

Laying down the *Foundation*

PART 3



Compiled by:

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Published by:

Berashith Ministry

© 2021

First edition March 2021 Version 1.0

Second edition July 2024 Version 2.0

Third edition May 2025 Version 3.0

Cover designed by Utilisoft

Kallie du Plessis

All Scripture quotations from E-Sword

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LAYING DOWN THE FOUNDATION

Part 3: A Doctrinal Foundation

FOREWORD

Part 1 fully discussed the Personal Foundation to be laid down, which is Jesus Christ.

For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 3:11 KJV

The Apostle Paul says in Hebrews that we should have been teachers (rabbis) by now but we are all still on milk instead of strong meat (Hebrews 5:11-12). We must grow unto spiritual maturity to become God's servants, fully mature and perfectly prepared to fulfil any assignment (2 Timothy 3:17). Hebrews 6 outlays the seven basic foundational principles every believer must know and implement before the temple of Adonai, which is us, can be erected. *"Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst?"* (1 Corinthians 3:16 NIV)

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

We also discussed the 7th principle, namely, "**If God permits**". Although it is not part of the doctrinal foundation itself, it is important to take note that many

believers are building the house without the approval of the Inspector. If the foundation has not been inspected and approved by the Master Builder, the house is built in vain.

In Part 2, we discussed the first three principles.

- Repentance of dead works.
- Faith toward God.
- Doctrine of Baptisms

In Part 3, we will discuss the remaining three principles.

- Laying on of hands.
- Resurrection of the dead.
- Eternal judgment.

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1. LAYING ON OF HANDS

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

Adonai is the One who appoints

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

Adonai should always be the One who appoints!

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

The Purpose

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

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

Let us look at examples of the laying on of hands in both the Old and New Testaments.

OLD TESTAMENT

Ephraim and Manasseh

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

Elijah

Adonai ordained the laying on of hands to transfer power, gifts, authority, and blessings from one person to another. Hands are instruments for the

use of the Lord. When the Lord's own hand came upon Elijah, he was empowered to outrun the chariots of the king (1 Kings 18:46).

God's Signet Ring

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

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

Isaac and Jacob

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

[Judah], your brothers will praise you. Your hand will be on the neck of your enemies. Your father's sons will bow down to you. ⁹ Judah, you are a lion cub. You have come back from the kill, my son. He lies down and rests like a lion.

He is like a lioness. Who dares to disturb him? ¹⁰ A scepter will never depart from Judah nor a ruler's staff from between his feet until Shiloh comes and the people obey him. Genesis 49:8-10 GWT

It is no coincidence that Yashuah is well-known as the Lion of Judah!

Moses

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

"Select Nun's son Joshua. The Spirit is in that man." the LORD answered Moses. "You are to lay your hand on him ¹⁹ and make him stand in front of Eleazar the priest and the entire community. Then you are to set him in charge right before their eyes, ²⁰ turning over your authority to him so that the entire community of Israel knows to obey him." Numbers 27:18-20 ISV

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

*And thou shalt put **some of thine honour upon him**, that all the congregation of the children of Israel may be obedient. Numbers 27:20 KJV*

So Moses did what the LORD had commanded him. He took Joshua, made him stand in the presence of Eleazar the priest and the entire community, ²³ laid his hands on him, and charged him, just as the LORD had commanded, using Moses' authority. Numbers 27:22-23 ISV

Notice, verse 20 states that only some of Moses' authority should be put on Joshua and not all.

Give to him some of your authority so that the whole community of Bnei-Yisrael will obey him. Numbers 27:20 TLV

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

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

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

Elisha

Elisha had received a double portion of blessing from Elijah. Second Kings 13 tells that on his sick bed, Elisha put his hands upon the hands of King Joash, who held a bow and arrows. The king then shot an arrow towards the enemy to hit the target.

Even after Elisha's death, his anointing was so strong that when they buried him and his bones touched a dead man, the man was raised from the dead and stood up on his feet.

And Elisha died, and they buried him. And the bands of the Moabites invaded the land at the coming in of the year. ²¹ And it came to pass, as they were burying a man, that, behold, they spied a band of men; and they cast the man into the sepulchre of Elisha: and when the man was let down, and touched the bones of Elisha, he revived, and stood up on his feet. 2 Kings 13:20-21 KJV

NEW TESTAMENT

The Little Children

Then were there brought unto him little children, that he should put his hands on them, and pray. Matthew 19:13 KJV

Mark 10:16 says Yashuah took them in His arms and blessed them.

THE LAYING ON OF HANDS FOR HEALING

Jairus

When Jairus saw Yashuah in the synagogue, he begged Him to come and lay hands on his dying daughter.

... and begged him urgently, saying, 'My little daughter is dying. Come and lay your hands on her so that she may get well and live.' Mark 5:23 ISV

Nazareth

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

The Blind Man

Jesus led a blind man out of the city, spat into his eyes, placed His hands on him and asked the man, *"Do you see anything?"* (Mark 8:23). Interesting that the man replied, *"I see men as trees, walking"* (verse 24), implying that he could not yet see clearly. Yashuah had to put His hands on the man's eyes a second time before his sight was restored (verse 25).

The Woman with a Disabling Spirit

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

The Great Commission

Yashuah gave us the great commission to go into the world and preach the Gospel to every creature (Mark 16:15). Then He said:

*They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; **they shall lay hands on the sick**, and they shall recover.* Mark 16:18 KJV

Jesus commanded us to lay hands on the sick for them to receive healing.

Are there any sick among you? Then ask the elders of the church to come and pray over the sick and anoint them with oil in the name of our Lord. ¹⁵ And the prayer of faith will heal the sick and the Lord will raise them up, and if they have committed sins they will be forgiven. James 5:14-15 TPT

*Now when the sun was setting, all they that had any sick with divers diseases brought them unto him; and **he laid his hands on every one** of them, and healed them. ⁴¹ And devils also came out of many, crying out, and saying, Thou art Christ the Son of God. And he rebuking them suffered them not to speak: for they knew that he was Christ.* Luke 4:40-41 KJV

Jesus practised the fundamental principle of laying hands on the sick to heal them and to bless the people. Just before His ascension, He led His disciples

out of town as far as Bethany. He lifted His hands and blessed them (Luke 24:50).

Although there is ample proof from the scriptures, many people still do not believe in the laying on of hands to heal the sick. Many houses are collapsing because of the absence of an essential and fundamental foundation, including the laying on of hands.

What are you using your hands for?

Yashuah needs them to heal His people!

The Laying on of Hands for the Impartation of the Holy Spirit

John and Peter were sent to Samaria to lay hands on the converts so they could receive the Holy Ghost.

Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.

Acts 8:17 KJV

The Laying on of Hands to Commission Servants of the Church

Acts 6 states that the disciples could no longer do all the work themselves. Extra helpers had to be appointed to assist them. Acts 6:3 says, "...*whom we may appoint over this business.*" The helpers were appointed and not elected. The Greek word for "deacon" is a "servant" or "helper". God only promotes the meek of heart who are willing to serve. **Are you serving others? Or are you waiting to be served?**

Laying on of Hands to Separate People for a Specific Task

Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

Acts 13:2b KJV

As they were worshipping, the Holy Spirit spoke the above words. This implies that someone was prophesying under the influence of the Holy Ghost. He appointed the best disciples for the job!

In Acts 14, a city was divided. Paul and Barnabas preached the Gospel under severe tribulation and persecution. They appointed elders in all the churches by the laying on of hands.

Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

²³ *And when they had **ordained them elders in every church**, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.* Acts 14:22-23 KJV

Paul wrote to Timothy and gave him special instructions for appointing elders. These elders had to adhere to strict requirements.

Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine. 1 Timothy 5:17 KJV

Today, very few elders are worthy of double honour. Most are not underlaid in word and doctrine! We should appoint only people who fit the profile as described in Titus and Timothy.

Laying on of Hands for the Transference of Gifts

Paul reminded Timothy to not neglect the spiritual gifts he had received when Paul laid his hands upon him. Note how Adonai imparted gifts using Paul's hands.

I'm writing to encourage you to fan into a flame and rekindle the fire of the spiritual gift God imparted to you when I laid my hands upon you.

2 Timothy 1:6 TPT

The laying on of hands was so important to the early believers that Paul longed to go to Rome to impart unto the believers some spiritual gifts.

For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end ye may be established. Romans 1:11 KJV

The Laying on of Hands for Prophecy versus Fortune-telling

The laying on of hands to receive prophecy should not be confused with fortune-telling. In Macedonia, Paul met a woman operating under the spirit of divination.

As we were on our way to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who was possessed by a spirit of divination [claiming to foretell future events and to discover hidden knowledge], and she brought her owners much gain by her fortunetelling. ¹⁷ She kept following Paul and [the rest of] us, shouting loudly, These men are the servants of the Most High God! They announce to you the way of salvation! ¹⁸ And she did this for many days. Then Paul, being sorely annoyed and worn out, turned and said to the spirit within her, I charge you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her! And it came out that very moment. ¹⁹ But when her owners discovered that their hope of profit was gone, they caught hold of Paul and Silas and dragged them before the authorities in

the forum (marketplace), [where trials are held].²⁰ And when they had brought them before the magistrates, they declared, These fellows are Jews and they are throwing our city into great confusion.²¹ They encourage the practice of customs which it is unlawful for us Romans to accept or observe!²² The crowd [also] joined in the attack upon them, and the rulers tore the clothes off of them and commanded that they be beaten with rods.²³ And when they had struck them with many blows, they threw them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely.” Acts 16:16-23 AMPC

Be very cautious who lays hands on you! If a person is in bondage under the influence of the Jezebel spirit, pornography, etc., those spirits may be transferred to you. Be very sensitive to the warning of the Holy Spirit. Become spiritually mature so you can distinguish between good and evil. Paul immediately identified the spirit of divination. This spirit, too, immediately identified Paul and his travellers as people of God.

The marks of His crucifixion remained in the hands of Christ even after His resurrection. They will be visible to eternity! This depicts the important role the acts of our hands play in the Kingdom.

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2. RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD

The Greek word “***anastasis***” is translated into English as “**resurrection.**” We can break this word up into two parts - “*ana*”, which means “to repeat something”, and “*stasis*”, meaning “to stand”. Thus, anastasis means to stand up or be upright again or to arise again. In this case, rising from the dead – resurrection.

I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live. John 11:25 KJV

What Jesus meant was, “**I AM STANDING UP IN POWER.**”

This implies that even when we are knocked down flat to the ground, He has the power to put us back up on our feet! He is the “anastasis”, the Resurrection! He is our power to stand up!

In my opinion, the most important principle of the doctrinal foundation is the resurrection. Without resurrection, there is no hope, no Christianity, no faith. It is the central doctrine of the Faith. If for this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable, as Paul said to the Corinthians. We have a better hope, and that hope is in the resurrection of Christ Jesus.

If the only benefit of our hope in Christ is limited to this life on earth, we deserve to be pitied more than all others! ²⁰ But the truth is, Christ is risen from the dead, as the firstfruit of a great resurrection harvest of those who have died.

1 Corinthians 15:19-20 TPT

We will later have a complete discussion on this resurrection harvest. Christ was risen from the dead, and He never died again. There will be yet another harvest of resurrection but each according to its appropriate order.

But each one in his proper order: Christ, the firstfruits, then those who belong to Christ in his presence. 1 Corinthians 15:23 TPT

Yashuah stood at the tomb of Lazarus, called him forth, and he came alive. But he died again! The Father resurrected His Son from the dead and He will never die again! Glory to God! That is resurrection power!

*Yes, God raised Jesus to life! **And since God's Spirit of Resurrection lives in you, he will also raise your dying body to life by the same Spirit that breathes life into you!** Romans 8:11 TPT*

We have resurrection power inside of us. This is called Dunamis Power! Believers should not only acknowledge this Biblical truth but also apply the “dynamite” power that He put within us.

The Messiah died for our sins, fulfilling the prophecies of the Scriptures. ⁴ He was buried in a tomb and was raised from the dead after three days, as foretold in the Scriptures. ⁵ Then he appeared to Peter the Rock and to the twelve apostles. ⁶ He also appeared to more than five hundred of his followers at the same time, most of whom are still alive as I write this, though a few have passed away. ⁷ Then he appeared to Jacob and to all the apostles. ⁸ Last of all he appeared in front of me, like one born prematurely, ripped from the womb. 1 Corinthians 15:3b-8 TPT

Peter explains that he, too, was an eyewitness of the Messiah.

*We were not retelling some masterfully crafted legend when we informed you of the power and appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, for we saw his magnificence and splendor unveiled before our very eyes.¹⁷ Yes, Father God lavished upon him radiant glory and honor when his distinct voice spoke out of the realm of majestic glory, endorsing him with these words: This is my cherished Son, marked by my love. All my delight is found in him!¹⁸ And we ourselves heard that voice resound from the heavens while we were with him on the holy mountain.¹⁹ **And so we have been given the prophetic word—the written message of the prophets, made more reliable and fully validated** by the confirming voice of God on the Mount of Transfiguration. And you will continue to do well if you stay focused on it. For this prophetic message is like a piercing light shining in a gloomy place until the dawning of a new day, when the Morning Star rises in your hearts. 2 Peter 1:16-19 TPT*

The prophetic word is more reliable and validated than any eyewitness. Remember, the Biblical truth is that the scriptures cannot be broken (John 10:35)!

CHRIST'S RESURRECTION CONFIRMED IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

Let us look at the primary confirmation of Christ's resurrection in the prophetic scriptures of the Old Testament.

*Because I set you, Yahweh, always close to me, my confidence will never be weakened, for I experience your wraparound presence every moment.⁹ My heart and soul explode with joy—full of glory! Even my body will rest confident and secure.¹⁰ **For you will not abandon me to the realm of death, nor will***

you allow your Faithful One to experience corruption. ¹¹ *Because of you, I know the path of life, as I taste the fullness of joy in your presence. At your right side I experience divine pleasures forevermore! Psalm 16:8-11 TPT*

The Jubilee Bible states in verse 10 that God would not leave Christ's soul in Sheol.

I have set the LORD always before me: because when he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. ⁹ *Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoices: my flesh also shall rest secure.* ¹⁰ ***For thou wilt not leave my soul in Sheol;*** *neither wilt thou suffer thy Merciful One to see corruption.* ¹¹ *Thou wilt show me the path of life: in thy presence is fullness of joy; in thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.* Psalm 16:8-11 JUB

After the outpouring of the Holy Ghost on the day of Pentecost, Peter spoke to the people.

...whom God has raised up, having loosed the pains of death because it was not possible for him to be held by it. ²⁵ *For David speaks concerning him, I foresaw the Lord always before my face, for he is on my right hand, that I should not be moved,* ²⁶ *therefore did my heart rejoice, and my tongue was glad; moreover even my flesh shall rest in hope* ²⁷ *because thou wilt not leave my soul in Hades, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.* ²⁸ *Thou hast made known to me the ways of life; thou shalt make me full of joy with thy countenance.* Acts 2:24-28 JUB

Peter quoted David from Psalm 16, referring to the prophetic word that “**Sheol**” (Hebrew for “**Hades**”) could not hold the Messiah, nor did His body see any corruption.

Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day.

³⁰ Therefore being a prophet and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne; ³¹ he, seeing this before, spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that his soul was not left in Hades, neither did his flesh see corruption. ³² This Jesus God has raised up, of whom we all are witnesses.

Acts 2:29-32 JUB

Read the profound words that David wrote in Psalm 71. Here, he refers to “US” instead of “him”.

*Even though you’ve let **us** sink down with trials and troubles, I know you will revive **us** again, lifting us up from the dust of death. ²¹ Give **us** even more greatness than before. Turn and comfort **us** once again. Psalm 71:20-21 TPT*

The Old Testament prophetic word declared that Christ would be raised from the dead and we would be raised with Him one day.

What a glorious and victorious day when the Father raised His Son from the dead and stripped all the powers and principalities of darkness!

Then Jesus made a public spectacle of all the powers and principalities of darkness, stripping away from them every weapon and all their spiritual authority and power to accuse us. And by the power of the cross, Jesus led them around as prisoners in a procession of triumph. He was not their prisoner; they were his! Colossians 2:15 TPT

The foundational New Testament scripture about the resurrection was recorded by Paul.

*For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins **according to the scriptures**; ⁴ And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day **according to the scriptures**.*

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 KJV

The apostles had access to the Old Testament only and they knew these Old Testament Scriptures very well. Paul referred to these prophetic words in the Old Testament.

Hosea also prophesied that we would be revived after two days and that He would raise us up on the third day.

Come, and let us return unto the LORD: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up. ² After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight.

Hosea 6:1-2 KJV

This Old Testament prophecy not only brought facts but also revealed the inner spiritual significance of the facts stated and predicted. The first is the prediction that the resurrection of Christ would take place on the 3rd day. The second is that His resurrection would indeed also be our resurrection!

Christ's resurrection is the cornerstone of our FAITH!

Prophetic Significance

In Part 1, we discussed the parable of the Samaritan. He asked the innkeeper to look after the wounded man and paid him 2 denarii (Luke 10:35). The number 2 is significant.

Hosea speaks of 2 days. “*After 2 days will he revive us.*” It certainly has a prophetic meaning since Hosea not only refers to the 3rd day of resurrection but clearly refers to the number 2.

In both these scenarios, I believe a mystery of the Second Coming of Christ is hidden. The number 2 refers to two thousand years. This means He will return after 2 000 years to revive us, so we too will be resurrected. Glory to GOD!

When Yashuah was raised from the dead, He stripped the enemy of all its powers. God quickened us together with Christ and raised us up together with Him. We are seated together with Christ in heavenly places. Saints, we are already victorious because of Christ’s resurrection!

But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, ⁵ Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)⁶ And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. Ephesians 2:4-6 KJV

When we lay down the foundation according to the Doctrine of Christ, we must acknowledge the importance of baptism. The outward act of the above scripture is water baptism.

Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.

Colossians 2:12 KJV

How can there be any doubt that there must first be a funeral before we can be raised with Christ! Our bodies must be buried!

Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. Romans 6:4 KJV

When we believe in Him and are baptised, we are identified with His burial and resurrection and are seated with Him on the throne in the heavenly realm. There is, however, a condition - *"If we follow on to know Him!"*

*Then shall we know, **if we follow on to know the LORD:** his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth.* Hosea 6:3 KJV

Resurrection is only for those who pursue and follow on to know the Lord. Then follows the latter rain. Scriptures mention both early and latter rain. The latter rain refers to the outpouring of the Holy Ghost. Jesus died and His body was buried, but on the third day He was raised from the dead. Likewise, the believer must also participate in Christ's death, burial and resurrection. That takes place through baptism, as explained in Part 2. We are now identified with Christ's resurrection.

Christ ascended into the heavens to return to His Father but promised that He would never leave us nor forsake us! He promised to send us the Holy Spirit to help us in our walk on earth. We can say that Christ ascended and simultaneously returned to us as the Holy Spirit.

Let us pause here for a moment so this profound truth can sink in deeply! We need to fully understand the importance of baptisms ***so we can participate in all the benefits that Christ's death, burial and***

resurrection provided for us. The apostles preached only this pure message of the Gospel, which is His death, burial and resurrection. Paul was adamant that anyone who would preach another Gospel should be accursed!

Christ commanded us to be witnesses of this Gospel and for this purpose, we need the Holy Spirit.

But ye shall receive the virtue of the Holy Spirit which shall come upon you, and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem and in all Judaea and in Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth. Acts 1:8 JUB

Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. ⁸ But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. Galatians 1:7-8 KJV

NEW TESTAMENT WITNESSES

For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; ⁴ And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures: ⁵ And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: ⁶ After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep. ⁷ After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles. ⁸ And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time. 1 Corinthians 15:3-8 KJV

The following facts were recorded for the Corinthians.

- Christ died, was buried and rose again.
- It happened according to the scriptures and was already predicted in the Old Testament.
- There were several eyewitnesses recorded in the New Testament:
 - Cephas (Peter) - Luke 24:33-34
 - The twelve disciples - Acts 1:1-3; John 20:19-22
 - Two men on the road to Emmaus – Luke 24:13-32
 - Five hundred other men – 1 Corinthians 15:6
 - James and other disciples – 1 Corinthians 15:7
 - Paul - 1 Corinthians 15:8

And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time. ⁹ Yes, I am the most insignificant of all the apostles, unworthy even to be called an apostle, because I hunted down believers and persecuted God's church.

1 Corinthians 15:8-9 KJV

Notice Paul's humble heart as he sees himself as most insignificant and unworthy because he persecuted the church of Christ. His attitude proves that he was saved. Therefore, he thoroughly preached ONLY this message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

- His Death.
- His Burial.
- His Resurrection.

This Gospel was tested by Old Testament prophecies and also by reliable witnesses. May the Lord open our eyes and ears to this revelation.

The Lord GOD hath opened mine ear, and I was not rebellious, neither turned away back. ⁶I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not my face from shame and spitting.

Isaiah 50:5-6 KJV

BEGOTTEN AGAIN/BORN AGAIN

The Old Testament foresaw the born-again experience that would follow Christ's resurrection.

After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight. Hosea 6:2 KJV

We are identified with His death and resurrection. Even though we were dead, He made us alive, raised us up and seated us with Him.

The following scriptures are written in the past tense, which confirms that it had already been accomplished.

But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, ⁵Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) ⁶And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. Ephesians 2:4-6 KJV

The word “together” is used three times. We are quickened and raised “together” with Him in baptism and “together” with Him we now sit in heavenly places (Romans 6:4; Colossians 2:12).

For it is written: The first man, Adam, became a living soul. The last Adam became the life-giving Spirit. ⁴⁶ However, the spiritual didn't come first. The natural precedes the spiritual. ⁴⁷ The first man was from the dust of the earth; the second Man is Yahweh, from the realm of heaven. ⁴⁸ The first one, made from dust, has a race of people just like him, who are also made from dust. The One sent from heaven has a race of heavenly people who are just like him. ⁴⁹ Once we carried the likeness of the man of dust, but now let us carry the likeness of the man of heaven. 1 Corinthians 15:45-49 TPT

In this passage, we see how we are being transformed.

- From the old creation to the new creation.
- From the First Man who was a living being, to the Last Adam who became a life-giving spirit!
- The First Man was from the dust of the earth, but the Second Man was from heaven!
- He rose on the 3rd day and is now the Head of the new creation man!

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath **begotten us** again unto a **lively hope** by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, ⁵ Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. 1 Peter 1:3-5 KJV*

“*Has begotten us*” means a new birth. The ISV states that, through the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, He has **granted us a new birth**, resulting in an immortal hope. He did this because of His great mercy!

Now we can see that there can be no new birth without the resurrection of Christ. A new birth cannot be established by man's effort! It is a gift of God, so no man can boast of his salvation.

Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. Ephesians 2:9 NLT

He has begotten us. In other words, He granted us a new birth which is our living hope, and a life in Christ Jesus. We pass over from the old nature into the new order. We become a new race - an Emmanuel race with the Messiah as the Head. We are now the "GOD WITH US" race! We have received a new source of life in Christ, who is in heaven.

Christ's resurrection is your resurrection too. This is why we are to yearn for all that is above, for that's where Christ sits enthroned at the place of all power, honor, and authority! ² Yes, feast on all the treasures of the heavenly realm and ***fill your thoughts with heavenly realities***, and not with the distractions of the natural realm. ³ Your crucifixion with Christ has severed the tie to this life, and now your true life is hidden away in God in Christ. ⁴ ***And as Christ himself is seen for who he really is, who you really are will also be revealed***, for you are now one with him in his glory! Colossians 3:1-4 TPT

Meditate on the fact that we are now born from above, just as the Second Adam is from above. Our resources are not from the earthly realm. Every need is covered and provided for. While living this earthly life, many struggle to grasp this promise and live from it. We should be at rest because we also sit enthroned with Christ and have all the power and authority given to us.

Why then are we still being destroyed by the earthly realities? Our thoughts should be filled with heavenly realities! Christ's death, burial and resurrection bring us into righteousness. We have received right standing before the throne. For the believer, seeing the "man in the mirror" is seeing how God has been seeing us from the beginning, even before the fall of Adam, which resulted in sin's devastation to human hearts. The "man in the mirror" is the new creation man (James 1:24 TPT).

So no wonder we don't give up. For even though our outer person gradually wears out, our inner being is renewed every single day. ¹⁷ We view our slight, short-lived troubles in the light of eternity. We see our difficulties as the substance that produces for us an eternal, weighty glory far beyond all comparison, ¹⁸ because we don't focus our attention on what is seen but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but the unseen realm is eternal.

2 Corinthians 4:16 TPT

JUSTIFICATION

Because of His righteousness, we are justified. That means we are made right with Christ after the first Adam had failed. Because of Christ's resurrection, we have right standing with Adonai. Let us have a look at the example of Abraham.

*He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; ²¹ And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform. ²² **And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness.** ²³ **Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him; ²⁴ But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead; ²⁵ Who***

was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.

Romans 4:20-25 KJV

Paul used Abraham as an example of righteousness imputed onto someone because of his faith and not for keeping the law. Now we must receive this righteousness through faith! We must believe that Christ delivered us from all our offences and justified us through His resurrection!

We cannot earn right standing before God by keeping any law or doing anything right! It is solely because Christ was raised from the dead for our justification!

Christ's resurrection brings justification to the believer. Righteousness was credited to us for free. We did not earn it! Now we must exercise the same faith as Abraham did to receive our righteousness.

Christ paid in full the final penalty for our sins. God's justice was satisfied by Jesus' death. By His resurrection, the Father provided complete righteousness to the believer. My dear brother and sister, if Christ were not alive, we would still be lost in our sins, and our faith would be a fantasy (1 Corinthians 15:17 TPT). By His resurrection, He reversed the death penalty.

For God made the only one who did not know sin to become sin for us, so that we might become the righteousness of God through our union with him.

2 Corinthians 5:21 TPT

This justification made us completely righteous, as if we had never sinned. Complete sinlessness is the only righteousness ever accepted in heaven.

COMMITMENT

Many make it to salvation, but few ever make a sincere commitment to the Christian life.

But we receive the faith-righteousness that speaks an entirely different message: ‘Don’t for a moment think you need to climb into the heavens to find the Messiah and bring him down,⁷ or to descend into the underworld to bring him up from the dead.’⁸ ***But the faith-righteousness we receive speaks to us in these words of Moses: ‘God’s living message is very close to you, as close as your own heart beating in your chest and as near as the tongue in your mouth.’⁹ And what is God’s “living message”? It is the revelation of faith for salvation, which is the message that we preach. For if you publicly declare with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will experience salvation.¹⁰ The heart that believes in him receives the gift of the righteousness of God—and then the mouth confesses, resulting in salvation.***

Romans 10:6-10 TPT

Here we find two requirements, namely believing in the heart, which brings righteousness, and confessing with our mouth, which brings salvation. Notice the commitment to His Lordship, which is key to our salvation. Christ’s victory over the enemy is also our victory over all enemies. Yes, even DEATH! We must realise our bodies are perishing and we have a better hope of resurrection. Because of Christ’s resurrection, Christianity is the only religion with an answer to the problem of death.

John was the beloved disciple of Jesus. He knew the Messiah well as the Carpenter’s Son, but when he saw the resurrected Messiah in a vision on the Isle of Patmos, he fell to the ground like a dead man.

*I was in the spirit realm on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice sounding like a trumpet, ¹¹ saying to me: Write in a book what you see and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamum, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea. ¹² When I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, I saw seven golden lampstands. ¹³ And walking among the lampstands, I saw someone like a son of man, wearing a full-length robe with a golden sash over his chest. ¹⁴ His head and his hair were white like wool—white as glistening snow. And his eyes were like flames of fire! ¹⁵ His feet were gleaming like bright metal, as though they were glowing in a fire, and his voice was like the roar of many rushing waters. ¹⁶ In his right hand he held seven stars, and out of his mouth was a sharp, double-edged sword. And his face was shining like the brightness of the blinding sun! ¹⁷ When I saw him, I fell down at his feet as good as dead, but he laid his right hand on me and I heard his reassuring voice saying: **Don't yield to fear. I am the Beginning and I am the End, ¹⁸ the Living One! I was dead, but now look—I am alive forever and ever. And I hold the keys that unlock death and the unseen world.**" Revelation 1:10-18 TPT*

The Messiah declared, *"I was dead, but now I am alive and hold the keys of death."* Do you truly want to experience resurrection? Or are you living your earthly life without any hope of an eternal future? We read in Revelation 6:8 of the pale horse. The name of him that sat on it was **Death**, and **Hades** followed him to kill. Hades and Death are evil angels ruling over darkness. As satanic angels, Death claims the bodies of the dead, and Hades claims their souls! But Jesus went into those places and stripped them of all their power and principalities.

Then Jesus made a public spectacle of all the powers and principalities of darkness, stripping away from them every weapon and all their spiritual

authority and power to accuse us. And by the power of the cross, Jesus led them around as prisoners in a procession of triumph. He was not their prisoner; they were his! Colossians 2:15 TPT

Notice that death has already been defeated but not yet destroyed. One day, when Christ calls us unto resurrection, we will be changed in the twinkling of an eye and receive our glorified bodies!

Until then he is destined to reign as King until all hostility has been subdued and placed under his feet. ²⁶ And the last enemy to be subdued and eliminated is death itself. 1 Corinthians 15:25-26 TPT

And when that which is mortal puts on immortality, and what now decays is exchanged for what will never decay, then the Scripture will be fulfilled that says: Death is swallowed up by a triumphant victory! ⁵⁵ So death, tell me, where is your victory? Tell me death, where is your sting? 1 Corinthians 15:54-55 TPT

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? Romans 8:35 KJV

Not even death can separate us from His love. Are you hearing His voice so that you might live and never experience death?

Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live. John 5:25 KJV

Yashuah declared the following to the Jewish traditional leaders, the Pharisees.

*I speak to you this eternal truth: **whoever cherishes my words and keeps them will never experience death.** John 8:51 TPT*

These leaders were so captive in their human customs and traditions that they simply could not understand the Messiah's speech.

This prompted the Jewish leaders to say, 'Now we know for sure that you're demon possessed! You just said that those who keep watch over your words will never experience death, but Abraham and all the prophets have died! ⁵³ Do you think you're greater than our father Abraham and all the prophets? You are so delusional about yourself that you make yourself greater than you are!' John 8:52-53 TPT

When we listen to the Messiah and obey His voice, we shall never see or taste death. There are no more claims on us. We are not going down into the kingdom of darkness but UPWARDS into the heavens. When Stephen, the first martyr, was stoned to death, he looked up and saw the heavens opened. Then he cried out his final words.

And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God. ⁵⁷ Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord, ⁵⁸ And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul. ⁵⁹ And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. Acts 7:56-59 KJV

Christ's resurrection means a birth from the dead. He emerged from the dead. When a baby is born, the head appears first. Jesus is the Head of the church.

He is the Head of his body, which is the church. And since he is the beginning and the firstborn heir in resurrection, he is the most exalted One, holding first place in everything. Colossians 1:18 TPT

Christ “*holding the first place*” implies that others will follow. We are the body that will follow Him in resurrection!

SEATED IN RULERSHIP

*From John to the seven churches in western Turkey: May the kindness of God’s grace and peace overflow to you from him who is, and who was, and who is coming, and from the seven spirits who are in front of his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ the **Faithful Witness**, the Firstborn from among the dead and the ruling King, who rules over the kings of the earth!*

Revelation 1:4-5 TPT

John saw Yashuah, the Firstborn from the dead, and the 7 Spirits (Isaiah 11) in front of the throne. I believe these Spirits minister to us so we can make it to salvation! They are faithful witnesses who now rule over the earth.

Resurrection leads to the throne and rulership! Christ, the Firstborn of the resurrection harvest, is already sitting on the throne, from where He is ruling over the earth! We, as His body, will follow, as John confirms.

And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them. Revelation 20:4a KJV

You can trust these words: If we were joined with him in his death, then we are joined with him in his life! ¹² If we are joined with him in his sufferings, then we will reign together with him in his triumph. But if we disregard him, then he will also disregard us. ¹³ But even if we are faithless, he will still be full of faith, for he never wavers in his faithfulness to us! 2 Timothy 2:11-13 TPT

OVERCOMERS

To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. Revelation 3:21 KJV

BEING WITNESSES

Just before Yashuah ascended into heaven, He declared we would be His witnesses.

*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my **witnesses** in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. Acts 1:8 NIV*

I only recently realised that, just as the apostles were witnesses of Yashuah's death, burial and resurrection, we must be witnesses, too. When He ascended, the world could not see Him anymore, but we, as believers, can still see Him.

Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. John 14:19 NIV

Acts 1 reveals a noteworthy aspect of resurrection. Yashuah shared with His disciples the order in which different groups of people would be resurrected. What He said was, "Only the Father knows the times and seasons but let me tell you, before this can happen, I will return to the earth in the form of the Holy Ghost. Those to whom I return, will receive power to witness that I am alive! Now, you go and be witnesses around the world that the Messiah had come, that He died, was buried and raised from the dead. This is the

Gospel to be preached so those who hear and accept (do), will be resurrected too.”

*When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? ⁷ And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. ⁸ But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be **witnesses** unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”*

Acts 1:6-8 KJV

To be effective witnesses, we need the infilling of the Holy Spirit. We need supernatural power to bear witness to this supernatural event. In our own power and knowledge, this would be impossible. This is why Jesus told His disciples to go back to Jerusalem and wait on the power that would be given to them by the infilling of the Ruach HaKodesh. Only then would they be witnesses for Him. Yashuah adjusted their priorities. They would first need to be witnesses for Him before He would return for the restoration of Israel. This is why all believers must be witnesses of His resurrection. When the disciples chose a replacement for Judas Iscariot, they made sure to choose a believer who could also be a witness to His resurrection.

So then, we must choose his replacement from among those who have been with us from the very beginning, ²² from John's baptism until Jesus' ascension. And, like us, he must be a witness of his resurrection. Acts 1:21-22 TPT

After the Holy Ghost had filled the 120 men in the upper room in Jerusalem, they bore witness and testified of the Lord's resurrection.

The apostles gave powerful testimonies about the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great measures of grace rested upon them all. Acts 4:33 TPT

Saints, we need to spread the message that Christ has risen from the dead! The church is preaching a contaminated message, leading many astray instead of witnessing to the resurrection of Yashuah.

**Have you personally experienced the Messiah as your Risen Lord?
Then you must be a witness for Him!**

OUR HOPE

The Doctrine of Christ points us to the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment. The moment we understand these two concepts, the veil will be lifted so we can understand that Christ is indeed coming back to take us where He is – His Father's house!

Because Paul believed in the resurrection of the dead, he was on trial in front of Felix (Acts 24:21). His hope was not in Felix, who had the power to free him from prison, but in God – the hope of a resurrection from the dead. Although Felix was able to put Paul's body to death, his hope was in his God, who would one day resurrect him from the dead.

And my hope is in God, the same hope that even my accusers have embraced, the hope of a resurrection from the dead of both the righteous and the unrighteous. Acts 24:15 TPT

Paul quotes Jesus on the resurrection of the dead, both the righteous and the unrighteous.

*I speak to you eternal truth: **Soon the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who listen will arise with life!*** ²⁶ *For the Father has given the Son the power to impart life, even as the Father imparts life.* ²⁷ *The Father has transferred to the Son the authority to judge, because he is the Son of Man.* ²⁸ *“So don’t be amazed when I tell you these things, for there is a day coming when all who have ever died will hear my voice calling them back to life,* ²⁹ *and they will come out of their graves! **Those who have done what is good will experience a resurrection to eternal life. And those who have practiced evil will taste the resurrection that brings them to condemnation!*** John 5:25-29 TPT

Referring to the righteous and the unrighteous was an indication that the righteous would be resurrected to eternal life but the unrighteous to eternal condemnation. Paul received a revelation that Christ had risen from the dead as the First Fruit of a great resurrection harvest and that each one (the righteous and the unrighteous) would be resurrected in his proper order!

But the truth is, Christ is risen from the dead, as the first fruit of a great resurrection harvest of those who have died. ²¹ *For since death came through a man, Adam, it is fitting that the resurrection of the dead has also come through a man, Christ.* ²² *Even as all who are in Adam die, so also all who are in Christ will be made alive.* ²³ *But each one in his proper order: Christ, the first fruits, then those who belong to Christ in his presence.*
1 Corinthians 15:20-23 TPT

Jesus assured his disciples, who were standing right in front of Him, that they would **come alive too.**

Soon I will leave this world and they will see me no longer, but you will see me, because I will live again, and you will come alive too. John 14:19 TPT

This means, Saints, when His voice calls us on that day to be resurrected, some of us will still be alive.

Listen, and I will tell you a divine mystery: not all of us will die, but we will all be transformed. 1 Corinthians 15:51 TPT

Read 1 Corinthians 15 in the Passion Translation to understand that the first man (Adam) was from the dust of the earth, and the Second Man (Lord Jehovah) is from the realm of Heaven. The first Adam has a race of people just like him, and the One sent from heaven has a race of heavenly people just like Him.

There are earthly bodies and also heavenly bodies. Flesh and blood cannot inherit God's Kingdom realm, and neither will that which is decaying inherit what is incorruptible. Now, Paul says that not all of us will die but we will be changed and transformed. This will happen when we slip out of this perishable body into the imperishable to receive new heavenly bodies, able to inherit the Kingdom of God.

It will happen in an instant—in the twinkling of his eye. For when the last trumpet is sounded, the dead will come back to life. We will be indestructible and we will be transformed.⁵³ For we will discard our mortal “clothes” and slip into a body that is imperishable. What is mortal now will be exchanged for immortality.⁵⁴ And when that which is mortal puts on immortality, and what now decays is exchanged for what will never decay.
1 Corinthians 15:52-54 TPT

THE DIFFERENT HARVESTS

During my search for the truth, I asked the Lord why there was so much confusion about the **rapture** of the church. God answered:

“There is a mystery revealed in the harvest!”

Scriptures reveal different harvests. Christ has risen as the First Fruit of a great resurrection harvest. This indicates a harvest to follow. *“But each one in his proper order”* means not all will be of the same harvest!

*But the truth is, Christ is risen from the dead, **as the first fruit of a great resurrection harvest of those who have died.** ²¹ For since death came through a man, Adam, it is fitting that the resurrection of the dead has also come through a man, Christ. ²² Even as all who are in Adam die, so also all who are in Christ will be made alive. ²³ But each one in his proper order: Christ, the first fruits, then those who belong to Christ in his presence.*

1 Corinthians 15:20-23 TPT

*But when it dies, God gives it a new form, a body to fulfil his purpose, and he sees to it that each **seed gets a new body** of its own and becomes the plant he designed it to be. 1 Corinthians 15:38 TPT*

Different seeds yield different harvests, as John wrote in Revelation.

The Harvest of the Earth

I looked and behold—I saw a white cloud, and sitting upon it was one like the Son of Man, wearing a golden crown and holding a sharp sickle. ¹⁵ Another angel came out of the temple, shouting out to the one sitting upon the cloud, “Take your sickle and reap, for the time of reaping the harvest has come and the harvest of the earth is ripe!” ¹⁶ So the one sitting upon the white cloud gave his sickle a mighty swing over the earth and reaped its harvest. ¹⁷ Then another

angel came out of the heavenly temple, and he too had a sharp sickle. ¹⁸ And another angel came out from the altar of incense—the angel with authority over fire. He shouted out with a loud voice to the one who had the sharp sickle, saying, ‘Take now your sharp sickle and harvest the clusters of the vine of the earth, for its grapes are ripe.’ ¹⁹ So the angel gave his sickle a mighty swing over the earth and gathered the grapes from the vine of the earth and threw them into the great winepress of the wrath of God. ²⁰ And the winepress was trodden outside the city until blood poured out of the winepress as high as the horse’s bridle for a distance of one thousand six hundred stadia.

Revelation 14:14-20 TPT

From this passage, three different harvests can be identified according to the ancient Jewish tradition of harvests.

- The Barley Harvest.
- The Wheat Harvest.
- The Wine Harvest.

Barley is harvested by winnowing, which symbolises those people who have come into spiritual maturity before others. This group is the called-out ones, the Bride of Christ. They are being harvested under the correction of the Ruach HaKodesh.

Wheat, however, requires a more severe method of harvesting, predominantly because of the hardening of the chaff. In ancient Jewish tradition, wheat was harvested after the Barley Harvest. It was harvested by using a tribunal, where the word “tribulation” comes from. The wheat is part of the Body of Christ but these people have not yet reached spiritual maturity.

They will need further correction while going through the Tribulation before being ready to be harvested.

The final harvest is the **Wine Harvest**, which indicates the Nation of Israel. A small remnant will survive the Great Tribulation, although they will be misled by the false messiah at first. Their eyes will eventually be opened to receive their true Messiah, Yashuah HaMashiach. They are the elect whom the angels will gather from the four winds of the earth.

And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other. Matthews 24:31 KJV

FOUNDATIONAL CONCEPTS TO BE UNDERSTOOD

- When we embrace Yashuah HaMashiach, we will experience life-giving light and never again walk in darkness (John 8:12).
- When we cherish His words and keep them in our hearts, we will never experience death (John 8:51).
- For those who embrace Him and cherish His words and keep them, Yashuah is preparing a place in His Father's house.
- He promises that He will come back to fetch us and we will forever be with Him to rest.
- That day when He comes back to fetch us is the day when His voice will call both the dead in Christ and those who remain alive on earth back to Him.

- Yashuah promises two resurrections. First, the resurrection of the dead in Christ who will be resurrected unto eternal life. Second, those who have done evil will be resurrected unto eternal damnation.
- Christ has been resurrected from the dead as the First Fruits of a resurrection harvest. Likewise, all will one day be resurrected, **but each one in its appropriate order.**
- The doctrine of resurrection points to different seeds that will bring forth different harvests.
- These harvests will be ready at different seasons and times.

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3. ETERNAL JUDGMENT

Judgment follows Resurrection

According to Hebrews 6, eternal judgment will follow resurrection.

This Biblical truth gives further information to help unveil the mystery of the second coming of Christ Jesus, our Messiah.

It is a Biblical principle that God never judges the righteous together with the unrighteous. One example is that the angels could not destroy the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah before Lot and his family were removed.

‘Hurry and take refuge there, for I cannot do anything [to punish Sodom] until you arrive there.’ For this reason the town was named Zoar (few, small).

Genesis 19:22 AMP

We can be assured of this Biblical principle because the Lord cannot and never will violate His word. He will never break His promise to return for us and will never judge the righteous along with the unrighteous.

*God can't break his word. And because **his word cannot change**, the promise is likewise unchangeable.* Hebrews 6:18 MSG

My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips. Psalms 89:34 KJV

If God were to violate His word, the whole universe would be destructed. This is powerful! Yehôvâh Elohim upholds the universe by the word of His power!

... upholding all things by the word of his power... Hebrews 1:3 KJV

Understanding the different resurrections and judgments will help us better understand the “snatching away” of the called-out ones.

The Likeness of His Resurrection

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

That I may know him and the power of his resurrection.
Philippians 3:10 KJV

Christ's resurrection is your resurrection too. Colossians 3:1 TPT

His resurrection is the resurrection of the called-out ones!

Blessing or Punishment

Since the beginning, God has been rewarding the righteous who obey Him. On the other hand, there has always been judgment or punishment for disobedience.

*Thou shalt have no other gods before me. ⁴ Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: ⁵ Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, **visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;** ⁶ And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.*
Exodus 20:3-6 KJV

Throughout the Old Testament, we see Israel's disobedience. They constantly rebelled against Adonai and went astray into idolatry. Punishment for disobedience is repaid to the fourth generation, but for those who obey, the reward stretches unto a thousand generations.

You, the great God, the mighty one, show gracious love to thousands and repay the parents' iniquity to their children after them. The LORD of the Heavenly Armies is his name. Jeremiah 32:18 ISV

But Lord, your endless love stretches from one eternity to the other, unbroken and unrelenting toward those who fear you and those who bow face down in awe before you. Your faithfulness to keep every gracious promise you've made passes from parents, to children, to grandchildren, and beyond. ¹⁸ You are faithful to all those who follow your ways and keep your word. Psalm 103:17-18 TPT

We are directly responsible for either the success or the punishment of our generations.

In the Book of Ezekiel, we see that souls belong to the Lord but they are suffering because of the sin of their fathers.

The word of the LORD came unto me again, saying, ² What mean ye, that ye use this proverb concerning the land of Israel, saying, The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge? ³ As I live, saith the Lord GOD, ye shall not have occasion any more to use this proverb in Israel. ⁴ Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die. Ezekiel 18:1-4 KJV

If the clouds be full of rain, they empty themselves upon the earth: and if the tree fall toward the south, or toward the north, in the place where the tree falleth, there it shall be. Ecclesiastes 11:3 KJV

The remark that the tree will remain where it falls indicates that the condition you are in when you die will determine your eternal condition.

Romans gives **five principles** of God's judgment.

1. JUDGMENT ACCORDING TO THE TRUTH.

*We know that God's judgment falls upon those who practice these things. **God is always right, because he has all the facts.*** Romans 2:2 TPT

In the case of Sodom and Gomorrah, God came down to see for Himself if the people were as bad as He had heard.

I am going down to see if their actions are as wicked as I have heard. If not, I want to know. Genesis 18:21 NLT

2. JUDGMENT ACCORDING TO OUR DEEDS.

For: He will give to each one in return for what he has done. Romans 2:6 TPT

Each of our actions and thoughts has been noticed and recorded. John says that "books" will be opened on judgment day.

And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which I the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. Revelation 20:12 KJV

3. JUDGMENT WILL BE FAIR.

There will be no partial judgment, but everything, even our thoughts, will be fully exposed. Adonai's judgment will not be unfair or based on favouritism.

...for God sees us all without partiality. Romans 2:11 TPT

4. JUDGMENT WILL BE ACCORDING TO THE AMOUNT OF LIGHT AVAILABLE TO US.

When people who have never been exposed to the laws of Moses commit sin, they will still perish for what they do. And those who are under the law of Moses and fail to obey it are condemned by the law. Romans 2:12 TPT

Those who want to be teachers will be subject to more severe judgment!

Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. James 3:1 NIV

Yashuah said the people of Sodom and Gomorrah would be better off on judgment day than the religious leaders!

He said, "How tragic it will be for the city of Korazin! And how horrible for the city of Bethsaida! For if the powerful miracles that I performed in Korazin and Bethsaida had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have humbled themselves and repented, and turned from their sins. ²² Tyre and Sidon will be better off on judgment day than you! Matthew 11:21-22 TPT

The more light available, the stricter the judgment will be!

5. JUDGMENT ACCORDING TO OUR SECRETS

For the Word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Hebrews 4:12 NIV

So this judgment will be revealed on the day when God, through Jesus the Messiah, judges the hidden secrets of people's hearts. And their response to my gospel will be the standard of judgment used in that day. Romans 2:16 TPT

The Righteous Judge

One of Adonai's attributes is His righteousness. He is the Righteous Judge.

His work is perfect, For all His ways are just; A God of faithfulness and without injustice, Righteous and upright is He. Deuteronomy 32:4 NASB

What does it mean that God is just? It is more than Him simply being fair. It means He always does what is right and good toward all men. Likewise, although hard for many to accept, His sentencing of unrepentant sinners to hell is also right and good. A natural question that arises is how a just God can justify the unjust, since each of us is without Christ!

A.W. Tozer answers this relevant question by reminding us that the answer is in the Christian doctrine of justification and redemption. "Through the work of Christ in atonement, justice is not violated but satisfied when God spares a sinner. His mercy does not forbid Him to exercise His justice, nor does His justice forbid Him to exercise His mercy. He is both fully merciful and fully just."

“Considering God’s goodness, mercy, love and grace, some might say God is too kind to punish the ungodly. But to believe this means we deny the reality of His infinite, unchanging justice. God will give justice for sin, either from Christ’s atoning death or, for those who will not accept it, eternal wrath in hell.”

“Let’s assume that all men are guilty of sin in the sight of God. From the mass of humanity, God sovereignly decides to give mercy to some of them. What do the rest get? They get justice. The saved get mercy and the unsaved get justice. **Nobody gets injustice!**”

We can rest assured!

His judgment will be fair and there will be no favouritism!

PATTERNS OF JUDGMENTS

In the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, we find two patterns of judgment.

The Parable of the Minas

This parable is about a Master who gave each of His servants a certain amount of minas, which was a small amount of money.

The Parable of a Prince and His Servants

At this time Jesus was getting close to entering Jerusalem. The crowds that followed him were convinced that God’s kingdom would fully manifest when Jesus established it in Jerusalem. ¹² So he told them this story to change their perspective: “Once a wealthy prince left his province to travel to a distant land,

where he would be crowned king and then return.¹³ Before he departed he summoned his ten servants together and charged them, 'I am entrusting each of you with fifty thousand dollars to invest while I am away. Trade with it and put the money to work until I return.'¹⁴ "Some of his countrymen despised the prince and sent a delegation after him to declare before the royals, 'We refuse to let this man rule over us! He will not be our king!'¹⁵ "Nevertheless, he was crowned king and returned to his land. Then he summoned his ten servants to see how much each one had earned and what their profits came to.¹⁶ "The first one came forward and said, 'Master, I took what you gave me and invested it, and it multiplied ten times.'¹⁷ "Splendid! You have done well, my excellent servant. Because you have shown that I can trust you in this small matter, I now grant you authority to rule over ten cities.'¹⁸ "The second came and said, 'Master, what you left with me has multiplied five times.'¹⁹ "His master said, 'I also grant you authority in my kingdom over five cities.'²⁰ "Another came before the king and said, 'Master, here is the money you entrusted to me. I hid it for safekeeping.'²¹ You see, I live in fear of you, for everyone knows you are a strict master and impossible to please. You push us for a high return on all that you own, and you always want to gain from someone else's efforts.'²² "The king said, 'You wicked servant! I will judge you using your own words. If what you said about me is true, that I am a harsh man, pushing you for a high return and wanting gain from others' efforts,²³ why didn't you at least put my money in the bank to earn some interest on it?'²⁴ "The king said to his other servants, 'Take the money he has and give it to the faithful servant who multiplied my money ten times over.'²⁵ " 'But master,' the other servants objected, 'why give it to him? He already has so much!'²⁶ " 'Yes,' replied the king. 'But to all who have been faithful, I will give even more to them. And for the ones who have nothing, even the little they seem to have I will take from them.'²⁷ Now, bring all those rebellious enemies of mine

who rejected me as their king—bring them here before me and execute them!’

Luke 19:11-27 TPT

The faithful servants received yet more and the wicked lost everything. Faithful service while waiting for the Messiah’s return will determine our position in eternity.

We must use what we have received from God, or we might lose it all!

By asking the wicked why he did not put his money in the bank to receive interest, the Lord indicates that each person needs to invest in a ministry

FIND A MINISTRY, CHECK IT OUT AND INVEST IN IT. YOU WILL RECEIVE INTEREST WHEN HE RETURNS.

The Parable about Stewardship

An important Kingdom principle is to steward everything on earth well. Believers often desire to own a lot but do not steward what the Lord has already put in their hands.

In this parable, the Master left and entrusted his finances to His servants. Talents were distributed according to their ability. The Master expected them to multiply it. Later, when He returned, He called them to settle accounts. This means to execute judgment.

Again, heaven’s kingdom is like a wealthy man who went on a long journey and summoned all his trusted servants and assigned his financial management over to them. ¹⁵ Before he left on his journey, he entrusted a bag of five thousand gold coins to one of his servants, to another a bag of two

thousand gold coins, and to the third a bag of one thousand gold coins, each according to his ability to manage. ¹⁶ “The one entrusted with five thousand gold coins immediately went out and traded with the money, and he doubled his investment. ¹⁷ In the same way, the one who was entrusted with two thousand gold coins traded with the sum and likewise doubled his investment. ¹⁸ But the one who had been entrusted with one thousand gold coins dug a hole in the ground and buried his master’s money. ¹⁹ “After much time had passed, **the master returned to settle accounts with his servants.** ²⁰ The one who was entrusted with five thousand gold coins came and brought ten thousand, saying, ‘See, I have doubled your money.’ ²¹ “Commending his servant, the master replied, ‘You have done well, and proven yourself to be my loyal and trustworthy servant. Because you have been a faithful steward to manage a small sum, now I will put you in charge of much, much more. You will experience the delight of your master, who will say to you, “Enter into the joy of your Lord!”’ ²² “Then the one who had been entrusted with two thousand gold coins came in and said, ‘See, my master, I have doubled what you have entrusted to me.’ ²³ “Commending his servant, the master replied, ‘You have done well, and proven yourself to be my loyal and trustworthy servant. Because you were faithful to manage a small sum, now I will put you in charge of much, much more. You will experience the delight of your master, who will say to you, “Enter into the joy of your Lord!”’ ²⁴ “Then the one who had been entrusted with one thousand gold coins came to his master and said, ‘Look, sir. I know that you are a hard man to please and you’re a shrewd and ruthless businessman who grows rich on the backs of others. ²⁵ **I was afraid of you, so I went and hid your money and buried it in the ground. But here it is—take it, it’s yours.**’ ²⁶ “But his master said to him, ‘You’re an untrustworthy and lazy servant! If you knew I was a shrewd and ruthless business man who always makes a profit, why didn’t you deposit my money in the bank?’ ²⁷ Then I would have received

it all back with interest when I returned. ²⁸ *But because you were unfaithful, I will take the one thousand gold coins and give them to the one who has ten thousand.* ²⁹ *For the one who has will be given more, until he overflows with abundance. And the one with hardly anything, even what little he has will be taken from him.* ³⁰ *“Then the master said to his other servants, ‘Now, throw that good-for-nothing servant far away from me into the outer darkness, where there will be great misery and anguish!’* Matthew 25:14-30 TPT

Notice that the rewards were not according to the amount each servant had received but according to the percentage of the profit made. The return on investment for all of them was the same but one of them did absolutely nothing to multiply what he had received. The Master dealt with his laziness even more severely than with drunkenness. Churches often tolerate laziness! If you cannot multiply what the Lord has given in your hands for His Kingdom, then at least put it in a ministry, for you will receive interest on your investment. The reward for the servant's laziness was severe! He was thrown into the outer darkness, where there would be great misery and anguish – weeping and gnashing of teeth!

Summary

- The service we offer determines our position in the next life.
- If we do not use our talent, we will lose it.
- If we don't do good whenever there is an opportunity to do so, we commit sin (James 4:17).

Matthew 5 shows three groups of people unacceptable to God.

- The five foolish virgins, who did not have sufficient oil.
- The servant, who did not multiply his one talent.
- The goat nations, that did not offer help to the needy.

What do these groups have in common? They were lazy!

JUDGMENTS

For this discussion, we will distinguish between **seven** different judgments.

- Judgment of the believer. This is the Bema Seat Judgment.
- Judgment of the world. This will happen when Christ returns to earth with His Bride to execute judgment. This will involve the following judgments:
 - Judgment of Israel.
 - Judgment of satan and his demons.
 - Judgment of the False Prophet and the Antichrist.
 - Judgment of the Nations of the Earth.
 - The White Throne Judgment. This will take place at the end of the Millennium Reign.

1. THE BEMA SEAT

Paul condemned the judgment of each other. Only God can judge, and He will judge ALL. This means every person will be judged by God!

*But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall **all** stand before the judgment seat of Christ. ¹¹ For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. ¹² So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.* Romans 14:10-12 KJV

I said to myself, ‘God will bring into judgment both the righteous and the wicked, for there will be a time for every activity, a time to judge every deed.’
Ecclesiastes 3:17 NIV

But the Scriptures are clear that the righteous and unrighteous will never be judged simultaneously.

Far be it from you to do such a thing--to kill the righteous with the wicked, treating the righteous and the wicked alike. Far be it from you! Will not the Judge of all the earth do right? Genesis 18:25 NIV

We see that the righteous will be resurrected first, and later the unrighteous. We also know now that judgment will follow each resurrection.

The righteous will indeed one day appear before the judgment seat of Christ. This judgment seat is the “**Bema Seat**” in Greek.

*“For we must all appear before the **judgment seat** {G968 - Bema} of Christ; that every one **may receive the things done in his body**, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.”* 2 Corinthians 5:10 KJV

G968 (Strong's)

βῆμα

bēma

bay'-ma

From the base of G939; a *step*, that is, *foot breadth*; by implication, a *rostrum*, that is, *tribunal*:- judgment-seat, set [foot] on, throne.

The Bema Seat is a platform of reward and not of judgment or punishment. Those who died in Christ (per implication also those who would still be alive in Christ, those permanently grafted into Him) will be resurrected first unto eternal life. Immediately thereafter, judgment will follow. This judgment is the Bema Seat Judgment, which is when all the righteous will receive their rewards. 2 Corinthians 5:10 is clear that we will be recompensed for our actions, whether it be good or bad. The Bema Seat is not a platform for giving an account of our sins.

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. Romans 8:1 KJV

There will be no condemnation for those walking after the Spirit, which implies that those who are walking after the flesh will be condemned. This refers to the unrighteous. As we shall see later, they will appear before the White Throne Judgment Seat after the 1000-year Millennium Reign.

“*Bema*”, therefore, refers to a platform on which a judge or governor gives judgment or rewards. It is a place of evaluation and designation. In ancient times, athletes were judged according to their obedience to the rules of the specific game they had competed in. The victors were led to the platform (the Bema) where the judge rewarded them. Paul pictures believers before the Bema, as competitors receiving the victor’s crown.

A true athlete will be disciplined in every respect, practicing constant self-control in order to win a laurel wreath that quickly withers. But we run our race to win a victor's crown that will last forever. 1 Corinthians 9:25 TPT

Losers will not be condemned at the Bema Seat, but victors will be rewarded and recompensed! We will not stand hunched to be whipped, but upright to receive our rewards, whether we did good or bad.

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad. 2 Corinthians 5:10 NIV

“Recompense” means:

- To indemnify, repay, reimburse, pay money to, make reparation to, make restitution to, make amends to.
- E.g. *“She wanted to recompense him in some way.”* Meaning to reward, pay, pay back; *archaic* guerdon.
- *“She still hasn't received much to recompense her loss.”* Meaning to make up for, compensate for, make amends for, make restitution for, make reparation for, redress, make good, satisfy.

Also, we see that the Bema Judgment will take place in front of the throne.

*For one day we will all be **openly revealed before Christ on his throne** so that each of us will be **duly recompensed for our actions done in life**, whether good or worthless. 2 Corinthians 5:10 TPT*

When we come unto salvation, we come under the Blood of the Lamb who paid the debt for our sins. Once true repentance has taken place, the Messiah will never deal with our sins again.

We will Stand before the Bema

When we appear before the Bema, we will be standing. The word “**stand**” in Greek is “*apistemi*”, and it means to stand, not crawl or grovel. There will be no shame! We belong to Christ and are washed by His Blood. In Greek, the word “judgment” does not even appear in this context. It refers to the “bema”- the platform of our reward.

Evaluation

The Bema is a place of evaluation. Christ designates what we do in obedience according to His plan. Each person will give their own account.

Therefore, each one must answer for himself and give a personal account of his own life before God. Romans 14:12 TPT

Do we truly compete according to the rules? The Bema Seat will evaluate what kind of reward each will receive.

For one day we will all be openly revealed before Christ on his throne so that each of us will be duly recompensed for our actions done in life, whether good or worthless. 2 Corinthians 5:10 TPT

Revealed by Fire

God has given me unique gifts as a skilled master builder who lays a good foundation. Afterward another craftsman comes and builds on it. So builders beware! Let every builder do his work carefully, according to God's standards.

¹¹ For no one is empowered to lay an alternative foundation other than the good foundation that exists, which is Jesus Christ! ¹²⁻¹³ The quality of materials used by anyone building on this foundation will soon be made apparent, whether it has been built with gold, silver, and costly stones, or wood, hay, and straw. Their work will soon become evident, for the Day will make it clear, because it will be revealed by blazing fire! And the fire will test and prove the workmanship of each builder. 1 Corinthians 3:10-13 TPT

2 Corinthians 5:10 says we will be recompensed for our works, whether “**good or bad**”. But how can we be rewarded for something bad?

I believe I have the answer! When we appear before the Bema, it would mean that we have made it unto heaven and we will be waiting to receive, not standing to give account. Paul says our works will be evaluated by a furnace of fire to be tested and to prove our workmanship.

If his work stands the test of fire, he will be rewarded. ¹⁵ If his work is consumed by the fire, he will suffer great loss. Yet he himself will barely escape destruction, like one being rescued out of a burning house.

1 Corinthians 3:14-15 TPT

I strongly believe these verses give us the answer. When you have done nothing good, your works will go up in flames, but you will be saved as if rescued from a burning fire.

We must Give an Account

When the Master gave His servants talents, He came back and called them to give an account. The Greek word for “**reckon**” is “***logidzomai***”, which refers to a bookkeeping term that means to compare accounts. It pictures an accountant who put together a profit and loss statement - a thorough examination of books to determine the real financial status of the corporation. This tells us how He will deal with us when we stand before Him at the Bema Seat.

PASSING THE TEST

Before we can participate in the first resurrection, we must first pass the test. I am in sorrow for the Body of Christ because many believe we need a born-again experience only. But a born-again experience is only the starting point of a new life in Christ Jesus. Jesus explained to Nicodemus that a born-again experience is for us to **see** the Kingdom of God. Then we need to be baptised into Christ. When we come out of the water, we **enter** the Kingdom of God. Then we must move through cleansing and purification to become whole and holy to **inherit** the Kingdom of God.

Many Christians are still captive in sexual immorality, drunkenness or hatred toward a brother or sister in Christ. Such people will **not** inherit the Kingdom of God.

Anyone who hates a brother or sister is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life residing in him. 1 John 3:15 NIV

*Know ye not that the **unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God?***

Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, ¹⁰ Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. 1 Corinthians 6:9-10 KJV

*For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is **sexually immoral** or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. Ephesians 5:5 ESV*

But outside are the dogs and the sorcerers and the fornicators and the murderers and the idolaters and whosoever loves and makes a lie.

Revelation 22:15 JUB

We are now completely convinced that the righteous will inherit the Kingdom. But, how does the righteous qualify for inheriting the Kingdom?

*We feel a personal responsibility to continually be thanking God for you, our spiritual family, every time we pray. And we have every reason to do so because **your faith is growing** marvelously beyond measure. **The unselfish love each of you share for one another is increasing and overflowing!***

*⁴ We point to you as an example **of unwavering faith** for all the churches of God. We boast about how you continue to **demonstrate unflinching endurance through all the persecutions and painful trials you are experiencing.** 2 Thessalonians 1:3-4 TPT*

A “mishphoca” is an “entire family network of relatives by blood or marriage, and sometimes close friends.” Are you part of such a spiritual family? Or do you isolate yourself and constantly criticise the Body of Christ?

Is your faith and unselfish love growing beyond measure? Or are you daily walking in conflict with the people around you?

Do you demonstrate unflinching endurance when going through persecutions and painful trials, meaning that you do not show fear or hesitation in the face of dangers or difficulty? Or are you constantly complaining about difficult situations?

If you truly can say “**yes**” to the positive side of all the questions above, you will be worthy of inheriting the Kingdom of God!

All of this proves that God’s judgment is always perfect and is intended to make you worthy of inheriting the kingdom of God, which is why you are going through these troubles. 2 Thessalonians 1:5 TPT

All trials and persecutions are tests for every believer to overcome, not only to be set apart from the rest but to receive the qualification to participate in the first resurrection. When we endure to the end, we will receive the **victor’s crown**, which is the reward waiting for us in the heavens! **It is crucial to pass the test!**

*My fellow believers, when it seems as though you are **facing nothing but difficulties**, see it as an **invaluable opportunity to experience the greatest joy that you can!*** ³ For you know that when your faith is tested it stirs up power within you to endure all things. ⁴ And then as your endurance grows even stronger it will release perfection into every part of your being until there is nothing missing and nothing lacking. James 1:2-4 TPT

If your faith remains strong, even while surrounded by life's difficulties, you will continue to experience the untold blessings of God! True happiness comes as you pass the test with faith and receive the **victorious crown** of life promised to every lover of God! James 1:12 TPT

*Isn't it obvious that all runners on the racetrack keep on running to win, but only one receives the **victor's prize**? Yet each one of you must run the race to be victorious. ²⁵ A true athlete will be disciplined in every respect, practicing constant self-control in order to win a laurel wreath that quickly withers. But we run our race to win a victor's crown that will last forever. ²⁶ For that reason, I don't run just for exercise or box like one throwing aimless punches, ²⁷ but I train like a champion athlete. I subdue my body and get it under my control, so that after preaching the good news to others I myself won't be **disqualified**.*

1 Corinthians 9:24-27 TPT

Both Paul and James point us to the **victor's prize** – a crown waiting for us in heaven if we endure to the end! We must remain faithful and pass every test. Paul was very concerned that he might be disqualified. He was not concerned about losing his salvation but about being disqualified from receiving a crown as a reward. He encourages us to learn from Israel's failures.

My dear fellow believers, you need to understand that all of our Jewish ancestors who walked through a wilderness long ago were under the glory cloud and passed through the waters of the sea on both sides. ² They were all baptized into the cloud of glory, into the fellowship of Moses, and into the sea. ³ They all ate the same heavenly manna ⁴ and drank water from the same spiritual rock that traveled with them—and that Rock was Christ himself. ⁵ Yet God was not pleased with most of them, and their dead bodies were scattered around the wilderness. ⁶ Now, all these things serve as types

and pictures for us—lessons that teach us not to fail in the same way by callously craving worthless things ⁷ and practicing idolatry, as some of them did. For it is written: The people settled into their unrestrained revelry, with feasting and drinking, then they rose up and became wildly out of control! ⁸ Neither should we commit sexual immorality, as some of them did, which caused the death of twenty-three thousand on a single day. ⁹ Nor should we ever provoke the Lord, as some of them did by putting him to outrageous tests that resulted in their death from snakebites day after day. ¹⁰ And we must not embrace their ways by complaining—grumbling with discontent, as many of them did, and were killed by the destroyer! ¹¹ **All the tests they endured on their way through the wilderness are a symbolic picture, an example that provides us with a warning so that we can learn through what they experienced. For we live in a time when the purpose of all the ages past is now completing its goal within us.** ¹² So beware if you think it could never happen to you, lest your pride becomes your downfall.

1 Corinthians 10:1-12 TPT

Jude also warns us.

“I need to remind you, even though you are familiar with it all, that the Lord Jesus saved his people out of Egypt but subsequently destroyed those who were guilty of unbelief. ⁶ In the same way, there were heavenly messengers in rebellion who went outside their rightful domain of authority and abandoned their appointed realms. God bound them in everlasting chains and is keeping them in the dark abyss of the netherworld until the judgment of the great day. ⁷ In a similar way, the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah and nearby towns gave themselves to sexual immorality and the unnatural desire of different flesh. Now they all serve as examples of those who experience the punishment of eternal fire. Jude 1:5-7 TPT

These people insult anything they don't understand. They behave like irrational beasts by doing whatever they feel like doing. Because they live by their animal instincts, they corrupt themselves and bring about their own destruction. ¹¹ How terrible it is for them! For they have followed in the steps of Cain. They have abandoned themselves to Balaam's error because of their greedy pursuit of financial gain. And since they have rebelled like Korah rebelled, they will experience the same fate of Korah and likewise perish.

Jude 1:10-11 TPT

Let us learn from the story of Korah.

Numbers 16:1-41 tells that Korah rebelled against Moses, along with 249 co-conspirators. They were punished for their rebellion by God sending fire from heaven to consume all 250 of them. Korah's Reubenite accomplices, Dathan and Abiram, were also punished. God caused the ground to split open beneath their feet, swallowing them, their families, anyone associated with Korah, and all their possessions. The Israelites objected to Moses about what had happened to Korah, Dathan, Abiram, and their families. God then commanded Moses to depart from the multitude and He smote 14 700 men with a plague as punishment (Numbers 16:41).

Read Hebrews 3 and 4 to see how the Israelites serve as an example for us. They did not enter their Promised Land because of unbelief, rebellion, and hardening of their hearts.

COUNTED WORTHY

We should pray to be counted worthy. Part of the test is to wait patiently for the soon return of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Meanwhile, brothers and sisters, we must be patient and filled with expectation as we wait for the appearing of the Lord. Think about the farmer who has to patiently wait for the earth's harvest as it ripens because of the early and latter rains.⁸ So you also keep your hopes high and be patient, for the presence of the Lord is drawing closer. James 5:7-8 TPT

The Sadducees were a religious group that denied the resurrection of the dead. They asked Jesus about a wife who had seven husbands, all of whom had died. They wanted to know to whom she would be married in heaven. Jesus explained that those who are worthy of the resurrection from the dead into glory will become immortal, just like the angels in heaven.

Jesus replied, “**Marriage is for the sons of this world only.**^{35–36} But those **who are worthy of the resurrection** from the dead into glory become immortal, like the angels, who never die nor marry. When the dead come to life again, they will be sons of God's life—the sons of the resurrection.³⁷ In fact, it was Moses who taught the resurrection of the dead when he wrote of the Lord God who was at the burning bush and described him as ‘the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.’³⁸ Don't you agree that God is not the God of the dead, but the God of the living? For in his eyes, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob are alive forevermore. He must be the God who raises the dead. Luke 20:34-38 TPT

According to 2 Thessalonians 1, we are worthy of inheriting the Kingdom of God when we persevere and endure to the very end. Combining the words of Jesus with this principle of Paul, we can indeed believe that there remains

a rest and a victorious crown for us! This heavenly crown awaits those whose faith grows marvellously beyond measure, who share an unselfish love for one another, stand with unwavering faith, and demonstrate unflinching endurance throughout all persecutions and painful trials. We must realise that our faith is being tested and we should choose to remain strong, even while surrounded by life's difficulties. Expect to receive the victorious crown! Run the race victoriously to win a victor's crown that will last forever!

Those who never give in, whose hearts never grow cold and who never reject the love of the truth, will be worthy of the resurrection of the dead!

Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man (at the Bema Seat Judgment). Luke 21:36 KJV

*Be careful that you never allow your hearts to grow cold. Remain passionate and free from anxiety and the worries of this life. Then you will not be caught off guard by what happens. Don't let me come and find you drunk or careless in living like everyone else. ³⁵ For that day will come as a shocking surprise to all, like a downpour that drenches everyone, catching many unaware and unprepared. ³⁶ **Keep a constant watch over your soul,** and pray for the courage and grace to prevail over these things that are destined to occur and that you will stand before the presence of the Son of Man with a clear conscience. Luke 21:34-36 TPT*

PURIFICATION

Resurrection is about our transformation. We will be changed from mortal to immortal when we slip out of our earthly bodies to receive our new glorified bodies.

*Dear friends, we are now God's children, **but what we will be like has not been revealed yet.** We know that when the Messiah is revealed, **we will be like him**, because we will see him as he is. 1 John 3:2 ISV*

Paul says not all of us will die, **but all will be transformed** (1 Corinthians 15:51). John says it is not yet revealed what we will be like when we change, but one thing is clear – we will be like the Messiah (1 John 3:2). This is an amazing realisation!

It will happen in an instant—in the twinkling of his eye. For when the last trumpet is sounded, the dead will come back to life. We will be indestructible and we will be transformed. ⁵³ For we will discard our mortal “clothes” and slip into a body that is imperishable. What is mortal now will be exchanged for immortality. ⁵⁴ And when that which is mortal puts on immortality, and what now decays is exchanged for what will never decay, then the Scripture will be fulfilled that says: Death is swallowed up by a triumphant victory! ⁵⁵ So death, tell me, where is your victory? Tell me death, where is your sting?
1 Corinthians 15:52-55 TPT

We will overcome the last enemy, which is death! We will be like Jesus in the twinkling of an eye! We will also receive our glorified bodies when we meet Him in the air.

*And all who focus their hope on him will always be **purifying themselves**, just as Jesus is pure. 1 John 3:3 TPT*

Throughout the Bible, God commands that we need to be **pure**, for He is pure.

...let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God. 2 Corinthians 7:1 KJV

Jesus gave Himself for us that we might be redeemed from all iniquity, and to **purify** unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works (Titus 2:14). From the above scriptures, we see that the righteous will appear before the throne in heaven for the Bema Seat Judgment. It will be a platform of reward and not of condemnation. The righteous will receive their reward, whether good or bad. Before studying the other four judgments, it may be worthwhile to mention the different rewards we will receive at the Bema Seat. **Let** us rejoice in the following knowledge!

OUR REWARDS

According to the Scriptures, there are five crowns of reward.

The Incorruptible Crown

And everyone who strives for the mastery is temperate in all things. Then those truly that they may receive a corruptible crown, but we an incorruptible.
1 Corinthians 9:25 MKJV

The Crown of Rejoicing

For what is our hope or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are you not even to be in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming?

1 Thessalonians 2:19 MKJV

The Crown of Righteousness

Now there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give me at that Day; and not to me only, but also to all those who love His appearing. 2 Timothy 4:8 MKJV

The Crown of Glory

Feed the flock of God among you, taking the oversight, not by compulsion, but willingly; ³ nor for base gain, but readily; nor as lording it over those allotted to you by God, but becoming examples to the flock. ⁴ And when the Chief Shepherd shall appear, you shall receive a never-fading crown of glory.

1 Peter 5:2-4 MKJV

The Crown of Life

Blessed is the man who endures temptation, because having been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him. James 1:12 MKJV

Do not at all fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the Devil will cast some of you into prison, so that you may be tried. And you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful to death, and I will give you the crown of life.

Revelation 2:10 MKJV

The remaining question for the believer is WHEN the Bema Seat Judgment will happen. Let us study the different judgments to discover when each judgment will take place.

2. JUDGMENT OF THE EARTH

Enoch, the seventh descendant from Adam, already saw the judgment of the unrighteous. His vision confirms that the righteous will be before the throne in heaven, in front of the Bema Seat Judgment to receive their rewards. Jude indicates judgment of ungodly deeds on earth.

Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, ¹⁵ To execute judgment upon all and to convict each one of them for their ungodly deeds and for all the terrible words that ungodly sinners have spoken against him. Jude 1:14b-15 KJV

The following information will bring more clarity.

- John saw thrones, and those who sat on them were given judgment (Revelation 20:4).
- This is the **Barley Harvest**, which will be part of the “**snatching away**”. Those who will be alive during the resurrection of the dead will be caught up in the clouds to meet the Messiah for the marriage ceremony.
- John also saw the souls of those who were beheaded because they witnessed of Jesus. They are part of the **Wheat harvest**. They had not worshipped the Beast nor his image, neither had they received his mark upon their foreheads or in their hands and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

- Both groups will be part of the thousands of saints descending with Christ to rule and reign during the Millennium.

Listen to what Jude says about the people who will be judged.

These people are always complaining and never satisfied—finding fault with everyone. They follow their own evil desires and their mouths speak scandalous things. They enjoy using seductive flattery to manipulate others. Jude 1:16 TPT

3. JUDGMENT OF ISRAEL

Sometimes we forget that we, as Gentiles, have the privilege to make it unto salvation because of the temporary blindness of Israel.

So, am I saying that Israel stumbled so badly that they will never get back up? Certainly not! Rather, it was because of their stumble that salvation now extends to all the non-Jewish people, in order to make Israel jealous and desire the very things that God has freely given them. ¹² So if all the world is being greatly enriched through their failure, and through their fall great spiritual wealth is given to the non-Jewish people, imagine how much more will Israel's awakening bring to us all! ¹³ Now, I speak to you who are not Jewish, since I am an apostle to reach the non-Jewish people. And I draw attention to this ministry as much as I can when I am among the Jews, ¹⁴ hoping to make them jealous of what God has given to those who are not Jews, winning some of my people to salvation. ¹⁵ For if their temporary rejection released the reconciling power of grace into the world, what will happen when Israel is reinstated and reconciled to God? It will unleash resurrection power throughout the whole earth! Romans 11:11-15 TPT

This is a major revelation! The temporary rejection of Israel released the reconciling power of grace into the world. This reconciling power is a Gentile harvest. Billions of souls have come in since the death of Christ. When Israel is reinstated into the original olive tree, their reconciliation with Christ will unleash resurrection power all over the earth.

*My beloved brothers and sisters, I want to share with you a mystery concerning Israel's future. For understanding this mystery will keep you from thinking you already know everything. **A partial and temporary hardening to the gospel has come over Israel, which will last until the full number of non-Jews has come into God's family.*** ²⁶ And then God will bring all of Israel to salvation! The prophecy will be fulfilled that says: "Coming from Zion will be the Savior, and he will turn Jacob away from evil." ²⁷ For this is my covenant promise with them when I forgive their sins." ²⁸ Now, many of the Jews are opposed to the gospel, but their opposition has opened the door of the gospel to you who are not Jewish. Yet they are still greatly loved by God because their ancestors were divinely chosen to be his. ²⁹ And when God chooses someone and graciously imparts gifts to him, they are never rescinded.

Romans 11:25-29 TPT

Saints, this is the purpose of the Tribulation. The seven-year Tribulation is Jacob's trouble. In the fullness of time, when the full number of non-Jews has made it into God's family, Adonai will again turn to Israel and give them His full attention and bring them home. For those who are against Israel as a nation, let this be a warning! God will deal severely with those who turn against Israel. Israel is refined for God's glory and God is saving them for His sake because He made a covenant with Abraham.

For mine own sake, even for mine own sake, will I do it. Isaiah 48:11a KJV

There are two entities with two different purposes involved in God's promise to Abraham, namely Israel (*sand*) and Gentiles (*stars*). Adonai has a plan for the Gentiles to make it unto salvation and He will deal specially with Israel to bring them in too.

Blessing and Judgment

Yehôvâh Elohim blessed Israel directly so they could be a blessing to the Gentiles.

Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jew. John 4:22 KJV

But when judgment comes, Adonai will judge the Gentiles directly and He will judge Israel through the Gentiles. Jude quoted Enoch when he said that the Lord would come with ten thousands of His saints to execute judgment upon all and to convict each one of them of their ungodly deeds and all the terrible words that ungodly sinners have spoken against Him (Jude 1:14-15).

'Indeed, the time will come,' declares the LORD, 'when I'll restore the security of my people Israel and Judah,' says the LORD. 'I'll bring them back to the land that I gave to their ancestors, and they'll possess it.'" ⁴ *These are the words that the LORD spoke about Israel and Judah:* ⁵ *"Indeed, this is what the LORD says: 'We have heard a sound of terror and of fear, and there is no peace. "* ⁶ *Ask about this and think about it—Can a man give birth to a child? Why then do I see every strong man with his hands on his thighs like a woman giving birth, and all their faces have turned pale? "* ⁷ *Oh how terrible! That time*

will be worse than any like it. It will be a time of trouble for Jacob, but he will be rescued from it. Jeremiah 30:3-7 ISV

Jeremiah foresaw the Tribulation and prophesied that Adonai would rescue them from it. We see here that the judgment of Israel will take place at the end of the seven-year Tribulation, as Jesus explained to four of His disciples on the Mount of Olives in a private meeting. At the end of the tribulation, the Son of Man will appear. (Matthew 24:29-30)

4. SATAN BOUND FOR A THOUSAND YEARS

Revelation 20 gives information about the judgment of the earth. Remember, at that stage, satan would have been thrown down onto the earth.

And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child. Revelation 12:13 KJV

And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, serpent of old, which is the Devil and Satan and bound him a thousand years. Revelation 20:1-2 JUB

But the rest of the dead (referring to the unrighteous) lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. ⁶ Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the FIRST resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years. Revelation 20:5-6 KJV

After a thousand years, Satan will be released to deceive the nations again. That will be the final Gog and Magog battle, where he will finally be destroyed, after which he will be thrown into the lake of fire for eternity.

5. THE ANTICHRIST AND THE FALSE PROPHET

After the seven-year Tribulation, the antichrist and the false prophet will also be taken directly into the lake of fire (Revelation 20:10).

6. SHEEP AND GOATS

Immediately after the Tribulation, the Son of Man will appear in the heavens. During a private meeting on the Mount of Olives, Jesus explained what the signs for the coming of the Son of Man would be.

*Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: ³⁰ And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. ³¹ **And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.** Matthew 24:29-31 KJV*

The angels will gather His elect, which is Israel, from the four winds, and He shall separate the nations as a shepherd would divide sheep from the goats. The goats (the unrighteous) will go directly into the lake of fire.

And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: ³³ And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. ³⁴ Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. Matthew 25:32-34 KJV

The importance of serving each other.

Serving each other will greatly determine whether we will be sheep or goats.

Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: ⁴² For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: ⁴³ I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. ⁴⁴ Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? ⁴⁵ Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me. ⁴⁶ And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.
Matthew 25:41-46 KJV

To the sheep on His right, Jesus said:

*Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, **inherit the kingdom** prepared for you from the foundation of the world.* Matthew 25:34 KJV

The Lord Will Judge the Nations

Look, now! In those very days and at that time, when I restore prosperity to Judah and Jerusalem, ² I will gather all nations, bringing them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat. I will set out my case against them there, on behalf of my people, my heritage Israel, whom they scattered among the nations, apportioning my land among themselves. Joel 3:1-2 ISV

There comes a final day when the Lord will deal with the nations of the world. May the Lord have mercy on those who divided the land of Israel or

oppressed the Jewish people. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth on that day.

7. THE GREAT WHITE THRONE

There remains another resurrection and final judgment at the end of the thousand-year reign. This is what Revelation refers to as the Great White Throne Judgment.

*And I saw a **great white throne**, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. ¹² And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which **is the book of life**: and the **dead were judged** out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. ¹³ And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. ¹⁴ **And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.** ¹⁵ And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.*

Revelation 20:11-25 KJV

The purpose of the White Throne Judgment is to judge the dead. These are the unrighteous. They are those who have never received the Messiah as their Saviour. It also refers to the second death, which implies that this is a second resurrection. It confirms what John wrote in the same chapter.

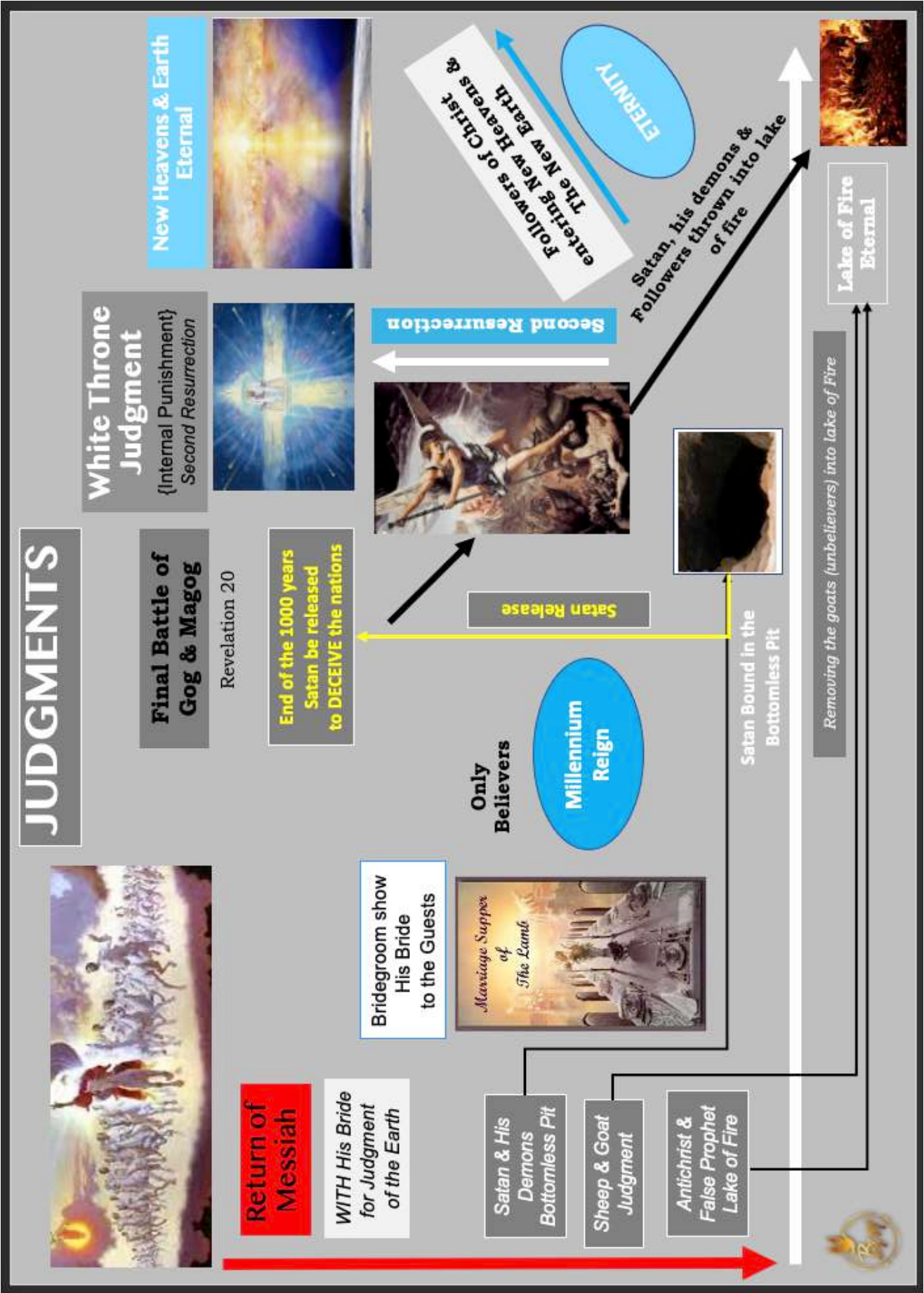
***But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished.** This is the first resurrection. ⁶ Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they*

shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years. Revelation 20:5-6 KJV

This judgment takes place at the end of the Millennium Reign. The White Throne Judgment is for the unrighteous. That Revelation 20:14 mentions this as the second death, means this is the final judgment for the wicked and they are all destined for the lake of fire.

Blessed and holy are those who participate in the first resurrection!

Those who are worthy of the first resurrection will not be influenced by the second death. The second death will have no power over them. They have already overcome the last enemy! *“Death, where is your sting?”*



Let us pause for a moment to recap and remind ourselves of the following.

A new Race

The Good News, preached by the apostles and recorded in the New Testament, is the message of the Messiah who was crucified, buried, and resurrected. These actions paid in full the price for the human race which was born in sin because of Adam and Eve's disobedience in the Garden of Eden.

Because of disobedience, all humanity is born from the dust, with a sinful nature. The first Adam is the father of a race just like him.

Christ, the Second Adam, was born from an incorruptible seed, from a virgin, and He never saw decay. He was the first to be born from above. This explains why we need to be born again if we want to share in His likeness. If we are not born again from an incorruptible seed, we will stay in our old sinful nature, which is in the likeness of Adam.

As the first Adam has a race like him, likewise does the Second Adam, Yashuah HaMashiach. This race is born from above and is permanently grafted into Christ. Scriptures are clear that you are born from above only after you have come out of water and are baptised in the Holy Spirit. **This is very important to understand because we need to distinguish between the different groups of people the Bible talks about.**

Many scriptures are meant for the wicked and unsaved. When the righteous interpret these scriptures as if written for them, they may condemn themselves. Similarly, if scriptures that are exclusively written for Israel are being interpreted as if they are meant for the called-out ones, we may end up being deceived and confused.

Raised from the Dead

Our true Messiah was raised from the dead. If we are permanently grafted into Christ, we will share in His resurrection. Christ's resurrection is our resurrection, too (Colossians 3:1).

We need to understand the harvest pattern that the ancient Jewish people followed in the Old Testament. The principle of the first fruits is that the rest of the harvest is redeemed. This is profound, and we must understand this concept to fully embrace the “snatching away” of the called-out ones. Christ is the First Fruits of the resurrection harvest. Those who are permanently grafted into Him will also be resurrected, but each according to its own order (1 Corinthians 15:23). This confirms there is indeed more than one harvest. John mentioned these different harvests in Revelation 14. Let us have a look at these harvests again.

- The Barley Harvest, by winnowing.
- The Wheat Harvest, by a tribunal.
- The Wine Harvest, by the wine press.

Scriptures on the harvests are meant for the righteous - those who will eventually be harvested, each according to its own order. The **Barley harvest** is those in early spiritual maturity who will be snatched away before the Tribulation. The **Wheat harvest** is those who still need further correction. They will go through the tribulation for at least three and a half years. These are the saints who did not worship the beast or take the mark of the beast. They are the beheaded saints John saw before the throne in heaven (Revelation 20:4). Clearly, we find two major groups of people in the heavens - those sitting on the throne (Barley Harvest saints) and the beheaded saints standing before the throne (Wheat harvest).

No flesh and blood can inherit the Kingdom of God. Therefore, we will all be transformed (changed). The purpose of the resurrection, therefore, is to be transformed, to receive our glorified bodies and stand on the platform of reward, the Bema Seat, to receive reward for our deeds, whether good or bad.

Only in the middle of the Tribulation will satan be cast down onto the earth to persecute the woman (Revelation 12:13). The woman is the Nation of Israel, who will be deceived by the antichrist, pretending to be the Messiah. They will go through the wine press and at the end of the seven-year Tribulation accept the Messiah. Romans 11 will then come into fulfillment when Christ grafts the original branches back into the Olive Tree. Then there will be only one nation with one King. Gentiles and Jews will be one.

Judgment

Judgment follows resurrection. The first resurrected saints, following the First Fruits, will appear in front of the Bema Seat Judgment to receive their rewards. Both the Barley and Wheat Harvest will appear before the Bema Seat. After the seven-year Tribulation, the Messiah will return with His Bride to judge the earth and rule and reign for a thousand years. Satan and his demons will be bound in the bottomless pit. The false prophet and the antichrist will go directly into the lake of fire. Then, the nations will be separated. The goats will be on the left of the Messiah. They are the unrighteous and will also go into the lake of fire. The sheep will stand on His right. They are the righteous who will inherit the Kingdom of God. Predominantly, they will be the nation of Israel, a small remnant which will still marry, have children and die during the Millennium Reign.

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WHEN THIS WILL HAPPEN

The full answer to this question is thoroughly discussed in my booklet, “The Snatching Away.” Please download it from our website.

On Mount Olives, Jesus answered questions about when this age would end, when Israel would be restored, and when His everlasting Kingdom on earth would be established.

And as he sat upon the mount of Olives over against the temple, Peter and James and John and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴ Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign when all these things shall be fulfilled?

Mark 13:3-4 KJV

In Matthew 24, Yashuah explains to His disciples the signs of the end.

Deception

Take heed that no man deceive you. Matthew 24:4 KJV

Wars

And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars. Matthew 24:6a KJV

Famine, Pestilence and Earthquakes

For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.

Matthew 24:7 KJV

Worldwide Persecution

Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. Matthew 24:9 KJV

Love shall wax cold

And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. ¹¹ And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. ¹² And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. Matthew 24:10-12 KJV

The preaching of the Gospel

And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come. Matthew 24:14 KJV

By the time we have witnessed to all the nations of Yashuah's death, burial and resurrection, this age will end, and God will deal with Israel during the seven-year Tribulation period. Immediately after the Tribulation, the Son of Man will return with His Bride to judge the earth (Matthew 24:29).

The Doctrine of Christ has now been discussed in full.

May the Holy Spirit ignite each heart to diligently lay the foundation and build the house. Each of us individually is responsible for our own foundation.

You now have received all the necessary information! Apply it to your blood-bought life! Do not be sidetracked by ignorant and irresponsible people. Prepare yourself to be completely ready, worthy to be raptured and to appear before the Bema Seat of Christ!

Persevere through all trials and hardships! Your reward will be great!

The Spirit and the Bride say, COME!!!

Let the one who hears say, Come!

Laying down the Foundation

The Apostle Paul writes that he has much to say, although it is difficult to explain, because we have become too dull and sluggish to understand. For by now we should already have been "professors instructing" others. We are supposed to be rabbi's ourselves, but instead, we need to be taught the basics of God's prophetic oracles! We are like children still needing milk and not yet ready to digest solid food (Hebrews 5:11-14).

On the 13th of April 2021, a word of God came to me.

"My servant, I will make you My signet ring; for I have chosen you (Haggai 2:23) to lay the foundation of this house; your hands shall also complete it" (Zechariah 4:6-7). The message was clear! We have to lay down the foundation to restore His temple. The next chapter of Hebrews continues that the foundation to be laid down, is the Doctrine of Christ and it consists of the following:

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

Any foundation must first be inspected and approved, before the structure of the building can be erected. If the Building Inspector is satisfied, he approves of it using a stamp of authority. Similarly, Adonai first needs to **permit** (approve) the restoration of the foundation by using this signet ring as His stamp of approval!

Paul gave Timothy the reason we need a solid foundation:

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

We have confidence that this "**temple**" will stand and last when the storm comes, because of Jesus' promise that "He who comes to me and hears my words and do it (acts on them) is like a person building a house, who dug a deep hole to lay the foundation on rock. When the storm comes, and pushed against that house but couldn't shake it, because it had been founded on the rock" (Luke 6:46-48).

The opposite is therefore also true. He who does not **HEAR** and does not **DO** and does not **dig deep**, when the storm comes, his house will surely collapse.



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