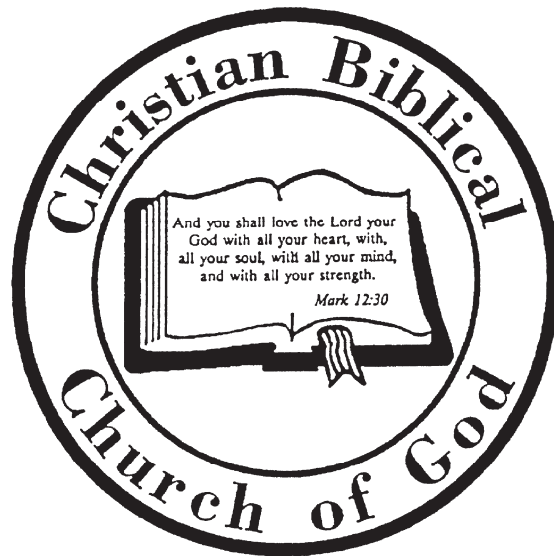


Spring Feast 2023



Transcript Book

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28 Prophecies Fulfilled Surrounding Passover

(Sabbath Before Passover)

Fred R. Coulter—April 1, 2023

Greetings everyone! Welcome to Sabbath services; the Sabbath before the Passover, which is the key, fundamental fulcrum of the Plan of God working out on the earth as He has proposed!

Today we are going to cover 28 prophecies that were fulfilled just before or on, or just after the Passover Day. We know from Rev. 13:8 that *Christ was crucified from the beginning of the world!* That is true!

We have this in 2-Tim. 1; this is important because we're looking at something that God has proposed and planned and He is carrying out and working it all out according to the counsel of His will

- through His creation
- through His angels
- through mankind
- through everything that there is

When we come to 2-Tim. 1 we find this and it's really important for us to grasp it. *God has brought us into something that He planned before the ages of time!* It's interesting that this is not written of anyplace else except here and Titus 1, though not written exactly as it is here.

But in the span of time, the way God looks at it, it's entirely different than the way we look at it. But this tells us something. What we are doing is not a religious practice. What we are doing and reading about is something that God has planned and He has revealed. He's revealed it through His Word and creation.

2-Timothy 1:9: "Who has saved us and called *us* with a Holy calling..."

Think about that, God Himself—through Jesus Christ—has called each and every one of us. I want you to think about how important that is to you and to God. Compare that with the rest of the world, and that makes it a very humbling thing, indeed, that:

- Who are we that God would call us?
- Who are we that He would reveal His Truth to us?
- Who are we that we are able to receive the Holy Spirit of God, and understand the Word of God?

That is an absolute marvelous and miraculous thing that God has done for us.

"...not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace..." (v 9). *That's what the Passover is all about!*

"...which *was* given us in Christ Jesus **before the ages of time**" (v 9). *That's very hard for us to fathom!*

God has His plan that He's working out. The central focus of that plan begins and ends with Jesus Christ. Begins with the Passover and ends with the completion of the age and the beginning of the New Heavens and the New Earth, which is a new beginning.

What God has called us to is not a 'religion' to be good people in the world, but He has called us to a life of growing and overcoming, and loving Him, and Christ and the Father dwelling in us and loving us, helping us to attain to the goal that God wants us to.

As we will see, the prophecies of Christ's coming came right at the beginning. If you have the book *The Day That Jesus the Christ Died* go get it and turn to page 35. We're going to go through and this will have all the Scriptures right in front of us so that we don't have to turn to the Old Testament and turn to the New Testament back and forth. This will help us to be able to concentrate more.

If you don't have *The Day That Jesus the Christ Died*, you can use *A Harmony of the Gospels and it begins on pg. 268.*

It's amazing because if anyone wants proof that the Old Testament is true, and that the New Testament is the fulfilling of it, and together they represent the complete Word of God. Within it, it contains the complete Plan of God as revealed by His Sabbath and His Holy Days.

The Passover becomes the fulcrum between the two. But the two are one!

The oldest prophecy had been given by the Lord Himself, because He knew what was going to happen because of the sin of Adam and Eve.

1) **The Serpent would bruise the Seed of the woman**

Prophesied:

Genesis 3:15: “And I will put enmity between you... [Satan; that’s the battle that has been all down through time] ...and the woman... [which is the Church] ...and between your seed and her Seed; He will bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.”

Here’s what Jesus said on the Passover night after He had given the symbols of the bread and wine for the New Covenant. Jesus said on that Passover night, because of the Passover and what was coming. They were on their way out to the Garden of Gethsemane.

Fulfilled:

John 12:31—*Jesus said:* “Now is the judgment of this world. Now shall the prince of this world be cast out.... [Jesus had to die and not sin] ...And if I be lifted up from the earth, I will draw all to Myself” (vs 31-32).

Showing that everything in the Plan of God had to center around the Passover. That’s past, present and future.

Verse 33: “But He said this to signify by what death He was about to die.”

2) The Messiah would be cut off and not for Himself

This was prophesied by Daniel in the 70-weeks prophecy.

Prophesied:

Daniel 9:26: “And after sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off **but not for Himself.**”

We find this fulfilled in John 11; here was a prophecy given by the high priest Caiaphas that one would die for the nation. This was some time before the Passover. They were trying to figure out what to do with Jesus, because everybody was following Him:

Fulfilled:

John 11:50 *Caiaphas told the Sanhedrin:* “Nor consider that it is better for us that one man die for the people, than that the whole nation should perish.’ Now, he did not say this of himself, but being high priest that year, **he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation...** [he didn’t understand that it was for the whole world] ...and not for the nation only, but also **that He might gather together into one the children of God who were scattered abroad**” (vs 50-52).

That’s quite a thing! ***Every word concerning the Passover and the sacrifice of Christ, was fulfilled as prophesied!***

3) The Betrayal of Jesus By Judas as Foretold by David

Prophesied:

Psalm 41:9: “Even a man, my close friend in whom I trusted, who ate of my bread, has lifted up his heel against me.”

We are also going to see that all of these prophecies are scattered a little here, a little there; a line here, a line there; precept here a precept there, and it’s put all together. They all came together on the Passover Day. *Here’s the fulfillment of that!*

Fulfilled:

Mark 14:10: “Then Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order that he might deliver Him up to them. And after hearing this, they were delighted and promised to give him money. And he sought how he might conveniently betray Him” (vs 10-11)

Isn’t that interesting? *Prophesied all the way back to during the days of David!*

4) Jesus Christ would be forsaken by His disciples, as prophesied by Zechariah

Just exactly like I said, a little here, a little there! So, here’s the prophecy from Zechariah:

Prophesied:

Zechariah 13:7: “Awake, O sword, against My Shepherd, and against the Man who is My companion,’ says the LORD of hosts. ‘Strike the Shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered....”

That’s what happened when Jesus was arrested at midnight during the power of darkness of Satan the devil.

Fulfilled:

Mark 14:50: “Then they all forsook Him and fled” *They all ran away!*

5) The price of His betrayal was also foretold by Zechariah

Prophesied:

Zechariah 11:12: “And I said to them, ‘If it is good, give me my price; and if not, let it go.’ So, they weighed my price—thirty *pieces* of silver.”

When you go to the Law and find another Scripture where this came from; from the one that

said that *a slave was worth* 30 pieces of silver.’ That was in the judgment when someone would cause the death of someone else’s slave. So, here it is concerning Jesus:

Fulfilled:

Matthew 26:15—*Judas says*: “And said, ‘What are you willing to give me, and I will deliver Him up to you?’ And they offered him thirty pieces of silver.”

Amazing! Not 29, not 31, but 30 pieces! The priest who offered Judas 30 pieces of silver didn’t know about this prophecy. But there they were fulfilling these prophecies. So, this shows you—just exactly like Jesus said—‘I’m the Beginning and the Ending, the First and the Last.’

We can also suppose that there were many, many angels over Jerusalem on that Passover and crucifixion day, causing all of these things to be fulfilled.

As a matter of fact, you get the *A Harmony of the Gospels* and you start out six days before the Passover and you follow that through. Every one of those things had to also be inspired by the angels to bring to pass all the prophecies when Jesus was coming into Jerusalem. There were large crowds.

Well, who do you suppose inspired them to go so they would be there? *Probably the angels!*

6) Zechariah also foretold what would be done with the betrayal money

Isn’t that something? You might think it’s a small, little detail, but the smallest, little detail of prophecy we need to understand will be fulfilled. This is the most important event from the creation of the world—the *Passover Day on which Christ died!*

Prophesied:

Zechariah. 11:13: “And the LORD said to me, ‘Throw it to the potter’—the princely price at which I was valued by them. And I took the thirty *pieces* of silver and threw them to the potter in the house of the LORD.”

Think about where those 30 pieces of silver would be thrown.

Fulfilled:

Matthew 27:3: “Now, when Judas, who had betrayed Him, saw that He was condemned, he changed his mind *and* returned the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders, saying, ‘I have sinned and have betrayed innocent blood.’.... [that was too late] ...But they said, ‘What *is that* to us? You see *to it* yourself.’ And after throwing down

the pieces of silver in the temple, he went out and hanged himself” (vs 3-5).

Now, here’s another part of the prophecy: *buy a potter’s field!*

Verse 6. “But the chief priests took the pieces of silver *and* said...”

Notice the hypocrisy in them; they gave the money to Judas to betray Jesus so they could execute Him, and then He brought the money back and notice what they said:

“...‘It is not lawful to put them... [the 30 pieces of silver] ...into the treasury, since it is *the* price of blood’” (v 6).

Not thinking about the planning to murder Jesus and crucify Him for how long?

Verse 7: “And after taking counsel, they bought a potter’s field with the *pieces of silver*, for a burial ground for strangers.”

That also was still the price and the name of it, when the apostles got together on Pentecost to select who would be the one to replace Judas Iscariot who had fallen.

7) Isaiah prophesied that Jesus Christ would be sacrificed as the Passover Lamb of God

We also find that Isaiah ha more prophecies concerning more things than any of the other prophets in the Bible. Isaiah has about:

- Passover
- the first coming
- the second coming
- the Millennium
- New Jerusalem

All of that! So, Isaiah was tremendously important!

Prophesied:

In Isaiah there were a number of prophecies in that chapter specifically relating to the death and crucifixion of Jesus Christ as payment for sin. We’ll see that as we go along.

Isaiah 53:7: “...He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter...”

Fulfilled:

1-Corinthians 5:7 “...For Christ our Passover was sacrificed for us”

1-Peter 1:18: “Knowing that you were not redeemed by corruptible things, by silver or gold, from your futile way of living, inherited *by tradition* from *your* forefathers; but by *the* precious blood of

Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot; Who truly was foreknown before *the* foundation of *the* world, but was manifested in *these* last times for your sakes” (vs 18-20).

God revealed to the apostles what to write about the very days and the events that happened. They saw them with their own eyes. They were the eyewitnesses!

8) Isaiah also prophesied the scourging and mocking that He would suffer

And He did!

Prophesied:

Isaiah 50:6 “I gave My back to the smiters... [scourgers; the ones who beat Him nearly to death] ...and My cheeks to them that plucked off the hair... [pulling out the beard] ...I did not hide My face from shame and spitting.”

To this day the Jews do not understand these Scriptures. Some of them do, but most of them don't!

Fulfilled:

Matthew 27:26: “Then he... [Pontius Pilate] ...released Barabbas to them; but after scourging Jesus, he delivered *Him* up so that He might be crucified.”

The cross of crucifixion is not like you see in most movies. The cross of crucifixion was a big tree trimmed down and they put iron flanges into the truck of the tree, and those iron flanges would hold the cross bar so they could crucify many people by nailing their hands on the crossbar and then lifting them up and putting that crossbar in those flanges. *That's why it is called a cross and called a tree.* Both are correct.

Verse 27: “Then the governor's soldiers, after taking Jesus with *them* into the Praetorium, gathered the entire band against Him; and they stripped Him *and* put a scarlet cloak around Him. And after plating a crown of thorns, they put *it* on His head, and a rod in His right hand; and bowing on their knees before Him, they mocked Him, and *kept on* saying, ‘Hail, King of the Jews!’ (vs 27-29).

Now look at what Jesus went through ***and didn't fight back! He didn't say a single word in His own defense!*** He did answer a couple of questions to Pilate, but that was it.

Verse 30: “Then, after spitting on Him, they took the rod and struck *Him* on the head.”

I don't imagine that they just gently tapped Him on the head. ***They smacked Him on the head!*** He was beaten from head to toe, front to back!

We will see that both Isaiah and David in the Psalms prophesied of how Jesus would be beaten and astonished at how much He was mutilated.

9) Both Isaiah and David prophesied that Jesus' body would be mutilated

Prophesied:

Isaiah 52:14: “Many were astonished at Him—for *His body was* so disfigured—even His form beyond that of the sons of men.”

So, a scourging was really a terrible thing. Then David said this; these are the very words of Jesus Christ while He hung on the cross. He looked down and He saw His ribs:

Psalms 22:17: “I can count all My bones; they look and gloat over Me.”

Everyone was out there making fun of Him! I want all of us to keep this in mind as we come to the Passover this coming Tuesday night.

Fulfilled:

Matthew 27:26: “...but after scourging Jesus, he delivered *Him* up so that He might be crucified.”

John 19:1: “Then Pilate, therefore, took Jesus and scourged *Him*.”

See how all of those prophecies come together. This is also quite a very interesting thing, indeed, from this point of view:

Sometimes we're going along trying to analyze prophecies as we think they're happening, but lots of times God bunches up all the prophecies and they're fulfilled in one day. This is what we have here!

10) David prophesied the shame and dishonor that Jesus would suffer, being condemned as a criminal

- He did no wrong
- He committed no sin

Think about that! Think about Jesus' sacrifice covering the sin of everyone who has been falsely charged, convicted and executed, down through history!

Prophesied:

Psalms 69:9: “...the reproaches of those who reproached You have fallen upon Me.”

Verse 19: “You [the Father] have known My reproach, and My shame, and My dishonor; My enemies are all before You”—*and Me!*

Jesus carried in His body *the law of sin and death* and that’s how He carried our sins to the cross, to the tree! It’s very interesting how all of this occurred’ quite a thing, indeed! **The Creator of mankind dying by the hands of His creation to save His creation from Satan the devil and their own sins!**

Verse 20: “Reproach has broken my heart, and I am full of heaviness; and I looked for sympathy, but there was none; and for comforters, but I found none.”

He had to do it all alone with no one there to give Him any comfort!

Fulfilled:

Matthew 26:55: “At that point Jesus said to the crowd, ‘Have you come out to take Me with swords and clubs, as against a robber?’....”

Verse 66: “...They answered *and* said, ‘He is deserving of death!’” *In spite of the fact that Pilate said, ‘I find no fault in Him!’*

11) David also foretold that false witnesses would testify against Christ

Aren’t you upset when someone says something false against you? Think about everything false that was said about Jesus! They even said that He was of Baalzebub, chief of the demons. Of course, He wasn’t!

Everybody in their lifetime will be accused of something that is absolutely not true, and you might not even have an opportunity to explain the Truth. *That’s exactly what it was with Jesus!*

Prophesied:

Psalms 35:11 “Cruel witnesses rose up; they asked me of things that I knew nothing about.”

Fulfilled:

Mark 14:55: “And the chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were trying to find testimony against Jesus, to put Him to death; but they did not find *any*. For many bore false witness against Him, but their testimonies did not agree. And some rose up and bore false witness against Him...” (vs 55-57).

Look at how many trials down through history, what would say? 20%? 30% were all against people who were innocent of any crime?

What crime did Jesus commit? *None!* But he was against the establishment and the establishment was controlled by Satan the devil! That’s what Jesus said in John 8

12) Isaiah prophesied that Jesus would not make an effort to defend Himself at the trial

Prophesied:

Isaiah 53:7: “He was oppressed, and He was afflicted; yet, He opened not His mouth....”

- What’s going to happen when we meet with the same fate in the future?
- What are we going to do?
- Are we going to be a good witness when they bring all of these things against us, and we know that they’re wrong and we can’t say a thing?

Well, we’ll trust in Christ and pray quietly to ourselves and ask God to help us and strengthen us so that we can go through this trial.

“...He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter; and as a sheep before its shearers is dumb, so He opened not His mouth” (v 7).

Fulfilled:

Think about these prophecy *down to the very words* fulfilled! We remember that with the Word of God, which is:

- righteous
- true
- never fails

We find this with the 28 prophecies fulfilled just before, on or just after the Passover Day. Here’s the fulfillment of that:

Matthew 27:13: “Then Pilate said to Him, ‘Don’t You hear how many things they testify against You?’ And He did not answer even one word to him... [remember how amazed that Pilate was the Jesus wouldn’t say anything] ...so that the governor was greatly amazed” (vs 13-14).

Now we’re going to see in the next one, prophecy 13—which is quite a long one and very detailed fulfillment of it.

13) Isaiah also foretold Jesus Christ’s crucifixion as the sin offering for the world

Prophesied:

Isaiah 53:4: “Surely He has borne our infirmities, and carried our sorrows...”

All the people in the world don’t know that,

but they will know one day somewhere along the line.

“...yet, we esteemed Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted” (v 4).

Yes, they said He’s getting it because He deserved it. But He didn’t!

Verse 5: “But He *was* wounded for our transgressions...”

Think about that when you read about the strife, when you read about he scourging that was **so we could have our sins forgiven!** He took upon Himself, as we find in John 10:

No one takes My life from Me, but I lay it down. I have commandment from the Father to receive it back.

That’s the kind of faith that we need to have in the days in which we’re living with all the prophecies being fulfilled on the right and left around us all the time.

“...*He was* crushed for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace *was* upon Him; and with His stripes we ourselves are healed” (v 5).

There can’t be any healing of sin without the shedding of blood and the sacrifice of Christ.

Verse 6: “All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned each one to his own way; and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.”

Why would God do that? *Because the One Who created man and woman was the One Who became Jesus Christ!* Therefore, His life, as God manifested in the flesh, covers the sin of all human beings *past, present and future!* He made all the process—and the genes and chromosomes—and put them in Adam and Eve and it went down from there through all history, through all mankind!

- He was the One Who is responsible
- He was the One Who gave the judgment to Adam and Eve because of their sins

So, He said, ‘I will take those upon Myself’ ***so that the Plan of God can be fulfilled.***

Verse 10: “Yet, the LORD willed to crush Him and He has put Him to grief: You shall make His life an offering for sin. He shall see His seed; He shall prolong His days... [through the power of the resurrection] ...and that **the purpose of the LORD** might prosper in His hand.”

That’s very interesting, you might do a word study on *purpose*, and see what it has to say about the purpose of God. We know that the *purpose of*

God is manifest in His Word, and revealed by His Sabbath and Holy Days! That’s a key, important thing. Then you add in to that ***the power of the Holy Spirit within each one of us to lead us!***

Verse 11: “He shall see of the travail of His soul. He shall be fully satisfied. By His knowledge shall My righteous Servant justify many; and He shall bear their iniquities.” *That’s the prophecy!*

Think about all the details that are contained in every one of these prophecies, then ask: Could these things have happened by chance? *No, there are no odds that can tell us that!* God gave these things hundreds of years. And in the case of Adam and Eve, and Abraham, thousands of years before they ever took place. That is an amazing thing to understand!

Fulfilled:

John 19:16 “Therefore, he [Pilate] then delivered Him [Jesus] up to them so that He might be crucified. And they took Jesus and led *Him* away. And He went out bearing His own cross to the place called *The Place* of a Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. There they crucified Him, and with Him two others, *one* on this side and *one* on the other side, and Jesus in the middle. And Pilate also wrote a title and put *it* on the cross; and it was written, ‘Jesus the Nazarean, the King of the Jews’” (vs 16-19).

14) As Isaiah had prophesied, He was numbered among lawbreakers

Prophesied:

Isaiah 53:12 “...He was counted among the transgressors...”

Fulfilled:

Luke 23:32: “And two other malefactors were also led away with Him to be put to death. And when they came to the place called *Place of a Skull*, there they crucified Him and the malefactors, one on *the right* and one on *the left*” (vs 32-33).

Look at the details of all of these things! So, there we have 14 of the 28 prophecies that were fulfilled just before, on, or just after the Passover Day.

(break@44:48)

As I mentioned this year we keep the Passover on April 5th, which means that we take the Passover on the night of the 4th. April 5th was the same day in 30_{A.D.} that Jesus was crucified. Think about that! Not quite 2,000 years, but to the very day. Let’s keep that in mind as we go through all of these things.

Now let's continue with the 28 prophecies fulfilled on the Passover Day; some just before and some just after. But nevertheless, all the details of all of these prophecies were fulfilled absolutely word for word!

Just think about what that does in bringing the veracity of the Bible and truthfulness of the Bible, that down through all that time down to that one day, everything fulfilled in minute detail. That's because all of those involved did not understand that. But God revealed it to them after it had taken place.

15) David prophesied that His [Jesus'] hands and His feet would be pierced

Prophesied:

Psalm 22:16: "Dogs have surrounded Me... [sounds like all those around the crucifixion site] ...a band of evildoers have encircled Me; they have pierced My hands and My feet..." *That's quite a thing!*

Fulfilled:

Mark 15:25 "...when they crucified Him."

John 20:25: "Then the other disciples said to him, 'We have seen the Lord.'.... [this is *after* the Passover] ...But he said to them, 'Unless I [Thomas] see the nail marks in His hands, and put my finger into the nail marks, and put my hand into His side...'"

We will see the prophecy that a soldier thrust a spear into the side of Christ. It was apparently from the right hand side to pierce Christ's heart, to make sure that every drop of blood would be spilled, and that He would die on that day in that way as was prophesied.

Thomas said if he could not do that, "...I will not believe at all." (v 25).

Verse 26: "Now, after eight days His disciples again were within, and Thomas with them. Jesus came after the doors were shut, and stood in the midst and said..."

As a spirit being He could walk through walls, doors, whatever.

"... 'Peace *be* to you.' Then He [Jesus] said to Thomas, 'Put forth your finger, and see My hands; and reach *out* your hand, and put *it* into My side; **and be not unbelieving, but believing.**'" (vs 26-27).

16) The parting of His garments was also prophesied by David

Prophesied:

Psalm 22:18 "They divide My garments among them and cast lots upon My vesture."

The vesture was one woven piece and they didn't want to cut that up in pieces between the four soldiers out there, so they cast lots. So, both of these were fulfilled by the Roman soldiers who do nothing about the Scriptures.

God is able to make things be fulfilled to the very absolute final degree, and those who did it knew nothing about the prophecies. The soldiers didn't say that they read in the Old Testament that they cast lots and divided His garments, 'so let's do that. Let's as Roman soldiers fulfill what's in the Hebrew Bible.' *Nonsense!*

Fulfilled:

John 19:24: "For this reason, they said to one another, 'Let us not tear it, but let us cast lots for it to *determine* whose it shall be'; **that the Scripture might be fulfilled**... [that's what the Apostle John wrote] ...which says, 'They divided My garments among them, and they cast lots for My vesture.' The soldiers, therefore, did these things."

How many things have we done to fulfill prophecies that we didn't know anything about? Is not answering the call of God calling us to His Truth a fulfilling of prophecy. We didn't know we were fulfilling prophecy when we did it **because God is the One Who led us to do it!** That's an amazing thing! Remember that:

- it is God Who gives repentance
- it is God Who leads us to repentance
- it is God Who forgives our sins through the sacrifice of Christ and His shed blood

Which He shed on the Passover Day!

17) In another Psalm, David prophesied that they would give Him vinegar to drink

Again, these were the Roman soldiers there standing in the crucifixion area.

- they're the ones who carried it out
- they're the ones who nailed His hands and His feet
- they're the ones who lifted Him up on the cross

Prophesied:

Psalm 69:21: "They also gave Me gall for My food; and in My thirst they gave Me vinegar to drink."

Fulfilled:

Matthew 27:34 “They gave Him vinegar mingled with gall to drink; but after tasting it, He would not drink.”

That’s quite a thing! Down to that small thing about the vinegar and the gall!

All of these prophecies amount to substantial facts that prove the Bible true—Old Testament and New Testament!

18) David also prophesied that many would be watching Jesus during the crucifixion

and His suffering!

Prophesied:

Psalms 22:17 “...they look and gloat over Me.”

Fulfilled:

Matthew 27:36: “And they... [the guards] ...sat down there to keep guard over Him.”

Luke 23:48: “And all the people who had gathered together to this sight, after seeing the things that took place, returned beating their breasts.” *They were gloating over Him!*

Think about all of these things transpiring and not one of them knew that they were fulfilling prophecy. Probably very few even had anything to understand that this was coming from God. Even the disciples didn’t understand it until afterwards when Christ had opened up their minds to everything that would happen to Christ in the Law, the Psalms and the Prophets (Luke 24).

19) Among those watching would be Jesus’ family and friends, who would stand at a distance

Prophesied:

Psalms 38:11: “My loved ones and my friends stand apart from my plague... [His wounds] ...and my neighbors stand far off.”

Fulfilled:

Luke 23:49: “But all those who knew Him stood off at a distance observing these things, *the women also who had accompanied Him from Galilee.*”

Amazing! Think about that! Brethren, let’s understand that:

- whenever we come for Sabbath services, we’re fulfilling some kind of prophecy

- whenever we love and obey God, we’re fulfilling prophecy!

Do you ever think of that way? ***God is fulfilling prophecy back to us:***

- by giving us understanding
- by blessing us
- by protecting us
- by leading us
- by having carnal men and women who nothing about God do things that facilitate what we need to do to serve God

20) Some of His observers would shake their heads at Him

Prophesied:

Psalms 109:25: “And I also became a reproach to them when they looked upon Me; they shook their heads.”

Fulfilled:

Matthew 27:39: “Then those who were passing by railed at Him, shaking their heads, and saying, ‘You Who *would* destroy the temple and rebuild *it* in three days, save Yourself. If You are *the* Son of God, come down from the cross’” (vs 39-40)

That reminds me of Satan telling Jesus, ‘If You are the Son of God, command that these stones be turned into bread.’ *Very similar!*

21) Even the words of His reproachers were prophesied by David

Those who were doing it didn’t even know that they were fulfilling prophecy.

Prophesied:

Psalms 22:8: “He trusted on the LORD; let Him deliver Him; let Him rescue Him, since He delights in Him!”

Fulfilled:

Matthew 27:43: “‘He trusted in God; let Him deliver Him now, if He will *have* Him. For He said, ‘I am *the* Son of God.’” And the two robbers who were crucified with Him also reproached Him with the same words” (vs 43-44).

Imagine that! You talk about a day that was absolutely filled with fulfilling prophecy and the angels causing these things to happen. The demons who were there attacking. And I imagine that those who were reproaching, the demons were right behind them and inspiring them to do it.

22) Isaiah prophesied that Jesus would make intercession for sinners. This intercession began even during His crucifixion

Prophesied:

Isaiah 53:12: "...He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for transgressors"

Fulfilled:

Luke 23:34: "Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them... [the first words when He was hung on the cross] ...for they do not know [understand] what they are doing.' [they don't know they were fulfilling prophecy] ...And as they divided His garments, they cast lots."

Here again we have some words of David for the next prophecy. When you read all of Psa. 22 it makes you wonder: What did David think when he spoke these words and wrote these words? *Quite an amazing thing!*

We need to understand how absolutely amazing the Word of God is. This is why it's so important that we:

- handle it truthfully
- we handle it righteously in the right way
- use it the way God wants it used

These are the things that He inspired to be!

23) David prophesied the thoughts of Jesus at the height of His suffering

Prophesied:

Psalm 22:1 "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me, and *why are You so far from helping Me, and from the words of My groaning?*"

Jesus had to do this all alone, and not sin! There are times when we are in the depths of a trial and we wonder:

- Where is God?
- How is God to help us?
- What is He going to do?

Trust in Him and He will work it out!

Fulfilled:

Matthew 27:46 "And about the ninth hour, Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, 'Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?' That is, 'My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?'" ***The very same words that David wrote!***

The more we go back and see how all these prophecies were fulfilled in the finest detail possible, this ought to give us a whole lot more confidence:

- in the Word of God
- in the Power of God
- in what God will do for us
- in what God will do in us
- in what God will do through us
- in what He wants us to do

- that we can continually come to God and have our sins forgiven
- that we can continually come to God and grow in grace and knowledge

24) Zechariah prophesied that His body would be pierced with a spear

Prophesied:

Zechariah 12:10 "And they shall look upon Me whom they have pierced..."

That was the Roman soldier; they did that automatically with those whom they crucified. The ones they wanted dead before they broke their legs. This was done, we will see with the next prophecy, so that there wouldn't be a bone broken in Jesus' body as it was prophesied.

Think about everything that Jesus went through, the scourging, the beating, the crucifixion, nailing to the cross and so forth, and not one bone was broken.

Fulfilled:

John 19:34: "But one of the soldiers had pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water had come out."

To make sure that every drop of blood was spilled on the ground as the sacrifice for the sin of the world!

Think about that the blood went into the ground, the dust of the ground. What are we made of? *The dust of the ground!* This shows that ***His blood and sacrifice covers the sin of all of those who repent!*** Quite an amazing thing, isn't it?

Verse 37: "And again another Scripture says, 'They shall look upon Him Whom they pierced.'"

Now, I don't know what the odds would be in trying to calculate these things, but I don't think that there are any odds that could measure the fulfilling of these Scriptures compared to the prophecies that were given.

25) David prophesied that Jesus would commit His spirit to God

Prophesied:

Psalm. 31:5 “Into Your hand I commit my spirit...”

Fulfilled:

Luke 23:46: “And after crying out with a loud voice, Jesus said, ‘Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit.’ And when He had said these things, He expired.” *Down to His last breath!*

26) David also prophesied Jesus’ last words

Prophesied:

Psalm 22:31^[transcriber’s correction]: “...that He has done this” *The Hebrew literally reads, “For it is finished.”*

Fulfilled:

John 19:30: “And so, when Jesus had received the vinegar, He said, ‘**It is finished.**’ And bowing His head, He yielded up *His* spirit.”

So, Jesus gave His life! When He yielded up the spirit to God the Father, the only thing left was the body of Jesus Christ, which was to not see any corruption!

27) As no bone of the Passover lamb was to be broken (Ex. 12:46), not a bone of His would be broken

Prophesied:

Psalm 34:20: “He keeps all His bones; not one of them is broken.”

When you take all the Psalms of David that had prophecies of what Jesus would go through, it makes you wonder what did David think after He wrote those down.

Fulfilled:

John 19:32: “Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first *one*, and *the legs* of the other who was crucified with Him. But when they came to Jesus *and* saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs” (vs 32-33).

Verse 36: “For these things took place so that the Scripture might be fulfilled, ‘Not a bone of Him shall be broken.’” *All on that one day, all of these details being fulfilled!*

Now we come to prophecy 28: $7 \times 4 = 28$; $2 \times 14 = 28$

28) His burial in the tomb of a rich man was foretold by Isaiah

Prophesied:

Isaiah 53:8 “By oppression and judgment He was taken away; and with His generation who did consider that He was cut off out of the land of the living; for the transgression of My people He *was* stricken. And He made His grave with the wicked, and with the rich in His death; although He had done no violence, nor *was any* deceit in His mouth” (vs 8-9).

Quite an amazing thing! Think about that! Then Christ had to be in the grave three days and three nights and then be resurrected.

Fulfilled:

Matthew 27:57: “And when evening was coming on, a rich man of Arimathea came, named Joseph, who was himself a disciple of Jesus. After going to Pilate, he begged *to have* the body of Jesus....” (vs 57-58).

Jesus would otherwise have been buried among the criminals. What caused Joseph of Arimathea to go ask for the body of Jesus? *The Spirit of God!* Or an angel of God.

“...Then Pilate commanded the body to be given over *to him*. And after taking the body, Joseph wrapped it in clean linen cloth, and placed it in his new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock; and after rolling a great stone to the door of the tomb, he went away” (vs 58-60).

Quite a thing! Think about that! The greatest death in the history of the world on the Passover Day! That’s why, brethren, we keep the Passover the way that Jesus said! We don’t do it like fake Christianity of the world—who take a Lord’s Supper—anytime we want to.

The Passover is the commemoration of the death of Jesus Christ, God manifested in the flesh so that His perfect sacrifice would cover the sins of all human beings. And in His Plan—past, present and future—as the Plan of God is being worked out in **God’s way** in everything.

So, understanding all of these prophecies and looking at how they were carried out and brought to pass, and how God made sure that ***it fulfilled His will!*** This needs to give us great faith and understanding:

- in the sacrifice of Christ
- in His death
- in His resurrection
- in all the prophecies in the Bible
- of all the words that are in the Bible
 - ✓ that they are true
 - ✓ that they are from God
 - ✓ that they are for us

All these prophecies were fulfilled by the suffering, death and burial of Jesus Christ on the Passover Day.

Like Jesus said just before He died: ***It is finished!***

That doesn't mean that there isn't more work to do. ***That phase of God's Plan was finished***, but it was meant to be spread out for all those who come to Christ. ***That's how great the Passover Day was, is and will always continue to be!***

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- 3) John 12:31-33
- 4) Daniel 9:26
- 5) John 11:50-52
- 6) Psalm 41:9
- 7) Mark 14:10-11
- 8) Zechariah 13:7
- 9) Mark 14:50
- 10) Zechariah 11:12
- 11) Matthew 26:15
- 12) Zechariah 11:13
- 13) Matthew 27:3-7
- 14) Isaiah 53:7
- 15) 1 Peter 1:18-20
- 16) Isaiah 50:6
- 17) Matthew 27:26-30
- 18) Isaiah 52:14
- 19) Psalm 22:17
- 20) Matthew 27:26
- 21) John 19:1
- 22) Palm 69:9, 19-20
- 23) Matthew 26:55, 66
- 24) Psalm 35:11
- 25) Mark 14:55-57
- 26) Isaiah 53:7
- 27) Matthew 27:13-14
- 28) Isaiah 53:4-6, 10-11
- 29) John 19:16-19
- 30) Isaiah 53:12
- 31) Luke 23:32-33
- 32) Psalm 22:16
- 33) Mark 20:25-27
- 34) John 20:25-27
- 35) Psalm 22:18
- 36) John 19:24
- 37) Psalm 69:21
- 38) Matthew 27:34
- 39) Psalm 22:17
- 40) Matthew 27:36
- 41) Luke 23:48
- 42) Psalm 38:11

- 43) Luke 23:49
- 44) Psalm 109:25
- 45) Matthew 27:39-40
- 46) Psalm 22:8
- 47) Matthew 27:43-44
- 48) Isaiah 53:12
- 49) Luke 23:34
- 50) Psalm 22:1
- 51) Matthew 27:46
- 52) Zechariah 12:10
- 53) John 19:34, 37
- 54) Psalm 31:5
- 55) Luke 23:46
- 56) Psalm 22:31
- 57) John 19:30
- 58) Psalm 34:20
- 59) John 19:32-33, 36
- 60) Isaiah 53:8-9
- 61) Matthew 27:57-60

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- Titus 1
- John 8; 10
- Luke 24
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- *The Day That Jesus the Christ Died*
- *A Harmony of the Gospels*

FRC:bo
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Keeping the Feast in Sincerity and in Truth

(1st Day Unleavened Bread)
Fred R. Coulter—April 6, 2023

Greetings, brethren! Welcome to the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread! As we say all the time, *time marches on!*

- it doesn't wait for anyone
- it doesn't go fast
- it doesn't go slow

It's always on time! That's the way it is with God, the Sabbath and the Holy Days. All of these are built into the creation. It's quite a thing that we understand that.

We know from Rev. 13:8 that Christ was slain ***from the foundation of the world!*** We know that the Gospel was already determined ***before the ages of time!*** So, when God created the earth and everything that's necessary for it, ***He built in automatically the things for His appointed Feasts!***

Genesis 1:14—*the beginning of the 4th day:* “And God said, ‘Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide between the day and the night, and let them be for signs, and **for appointed seasons, and for days and years.**’ *All of those have to do with calculating time for us!*

He did this on day four, because how many animals, insects, birds, fish and so forth need the sun and the moon so they know what they are to do.

Appointed times: That what the weekly Sabbath is. The first appointed time that was observed by God and Adam and Eve on the seventh day. It goes all the way through the Bible. We also find that Christ's crucifixion was on the appointed time, which we have seen and know as the 14th day of the first month according to the Calculated Hebrews Calendar.

Lev. 23 is very interesting, as we cover every year, because here we have in Lev. 23 all the appointed times of God listed in sequence according to the Calculated Hebrew Calendar. Let's understand this; this is very clear. The Protestant world never understands:

- what *God* has declared
- what *God* has commanded

If there's any change, God Himself must make the change!

We know that we have the covenant with Abraham, which then comes the covenant with Israel and then with the Church and Christ! But all of those on are ***on the appointed times!***

God has these all listed here in Lev. 23, not for the sake of offerings alone but for the days in keeping them. For all of those who think that the Sabbath changed from the seventh day to the first day, ***they are all in rebellion against God, because He never changed it!***

We also know that it says that Christ is Lord of the Sabbath. Since He's the Passover, as we know, He's Lord of the Passover. Since all the Holy Days God has decreed, He is Lord of them, which means He is:

- Owner
- Ruler
- Boss or Master

The blessings come from loving Him and keeping His commandments. All of these are listed in the Lev. 23 because God, in designing the Bible, has hidden these things from those who don't want Him. Or from those who think they can take parts of the Bible here and there and come and worship God. ***We know that's not true!***

Leviticus 23:1: “And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ‘Speak to the children of Israel and say to them, “*Concerning* the appointed Feasts of the LORD, which **you shall...**”’ (vs 1-2).

That means it's a direct command to do so and to proclaim anything else ***is against God!***

“...which **you shall** proclaim *to be* Holy convocations...” (v 2)

Why are they Holy convocations? *Because God puts His presence in it!* God never put His presence in Sunday, Christmas or Easter!

“...even these are **My appointed Feasts....** [notice what He starts out with]: ...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” (vs 2-3).

Think about the world today, there's so much sin everywhere. Why? ***Because they reject the Word of God!***

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

Who made the appointed seasons? *God did!*

He specifically pointed out that the sun, moon and earth for the appointed times or appointed Feasts of God. All of these are annually, as we know by going through Lev. 23.

Verse 5: “In the fourteenth *day* of the first month, **between the two evenings**... [from sunset until dark]is the LORD’S Passover, 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” (vs 5-6).

We know that we are to put leaven out of your house, out of the things that you own.

Verse 7: “On the first day you shall have a Holy convocation. You shall not *do any servile work therein*.”

You can do anything that’s necessary for the preparation of food and for the service to be conducted. ***But it is Holy to the Lord!***

Verse 8: “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*.”

That’s this day, and we also know that in the New Testament Paul, the one whom the Protestants say changed everything so that they could keep their Sunday, Christmas, Easter, and everything like that. ***But that is not true!***

Corinth was a pagan city. In all of the Greek culture, Corinth was wrapped up in the worship of all the gods (Acts 17). Here’s what Paul writes, and this tells us what we are to do and the meaning of the day:

1-Corinthians 5:7: “Therefore, purge out the old leaven, so that you may become a new lump... “

We’ll talk about that. It is constantly a renewing, *renewing*, ***renewing!***

“...*even* as you are unleavened...” (v 7)

They unleavened their homes, but now the meaning of ***Unleavened Bread has to do with your personal thoughts, your personal behavior and what you do!***

“...For Christ our Passover was sacrificed for us” (v 7).

We dwelt on that on the Passover Day. The sacrifice of Christ was given because He was the Creator of all human beings.

- only His sacrifice can take away our sins
- only the receiving of the Holy Spirit—after repentance and baptism—puts us in contact

with God the Father

All the good works that men do in the name of God—if *they are not according to the commands of God*—end up being null and void and sin!

We find back in Lev. 23 that we are to take up an offering on the Holy Day. Remember that God goes by heart, mind and attitude, not by amount! ***But He does expect us to sow bountifully so that we reap bountifully!***

(pause for the offering)

Thank you for the offering, and as you know we use it—every penny that we can—for serving the brethren, taking care of the things we need to do in a way that is pleasing to God.

1-Corinthians 5:8: “For this reason... [because of the sacrifice of Christ] ...let us keep the Feast...”

Think about this for a minute. The Protestants like to claim the sacrifice of Christ, but they won’t keep the Feast. But ***the sacrifice of Christ is the reason that we keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread!***

Now, this tells us what we are to do, because during the Feast of Unleavened Bread leaven is a type of sin!

“...not with old leaven, nor with *the* leaven of malice and wickedness, **but with the unleavened bread of Sincerity and Truth**” (v 8).

This becomes important for us in how we understand how we’re going to serve God. Let’s look at keeping the Feast ***in Sincerity and in Truth!***

That means that we are—after we repent of our sins—to look at our lives and see what other things are sin. Look at it this way: **sin is anything in word or action or deed that is against the laws and commandments of God!**

They’re also called *transgressions* and labeled as *evil and wicked!* Think about it for a minute. Right at this time the world is keeping Easter, a pagan, Babylonian holiday, and they claim that they are worshipping Christ. ***But they’re not!***

Let’s understand what sin is. We know it, but let’s turn there and look at it for what it says. It’s good that we go back and review some of these basic things. ***That way we never lose track of the Truth!***

It’s like anything else, the more you do it the better you become at it. The less you do it the worse you become at it. Pretty soon you leave it off altogether.

1-John 3:4: “Everyone who practices sin is also practicing lawlessness, for sin is lawlessness.”

That’s what the Greek means. The *KJV* says it’s transgressing the Law. That’s true, but anything that:

- goes against the Word of God *is sin*
- goes against the Law of God *is sin*
- goes against the commandments of God *is sin*

That’s why it is lawlessness! The reason is, we will see, is because the human mind without the Spirit of God, and over a period of time and generations, becomes absolutely evil and wicked beyond description. *Today we’re living in that kind of world!*

That’s why it’s very important that we’re keeping the Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread! So that we don’t be engulfed by the things of the world.

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

Right away John shows that there’s a way out of sin, and that’s through repentance, *which involves everything that we think or do*. Keep that in mind as we go forward here.

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

You’re dwelling in Christ *IF you have the Holy Spirit dwelling in you!* That’s the key, and that comes with repentance and baptism, and is maintained by prayer, study and repentance. As we will see on the coming Sabbath, *the most important place to clean out is the mind!* We will see how God wants us to do that.

“...anyone who *practices* sin has not seen Him, nor has known Him” (v 6).

There were those preachers coming out and saying that they knew all about Jesus:

We were there when He was doing all the healings. You know, we have come from Judea and we know that what Paul is teaching is not correct.

Then you also had the interference of the pagan religions. So, the Truth of God is assaulted from two sides, actually three:

1. from other religions in the world
2. from false teachers
3. from our own lives

That’s quite an amazing thing! It’s really an amazing thing for those who are called *the firstfruit and that we live in this world and we overcome sin!*

Verse 7: “Little children, do not allow anyone to deceive you; the one who practices righteousness is righteous, even as He is righteous.”

Why? *Because IF you’re practicing righteousness and you have the Spirit of God, THEN you are counted righteous before God!* That’s what’s important.

Now we see the contrast, because we see Unleavened Bread means two things:

1. you eat the Unleavened Bread that pictures the sinless body of Christ, picturing the pure Word of God
2. you put out leaven—all kinds of leaven—because that pictures:
 - ✓ sin
 - ✓ wickedness
 - ✓ self-motivation

Practicing sin means living in it!

- all of those who are breaking the Sabbath are *practicing sin*
- all of those who are keeping Sunday are *practicing sin*
- all of those who keep the holidays of this world are *practicing sin*

Verse 8: “The one who practices sin is of the devil because the devil has been sinning from the beginning...” *he’s called:*

- the father of lies
- the deceiver
- the wicked one

It says that *the whole world is in the power of the wicked one!* That’s what we are living in today with Satan coming out of the closet and all the demon coming out as well.

“...For this purpose the Son of God appeared that He might destroy the works of the devil” (v 8)—*that’s the ultimate thing, which is all laid out in the Holy Days!*

Verse 9: “Everyone who has been begotten by God does not practice sin, because His seed of *begettal* is dwelling within him, and he is not able to *practice* sin because he has been begotten by God.”

What happens with the Spirit of God when you sin? *God’s Spirit convicts you so that you can repent!* That’s the whole thing! That’s quite a thing! That in a nutshell tells us the whole meaning of the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

Verse 10: “By this *standard* are manifest the children of God and the children of the devil....”

Think about this for a minute. ***IF*** you are not a begotten child of God, ***THEN*** who is your father? *Satan the devil!* Jesus said that *Satan the devil is the father of lies*, especially those lies that twist and turn the Truth of God to lead people astray!

“...Everyone who does not practice righteousness is not of God...” (v 10).

Practicing righteousness! What is the declaration of righteousness in:

Psalm 119:172: “...**all** **Your commandments are righteousness.**”

- that’s why *we keep the commandments of God*
- that’s why *we overcome sin from within*
- that’s why *we have to fight against human nature*

1-John 3:10: “...Everyone who does not practice righteousness is not of God, and neither is the one who does not love his brother. For this is the message that you heard from *the beginning*: that we should love one another (vs 10-11).

Then it goes back and refers to Cain! All the way back to the beginning of the Bible! That’s an amazing thing when you begin to understand it.

Let’s look at human nature and see what that is like. Let’s see how it’s going to be in our lives, and why does human nature come down to being this way.

Jer. 17—we all know this one, but we need to rehearse it because we still have the sin within as we will see on the weekly Sabbath called *the law of sin and death!* That has to be overcome. Let’s see what it says about human nature, ***our ways***—though they look good—***that are contrary to God!***

As I read this, think about why the world is in the mess that it is in.

Jeremiah 17:5: “Thus says the LORD... [stop and think about that] ...‘Cursed *is* the man...[or woman] ...who trusts in man...’”—*some other man or woman in the world*, but your own self; if you trust in your own self you are cursed!

Even though you may be successful because you will see, in time, that your success comes from Satan and not from God!

“...and makes flesh his arm, and whose heart departs from the LORD” (v 5).

Isn’t that interesting? *God judges the heart and mind of every one of us!* That’s why we are told

how to love God: ***with all our heart, with all our mind, with all our soul, with all of our being!*** That’s the key to overcoming sin, and the key of staying close to God!

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.*”

Now we need to get the contrast:

- leaven—those who are against God
- unleaven—those who live God’s way
- those who are cursed of God
- those who are blessed of God

Don’t look at it as if it’s just physical blessings or physical objects that you own. The biggest blessing is having God’s Spirit and knowing God’s way.

Verse 7: “**Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD and whose hope is the LORD.**” *Then He tells us that He wants us to grow spiritually!*

Remember what Jesus said, ‘I am the Vine and My Father is the Husbandman. Everyone in Me that bears fruit He purges so that it brings forth more fruit. Everyone who does not bring forth fruit is cast out and cast into the fire!’

Verse 8: “For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters; *it sends out its roots by the river...*”

Think about how deep your roots are spiritually speaking.

- that you love God
- that you keep His commandments
- that you believe Him
- that you live by every Word of God

*As Jesus said! **Your roots are deep!***

“...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” (v 8).

Now then, here comes v 9, because you need to get the contrast: the sin and the non-sin.

Verse 9: “The **heart...**—*our way of thinking, our emotions, everything that we do as human beings without the Spirit of God:*

“...**is deceitful above all things...**” (v 9).

Think about that in relationship to the world that we see today. *All things!* Look at the:

- government
- education

- churches
- financial markets

Whatever!

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

God knows it and He wants to change it. He will give you the Holy Spirit and increase that, and constantly supply you with the Holy Spirit **IF** you are coming to Him every day!

- **IF** you are praying to Him
- **IF** you are studying His Word
- **IF** you are living God’s way

IF you’re not, the opposite will happen! Here’s why:

Verse 10: “I the LORD...”

It’s a personal thing! Jesus said that *God knows every hair on your head!* Well, think about this:

Verse 10: “I the LORD search the heart...”

- what you think
- what you act upon
- those deep inner thoughts that you have

when you’re all by yourself and lonesome that nobody else knows but *you and God!* Or you and Satan! That’s why we need the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

“...*I* try the reins...” (v 10).

Likened to a horse, the reins are what you steer and move the horse where you want it to go. What it is that **God has put in our mind/brain is what He calls the reins** so that He can, at anytime:

- know what we are thinking
- know what our emotions are
- know how we’re expressing ourselves
- know whether we love Him and are keeping His commands

Especially if we have the Spirit of God! Keep that in mind!

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

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.’ Heal me, O LORD, and I shall be healed, save me, and I shall be saved; for You *are* my praise” (vs 13-14).

It shows that we can come out of all of those difficult things. Let’s see how sin can become so ingrained, especially when you think you’re doing well.

Jeremiah 17:1: “The sin of Judah *is* engraved with a pen of iron, with the point of a diamond; *it is* carved upon the tablet of their heart and upon the horns of your altars.”

Doesn’t that describe it today with how the wickedness is, wherever it is? *Yes, indeed, it becomes that way!*

Prov. 5—here’s what we need to come to realize in everything that we do.

Proverbs 5:21: “For the ways of man *are* before the eyes of the LORD, and He ponders all his paths.”

Isn’t that something? Jesus talks about **the seven spirits that He directs** and goes into the whole earth to find those who are seeking God. Those who are truly seeking Him can find Him. It’s going to be because of a spiritual interaction between God and the individual. That’s what leads us to repentance.

Verse 22: “His own iniquities shall take the wicked himself, and he shall be held with the cords of his sins.”

Unless you repent you’re going to be all tied up in sin! And **IF** you don’t repent it says:

Verse 23: “**He shall die without instruction; and in the greatness of his folly he shall breathe his last.**”

That tells us quite a bit and how God works and deals with every one of us.

Let’s see how it is in the world; we’ll learn some things just like we learned in 1-John; let’s see what the world is like, how it is all around us:

Romans 3:9: “What then? Are we of ourselves better?...”

Think about this, because God has called us and we have repented and received His Holy Spirit, and because we’re living in the way of God. Are we better than the people in the world? *No!*

We are separated from them, but we’re not better than them. We’ve answered the call of God, but they didn’t. So, Paul says:

“...**Not at all!** For we have already charged both Jews and Gentiles—**ALL**—*with* being under sin” (v 9). *All have sinned and come short of the glory of God!*

Verse 10: “Exactly as it is written: ‘For there

is not a righteous one—not even one! There is not one who understands; there is not one who seeks after God” (vs 10-11). *IF you seek after God you will find Him!*

Verse 12: “They have all gone out of the way; together they have *all* become depraved. There is not *even* one who is practicing kindness. No, there is not so much as one!”

Does that sound like the world we’re living in today? *Yes, that’s the way it always turns out!* When sin is allowed to grow and grow... We will see what it says in the New Testament, Paul wrote it in two places: ***a little leaven leavens the whole lump!*** A little bit of sin in your life sooner or later leads to more, and you’re full of sin.

But we are to put out the leaven, put out the sin, and ***we are to put on:***

- the righteousness of Christ
- the commandments of God
- the Truth of God
- the love of God

in everything that we do!

Verse 13: “Their throats *are* like an open grave; with their tongues they have used deceit; *the* venom of asps *is* under their lips, whose mouths are full of cursing and bitterness; their feet *are* swift to shed blood; destruction and misery *are* in their ways; and *the* way of peace they have not known. There is no fear of God before their eyes” (vs 13-18).

That’s why the world is in the mess that it is in! ***That’s why God has called us from it!*** This is the world that we are looking at, and this is what we are fighting and overcoming! We’re going to see what we need to do in order to come out from underneath this. That is called *repentance!*

Many people feel sorry for doing wrong, and they regret what they have done. But that’s not repentance to God.

Romans 2:4: “Or do you despise the riches of His kindness and forbearance and long-suffering, not knowing that **the graciousness of God leads you to repentance?**”

Why? *Because you see and understand the sacrifice of Christ!* It is His shed blood and His shed blood alone that brings forgiveness. But **you have to confess your sins to Him. You have to accept the sacrifice of Jesus Christ** so that you can have your sins forgiven.

But Paul says here that if you don’t acknowledge that and know that God leads you to

repentance:

Verse 5: “But you, according to your own hardness and unrepentant heart, are storing up wrath for yourself against *the* day of wrath and revelation of God’s righteous judgment, Who will render to each one according to his own works: on the one hand, to those who with patient endurance in good works are seeking glory and honor and immortality—eternal life” (vs 5-7)—*because you’re repenting!* *Those who are not:*

Verse 8: On the other hand, to those who are contentious and who disobey the Truth, but obey unrighteousness—**indignation and wrath, tribulation and anguish—upon every soul of man who works out evil, both of *the* Jew first, and of *the* Greek; but glory and honor and peace to everyone who works good, both to *the* Jew first, and to *the* Greek, because there is no respect of persons with God**” (vs 8-11).

Verse 12: “For as many as have sinned without Law...”

There are a lot of people who don’t know about the Law of God and they don’t know why their lives are all messed up.

“...shall also perish without Law; and as many as have sinned within *the* Law shall be judged by *the* Law, (Because the hearers of the Law are not just before God, **but the doers of the Law shall be justified**” (vs 12-13).

That’s what God wants us to understand; let’s understand about the sacrifice of Christ, everything He went through:

1-Peter 2:21: “For to this you were called because Christ also suffered for us...”

Think about that! He laid down His life willingly; He was beaten, scourged and nailed to the cross!

“...leaving us an example, that you should follow in His footsteps; Who committed no sin; neither was guile found in His mouth; Who, when He was reviled... [when He was brought to be judged by the governor and the Sanhedrin] ...did not revile in return; *when* suffering, He threatened not, but committed *Himself* to Him Who judges righteously; **Who Himself bore our sins within His own body on the tree, so that we, being dead to sins, may live unto righteousness; by Whose stripes you were healed**” (vs 21-24).

He carried our sins. How did He do that? *He took upon Himself human nature and He was to live and not sin!*

- only that as God manifested in the flesh
- only that with a perfect life
- only that one sacrifice
- only the shedding of His blood

Will cover the sins of all who truly repent!

That's why when we repent we are ***to put away the sin, put out*** the leaven, and ***put in*** the righteousness of Truth in our lives, hearts and minds, and the way that we live. That's the whole purpose of it.

(break@48:05)

Let's see about the sacrifice of Christ, and how we are to really repent. It's not just a matter of feeling sorry for your sins and all is taken care of. It has to be with *all your heart, mind, soul and being!* Also, so that God will intervene and:

- help us
- strengthen us
- lead us

in what we need to do!

1-Peter 3:18: "Because Christ indeed once suffered for sins, *the Just for the unjust*, ***so that He might bring us to God...***"

That's the whole purpose so that we can be in His Family and live forever with God the way God wants:

- in peace
- in love
- in obedience
- in happiness

But we've got to see this life, is evil without God! Then the sins that commit, we need to repent and draw closer to God.

"...on the one hand, He was put to death in the flesh; but on the other hand, He was made alive by the Spirit" (v 18)—*raised from the dead by the glory of the Father!*

Let's look at a good example of repentance. This one is a classic one. But let's also understand not to wait for repentance. Let's understand that God is there to forgive at any time when there is repentance. Repentance means just like getting rid of the leaven, ***we cease living in sin! Then we put in the righteousness of God!***

Psalm 86:1—*we do this in prayer*: "Bow down Your ear, O LORD, answer me, for I am poor and needy."

We don't come to God because we're important and ***God has to do*** something for us,

because of who and what we are! ***NO!*** God is not a respecter of persons.

Verse 2: "Preserve my soul, for ***I am Holy...*** [that is true if you have the Holy Spirit of God] ...O You my God, save Your servant who trusts in You." *That's what's important, ***trusting in God!****

Verse 3: "Be merciful to me, O LORD, for I cry unto You all day long..."—*crying out to God for:*

- His forgiveness
- His mercy
- the application of the shed blood of Jesus Christ

We are justified and made right through the blood of Christ!

Verse 4: "Rejoice the soul of Your servant, for to You, O LORD, do I lift up my soul"—*because:*

- only God can make us good
- only God can give us the attitude

Verse 5: "For You, LORD, are good and ready to forgive..."

That's why when you sin—you will as we will see what it is like on the Sabbath during Unleavened Bread—you repent of those things. Go to God right away!

"...and rich in mercy to all those who call upon You" (v 5).

That has to be in Spirit and in Truth; that you really mean it from the depths of your heart, soul, mind and being.

Verse 6: "Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer, and attend to the voice of my supplications. In the day of my trouble I will call upon You, for You will answer me" (vs 6-7).

Let's see another thing here concerning repentance. Many times when we sin, God is there to correct us. That correction sometimes can be very difficult. Other times it's not so difficult.

Psalm 38:1: "O LORD, do not rebuke me in Your wrath; neither chasten me in Your fury.... [we don't want to come that way] ...for Your arrows stick fast in me, and Your hand presses heavily upon me" (vs 1-2).

Here David—whatever the condition was here—was really down and out and sick, and really in terrible shape. So, he's crying out to God!

Verse 3: “There is no soundness in my flesh because of Your anger; nor rest in my bones because of my sin, for my iniquities have gone over my head; like a heavy burden they are too heavy for me” (vs 3-4).

You can’t carry your own sins. You cannot put off repentance so that God will forgive you. *Don’t carry that weight around!*

Verse 5: “My wounds are putrefied and fester because of my foolishness.”

We don’t know exactly what it was that he had. But look at it this way: When you carry sin and you don’t repent, *it leavens*; that’s being putrefied in a sense! *That’s why we are to put the sins out!*

Verse 9: “My LORD, all my desire is before You; and my sighing is not hidden from You. My heart pants; my strength fails me; as for the light of my eyes, it also is gone from me” (vs 9-10).

Then David says that even the ones who loved me have forsaken me!

Now let’s see the depths of repentance that God wants, which is through the sacrifice of Christ! The depth of repentance that we need to keep and maintain is that which is with our whole being.

- we can’t treat it lightly
- we can’t just treat as something that is a little thing

Christ’s sacrifice was a great thing indeed!

- it is His blood
- it is His stripes
- it is His whole life

And everything about it God applies to us! That’s the greatest thing in the world. We are conjoined to His sacrifice when we repent (Rom. 5). That is laid across the body of Christ spiritually speaking for the forgiveness of sin.

Psa. 51 shows the whole process of getting out the leaven. You search deep in your heart, mind, soul and being, and ask God:

- to help you
- to cleanse you
- to be merciful to you

Because when you sin, you sin against God!

Psalm 51:1: “Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Your loving kindness; according to the greatness of Your compassion, **blot out my transgressions**. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity...” (vs 1-2). Notice how David labels sin:

- transgressions
- iniquity

“...and cleanse me from my sin, for I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me” (vs 2-3).

You must have that inner conviction against sin and see how sin really acts in your life, *every one of us! Every one before God!* Now, you may have sinned against someone else, *but that sin is also against God!* Not only do you need to repent of that, but you need to repent to God, *because all sin is against God!*

Verse 4: “Against You, You only, have I sinned, and done evil in Your sight, that You might be justified when You speak and be in the right when You judge.”

God is always right! That’s what we need to understand; *God is never wrong!*

Verse 5: “Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity... [we’re all born with the *law of sin and death* in us] ...and in sin did my mother conceive me.”

Not that it was an adulterous affair, but because the whole process of human life is stained with sin. Now, here’s what God wants:

Verse 6: “Behold, **You desire Truth in the inward parts...**”

What did Jesus say on the Passover night? *I am the Way, I am the Truth, I am the Life!* That’s how we have our sins forgiven.

- sin is against Truth
- sin is against God

He is there ready to forgive! That’s why it’s so great that we understand the Feast of Unleavened Bread. It is:

- to put away the self
- to put away the sins of the flesh
- *to walk in newness of life, God’s way*
 - ✓ with His commandments
 - ✓ led by His Spirit
 - ✓ led by His Word

“...and in the hidden part You shall make me to know wisdom” (v 6). *That’s what we have to do in the way that God wants!* When we do that, then we trust in God!

Verse 6: “Behold, You desire Truth in the inward parts; and in the hidden part You shall make me to know wisdom. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Make me to hear joy and gladness that the

bones, which You have broken, may rejoice. Hide Your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities” (v 6-9).

Here is the key; this is what God wants:

Verse 10: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew **a steadfast spirit within me.**”

Ezek. 20 shows how God will receive us when we repent, and we yield to Him to keep His commandments,

Ezekiel 20:41: “I will receive you with your sweet savor... [IF you’re praying asking for forgiveness] ...when I bring you out from the people and gather you out of the lands into which you have been scattered among them. And I will be sanctified in you before the nations. **And you shall know that I am the LORD**, when I shall bring you into the land of Israel, into the land, which I lifted up My hand to give to your fathers. And there you shall remember your ways... [shows what kind of repentance God will grant] ...and all your doings in which you have been defiled. And you shall loathe yourselves in your own sight for all your evils, which you have committed” (vs 41-43).

That’s the kind of repentance that God wants. Now let’s see the action that we are to take. When we repent, we’re putting out the sin and God is forgiving us.

- What are we to do?
- How are we to do it?

Col. 3 tells us what we are to do, and how we are to do it, and what we are to put in with the unleavenedness. This is one of these chapters that tells us, reminds us and instructs us on what we are to do so that we can be in right standing with God.

Colossians 3:1: “Therefore, if you have been raised together with Christ... [out of the watery grave] ...seek the things that are above, where Christ is sitting at the right hand of God. Set your affection on the things that are above, and not on the things that are on the earth” (vs 1-2). *Let’s see how that is done!*

Putting in:

- the righteousness of God
- the Laws of God
- the Spirit of God
- yielding to God
- loving God
- loving the brethren

in everything that we do!

Romans 12:1: “I exhort you, therefore,

brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living sacrifice, Holy *and* well-pleasing to God, which is your spiritual service.”

We will see that Col. 3 expands on what this spiritual service is.

Verse 2: “Do not conform yourselves to this world...” *We’re not to:*

- live like the world
- think like the world
- act like the world
- think everything is fine

NO!

Here’s another little secret you need to learn: **You cannot take the good from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil and transfer that and graft it into the way of God!** It will eventually lead to destruction.

We have to take ***the good of God and the righteousness of God and the Truth of God and put that in!***

“...but be transformed... [*changed*; this change comes about]: ...by the renewing of your mind... [taking out the leaven of sin and **putting unleavened bread of Truth and Sincerity**] ...in order that you may prove what *is* well-pleasing and good, and the perfect will of God” (vs 2).

In Col. 3 Paul goes into more detail, and this shows the whole process of how Unleavened Bread is to be observed by us.

Colossians 3:3: “For you have died... [in the watery grave of baptism] ...and your life has been hid together with Christ in God.”

Conformed and conjoined to the sacrifice of Christ, and we’re to walk in newness of life and renewed in spirit and live God’s way!

Verse 4: “When Christ, *Who is* our life, is manifested... [at His second coming] ...then you also shall be manifested with Him in glory.”

Philp. 3—let’s see how Paul lived and reacted to this in His life. He had a lot to overcome, and he counted himself as ‘less than the least of all the saints.’ *Think about that!* Think about how we’re to lift ourselves up in vanity, not to think about how much we have done that is good and what God expects us to do, and think that we’re something great.

When God called the Apostle Paul, he had to destroy all of those things in his life that he thought were of great benefit to him.

Paul talks about how his life was and what he had to give up, and he tells the Philippians that in order to stay right with Christ, not only do you have to watch the things without and the things within, but the self within and how he had to experience that himself.

Philippians 3:4: “Though I might also have *reason to trust in the flesh*. If any other thinks he has *cause to trust in the flesh*, I have much more.”

Let’s see what he looked at that was a positive for him until God called him, then he saw that through repentance how evil all of the good—even though he thought it was good—that he was doing. So, he lists them all out:

Verse 5: “**Circumcised on the eighth day**... [according to Judaism] ...of the race of Israel, from the tribe of Benjamin, **a Hebrew of Hebrews**; with respect to law, **a Pharisee**”—*the strictest sect of the Jews*, having all the traditions replacing the commandments of God.

Verse 6: “With respect to zeal, **persecuting the Church**...”

Didn’t he think he was doing good? *Yes, he got the official letters from the high priest to get the Christians and take them and persecute them, throw them in jail, and even some of them were killed!*

“...with respect to righteousness that is **in law, blameless**” (v 6). *He did everything right according to Judaism, meaning **according to human ways!***

AD: {truthofGod.org}

- Book: *Judaism—Revelation of Moses or Religion of Men* by Philip Neal—
- In-Depth Study: *Scripturalism vs Judaism*

Those are important so that you will be able to understand the difficult Scriptures of Paul.

Verse 7: “Yet, the things that were gain to me, **these things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ.**”

You have to forget all the things that you did, forget all the things that you thought were right.

Verse 8: “But then truly, I count all things to be loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord; **for Whom I have suffered the loss of all things... [notice how Paul viewed them]: and count them as dung... [Greek: ‘skubalon’] ...that I may gain Christ.**”

This is putting out, and now putting in! You

put out all of that! And then Paul talks about Christ:

Verse 9: “And may be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which *is derived* from law...”—of Judaism!

He didn’t say the Law of God, because Jesus said, ‘If you will enter into Life keep the commandments.’

“...but that *righteousness, which is by the faith of Christ, **the righteousness of God that is based on faith***” (v 9).

You keep the commandments of God because you believe God, and you believe the commandments of God. ***You keep the instructions of Jesus Christ, because those are the instructions for Life!*** All of those together, and this is what it is all about concerning Unleavened Bread. You get rid of all of that which is leavened, and that which causes things to be leavened, because if you don’t ***a little leaven leavens the whole lump!*** Isn’t that what Paul wrote? *Yes!*

So, we are to purge in out and then once you get that out, we are to bring in the righteousness of God:

- His Truth
- His love
- His character
- the motivation of Christ in our lives
- to do the will of God in our lives

Verse 10: “That I may know Him... [see Him face-to-face] ...and the power of His resurrection... [that’s the goal we’re looking for] ...and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death.”

That’s how Paul viewed what he had to give up, and he gave it up willingly. He gave it up because he saw how wicked and evil that it was. Just like:

Jeremiah 17:9: “The heart *is* deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?”

‘I the Lord search the hearts, try the reins.’
Now we put in that which is what God wants us to do.

Philippians 3:11: “If by any means I may attain unto the resurrection of the dead.”

Always in the forefront of his mind: *the resurrection of the dead!* That’s what it is. That’s the goal!

Verse 12: “Not as though I have already

received, or have already been perfected...”

Growing and overcoming is being perfected constantly, and that perfection only comes through Christ and the Spirit of God. But we must be actively involved in it, actively doing it the way that God wants.

“...**but I am striving**...” (v 12).

This is what we need to do; this is how we are to live every day, day-by-day, week-by-week, Sabbath-by-Sabbath, month-by-month, Feast-by-Feast. All the way through however long we live **in complete dedication to God!**

“...so that I may also lay hold on that for which I also was laid hold of by Christ Jesus” (v 12).

Notice that we have a long way to go! Think about what Paul was doing here. Here he was in prison in Rome writing this tremendous epistle to the Philippians to encourage them to stay fast with God, to grow, to change, to overcome! Here’s what we are to do:

We’ve seen that we need to repent of sin and put sin out of our lives. We need to bring in righteousness through obedience and love to God, of His commandments, of His Truth, and of the way of Christ.

Verse 13: “Brethren, I do not count myself as having attained; **but this one thing I do...**”
Here’s what we need to do:

- we’ve seen that we need to repent of sin and put it out of our lives
- we need to bring in righteousness through
 - ✓ obedience
 - ✓ love to God
 - ✓ love of His commandments
 - ✓ love of His Truth
 - ✓ the way of Christ

“...**forgetting the things that are behind**...”

All the sins that you’ve committed and repented of, all of what was gained in the world to you, but was actually sin in the eyes of God that you forsake, that you put it behind you. “...**forgetting the things that are behind**...”—*let that all be in the past!*

“...and reaching forth to the things that are ahead” (v 13). *That’s it!*

- that’s why the Feast of Unleavened Bread
- that’s why the things that we cover during this time of the Feast of Unleavened Bread

Not only putting out the things that are

wrong, but putting in the things that are good and right with God through the will of God, and to walk in God’s way! Keep His commandments and to love Him, and to learn the lesson that the children of Israel didn’t learn!

Verse 14: “**I press toward the goal for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.**”
*That’s what it always has to be! **Press toward the goal!***

- why we were called
- why we were baptized
- why we received the Holy Spirit of God
- why we do all of these things

Verse 15: “So then, let as many as *be* perfect be of this mind...”

This how we are to think! Be renewed in the spirit of your mind!

“...And if *in* anything you are otherwise minded, **God will reveal even this to you**”—*which is the sin within that you have to overcome!*

Verse 16: “Nevertheless, *in regard* to that which we have attained, **let us walk by the same rule, let us be of the same mind**”—*doing the will of God!*

- loving God
- loving the brethren
- loving the Word of God
- loving the Truth of God
- loving everything about God’s way

Verse 17: “Brethren, be imitators together of me, and bear in mind those who walk in this way, as you have us *for* an example.”

Then Paul gives a little warning because we’ve seen this, too. It happened in Paul’s day and it’s happened in our day, so we need to understand it and realize that these things will happen. We pray for them that they may repent and come to themselves so that they will understand what they need to do.

Verse 18: “(For many walk *contrary*; I have often told you *of* them, and I tell you now *with weeping*, *they are* the enemies of the cross of Christ; whose end *is* destruction, whose god *is* their belly, and whose glory *is* in their shame; *for* they mind earthly things.)” (vs 18-19).

Then he draws the contrast; ***don’t to that! Don’t do as those who have put aside God’s way. NO! NO! Keep your mind on God:***

- the Kingdom of God

- the grace of God
- the sacrifice of Christ
- the forgiveness of sin
- the value of repentance every day

Verse 20: “But for us, the commonwealth of God exists in *the* heavens, from where also we are waiting for *the* Savior, *the* Lord Jesus Christ”—*Who’s going to bring the Kingdom of God on the earth!*

Verse 21: “Who will transform... [change, metamorphous] ...our vile bodies, **that they may be conformed to His glorious body...**”

What’s it going to be like to have a spirit mind, a spirit body and to see Christ? The Apostle John writes that we will see Him as He is because we will be like Him. What a tremendous thing that is!

All of this, this is what keeps moving us forward!

- the power of God
- the forgiveness of God
- the greatness of His Truth
- the righteousness of His Holiness
- the whole purpose that He’s working out for each one of us

“...according to the inner working of His own power, *whereby He is able* to subdue all things to Himself” (v 21).

This is why we have the Feast of Unleavened Bread!

- that we put out the sin and put in the righteousness
- that we forget the things in the past and look forward to the Kingdom of God
- that we look to God the Father and Jesus Christ for everything that there is

We know that with the Power of the Spirit of God They are dwelling in us to lead and guide us so that we can have God’s purpose in our life fulfilled so that we will be in the Kingdom of God, ***when we will be completely unleavened, sinless and perfect as God wants us to be!***

Scriptural References:

- 1) Genesis 1:14
- 2) Leviticus 23:1-8
- 3) 1 Corinthians 5:7
- 4) 1 Corinthians 5:8

- 5) 1 John 3:4-10
- 6) Psalm 119:172
- 7) 1 John 3:10-11
- 8) Jeremiah 17:5-10, 13-14, 1
- 9) Proverbs 5:21-23
- 10) Romans 3:9-18
- 11) Romans 2:4-13
- 12) 1 Peter 2:21-24
- 13) 1 Peter 3:18
- 14) Psalm 86:1-7
- 15) Psalm 38:1-5, 9-10
- 16) Psalm 51:1-10
- 17) Ezekiel 20:41-43
- 18) Colossians 3:1-2
- 19) Romans 12:1-2
- 20) Colossians 3:3-4
- 21) Philippians 3:4-10
- 22) Jeremiah 17:9
- 23) Philippians 3:11-21

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Revelation 13:8
- Acts 17
- Romans 5

Also referenced: {truthofGod.org}

- Book: ***Judaism—Revelation of Moses or Religion of Men*** by Philip Neal—
- In-Depth Study: ***Scripturalism vs Judaism***

FRC:bo
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Overcoming the Sin Dwelling Within

(Sabbath During UB)

Fred R. Coulter—April 8, 2023

Greetings, brethren! Welcome to Sabbath services!

- Why do we keep sinning after we're baptized?
- How does that happen?

First of all, we need to understand our human nature, which is directly passed down to us beginning with Adam and Eve. When they sinned and went against God directly in the face of God, and believed Satan the devil, **God's judgment was given** upon Satan and upon the woman and the man. **God's judgment included a change of human nature!**

The human nature now after their sin and that time forward though all the rest of the history of mankind was not neutral.

It had, what we will see a little later, the *law of sin and death* **within!** But through Jesus Christ we can overcome that, and we can yield to God so that we're not taken down by all the things that come along in the world.

Let's see some things that will be very helpful and interesting, and will help us understand what to do. During the Feast of Unleavened Bread we realize that the whole process of living is that we **put out** our thoughts, our ways **and replace them** with God's.

That's why we have the Feast of Unleavened Bread. We put out all the leaven, because during the time of the Feast of Unleavened Bread leaven is a type of sin. **It works unseen, because it's within!**

Let's see what Jesus said about human nature and where it comes from—*from within!*

- this is why there has to be conversion
- this is why there has to be the Holy Spirit of God
- this is why we need to yield to God and not to our own nature

Human beings like to try and do good, and think that everything that they do is good. This is particularly true with the various religions in the world. They try and have something so people can be better.

But it never changes the inside! The only way there can be changes inside is through repentance, baptism and receiving the Holy Spirit.

Without the Holy Spirit all the good that we do comes from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. Every religion thinks that they have the good that's going to help people be better. *That's what happened with Judaism!* However, here's the whole crux of the matter: **We must do everything God's way! Not our way!**

Here's what Jesus said when they had the question concerning hand-washing and so forth before eating.

Mark 7:1: "Then the Pharisees and some of the scribes from Jerusalem came together to Him. And when they saw some of His disciples eating with defiled hands (that is, unwashed *hands*), they found fault" (vs 1-2).

Verse 6: "And He [Jesus] answered *and* said to them, 'Well did Isaiah prophesy concerning you hypocrites, as it is written, "This people honors Me with their lips..."'"

That's the way that people are. They like to give God a little honor, **but then do everything their own way!**

"...but their hearts are far away from Me" (v 6).

Why? *Because they're not truly seeking God!* Seek God with all your heart, mind, soul and being! That's for all us who are converted. But we still have to fight and overcome sin, because sin is still within.

Verse 7: " **'But in vain do they worship Me, teaching for doctrine the commandments of men.** For leaving the commandment of God, you hold fast the tradition of men, *such as* the washing of pots and cups; and you practice many other things like *this.*' Then He said to them, 'Full well do **you reject the commandment of God,** so that you may [practice] **observe your own tradition**'" (vs 7-9)

That's the whole key: *Every man's way is right in his own eyes!* This helps us to understand what we need to do. With *the law of sin and death* within us, we think we are right, what we do is good and then we end up to the extreme of calling *evil 'good' and good 'evil!*

That's why we have the Feast of Unleavened Bread, so we can always understand God's way vs human way!

Proverbs 16:2: “All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes...”

However, there’s something else going on that people don’t know anything about. We know it, because we have the Spirit of God, which is this:

“...but the LORD weighs the spirits” (v 2).

Here is one of the steps to overcoming the sin within:

Verse 3: “Commit your works unto the LORD, and your thoughts shall be established.” *That’s what we need to do!*

1-John—we’re going to see something interesting, because when John wrote this he was probably in his late 80s or early 90s, and he lived the longest of any of the apostles. What he has to say is important.

1-John 2:12: “I am writing to you...” *first person!*

Verse 13: “I am writing to you, fathers...”

Verse 14: “I wrote to you, fathers... I wrote to you, young men...”

Then he gives this, one of the first things we need to understand is that this world doesn’t belong to God, it belongs to Satan the devil, ‘the god of this world.’ Then John gives this warning:

Verse 15: “**Do not love the world**, nor the things *that are* in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him, because everything that *is* in the world...” (vs 15-16).

Look at how much the world invades our life on a daily basis through:

- our smart phones
- our televisions
- our music
- our reading

That adds to the problems of our overcoming and leads us to do things that are sinful that we don’t want to do! We will see that that’s the conundrum!

Verse 15: “Do not love the world, nor the things *that are* in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him, because everything that *is* in the world—**the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pretentious pride of physical life**—is not from the Father, but is from the world. **And the world and its lust is passing away, but the one who does the will of God abides forever**” (vs 15-17).

1-John 1 is interesting and it’s probably so that it was added to what was originally the First

Epistle of John, because he doesn’t say *I*, he says **we**. Who are the **we**?

Well, when the Bible was being canonized there was John, Andrew, Philip, Mark and Timothy. They are the ones who put together and canonized the whole New Testament. Here is what he writes, and notice the **we**:

1-John 1:1: “That which was from *the* beginning, that which **we** have heard, that which **we** have seen with **our** own eyes, that which **we** observed for ourselves and our own hands handled, concerning the Word of Life; (and the Life was manifested... [talking about Jesus Christ] ...and **we** have seen, and are bearing witness, and are reporting to you **the Eternal Life**, which was with the Father, and was manifested to **us**)... [the apostles] ...that which **we** have seen and have heard **we** are reporting to **you** in order that **you**...” (vs 1-3).

Every one of us; every single one who is the baptized child of God, also called *a* saint, which means you’ve been made Holy. That is by the Holy Spirit of God.

“...**we** are reporting to **you** in order that **you** also may have fellowship with **us**; for the fellowship—indeed, our fellowship—*is* with the Father and with His own Son Jesus Christ” (v 3).

Our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. That’s important to realize. Every time we study the Bible, we’re studying the Word of God. We will see how important that is ***in overcoming the sin within!*** It really is!

Verse 4: “These things we are also writing to you, so that your joy may be completely full.”

Then John wants us to understand something very important in these next few verses, ***because this tells us how we start to overcome the sin within!*** This is the most important thing to overcome.

Verse 5: “And this is the message that we have heard from Him and are declaring to you: that God is Light, and there is no darkness at all in Him. If we proclaim that we have fellowship with Him, but we are walking in the darkness...” (vs 5-6).

What does *walking in darkness* means? *You’re going to the way of the world!* You are not using the Light of the Spirit of God and the Word of God to govern what you are doing. If you become very slack and lay off and things come upon you, and sin comes upon you—and it does—we will see what we have to do when that takes place. But ***IF you’re neglecting God and walking in darkness:***

“...**we are lying to ourselves**...” (v 6). *He’s including himself!*

Think about all the years that John was an apostle, and he's saying that if we're not walking the Light, we're walking in darkness. *We*, so he's including himself there. Now follow along with what he says there:

“...and **we are not practicing the Truth.** However, if we walk in the Light, as He is in the Light, *then* we have fellowship with one another... [all of us together and with God] ...**and the blood of Jesus Christ, His own Son, cleanses us from all sin**” (vs 6-7).

That's why Jesus Christ's sacrifice is so important, because He was the creator of all human beings.

Verse 8: “If we say that we do not have sin, we are deceiving ourselves, and the Truth is not in us.”

Notice that John must have been way up in his 80s at this time when he wrote this:

Verse 9: “If **we**...” *Including himself!*

How long had he been an apostle? *Since 30 A.D.* So, we're looking at over 50 or 60 years him being an apostle, and he includes himself, which tells us that even as old as he was, and as long as he had been an apostle, that **he understood that human nature must still be overcome!** It's still within us! We will see how Paul labels that a little bit later.

Verse 9: “If **we** confess our own sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins...”

What is the first thing that Jesus talked about in praying to the Father? *We are to say, 'Our Father Who is in heaven, Holy is Your name. Your Kingdom come—that's our whole purpose—Your will be done—that's God's whole purpose with us—on earth—in our lives and what we're doing—as in heaven!'*

“...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 9-10). ***That's true!***

1-John 5:13: “These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God in order that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may *continue to* believe in the name of the Son of God. And this is the confidence that we have toward Him: that **if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us**” (vs 13-14).

What is one of the most important things of the will of God? *That we ask forgiveness for our sins! We confess our sins to Him! **That is putting out the leaven!*** Every time we confess our sins to

God and ask for forgiveness, *that is putting out the leaven of sin!*

Paul wrote that we're not to keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread with the leaven of sin and malice, ***but with the unleavened bread of Truth and Sincerity!***

It's the same thing that John is writing here in different words.

Verse 15: “And if we know that He hears us, whatever we may ask... [according to His will] ...we know that we have the requests that we have asked of Him.”

This shows that we all have sin to overcome! The Bible and the writings of the apostles give us all the instruction on how to overcome. That's a tremendous miracle that we can have and know that, and understand that.

Verse 16: “If anyone sees his brother sinning a sin *that is* not unto death...”

What is a sin ‘not unto death’? *It is any sin that is **not the unpardonable sin!*** You can see that in yourself. We can see that in our daily living, see and understand those things that are not of God and we can get rid of them. We can repent of them and ask God to cleanse our mind. *Likewise:*

Verse 16: “If anyone sees his brother sinning a sin *that is* not unto death he shall ask, and He will give him life for those who do not sin unto death.... [we will see what that is] ...**There is a sin unto death; concerning that sin, I do not say that he should make any supplication to God.**”

Verse 17: “All unrighteousness is sin, and there is a sin not unto death. We know that **anyone who is begotten by God**...” (vs 17-18). *That's shows what Peter wrote.*

We know that in order for us to have been brought into the world we had to be begotten in our mother's womb by our father, every single one of us! When we repent and receive the Holy Spirit of God, we know that we have been begotten again. That's what Peter writes here:

1-Peter 1:3: “Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who, according to His abundant mercy, has begotten us again...”

Receiving the Holy Spirit of God is a begettall from God. It is also the circumcision of the heart. The circumcision of the heart takes away the hostility that we have in our heart to God.

- He doesn't take away our choice
- He doesn't take away our ability to sin if we sin

- He doesn't take away our ability to come to Him; He gives it to us

That's what it means to be begotten again! That's in the spirit of our mind.

We find that explained in John 14, *that if we love God we keep His commandments. The Father and the Son will come and make Their abode within us!* That's the fellowship with God! All of this ties together, an amazing thing when understand it.

"...according to His abundant mercy, has begotten us again unto a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from *the dead*" (v 3).

In that one verse He explains everything about the fundamental basis for Christianity right there in that one verse.

1-John 5—here's the key, once we are baptized and receive the Holy Spirit, we have received the circumcision of the heart. We have received the Holy Spirit of God. That is not a complete spiritual transformation into a spirit being. ***That comes at the resurrection!*** But it is so that:

- we can understand the Truth and with God's Spirit live by it
- we can see what sin is and reject it and not keep on doing it

That's the sin that is not unto death! Here's why?

1-John 5:18: "We know that anyone who is begotten by God does not *practice* sin; for the one who has been begotten by God keeps himself *by the power of God*, and the wicked one does not touch him." *That is to take him away from God!*

That can happen if some people go against God in an extreme manner.

1-John 3 also tells us exactly the difference. *We don't practice sin!* We know that ***practicing sin*** literally means that we ***live in sin!*** When we sin we confess our sins and He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins (1-John 2).

1-John 3:4: "Everyone who practices sin is also practicing lawlessness, for sin is lawlessness."

The *KJV* says that 'sin is the transgression of the Law.' But lawlessness means *anything of God's way that you transgress!*

Verse 5: "And you know that He appeared in order that He might take away our sins; and in Him is no sin. Everyone who dwells in Him does not *practice* sin; **anyone who practices sin has not seen Him, nor has known Him**" (vs 5-6). *There it is, practicing sin!* That's what it means in the Greek.

Verse 7: "Little children, do not allow anyone to deceive you; the one who practices righteousness is righteous, even as He is righteous. **The one who practices sin is of the devil** because the devil has been sinning from *the beginning*. For this purpose the Son of God appeared that He might destroy the works of the devil. **Everyone who has been begotten by God does not practice sin...**" (vs 7-9).

Notice that it doesn't say that he doesn't sin!
But:

- he doesn't practice it
- he doesn't live by it

Because he's practicing the Truth! The sins we are overcoming are the sins within, and that's the most important thing that we need to deal with in relationship to the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

Verse 9: "Everyone who has been begotten by God..." *that means:*

- you've repented
- you've received the Holy Spirit of God
- you're walking in the Truth
- you're keeping His commandments

But you do sin! You just ***don't practice*** sin!

"...does not practice sin, **because His seed of begetting is dwelling within him...** [the seed of begetting of the Father; you have been begotten again] ...and he is not able to *practice* sin because he has been begotten by God" (v 9).

You're not able to practice it! Why? *Because the Spirit of God within you will bring to your attention that you are sinning!* Before you were converted, you were sinning and you didn't know anything about *God's way, forgiveness, repentance, baptism and receiving of the Holy Spirit*, did you? *No!* You were living in and practicing sin and everything that were doing was sin!

Let's see the way that Paul wrote in Rom. 5. This is what happened when God gave His judgment against Adam and Eve and this sinful nature was passed down to all human beings. You can even see it in newborn babies. Everyone of us have to be taught:

- right from wrong
- truth from lies
- righteousness from sinfulness

It is the commandments of God that we need. We will see where we need them, and we will see why we need it within us, so that we won't commit the unpardonable sin. But rather every sin

that we do commit we repent of, because we're getting rid of the leaven on a continuous basis within our life all the year long.

Romans 5:12: "Therefore, as by one man sin entered into the world... [that's Adam; he could have stopped Eve, but he didn't] ...and by means of sin *came* death... [the wages of sin is death; the wages of sin is practicing evil and unrighteousness] ...and in this way death passed into all mankind..."

Every single human being has the law of what Paul calls in Rom. 7 *the law of sin and death!*

- How does that work in us?
- How do we overcome that?

That's all a part of the Feast of Unleavened Bread!

In the rest of it here Paul talks about having our sins forgiven, and that we're not to live in sin. That's ties in with what John wrote, that everyone who has been begotten by God does not practice sin.

We have our sins forgiven through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, which is through the grace and goodness of God. Once we have the Spirit of God we now have direct access to God the Father and Jesus Christ. I want you to think about that, know that, and understand that, and how great that is that each one of us who have the Spirit of God have direct contact with God the Father.

That's His sacred name. *Our Father Who is in heaven!* Think about that! And Jesus Christ at His right hand, Who is there as our High Priest, as our sacrifice, is there to bring forgiveness and remission of sins. *Since Christ died for the sins of the whole world*—and we know with the rest of the Feasts of God—*past, present and future!*

Once we answer the call and have received the Holy Spirit, which is the circumcision of the heart... Protestantism has it all wrong. They have it that you ask Jesus to come into your heart! *NO! NO! NO!* He's not going to obey anyone! You come to God and confess your sins to God, and you come to Him in full repentance and baptism, then you receive the Holy Spirit when God gives it.

You don't come and tell Christ to come into you're heart, because without true repentance and true baptism, that is a counterfeit. The world doesn't understand that!

Romans 6:1: "What then shall we say? Shall we continue in sin so that grace may abound?"

That's exactly what Protestantism says: once you accept Jesus into your life then you don't have to worry about what you do because you can't sin. Even though you go back living the way that were

living.

That is a Satanic lie preached in the name of Jesus Christ! Here is the Truth:

Verse 1: "What then shall we say? Shall we continue in sin so that grace may abound? **MAY IT NEVER BE!**..." (vs 1-2)—*not at all!*

Because when we went into that watery grave that was our pledge of our death if we are not faithful to the end. Because the first part of the New Covenant is the death and sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

The second part of the New Covenant is our part, and we signify our death by full baptism, *immersed completely in water!* That's the closest that you can come to death and yet be raised out of there to live a new life. That's what it's all about, but let's understand the significance of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

"...We who died to sin..." (v 2). *We put away, died to living in sin and forsaken that way of life!*

"...how shall we live any longer therein?" (v 2). *How is that possible?*

Verse 3: "Or are you ignorant that we... [Paul includes himself just like the Apostle John did] ...as many as were baptized into Christ Jesus, were baptized into His death?"

We will see what that means in the next couple of verses, because this is profound!

Verse 4: "Therefore, we were buried with Him through the baptism into **the death...**"—*the death of Christ and the death that we pledged!* Because with His baptism that we will be faithful all the rest of our lives.

"...so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, in the same way, **we also should walk in newness of life**" (v 4).

That's what John was writing about in 1-John! That we live a life that is practicing righteousness, and we are not practicing sin! We are living according to the commandments of God. That's why John wrote: *And hereby we know that we know Him if we keep His commandments! The one who doesn't keep His commandments is a liar and the Truth is not in Him!*

That's the same thing that Paul is writing here in a little bit different words.

"...so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, **in the same way, we also should walk in newness of life**" (v 4).

- keeping the commandments of God
- walking with the Spirit of God to lead us and guide us
- having the fellowship with God that we need
 - ✓ through prayer
 - ✓ through study
- continually
- to overcome the sin within

Verse 5: “For **if we have been conjoined together in the likeness of His death...**”

Think about that; ***conjoined***, meaning it's almost like saying that ***God is taking your body—when you repent before baptism—and laid your body right on the body of Jesus Christ:***

- with all the stripes
- with all the gashes
- with all the blood

For the forgiveness of your sins! See how important that is: *conjoined, become part of the very death of Jesus Christ for your pledge of future death!* That when you come out of this watery grave ***you walk in newness of life!*** You don't walk in the way that you've been going!

“...so also shall we be *in the likeness* of His resurrection” (v 5). *There is the goal, eternal life!*

But getting from where we are—from the point of baptism, to where we're going to be at the point of the return of Christ and the resurrection from the dead—is how we live and how we overcome!

Verse 6: “Knowing this, **that our old man was co-crucified with Him** in order that the body of sin might be destroyed...”

This tells us that the rest of our lives in overcoming, growing in grace and knowledge is destroying the sin within!

“...so that we might no longer be enslaved to sin... [in the watery grave] ...because the one who has died *to sin* has been justified from sin” (vs 6-7).

That is all your past sins are forgiven. Now we have given to us *an open door* that when we sin and we come to God and confess our sins—as John wrote—we have forgiveness of sin. That the world does not have, but we have!

Verse 8: “Now, if we died together with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more; death no longer has any dominion over Him. For when He died, **He died**

unto sin once for all...” (vs 8-10)—***all time, all people past, present and future!***

But they have not been granted the blessing of repenting of their sins, because this world is still ruled by Satan the devil, who is the ‘prince of the power of the air’ and the dark ruler of this world. With his spiritual power Satan blinds the mind of those who don't believe.

Think about what a tremendous thing that God has done for us!

(break@47:30)

We have a complete In-Depth Study w/CD: *How to Overcome the Sin Within*. That's the key to conversion and overcoming and growing in grace and knowledge.

Romans 6:10: “For when He died, He died unto sin once for all; but in that He lives, He lives unto God. In the same way also, you should indeed reckon yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God through Christ Jesus our Lord. Therefore, **do not let sin rule in your mortal body by obeying it in the lusts thereof**” (vs 10-12).

This tells us something very important. When we get a temptation, which we all do, when something of sin enters into our mind—which it does all the time—***we are not to be obeying it*** in the lust thereof. A lot of these things are coming from:

- the world through the way that the world does
- coming from Satan the devil
- coming from other people

All of those combined! We're not to let it rule. It doesn't say that we won't sin. This tells us that everyday we're confronted with sin:

- What do we do?
- How do we overcome?
- How does God look at it that way?

That's why remember, *remember, remember* the prayer that Jesus gave in Matt. 6. It starts out, as I gave earlier, *Our Father in heaven, Holy is Your name, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven! Forgive us our debts*—our debt to God because of sin. So, we repent of these things every single day, because we're living in an evil world! **That's how we don't let sin rule in our lives.**

Hebrews 12:2: “**Having our minds fixed on Jesus, the Beginner and Finisher of our faith...**”

That's the central point of our thoughts! Jesus and God the Father!

“...Who for the joy that lay ahead of Him endured the cross... [for the forgiveness of our sins]

...although He despised *the* shame, and has sat down at *the* right hand of the Throne of God. Now meditate deeply on Him Who endured such great hostility of sinners against Himself so that you do not become weary and faint in your minds” (vs 2-3). *The sin within! Remember that!*

Verse 4: “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 reprov’d by Him; for whom *the* Lord loves He chastens, and He severely disciplines every son whom He receives” (vs 4-6).

We receive this from God! Why? Why go through this?

Verse 1 *tells us*: “Therefore, *since* we are surrounded by such a great throng of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, **and the sin that so easily entraps us**... [that’s the sin within; tie in Rom. 6] ...**and let us run the race set before us with endurance.**”

It’s amazing what God has given us and how He works with us. He wants us to be in the Kingdom. He wants us to be His glorified sons and daughters to live forever. *That’s the whole goal!*

Romans 6:12: “Therefore, do not let sin rule in your mortal body by obeying it in the lusts thereof. “Likewise, do not yield your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin...” (vs 12-13).

It shows don’t yield to it! In other words, when sin comes, or temptation comes:

- expel it
- get rid of it
- ask God to blot it out

“...rather, yield yourselves to God as those who are alive from *the* dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God” (v 13).

When you do that, you can overcome the sin within, because it says:

Verse 14: “For **sin shall not rule over you**...”

You with the Spirit of God rule over sin and repent of it and expel it out of your life.

“...because you are not under Law... [the penalty of Law because of sin] ...but under grace” (v 14).

That is you have the Holy Spirit of God, you have contact with God and you can repent of those things. You do not live a life of practicing sin!

Paul continues, because this is important. Then we will come to Rom. 7, one of the most difficult chapters in the entire New Testament!

Verse 15: “What then? Shall we sin because we are not under Law, but under grace? **MAY IT NEVER BE!**”

We’re going to see that we have to be *within* Law, *not under!* Within Law spiritually to keep it in the spirit of the Law! That’s the key!

“...**MAY IT NEVER BE!**”—*that you continue in sin that grace may abound!*

Verse 16: “Don’t you realize that to whom you yield yourselves *as* servants to obey...” *You yield to it; that’s the first step:*

- don’t yield to the temptation
- don’t yield to the sin

IF you do, ***repent so that you’re not practicing sin!***

“...**you are servants of the one you obey**, whether *it is* of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?” (v 16).

Psalm 119:172: “...all Your commandments are righteousness.”

You yield yourself to the Spirit of God, which is the Spirit of Truth and the Spirit of Righteousness. ***Not to the spirit of sin!***

Romans 6:17: “But thanks *be* to God, that you were *the* servants of sin, but you have obeyed from *the* heart that form of doctrine, which was delivered to you.” *That is:*

- to keep the commandments of God
- to keep the Word of God
- to walk in His way

Verse 18: “And having been delivered from sin, you became *the* servants of righteousness.”

- What does God want?
- What is the Truth?
- How do I live?
- What are the circumstances that I’m in?
- How do I repent of sin?
- How do I keep from being tempted?
- What is my mind on?

Our mind is always working all the time!

- What is it that we are thinking on?

Having been delivered from sin through baptism, through coming out of this world, God delivered you from sin! For what? “...**you became *the* servants of righteousness.**” *This tells us about obedience to God!*

Verse 19: “I speak from a human point of view because of the weakness of your flesh; for just as you *once* yielded your members in bondage to uncleanness, and to lawlessness unto lawlessness, so now yield your members in bondage to righteousness unto sanctification.”

Righteousness brings you to Holiness! Holiness means that *you are sanctified, sanctification, having the Holy Spirit of God!*

Verse 20: “For when you were *the* servants of sin, you were free from righteousness.”

No! You were:

- breaking the Laws of God
 - obeying your own human nature
 - obeying your own law of sin and death
- you didn't even know***
- that you had the law of sin and death
 - that you were yielding to sin

Isn't that the way it is! We're to come out from all that!

Verse 21: “Therefore, what fruit did you have then in the *things* of which you are now ashamed? **For the end result of those things is death.** *Isn't that true? Yes, indeed!*

Look at world today. How many people are going down the path to sin. Everything that they think is right is now right because they're not looking at the problem, ***and the main problem is that:***

- people have left God
- people have forgotten God
- people have no morals
- people have no standards
- they are lawless

That's the world we have to live in, and not be taken down by it!

Verse 22: “But now **that you have been delivered from sin and have become servants of God...**”

Not servants of Satan the devil, but of God! So, in a sense that's what God has done with us. He's taken away our sin, getting rid of all the leaven and put His Holy Spirit in us, which is putting in:

- the unleavenedness of Christ
- the Truth of God's Spirit
- the righteousness of God's Word

“...you have your fruit unto sanctification, and **the end result is eternal life**” (v 22).

- that's what God wants
- that's why we're here
- that's why the Feast of Unleavened Bread

Verse 23: “For the wages of sin *is* death, but the gift of God *is* eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Rom. 7 is quite an important chapter for us to really learn and know the way of God and what we need to do. Let's look at this way:

Here's the world, everything of the world:

- all the lust
- all the sin
- all of the things that look good

Here's the way of God:

- the Laws of God
- the Commandments of God
- the Truth of God
- the Spirit of God
- the Word of God

Those are the two things that we need to understand!

When we're under law without God, and that law works automatically. That's why all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. Why? *Because they're all living in sin!* That's why we're going through what we're going through right now so we can understand that getting rid of the sin by transgression *God forgives!* Now He wants to build something within us, within our mind and **we have to overcome the sin within!**

Romans 7:1: “Are you ignorant, brethren (for I am speaking to those who know law)... [that is to the Jews] ...that the Law rules over a man for as long a time as he may live?” *That is true!* Who rules over us now? ***God!***

- with His love
- with His truth
- with His mercy

The world is cutoff from that! They're under Law, sin rules and Satan is king! The demons are the princes of this world!

Now Paul is talking about marriage, because he wants to explain something that is very important, which is the covenant with Israel was like a marriage.

Those Jews who were under that first covenant, have to understand that the death of Jesus Christ now makes it possible for them to not be bound to that marriage situation of the covenant with God under the Old Covenant. That's because

Christ—God manifested in the flesh—died!

How long is a marriage covenant good for? *Until death of one of the parties, the husband or the wife!* Christ was the husband of Israel. **Christ died, and that terminated the Old Covenant!** This is what we're seeing Paul explaining here, so that those Jews could come to Christ.

Verse 2: "For the woman who is married is bound by law to the husband as long as he is living; but if the husband should die, she is released from the law *that bound her* to the husband."

That's the truth of the matter. Protestants come and say that 'you're released from the Law altogether. No! Only the covenantal bounding of the Old Covenant marriage. When Christ died that ended the efficacy of the covenant that God made with Israel, because he died! Whenever there is a covenant, both parties must pledge their death. Just like in a marriage, you be faithful unto 'death do we part.'

Verse 3: "So then, if she should marry another man as long as the husband is living, she shall be called an adulteress; but if the husband should die she is free from the law *that bound her to the husband*, so that she is no longer an adulteress if she is married to another man." **The Church is to be married to Christ!**

Verse 4: "In the same way, my brethren, you also were made dead to the *marriage law of the Old Covenant*..."

That's what Paul is talking about. You are not dead to the Law, all the Laws of God, so that you can break them with impunity and not have to keep them.

"...by the Body of Christ in order for you to be married to another, Who was raised from *the dead*, that we should bring forth fruit to God" (v 4).

So, when we are baptized and receive the Holy Spirit of God, begotten again, we are betrothed, as Paul said, to Christ! The marriage supper and the marriage is going to take place at the resurrection.

Christ is the Head of the Church, the husband and the covenant altogether!

Verse 5: "For as long as we were in the flesh, the passions of sins, which *were* through the law, were working within our own members to bring forth fruit unto death. But now we have been released from the law..." (vs 5-6).

Released from the covenant law of marriage of the Old Covenant; **not released from keep the**

Laws of God at all!

"...because **we have died**... [so it's a mutual death with us; we die in the watery grave of baptism] ...*to that* in which we were held so that we might serve in newness of *the Spirit*... [there it is right there; we are to serve the Law of God in newness of spirit] ...and not in *the oldness of the letter*. What then shall we say? *Is the Law sin?* MAY IT NEVER BE!..." (vs 6-7).

Now we come to the point of the whole thing, understanding what it means concerning the Laws of God, what they really are and:

- why we need the Spirit of God to do it
- why we need the help of God to do so
- why we need every day that ability to come to God and ask for forgiveness for our sins

Those are the sins within!

This is what Paul is going to bring out now. It's one of the most difficult things in the whole New Testament. When I first read this, I wondered: Was Paul really converted? *Of course he was!* But he had the same struggle to overcome sin that we do. He had the same temptations, or greater, as we do.

Now we're to "...serve in newness of *the spirit*, and not in *the oldness of the letter*. What then shall we say? *Is the Law sin?* MAY IT NEVER BE! But I had not known sin except through the Law. Furthermore, I would not have been conscious of lust, except *that the Law said*, 'You shall not covet'" (vs 6-7).

Before God called us and revealed His Truth, and we were baptized and received the Holy Spirit, were we conscious of lust? **NO!**

- we enjoyed it
- we practiced it
- we lived in it.

Everything that we did was based upon:

- self
- sin
- lust

That brings all the problems that are in the world!

Verse 8: "But sin... [lawlessness, transgression of the Law] ...having grasped an opportunity by the commandment... [whenever you break a commandment you are sinning] ...worked out within me every *kind of* lust... [the sin within] because apart from Law, sin *was* dead."

But the Law tells us what sin is! But we didn't pay attention to it in the spirit! Now Paul is talking about the spirit of the Law.

Verse 9: “For I was once alive without Law...”—*a true understanding of the Laws of God!*

He was following all the traditions of the laws of Judaism He was persecuting the Church, and putting them in prison and even seeing the death of some of them who were following Christ Jesus. He was without Law, because he didn’t understand it in his mind that there is sin. That there is in us the law of sin and death.

“...but after the commandment came, sin revived, and I died” (v 9).

In other words, there comes a time in our life with God’s Spirit, God’s Word, and God’s Law that:

- we understand what sin is
- we understand that it’s within us
- we understand that the wages of sin is death

The whole goal with everything with God is to perfect us through:

- overcoming sin
- overcoming lust
- overcoming temptation

replacing that with

- the love of God
- the Truth of God
- the obedience to the commandments of God

That’s what it’s all about!

Verse 10: “And the commandment, which was meant to result in life, was found to be unto death for me.”

That’s true! You can keep it in the letter of the Law and have lots of lust in your mind, but you’re keeping the Law in the letter. You’re not addressing the real source of the sin, which is the sin within!

Verse 11: “Because sin, having taken opportunity by the commandment, deceived me, and by it killed me.”

That’s how Paul is explaining it, that’s the repentance and conversion!

Verse 12: “Therefore, the Law is indeed Holy... [not sin] ...and the commandment Holy... [all the commandments of God] ...and righteous and good.” *Here is the conundrum, right here:*

Verse 13: “Now then, did that which is good become death to me? MAY IT NEVER BE!...”

It is sin that brought death; sin is the transgression of the Law. The Law didn’t bring it.

That’s the penalty for breaking it.

“...But sin, in order that it might truly be exposed as sin **in me**... [the sin within] ...by that which is good, was working out death; so that by means of the commandment, sin might become exceedingly sinful” (v 13).

We understand the depths of sin with God’s Spirit. You can’t know it otherwise. Now it’s a spiritual thing. We’re not stopping sin outwardly that we’re doing, because we quit that long time ago. We’re not involved in it. But we’re fighting the battle of the sin within so that God can put:

- the righteousness within us
- the Truth within us
- God’s way within us

Verse 14: “For we know that the Law is spiritual; but I am carnal, having been sold as a slave under sin; because what I am working out myself... [his own way, what he was doing without God] ...I do not know.... [didn’t understand; looking back on it now: Why did I live that way?] ...For what I do not desire to do, this I do; moreover, what I hate, this is what I do” (vs 14-15).

Now he’s discovering the law of sin and death within him that bring him with his thoughts to do things that aren’t right.

Verse 16: “But if I am doing what I do not desire to do, I agree with the Law that it is good.... [because the Law says don’t do it] ...So then, I am no longer working it out myself; rather, it is **sin that is dwelling within me**” (vs 16-17). *That’s the sin within!*

Verse 18: “Because I fully understand that **there is not dwelling within me**—that is, within my fleshly being—**any good**. For the desire to do good is present within me... [all human beings desire to do good, but they don’t do it] ...but how to work out that which is good, I do not find.” *It’s not a resource you have of your own:*

- it must come from God
- it must come from His Word
- it must come from His Spirit

Verse 20: “But if I do what I do not desire to do, I am no longer working it out myself, but sin that is dwelling within me. Consequently, I find this law in my members, that when I desire to do good, evil is present with me” (vs 20-21)—*as long as we’re in the flesh!*

When we receive the Holy Spirit of God after baptism, that is a circumcision! That gets rid of

the hostility to God. Now the rest of it is with God **replacing all the sin within**, all of our thoughts:

- with His Holy Spirit
- with His Laws
- with His commandments
- with His Truth
- with His love
- with His grace
- with His mercy

To build in us the character so that with God's Spirit we see the sin within so that we can overcome and we can repent.

Verse 22: "For I delight in the Law of God according to the inward man... [yes, we do] ...but I see another law within my own members, warring against the law of my mind, and leading me captive to the law of sin that is within my own members. O *what a wretched man I am!* Who shall save me from the body of this death?" (vs 22-24).

Without God and the Spirit of God no one can overcome the law of sin and death! No one! That's why all the good that men want to do always ends up in disaster. That's the way it is down through history.

Verse 25: "I thank God *for His salvation* through our Lord Jesus Christ. Because of this, on the one hand, I myself serve the Law of God with *my mind*; but on the other hand, with the flesh, *I serve the law of sin.*"

- Where does this put us?
- What are we to do?
- What happens when you find yourself sinning within?

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.*"

We're walking according to the Spirit with the Spirit of God within us, and our mind is on the things of God. It's that sin within that pulls against us. There is no condemnation as long as we repent, as long as we yield to God.

Verse 2: "Because the Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus has delivered me from the law of sin and death." *He will deliver us every day in everything that we do!*

That's why it says in 1-John that you can't practice sin, because the Spirit of God is going to lead you to repentance.

Verse 3: "For what *was* impossible for the

Law to do..."

The Law can't do anything. It can't make you do anything, but the Spirit of God can! It can lead you! It can perform miracles in your life.

"...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; 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*" (vs 3-4).

Let's see how this works! 2-Cor. 10 is important, because it shows us how we overcome the sin within in a tremendous way. We do this all the time, day-by-day, week-by-week, month-by-month, year-by-year! ***That is the spiritual warfare within us, to overcome the sin within!*** How? *With the Spirit of God!* So, Paul defines it even more, and also calls it a war!

2-Corinthians 10:2: "But I am beseeching *you* so that, when I am present, I may not have to be bold with the confidence with which I intend to show boldness toward some, who think that we are walking according to *the flesh*.... [we're not] ...For although we walk in *the flesh*, we do not war according to *the flesh*" (vs 2-3).

No amount of psychology, no amount of human improvement without repentance and coming to God will ever work. Only the warfare that God gives us with the Spirit of the Truth, which is the sword of God.

Verse 4: "For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal, but mighty... [because it takes the Spirit of God] ...through God to *the* overthrowing of strongholds."

- What are those strongholds?
- What are those things in our mind?

That's why you need this In-depth Study: *How To Overcome the Sin Within*. There are 6 messages^[transcriber's correction] that I cover.

Verse 5: "Casting down *vain* imaginations... [anything that comes into our mind contrary to the Word of God, cast it down and get rid of it] ...and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity... [or control] ...***every thought into the obedience of Christ.***" *That's how we overcome!*

Verse 6: "And having a readiness to avenge all disobedience, whenever your obedience has been fulfilled."

Let's see what Paul says in Col. 3. that we need to do.

Colossians 3:4: “When Christ, *Who is* our life, is manifested... [He’s coming, His return is going to be] ...then you also shall be manifested with Him in glory.” *That’s the whole goal!* That’s why we:

- have the Feast of Unleavened Bread
- put out the leaven
- put out the sin
- put out the human way of doing things, the fleshly ways of men and women
- ***put in the Spirit of God***

Here’s what we are to do as Paul wrote in 2-Cor. 10 that our warfare is spiritual.

Verse 5: “Therefore, **put to death your members**, which *are* on earth: sexual immorality, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil desires, and covetousness, which is idolatry.”

Those are all the things in the mind! We bring all of those things out and get rid of them and repent of them and bring into the obedience of Christ ***every thought!***

Verse 6: “Because of these things, the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, among whom you also once walked, when you were living in these things” (vs 6-7). *You didn’t know anything!*

Verse 8: “But now... [since we’re in Christ] ...you should also put off all *these* things: wrath, indignation, malice, blasphemy, *and* foul language from your mouth.”

Isn’t that something? *All the sins within!* That’s what Paul is talking about. Here’s how we overcome and put into practice 2-Cor. 10:

Verse 9: “Do not lie to one another, *seeing that* you have put off the old man together with his deeds, and have put on the new man...” (vs 9-10),

- be renewed day-by-day
- be renewed with the Spirit of God
- be renewed with the Word of God
- be renewed with your conduct with God

“...put on the new man who *is* being renewed in knowledge according to *the* image of Him Who created him” (v 10)—*that’s Christ! Renewed every day!* That’s why:

- prayer
- study
- living
- thinking
- meditating

It would do a lot of good for a lot of people to:

- turn off the cell phone
- turn off the television
- study the Word of God
- think on the Word of God
- meditate on the Word of God

That’s how you overcome the sin within!

Verse 12: “**Put on then**, as *the* elect of God, Holy and beloved...”

We’re the begotten children of the Father, all of us together awaiting the resurrection and the return of Christ.

“...**deep inner affections**...” (v 12).

- change of heart
- change of mind
- change of the way you do things

“...kindness, humility, meekness *and* long-suffering; forbearing one another, and forgiving one another...” (vs 12-13).

Walk in the unity and love of the Spirit! Not in the carnality and politics of men!

“...if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so also you *should forgive*. And **above all these things**.... [here’s the goal of it all]: ...**put on love, which is the bond of perfection**” (vs 13-14).

That’s what it’s all about, *and the final perfection is the resurrection from the dead!*

Verse 15: “And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which you were called into one body, and be thankful. Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly... [that comes through study and prayer and living God’s way] ...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 you overcome the sin within! We all have that battle! That’s the whole real meaning of the Feast of Unleavened Bread!

- get out the evil
- get out the flesh
- get out the humanism
- put in God’s way
- put in God’s Truth
- put in God’s Spirit
- put in His Word

Let that rule in our lives and let us:

- think in that way
- walk in that way
- be in that way

Continue to have a great Feast of Unleavened Bread and we'll see you on the last day, the seventh day, of the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

Scriptural References:

- 1) Mark 2:1-2, 6-9
- 2) Proverbs 16:2-3
- 3) 1 John 2:12-17
- 4) 1 John 1:1-20
- 5) 1 John 5:13-18
- 6) 1 Peter 1:3
- 7) 1 John 5:18
- 8) 1 John 3:4-9
- 9) Romans 5:12
- 10) Romans 6:1-12
- 11) Hebrews 12:2-6, 1
- 12) Romans 6:12-16
- 13) Psalm 119:172
- 14) Romans 6:17-23
- 15) Romans 7:1-18 20-25
- 16) Romans 8:1-4
- 17) 2 Corinthians 10:2-6
- 18) Colossians 3:4-10, 12-17

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- John 14
- Matthew 6

Also referenced: In-Depth Study w/CD:

How to Overcome the Sin Within

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All Things Are Possible with God

(Last Day Unleavened Bread)

Fred R. Coulter—April 12, 2023

Greetings, brethren! Welcome to the last day, the seventh day, of the Feast of Unleavened Bread!

This day is a very important day, especially in the times that we are living in. So, the title of this message is **All Things Are Possible with God** or

- Is anything too hard for God?
- Is anything impossible for God?

That's the lesson that we are going to learn today. Especially with everything that's going on now, we need to understand **how we need to look to God for everything!**

So, we have the command in Lev. 23 concerning the Feast of Unleavened Bread

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." *After sunset tonight you can have leaven.*

Verse 7: "On the first day you shall have a Holy convocation. You shall not *do any servile work therein.*"

Then all during the week there were offerings and sacrifices and things going on every day. So, at the temple different ones brought things on different days. You obviously couldn't do it all in one day, or all on the single days of the seven days of Unleavened Bread. It had to be parceled out throughout the whole time.

Verse 8: "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.*"

Today is the seventh day and we know that in taking up an offering that we also need to look at it as God blesses us, in thanksgiving and in serving God with all our heart, mind, soul and being.

He commands us here in Deut. 16, so let's just review that again.

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... [today it's wherever the brethren meet together, God comes spiritual to be with us] ...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, every man... [everyone] ...*shall give*

as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God, which He has given you" (vs 16-17)

That's the way it needs to be. We find in the New Testament that Paul writes that *if you sow sparingly, you will reap sparingly. If you sow bountifully, you will reap bountifully!*

We just need to realize that the blessings of God come over the time during the year as we stay close to God. There are many things that are blessings that are not monetary. One of the things that's important for us to do is to have the prayer and study and yieldedness to God so that we believe every word of God.

Not like Franklin Graham has been having with his nice little prayer and he holds up a Bible and says: 'We believe the Bible, the Word of God.' ***He's a liar!***

- he doesn't believe the Bible
- he doesn't believe in the Sabbath
- he doesn't believe in the Holy Days

Remember that ***Protestantism is only an extended form of Catholicism!*** Never forget that!

- we will give because we're serving God
- we will give because we love God with all our heart, mind, soul and being

We depend upon God for everything!

(pause for the offering)

When we come to the seventh day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, we have quite a history of what we need to cover. It also shows us—and this is why we have it every year—**that we need to trust God! Trust God in the way that He wants us to trust Him!**

The children of Israel had the Passover, the Night to be Much Observed and they were moving on their way out of Egypt. God told them that He was going to take them in a way that's going to be a little difficult, ***'but I'm going to do it with some purpose!'***

He didn't tell them everything, but that's the sum of what it was. Here is what God told Moses:

Exodus 14:1: "And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 'Speak to the children of Israel that they turn and camp before Pi Hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea, over against Baal Zephon. You shall camp before *it* by the sea'" (vs 1-2).

As we have explained, the whole column of the children of Israel was quite long, many miles long. They had counted over 600,000 people. That's a lot of people! You need to think about what a great crowd of people—with everything that they had, including the animals that they had—progressing down toward the Red Sea.

When they got there it was a narrow part of the Red Sea on the western shore with flat land right alongside the Red Sea, and it came back and mountains went up from there. ***So, they were literally trapped when they got to that place!*** God intended that to be so, to show the children of Israel what they need to do in their relationship with God.

Verse 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).

This tells us that there are two ways to know God:

1. that He is going to destroy everything that you have, like He did with the Egyptians

Think about all the plagues, and all the things and the killing of the firstborn of man and beast. All of that that took place in the land of Egypt.

2. that was so that ***they would know the Lord is God***

- God Almighty
- God all powerful
- God who knows everything

God wanted to finish the job to show the children of Israel—before they crossed the Red Sea and before they came to Mt. Sinai to get the Ten Commandments:

- that God would lead them
- that God would fight for them

Let’s see what happened here:

The Egyptians decided to go; they took their chariots and all of the armed men that they could with their spears and shields and went down after the children of Israel,

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. And when Pharaoh drew near...” (vs 9-10)

Think about the attitude that they had, and this is something that God wanted them to deal with at this point.

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....”

Now, we’re going to get into circumstances as we go down through time here, and there will be some things that we will be afraid of! But remember:

- ***God is for you!***
- ***God is with you!***

“...And the children of Israel cried out to the LORD” (v 10). *Now lesson #1:* When you get into a trial ***do not*** blame someone else! ***Do not blame God!***

If God brings you through a trial or to a trial ***there is a purpose in it!*** We will see what that purpose is here, because this is important.

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, out here there isn’t a room for graves, but back in Egypt there would have been room and we could have died there.

“...Why have you dealt this way with us to carry us forth out of Egypt?” (v 11).

Well, they forgot that before God sent Moses that they were crying and complaining that because they were slaves and Pharaoh had them killed, the firstborn of their children.

Isn’t it amazing how people forget about their troubles and difficulties that they had before God called them? *That’s exactly what happened here!* They forgot!

Verse 12: “Did we not tell you this word in Egypt, saying, ‘Let us alone so that we may serve the Egyptians?’”

- *Is the suffering with the circumstances of God better than a little pleasure and hard work in serving a master in Egypt?*
- ***Which do you choose?***

“...for it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than that we should die in the wilderness.” *That’s the first thing we are to understand! ***Do not be afraid!****

There are some people, because of different circumstances, who are afraid of almost everything! You have to come to God so you are not afraid. God says, ‘Don’t be afraid regardless of the

circumstances.’

Verse 13: “And Moses said to the people, ‘**Fear not! Stand still...** [meaning don’t run off and do your own thing to try and solve it your way. You take it to God and you ask Him to help you.

- you pray to Him
- you look to Him

Ask Him to open the door, whatever is necessary for this to be done to help you! He will help you, because remember: **All things are possible with God! Nothing is impossible with God!**

“...‘**Fear not! Stand still and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will work for you today...**”

There comes a day when God will deliver! That’s why we need to stay close to God!

“...for the Egyptians whom you have seen today, you shall never see them again!” (v 13). *God will take care of it!*

- you may have to suffer a little bit
- you may have to work quite a bit

But God will take care of it! God will intervene! WHEN we cry out to Him in prayer and yield to Him and find the answers within the Scriptures, ***THEN:***

- God will be with us
- He will lead us
- He will help us

Just like He did here! Look at the miracle that He did. Here on the one hand was the Red Sea, deep water.

- How are all the people—including children and animals—going to cross the Red Sea?
- Why did God bring us down here to this ‘God forsaken’ place?

They thought they were going to the ‘Promised Land.’

Well, not quite so fast! ***It’s just like conversion! WHEN*** you’re first baptized everything goes nice and smooth, and ***THEN*** when you’re a little stronger you have your trials and difficulties! Remember: What did Jesus say about the way to eternal life? ***Straight is the way and narrow is the gate, and difficult is the road that leads to Life, but broad is the way, and easy is the way until you’re suffering your last; that’s the way of the world!***

Verse 14—this is what we all want, but this is going to be hard when it comes time when they are coming after Christians, and that’s not too far

down the road where they will be coming after you to behead you! That’s what we find in the book of Rev., but we have the promise:

Verse 14: “**The LORD shall fight for you...**”

How is God going to fight for us at that time when we lose our head? *The resurrection! **Nothing is impossible for God!***

“...**and you shall be still.**’ And the LORD said to Moses, ‘Why do you cry to Me? Speak to the children of Israel that they go forward.’” (vs 14-15).

How are you going to go forward with all of that deep water ahead of them? *God will provide the way!*

Verse 16: “And you... [now here’s quite a weapon; Moses had a staff that he walked with] ...lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea, and divide it....”

The rod didn’t do it, ***but God did!*** But *Moses had to have the **faith*** to take the rod and lift it up and hold it over the sea.

“...And the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea. 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 16-18).

They didn’t expect this! God put a wall between the children of Israel and the Egyptians. On the side of the children of Israel it was light, on the Egyptians it was dark! So, the wind came and blew it dry all night. Then early in the morning just it was starting to get light they all crossed the Red Sea. That was the whole column, and got across the other side of the sea.

What did God do? *He lifted that veil that was between the children of Israel and the Egyptians!* The Egyptians looked at that and saw that the children of Israel got down through the Red Sea and got through the to the other side.

God hardened the heart of the Egyptians so they would go into the sea. What did God do? *He took the wheels off the chariots!*

Sidebar: Over in the Gulf of Aqaba on the other side of the Sinai Peninsula there are some chariots in the water away from the land. There are some people who think that’s where they crossed the Red Sea. But that’s not.

You have to read in *The Christian Passover* book to see it would have been impossible for them to get to that point on the last day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. And *those chariots have the wheels still on them!*

But it says that their wheels came off and they drug in the mud! When that happened:

Verse 25: “And He loosened their chariot wheels, 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.’”

Now they’re all down there and thought they were going to get across and get the Israelites and bring them back and make them slaves again. *But that didn’t happen, because God had other things in mind!*

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. And the Egyptians tried to flee from it.... [but they couldn’t get away 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, all the army of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them. There did not remain so much as one of them” (vs 26-28).

Verse 29: “**But the children of Israel walked upon dry land...**”

There we have some lessons! They were all happy and joyous! They were singing, praising God, dancing and it was a really big celebration.

Well, three days later they came to Marah. The waters there were bitter. Again, they complained to Moses. A good lesson to learn: *If you have difficulties and problems don’t be complaining that other people are causing them!* Go to God and ask Him to help you; He will!

When Moses came to God and said, ‘what will I do, they’re all mad at me? The water is bitter!’ God said to take this tree over here and put it in the water, and that will make it sweet. So they did and they had water.

Then the children of Israel had problems and difficulties until they got to Mt Sinai where God gave the Ten Commandments. These are the greatest commandments of all, for all time, for all people. God wanted to use the children of Israel to help bring His Word to the rest of the nations of the

world. *But they failed!*

Now then, we have the Church, and let’s look at it on an individual basis and on a collective basis, ***that all things are possible with God!***

All of these Scriptures are for ***our instruction, our learning and how we develop the character of God!*** We cannot develop the character of God until we put our trust in God in everything He has and does so He can help us.

Psalm 57:1: “Be gracious unto me, O God, be gracious unto me; **for my soul trusts in You...**”

There it is! How do we know we trust in God? *When we have difficulties and problems and we ask for God’s solution!* If everything went smooth where you didn’t have to depend on anything at all, and God did everything for you, and everything came out lovely and ‘hunky-dory’ all the time:

- Would you develop any character?
- Would you develop trust?

“...yea, in the shadow of Your wings I will make my refuge until these great troubles pass by” (v 1). *You come to God and look to Him!*

Remember, ***all things are possible with God, and nothing is impossible for God!***

Verse 2: “**I will cry to God Most High...**” Why? Why take it in prayer? *Sometimes you look at the circumstances that they are so bad that it may seem like it’s kind of a futile thing to go to God to pray!*

But it’s not! You go to God, you pray about it, and you keep asking, be diligent, keep asking, be diligent until God provides the answer, or the way of escape, whatever it will be for you. But notice:

“**...to God Who fulfills His purpose for me**” (v 2).

- What is God’s purpose for each one of us? *To be in the Kingdom of God!*
- How do we get there? *By God’s Spirit, using God’s Spirit:*
 - ✓ to grow and overcome
 - ✓ grow in grace and knowledge
 - ✓ learn by the things that we go through

Verse 3: “He shall send from heaven and save me; He rebukes him who would swallow me up. Selah....”

I’ve sent that happen in our struggles for the Truth during the many years being in the Church of God.

“...God shall send forth His mercy and His Truth” (v 3). *That’s how God is going to do it!*

Prov. 3^[transcriber’s correction] gives us a lot of instruction and knowledge for any of the trials that we go through trusting in God! That’s what the children of Israel had to do when He parted the Red Sea and Moses said, ‘Go to the other side.’

Proverbs 3:1: **“My son...”**

What are we called in the New Testament? *The children of God, and to be the sons/daughters of Almighty God* (2-Cor. 7:1). That’s the whole purpose, and everything that we do has to be focused on that, because that’s the only way that God is going to fulfill His purpose for each one of us.

Think about that! God has a purpose for each one of us, every single one.

“...do not forget My Law, but let your heart keep my commandments” (v 1).

Where does it say that we need to have the commandments of God written in our heart and mind? *Hebrews 10!*

Verse 2: “For they shall add length of days, and long life, and peace, to you. Do not let **mercy and Truth** forsake you...” (vs 2-3).

You know the parable in Matt. 18 where this lord/master^[transcriber’s correction] forgave this one man who owed 10,000 talents to his debtor and couldn’t pay it, and he was forgiven. *Mercy! Great mercy!*

Then he turned around and went out and came to a fellow worker who owed him 50 talents, not 10,000, and he said, ‘Have patience with me, wait and I’ll pay it.’ But he wouldn’t do it. So, he was thrown in prison and the word came back to the lord and said, ‘Look at what he’s done to his fellow servants.

God said, ‘If you despise My mercy and My grace I’m going to come punish you.’ That’s exactly what he did in the Matt. 18 (go look it up).

God says of the commandments of God: “...bind them around your neck; write them upon the tablet of your heart” (v 3). *Doesn’t that agree with Heb. 10:16?*

Verse 4: “And so you shall find favor... [which is *grace*] ...and good understanding in the sight of God and man.”

That’s what we need. Why? *Because God has called us to rule the world!* We need to keep that in mind. God wants us:

- to learn

- to think
- to think with His Word
- to think with His commandments
- to be led by His Spirit

As God fulfills His purpose for us, as we get closer to the end of our lives, etc., etc.

Now v 5 is the key and what we do. Tie this together with the commandment of loving God. We’re to love God with all our heart, mind, soul and being!

Verse 5: “Trust in the LORD with all your heart...”

Put everything in God’s hands, because He’s working out His purpose for you, and we are all going to suffer difficult times. But God is there to help us, because we trust Him!

“...and lean not to your own understanding” (v 5).

Don’t think you’re going to find a way out of it, because you’re smart, or you have this or that. Remember, He can take it all away!

Verse 6: “In all your ways **acknowledge Him...**—*everything that there is; there’s nothing you can do without God!* Why? *Because:*

- He gives you life
- He gives you understanding
- He gives you a brain to think with
- He gives you a mind, because have the spirit of man and the Spirit of God

So, trust in Him and acknowledge Him in all your ways!

Verse 7: “Do not be wise in your own eyes...”

That’s what happens to the world, and it has happened to the Church. They got wise in their own eyes, and they wanted to become more like the world, and look what that led to.

“...fear the LORD and depart from evil. It shall be health to your navel and marrow to your bones” (vs 7-8).

So, it affects everything that you do as a human being. ***That’s how we are to trust God!***

Now let’s see that God will help us, God is with us, how God will work all of these things out. It’s interesting that we find a great deal of these. In fact, most of what we’re going to cover today will be in the Old Testament.

Think about how much the Protestants and

Catholics miss when they say that you don't need to study the Old Testament, that has all been fulfilled. Really?

All of these Psalms have meaning for us. So, when you read and study the Psalms put yourself in the position that it is you. That was written for us. If you have difficulties and trials, and you will have things come upon you that you think you cannot bear. What do you do? *You cry out to God this way:*

Psalm 12:1: "Help, O LORD, for the Godly man ceases; for the faithful disappear from among the children of men. They speak falsehood each one with his neighbor; with flattering lips and a double heart they speak" (vs 1-2).

Nothing describes today's society better than that! Everything is a lie:

- in government
- in business
- in religion
- in relations with each other

Verse 3: "The LORD shall cut off all flattering lips, *and* the tongue that speaks proud things, who have said, 'With our tongue we shall prevail; our lips are our own; who is lord over us?'" (vs 3-4). *No, you don't do that!*

Verse 5: "'For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, I will now arise,' says the LORD. 'I will set him in safety from *him who puffs at him.*'"

In other words, God is going to wait until you come to Him, you pray to Him and you really mean it with all your heart, mind, soul and being. Then He will answer:

- He will send angels
- He will send relief
- He will intervene and heal
- He will see you faithfully into the grave

Whatever it may be! Here's why:

Verse 6: "The words of the LORD are pure words, like silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. You shall keep them, O LORD; You shall preserve them from this generation forever. The wicked walk on every side..." (vs 6-8). ***But that doesn't present a problem for God!***

Never give up on God! He wants us to come to that point that we trust Him in everything that there is. Notice what He will do:

Psalm 18:1: "I love You, O LORD, my strength."

That's why loving God is so important. God is our strength!

- God's Spirit in us
- His Word in us
- His Truth in us

That's our strength!

Verse 2: "The LORD is my Rock, and my Fortress, and my Deliverer; my God, my Rock in Whom I take refuge; He is my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my high tower. I will call on the LORD..." (vs 2-3).

That's how! That's what this day pictures! That we put our complete trust and our belief, reliance and everything on God to deliver us, whatever the circumstances are!

Verse 3: "I will call on the LORD, Who is worthy to be praised, so shall I be saved from my enemies."

Think about this: remember the account Dan. 3 about Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, and how that Nebuchadnezzar made this great idol and everyone was supposed to bow down to it and worship it! But Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego didn't do it. Nebuchadnezzar came to them and told them to do or he would cast them into the fire.

Well, they had natural gas seeping out of the ground in Babylon, so they did have hot furnaces. They were thrown into the furnace, because they told Nebuchadnezzar they would not bow down to this idol regardless of what 'you say or do.'

He threw them in the furnace, and when Nebuchadnezzar looked and saw, instead of three, there were four. Apparently God or an angel was in there to protect them!

Then remember the case of Daniel when he was thrown into the lion's den and nothing happened to him. I don't know what happened, but it was kind of like the lion's came up to Daniel and purring and he was petting them. Darius let them out!

God puts us in those circumstances so that we will trust in Him! This is the way it is when we pray to God:

- we praise Him
- we thank Him
- we love Him
- we trust Him

Those are greatest *spiritual weapons* that we have. Here's the promise:

Psalm 4:1: "Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness. You gave me relief *when I was*

in distress; be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.”
Isn’t that it?

- God will hear
- God will answer

Think about this; all of this is found in the Psalms!
This is why we need every word of God!

(break@43:15)

Psa. 37 is quite a Psalm, and it’s almost worth one single message. We’ll cover the first nine verses, but I want you to read the whole thing, and read that in connection with Psa. 34, as well.

Psalm 37:1: “Do not fret yourself... [don’t get frustrated over anything] ...because of evildoers, and do not be envious against the workers of iniquity”—*which seems like they have everything!*

- Why am I going through all these trials?
- Why am I going through all these difficulties?

Remember this:

Verse 2: “For they shall soon be cut down like the grass; and wither as the green herb. **Trust in the LORD**, and do good...” (vs 2-3).

There it is again, always trusting in God. We learn to trust in God when difficulties come!

“...dwell in the land and **cherish faithfulness. Delight yourself in the LORD...**” (vs 3-4).

- thank God for ***His goodness***
- thank God for ***His mercy***
- thank God for ***His grace***
- thank God for ***His love***
- thank God for ***His pardoning of our sins***
- thank God that ***we can come to Him, having the tremendous blessing of coming to God directly***

That’s what’s so important!

Don’t let these difficulties come upon you to take you down, but when they come upon you ***let them be stepping stones to build character that will last you through all eternity!***

Verse 4: “Delight yourself in the LORD and He shall give you the desires of your heart.”

If you thirst for God you want His way and you will be fulfilled. When is the fulfillment going to come? ***At the resurrection!*** That’s the key!

Verse 5: “Commit your way unto the LORD; trust also in Him, and He will bring it to pass.”

It will happen! That’s the whole thing for the seventh day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

Verse 6: And He shall bring forth your righteousness like the light, and your judgment like the noonday. Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for Him...” (vs 6-7).

Don’t be like the children of Israel when the first difficulty came along and they started complaining to Moses, wailing to God:

Oh, it would have been better if we would have died in Egypt

No! Not so! Notice what else we are to do:

“...**do not fret yourself** because of him who prospers in his way, because of him who carries out wicked schemes” (v 8).

Don’t look at the world and the prosperity that they have in the world and the success that they have in the world. ***That is from Satan!*** *That is all going to go away—POOF!—one of these days, and where will they be?*

Verse 8: “**Cease from anger...**”

Don’t be mad, don’t be angry, don’t get upset because you’re going through a trial regardless of how difficult it is for you.

“...and **forsake wrath; do not fret yourself, it leads only to evil**” (v 8).

Don’t be frustrated in the things that come along. Don’t be accusing God or other people that everything is their fault. NO! You look to God and ask God:

- to help you
- to forgive you
- to bless you
- to guide you

Verse 9: “For **evildoers shall be cut off...** [eventually they will be] **...but those who wait upon the LORD...** [to help and deliver them] **...they shall inherit the earth.**”

Think about what that’s like. Study the whole thing here and it talks about inheriting the earth. That’s a wonderful and tremendous thing that we have! ***We’re going to inherit it in:***

- God’s Way
- God’s Righteousness

The lesson here in Psa. 35 is that you ask God to fight your battles for you.

- Can God take care of it better than you?

- Does He have more understanding than you?
- Does He know the heart and mind of the person, or the circumstances that you're confronted with?

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, 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.' Let them be ashamed and brought to confusion, those who seek after my soul; let them be turned back and humiliated, those who devise evil against me. Let them be as chaff before the wind; and let the angel of the LORD drive them away. Let their way be dark and slippery; and let the angel of the LORD pursue them; for without cause they have hidden their net for me; without cause they have dug a pit for my soul" (vs 3-7).

Apply that to Christ; look at what He went through. Read the Gospels, almost from the first day of preaching the Gospel they sought to kill Him!

We're going to find out that God is our Helper, **and we can count on it!** Notice what trouble David was in; he was close to death! I don't know how many times David came close to dying, but you read some of these Psalms and it looks like there were a number of times when he was just hanging on a thread between life and death, *but God intervened for him!*

Psalm 30:1: "I will praise You, O LORD, for **You have lifted me up and have not allowed my foes to rejoice over me.**" *Think about that!*

Whatever your problems and difficulties are, whoever is against you, don't worry about it, **trust in God and He'll take care of it!**

Verse 2: "O LORD my God, I cried to You, and You have healed me."

Think about that in relationship to you being healed because you're sick. Speaking of healing:

Sidebar: We must take care of our bodies! God gave us that responsibility. He's given us everything we need to do it. One of the things that is important in Psa. 104:14^[transcriber's correction] is that God has given herbs for the service of man.

There are a lot of things today that we can use in the way of herbs and supplements and vitamins to take care of ourselves. Not be like the world and sit around and eat all the rotten

food that they have, drink all the rotten drinks that they drink and then think we're going to be exempt from the troubles that they have.

That's why there's so much diabetes, sickness and everything. There are a lot of us who come to the point that we need healing from God. But also, we need to take care of ourselves, taking care of our bodies and mind in a way that's pleasing to God!

Verse 3: "O LORD, You have brought up my soul from the grave; You have kept me alive, so that I should not go down to the pit. Sing praises to the LORD... [look to him] ...O you saints of His, and give thanks to His Holy name, for His anger is only for a moment; **His favor is for a lifetime....**" (vs 3-5).

The trials are there, but they go away, but God's grace and favor for us is for a lifetime!

"...Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning. And in my prosperity I said, 'I shall never be moved.' O LORD, by Your favor You have made my mountain to stand strong; You hid Your face, and I was troubled. I cried to You, O LORD; and I made supplication to the LORD" (vs 5-8).

Crying out to God for His intervention, and He heard and came and brought David back.

When you stop and think of all the things that David went through and are recorded in the Word of God for us, they're for us so that we can have:

- hope
- faith
- trust

So that all of these things come to us the way that God wants! It's through the Word of God, and remember what Jesus said: **The words of God, they are Spirit and they are Life!**

Psalm 54:1: "Save me, O God, by Your name, and vindicate me by Your might."

You don't go get vindication for yourself; God will take care of it! When it happens, that's good, but don't get all lifted up and vain about how much God has done for you, ***because: The vanity of self will takeover and that will begin replacing trusting in God!***

- be thankful
- be grateful
- look to God for all things

Verse 2: “Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth, for strangers have risen up against me, and violent men seek after my soul; **they have not set God before them.** Selah” (vs 2-3).

That applies directly to Jesus Christ, as well. Isn’t that something? Think about what David went through in writing these Psalms. When I study them, read them, go over them again and again, I am struck by how much David went through things that were a foretype of what would happen to Jesus Christ when He was here on the earth. *Quite an amazing thing, really!*

Verse 4: “Behold, **God is my helper;** the LORD is with those who uphold my soul. He shall reward evil to my enemies. Destroy them in Your faithfulness. I will freely sacrifice to You; I will praise Your name, O LORD, for it is good, for **He has delivered me out of all trouble...** [each and every one] ...and my eye has seen its desire upon my enemies” (vs 4-7).

God will take care of it! I can tell you that when we were at our desperate point in trying to serve God and the people of God, God intervened to take someone who was trying to takeover. He took care of him and he died of a heart attack when he was young. So, just remember that **God will fight for you; He will take care of it!**

Remember that the apostles only had the Old Testament to preach the Gospel. Their writings came later as God inspired them to write, so that we could have the New Testament. But they preached from the Old Testament.

Isaiah 41:8: “But you, Israel...” *Put your name there!*

- Aren’t we all servants of God?
- Aren’t we all going help rule during the Millennium under Christ? *Yes!*

That’s why all of these things are so important!

“...are My servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham, My friend” (v 8).

It says in Gal. 3 that **IF** are Christ’s, **THEN** you are Abraham’s seed and heirs according to the promise!

How far back do these promises go through the history of the Bible and the lives of the patriarchs? *Thousands of years!* But it’s all coming together the way that God wants it to. It’s all going to be taken care of the way that God is going to do it.

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.’”

God’s purpose! We read that **God will fulfill His purpose for us!**

Verse 10: “**Do not fear; for I am with you...**”

Think about this: We know in John 14 that Jesus said,

IF we keep His Word that He will love us, the Father will love us. WE—the Father and the Son—will make OUR dwelling place or abode with them through the power of the Holy Spirit!

Think about what we have within us with the Holy Spirit when we call out to God, having direct access to God by His grace and mercy through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ!

Verse 10: “**Do not fear; for I am with you be not dismayed...** [don’t be discouraged] ...**for I am your God. I will strengthen you...**” *These are promises of God!*

- Are His promises sure?
- Are they true?
- Will they happen?
- Will they come to pass?

Yes, indeed!

“...**yea, I will help you; yea, I will uphold you with the right hand of My righteousness**” (v 10).

Verse 13: “For I, the LORD your God, will hold your right hand, saying to you, **Do not fear; I will help you.**”

Isn’t that what He told the children of Israel alongside the Red Sea? **Fear not, for I will fight for you!** Yes, it’s the same thing!

Verse 14: ““**Do not fear, you worm Jacob and men of Israel; I will help you’...**”

- think on those words
- pray on those words
- keep them in you heart and mind
- claim the promises of God

You don’t go to God and demand them. You go to God and say:

Lord, You have promised this, please fulfill Your Word to Me in the way the You desire! Give me grace and favor, and help me in these trials and difficulties.

“...**says the LORD and your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel**” (v 14). *That’s quite a thing!*

Isa. 43—let’s see what God tells us here; let’s see what God will do and how He will carry it out.

Isaiah 43:1: “But now, thus says the LORD Who created you, O Jacob, and He Who formed you, O Israel... [remember that we’re the creation of God physically and spiritual; He’s creating in us now] ... **Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; you are Mine.**”

- Do we not belong to God, God the Father?
- What did Jesus say about the name that He would give to us?
 - ✓ the name of the Father
 - ✓ the name of New Jerusalem
 - ✓ Jesus’ name
 - ✓ a new name for us at the resurrection

Think about that!

Verse 2: “When you pass through the waters **I will be with you** ... [God is with us in every trouble and difficulty] ...and through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire... [as it was with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego] ...you shall not be burned; nor shall the flame kindle on you, **for I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior;** I gave Egypt *for* your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba for you” (vs 2-3).

Sometimes we just forget about what God is doing because we get so wrapped up in the circumstances that are surrounding us. We need to look to God! Notice what God says here:

Verse 4: “Since you are precious in My sight, you have been honored, and I have loved you; therefore, I will give men for you, and people for your life. **Fear not, for I am with you.** I will bring your seed from the East, and gather you from the West” (vs 4-5).

Isn’t that what it’s going to be for the resurrection? *Yes, it is!* Then we have God’s work that He’s going to do to start the Millennium to bring all the children of Israel back to where they belong.

Verse 11: “I, *even* I, *am* the LORD; and besides Me there is no savior.”

The One Who was the Lord God of the Old Testament became the Savior of the New Testament.

Verse 12: “I have declared, and have saved, and I have shown, when *there was* no strange *god* among you; therefore, you *are* My witnesses,” says the LORD, **that I am God.**”

That’s the way it needs to be with us, that

we present a witness, a testimony, the Truth—whether delivered by message from the Bible or written in a book, whatever it may be.

Verse 13: “Yea, before the day *was*, I *am* He; and no one delivers out of My hand; I will work, and who can reverse it?”

That’s how we have strong confidence in God! That’s why we do the things that we do, and know what God wants to do with us.

Verse 14: “Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel, ‘For your sake I have sent to Babylon, and have brought down all of them *as* fugitives, and the Chaldeans, who rejoice in their ships. **I am the LORD, your Holy One, the Creator of Israel, your King.**’ Thus says the LORD, Who makes a way in the sea and a path in the mighty waters; Who brings out the chariot and horse, the army and the power; they shall lie down together, they shall not rise; they are extinguished, they are snuffed out like a wick” (vs 14-17).

Here in Jer. 32 is what we are dealing with. Baruch was the scribe for Jeremiah. He got discouraged and told God this. Take this as encouragement for yourself in whatever trial or difficulty you find yourself in.

Jeremiah 32:17: “Ah, Lord GOD! **You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and stretched out arm. Nothing is too great for You. You show loving kindness to thousands, and repay the iniquity of the fathers into the bosom of their children after them. The great, the mighty God, the LORD of hosts, is His name**” (vs 17-18).

Notice how Baruch approached God. That’s a good way to do it!

Verse 19: “Great in counsel and mighty in work; for Your eyes *are* open on all the ways of the sons of men, to give every one according to his ways and according to the fruit of his doings.” *That’s amazing! That’s New Testament doctrine!*

Think of all the things that the patriarchs had to go through. In this case Abraham; God promised him when he was 85-years-old that he would have a child. But God didn’t fulfill the promise until Abraham was a 100-years-old. Then God tested him, and this is an example for us, ***to trust in God!***

Now, so that we understand where God is coming from and how He’s working out these things for us:

Hebrews 6:10: “For God *is* not unrighteous to forget your work, and the labor of love *by* which you have showed *honor* to His name, *in that* you

have served the saints and are *continuing* to serve *them*. But we earnestly desire that every one of you be demonstrating the same diligence, unto the full assurance of the hope until *the end*” (vs 10-11). *We have to be faithful to the end!*

Verse 12: “So that you do not become lazy, but *that you be* imitators of those who through faith and steadfast endurance inherit the promises. For God, after promising Abraham, swore by Himself, since He could swear by none greater...” (v 12-13).

Here’s what God told Abraham, and he only saw part of it. Think about what Abraham is going to see when he’s resurrected and all that God has done.

Verse 14: “**Surely in blessing I will bless you, and in multiplying I will multiply you.**”

Verse 15: “Now, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise.” *The promise came, but it wasn’t fulfilled.* It I fulfilled in God’s Plan all the way down.

Verse 16: “For indeed, men swear by the greater, and confirmation by an oath *puts* an end to all disputes between them. In this *way* God, desiring more abundantly to show the heirs of the promise the unchangeable nature of His own purpose, confirmed *it* by an oath” (vs 16-17).

- God is not going to change
- God is not going to move away from it
- God is going to help you
- God is going to be with you
- God is going to give you relief
- God is going to grant you grace and favor, whatever needs to be

Verse 18: “So that by two immutable things, in which **it was impossible for God to lie...**”

God will not lie! All the promises are true, everything He has said will happen!

- to help you
- to intervene for you

In every way!

“...we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to lay hold on the hope *that has been* set before us; which *hope* we have as an anchor of the soul...” (vs 18-19).

Christ is the One Who has entered into the Holy of Holies for us!

Heb. 13 is a great, ***great, great*** promise that Jesus gave. When you look at it in the Greek, there are five *nots*: I will *not, not, not, not, never* that apply to Jesus helping us in everything that we do.

Here’s a promise direct from Jesus Christ, Who is the Head of the Church, Who—through God the Father and Jesus Christ together—have given the Spirit of God to be with us in our heart and mind.

Hebrews 13:5: “*Do not allow the love of money to influence your behavior, but be satisfied with what you have; for He has said... [claim this promise]: ... ‘In no way will I ever leave you; no, I will never forsake you in any way.’*” *That’s quite a statement! **That’s why all things are possible with God!***

Verse 6: “So then, let us boldly say, ‘*The Lord is my Helper, and I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?*’”

That’s the attitude that we need to have! When that happens, let’s see how that works out; this is here for us:

- to have faith
- to have hope
- to have strength

Rom. 8:28 gives us great understanding for the last day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. God will help us in all circumstances.

- He will fulfill His purpose for us
- He will fight our battles for us
- He will grant us relief and help in times of trouble, straits and difficulties so that we get through

Romans 8:28: “And we know that **all things...** [everything that we go through] **...work together for good...** [even though it looks very bad at the beginning] **...to those who love God...** [that’s what it’s all about, loving God] **...to those who are called according to His purpose.**”

There it is, He will fulfill His purpose for us!

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.”

Think about the predestination of us is to be: *resurrected from the dead:*

- to have a spirit body and mind
- to understand the Word of God
- to see all the saints of God
- to see all the patriarchs of God
- to come back the earth with Christ and rule the earth
- to end all the
 - ✓ sorrow
 - ✓ wretchedness

- ✓ misery
- ✓ satanism
- ✓ war and death

Verse 29: “Because those whom He did foreknow... [before the resurrection] ...He also predestinated *to be* conformed to the image of His own Son, that He might be *the* Firstborn among many brethren. Now, whom He predestinated, these He also called; and whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified” (vs 29-30)—***by having God’s Spirit now and at the resurrection to be a spirit son or daughter of God!***

Verse 31: “What then shall we say to these things?....” *Think about it all:*

- everything that we have covered in this message
- everything that we go through in our lives every day, every week, every Sabbath, every year

“...***If God is for us***... [which He is; He’s promised and declared that He is] ...***who can be against us?*** 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?” (vs 31-32). *To be heir of all things!*

Verse 33: “Who shall bring an accusation against *the* elect of God?... [Satan may try to do it, but that means nothing! No one can] ...***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).

Think about what that one verse says. Christ is there at the right hand of God making intercession for us in all our troubles and difficulties.

Verse 35: “What shall separate us from the love of Christ? *Shall* tribulation... [NO!] ...or distress... [NO!] ...or persecution... [NO!] ...or famine... [NO!] ...or nakedness... [NO!] ...or danger, or sword?... [it doesn’t matter] ...Accordingly, it is written, ‘For Your sake ... [the day is coming] ...we are killed all the day long; we are reckoned as sheep for *the* slaughter’” (vs 35-36).

- How do we look at this?
- What is our attitude toward this?
 - it’s going to be difficult
 - it’s going to be bloody
 - it’s going to be gruesome

Verse 37: “But in all these things we are

more than conquerors through Him Who loved us.”

Here’s the whole purpose of this day, and this is the persuasion that we need to have on this last day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, in loving God and trusting Him for all things. So, Paul writes:

Verse 38: “**For I am persuaded...**”

Think about all the things that he went through, all the troubles that he had (2-Cor. 11). All that Paul suffered!

“...that neither death... [he faced that many times] ...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 to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord**” (vs 38-39). God says that **He will:**

- fight for us
- bless us
- heal us
- hear us
- answer our prayers

*This is the meaning of the last day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread! **Stand still and see the salvation of God!***

Scriptural References:

- 1) Leviticus 23:6-8
- 2) Deuteronomy 16:16-17
- 3) Exodus 14:1-4, 9-18, 25-29
- 4) Psalm 57:1-3
- 5) Proverbs 3:1-8
- 6) Psalm 12:1-8
- 7) Psalm 18:1-3
- 8) Psalm 4:1
- 9) Psalm 37:1-9
- 10) Psalm 35:1-7
- 11) Psalm 30:1-8
- 12) Psalm 54:1-7
- 13) Isaiah 4:8-10, 13-14
- 14) Isaiah 43:1-5, 11-17
- 15) Jeremiah 32:17-19
- 16) Hebrews 6:10-19
- 17) Hebrews 13:5-6
- 18) Romans 8:28-39

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- 2-Corinthians 7:1
- Hebrews 10
- Matthew 18
- Hebrews 10:16

- Daniel 3
- Psalm 34
- Psalm 104:14
- Galatians 3
- John 14
- 2 Corinthians 11

Also referenced: Book:

The Christian Passover by Fred R. Coulter

FRC:bo

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