God? *God is the One* Who justifies. *Who is the one* that condemns? *It is Christ* Who died, but rather, *Who is raised again*, *Who is even now* at *the* right hand of God, *and* *Who is also* making intercession for us” (vs 33-34)—*through the power of the Holy Spirit and personally!*

Verse 35: “What shall separate us from the love of Christ?....”

What is going to do that? *That's why we have all the things that we go through!* **We can learn to:**

- trust God
- believe God
- cling to God
- repent to God

*of these things combined! NOTHING will separate us!*

*“...Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?”* (v 35).

Look at all the different circumstances that all the saints have had to go through down through history. Think about it, they faced every one of these things, **and they were victorious**, because:

- they **believed** God
- they **trusted** God

Verse 36: “Accordingly, it is written, ‘For Your sake we are killed all the day long; we are reckoned as sheep for *the* slaughter.’ **But in all these things...**” (vs 36-37).

The way God looks at it. Don't look at it from the human point of view; look at it from the point of view of God.

**“...we are more than conquerors** through Him Who loved us” (v 37).

Here's the persuasion that the Apostle Paul came to through all that he went through. Read what he went through (1-Cor. 6; 11); all the difficulties and suffering.

Verse 38: “For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, **shall be able**... [shall not have the power] **...to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord**” (vs 38-39).

There it is, brethren, that is the meaning of the last day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread! **So, let's go forward as God has said!**

Scriptural References:

- 1) Leviticus 23:6-9
- 2) 2 Corinthians 9:6-8
- 3) Numbers 33:1-4
- 4) Exodus 14:3-28
- 5) Exodus 15:24-27, 26

- 6) Psalm 35:1-10
- 7) Psalm 16:1-11
- 8) Psalm 17:1-7
- 9) Psalm 46:1-3, 5-7
- 10) Isaiah 41:8-14
- 11) Isaiah 44:6-8
- 12) Isaiah 12:1-2, 4-6
- 13) Psalm 35:1-3
- 14) Hebrews 12:1-7
- 15) 2 Corinthians 10:3-6
- 16) Ephesians 5:26-27
- 17) Romans 8:28-39

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Numbers 33:5-7
- Ephesians 6
- John 14
- Revelation 1
- Romans 7
- John 17
- 1 Corinthians 6; 11

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***Christian Biblical Church of God Offices:***

***United States***

Post Office Box 1442  
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***Canada***

Post Office Box 125  
Brockville, Ontario  
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***Malaysia***

WDT 00009  
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43507 Selangor, Malaysia

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