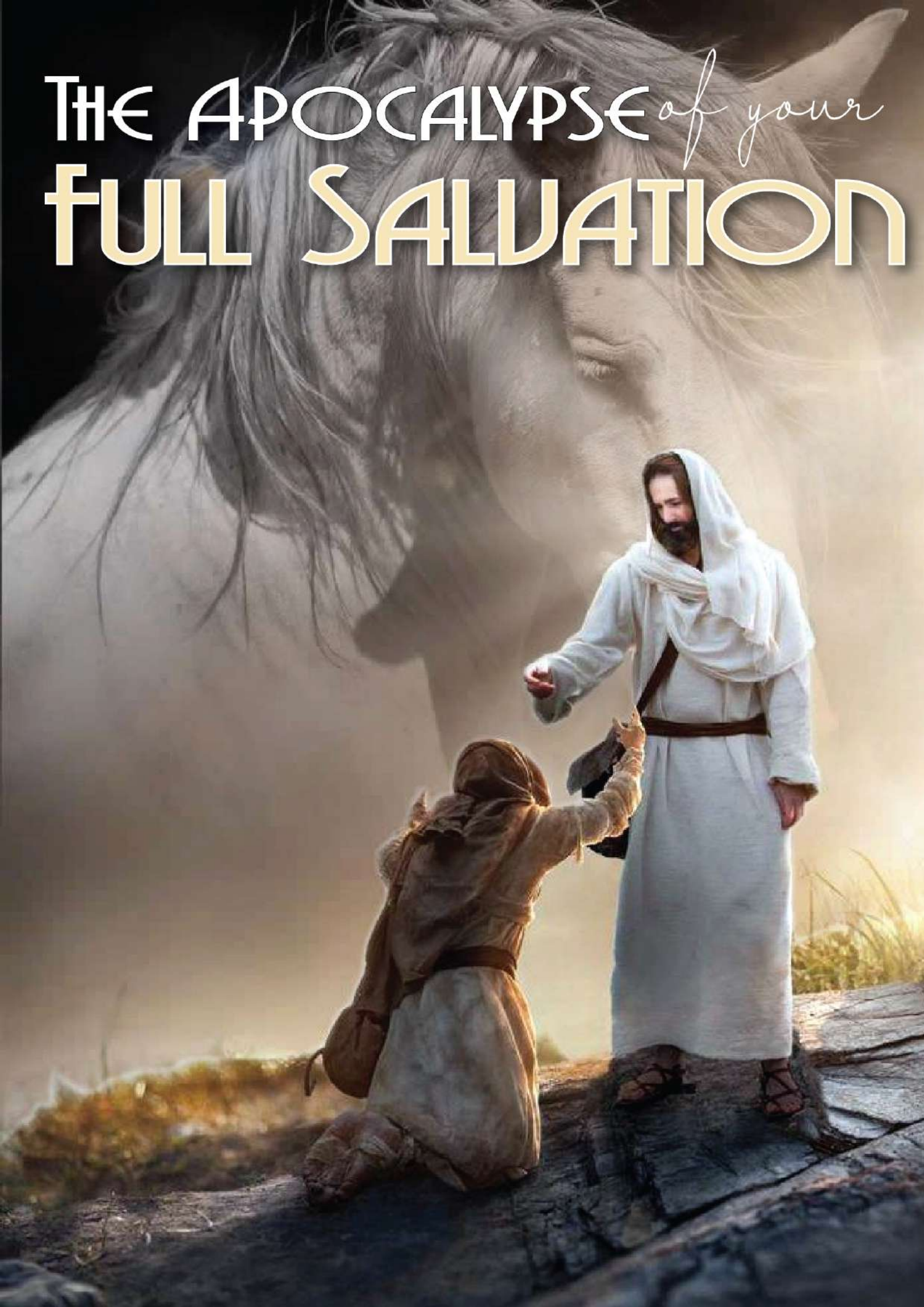


THE APOCALYPSE *of your* FULL SALVATION



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Table of Contents

PART 1 INTRODUCTION	1
<i>The Apostle Peter</i>	<i>5</i>
THE CONFLICT	13
<i>The Holy Spirit</i>	<i>22</i>
OUR DAILY SACRIFICE	28
INTRODUCTION	39
<i>Tetelestai – “It Is Finished!”</i>	<i>39</i>
SALVATION OF THE SPIRIT	48
<i>Sozo.....</i>	<i>50</i>
<i>Salvation.....</i>	<i>52</i>
<i>The Process for Entering Initial Salvation.....</i>	<i>53</i>
<i>Faith and Works.....</i>	<i>56</i>
SALVATION OF THE SOUL.....	58
<i>The Process of Restoration</i>	<i>59</i>
<i>Fleshly Lusters war against our Souls.....</i>	<i>66</i>
<i>The Negligence of the Religious System.....</i>	<i>70</i>
CHRISTIAN MATURITY AND SPIRITUAL VICTORY	72
<i>A Rest for the Believer.....</i>	<i>72</i>
<i>The Spirit of Edom.....</i>	<i>79</i>
<i>Herod, the Edomite</i>	<i>88</i>
<i>Obadiah – Victory over the Flesh</i>	<i>90</i>
<i>The Battle between the FLESH and the SPIRIT</i>	<i>92</i>
<i>Warfare.....</i>	<i>96</i>
SALVATION OF THE BODY	97
INTRODUCTION	104
THE APOCALYPSE OF JESUS CHRIST	106
<i>Riding forth to Conquer</i>	<i>107</i>
<i>Holding Back Judgment</i>	<i>118</i>
<i>The Seal.....</i>	<i>120</i>
MY PERSONAL TESTIMONY	124
<i>My Battle</i>	<i>127</i>
IMPOSSIBLE FOR MAN	129
<i>Man’s Work.....</i>	<i>129</i>

<i>God's Work.....</i>	<i>131</i>
<i>The Wretched Man.....</i>	<i>134</i>
<i>The Almost Delivered Man.....</i>	<i>137</i>
MY REVELATION	140
<i>Ready to Conquer.....</i>	<i>142</i>
<i>The Condition of the heart.....</i>	<i>146</i>
<i>Waiting on God.....</i>	<i>150</i>
FEATURES OF THE MATURE CHRISTIAN LIFE.....	153
<i>Love.....</i>	<i>156</i>

THE APOCALYPSE

*“Apocalypse” is the Greek for
“the lifting of the veil”*

Part 1

The Unveiling of Your Full Salvation

PART 1 INTRODUCTION

Someone living on an entirely human level rejects the revelations of God's Spirit, for they make no sense to him. He can't understand the revelations of the Spirit because they are only discovered by the illumination of the Spirit. Those who live in the Spirit are able to carefully evaluate all things, and they are subject to the scrutiny [critical observation or examination] of no one but God. For who has ever intimately known the mind of the Lord Yahweh well enough to become his counsellor? Christ has, and we possess Christ's perceptions. 1 Corinthians 2:14-16 TPT

It seems like the **carnal** human race cannot understand the revelations of the full salvation or of Jesus Christ because revelations are **spiritual** unveilings. To understand these deep revelations, we need to have the mind of Christ (1 Corinthians 2:16 NLT).

It is his secret plan, destined before the ages, to bring us into glory. None of the rulers of this present world order understood it, for if they had, they never would have crucified the Lord of shining glory. 1 Corinthians 2:7b-8 TPT

When the veil is lifted from a bride's face, a clear image of her beautiful face is revealed. A similar situation occurs when we study the Bible. The more we study the scriptures, the more the veil is being lifted as we mature into the image and likeness of Christ.

Paul is sharing wisdom with those who are **mature**. This wisdom comes from God, but was hidden in a mystery until now.

*Things **never discovered or heard of before**, things **beyond our ability to imagine** – these are the many things God has in store for all his lovers. 1 Corinthians 2:9 TPT*

Our Lord Jesus Christ desires more for us than we can imagine, dream, hope, or pray for!

Now to Him Who, by (in consequence of) the [action of His] power that is at work within us, is able to [carry out His purpose and] do superabundantly, far over and above all that we [dare] ask or think [infinitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, hopes or dreams]. Ephesians 3:20 AMPC

I have discovered the unveiling of three very prominent aspects.

- **The unveiling of our “*full salvation*”.**
- **The unveiling of “*the blockage to our Promised Land*”.**
- **The unveiling of “*Jesus Christ*”.**

DO NOT GRIEVE THE SPIRIT

Apart from God’s promise that His believers indeed have the mind of Christ, we are also “***sealed***” with the Spirit.

*The Holy Spirit of God has sealed you in Jesus Christ until you experience your **full salvation**. Ephesians 4:30a TPT*

BUT, notice the warning of the Apostle Paul in the same verse.

So never grieve the Spirit of God or take for granted his holy influence in your life. Ephesians 4:30b TPT

Here we find the **first secret** of the apocalypse - the ***lifting of the veil***. The unveiling is hindered because we grieve the Spirit of God by not allowing Him to change and restore us to the image and likeness of God. It is the rebellious nature of the human race that grieves the Holy Spirit. A persistent

rebellious spirit blocks the unveiling of our full salvation. It blocks us from entering our Promised Land and prevents intimacy with Jesus Christ.

But they rebelled, and vexed his holy Spirit: “therefore he was turned to be their enemy, and he fought against them. Isaiah 63:10 KJV

God warns us to “**never restrain or put out the fire of the Holy Spirit**” (1 Thessalonians 5:19 TPT). We quench (restrain, stop the flowing of) the fire of the Holy Spirit when we do not “*lay aside bitter words, temper tantrums, revenge, profanity and insults. But instead be kind and affectionate toward one another. Has God graciously forgiven you? Then graciously forgive one another in the depths of Christ’s love*” (Ephesians 4:31- 32 TPT).

Sin does not merely mean doing wrong, but also implies the lack of doing right.

So if you know of an opportunity to do the right thing today, yet you refrain from doing it, you’re guilty of sin. James 4:17 TPT

The Holy Spirit is ready to bring salvation, healing and deliverance and we must flow with Him. The failure to do so hinders Him from bringing us into the supernatural. This sin is greater than we realise. No wonder there is so much feebleness and failure in the church of Christ! If the Holy Spirit is free to move in our lives, we will constantly be involved in impossibilities.

*God, forgive me for not honouring the Holy Spirit as I should. Forgive me for grieving Him by allowing the **self**, the **flesh** and my **own will** to work where the Holy Spirit should be honoured.*

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TOTAL SURRENDER

The precondition for receiving God's blessings is the absolute surrender of all we are and have into His hands. If our hearts are willing to do that, there will be no end to what God will do for us and to the blessings He will bestow on us. As the Body of Christ, we must learn to surrender to God!

*My Lord, O king, according to thy saying, **I am thine, and all that I have.*** 1 Kings 20:4 KJV

These were the words of King Ahab while warring against Syria. He had to surrender himself and all his possessions to Benhadad.

And Benhadad the king of Syria gathered all his host together: and there were thirty and two kings with him, and horses, and chariots: and he went up and besieged Samaria, and warred against it. ² And he sent messengers to Ahab king of Israel into the city, and said unto him, Thus saith Benhadad, ³ Thy silver and thy gold is mine; thy wives also and thy children, even the goodliest, are mine. ⁴ And the king of Israel answered and said, My lord, O king, according to thy saying, I am thine, and all that I have. 1 Kings 20:1-4 KJV

We are born with a rebellious spirit. Rebelling is the opposite of surrendering. The Word of God contains multiple examples of the rebellious spirit of mankind.

Ye have been rebellious against the LORD from the day that I knew you. Deuteronomy 9:24 KJV

Therefore, we have to allow the Spirit to teach our stubborn spirits to surrender willingly and become friends with Jesus.

But they rebelled, and vexed his holy Spirit: therefore he was turned to be their enemy, and he fought against them. Isaiah 63:10 KJV

Once we can truly say, "***My lord, O king, according to thy saying, I am thine, and all that I have***", His blessings will come upon us. If we do not humble ourselves in His sight, we are grieving the Holy Spirit by our self-will, self-confidence, and self-effort. Let us realise that in our flesh "*there dwelleth no good thing*" (Romans 7:18 KJV) and bow before Him in submission. ***Let us deny the Self once and for all!***

The Apostle Luke shares a stern warning.

And whosoever shall speak a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but unto him that blasphemeth against the Holy Ghost it shall not be forgiven. Luke 12:10 KJV

THE APOSTLE PETER

Peter was a devoted disciple of Jesus. A thorough study of his life gives us a profound insight into the work of the Holy Spirit who transforms us from living a self-life to living a surrendered life.

- Peter was a **man of absolute surrender.**

He gave up all to follow Jesus! "*We have forsaken all and followed thee.*" (Matthew 19:27 KJV)

- He was a **man of ready obedience.**

Christ said, "*Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets...*" (Luke 5:4 KJV)

They knew there were no fish, but he still submitted to the word of Jesus, "*At thy word I will let down the net.*" (Luke 5:5 KJV)

- He was a **man of faith.**

"Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee." (Matthew 14:28 KJV)

At the voice of Jesus, Peter stepped out of the boat and walked on the water! Apart from him, there is no evidence of any other person ever walking on water!

- He was a **man of spiritual insight**.

When Jesus asked, "*But whom say ye that I am?*", Peter answered: "*Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.*" (Matthew 16:15, 16 KJV)

- Peter was a **rock**.

And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.
(Matthew 16:18 KJV)

Peter was a splendid man, a devoted disciple of Jesus and in today's terms, an **advanced Christian**! Do you agree? He did more than the average Christian would be willing to do.

Peter's transformation

No one would expect Peter to need deliverance! But was he perhaps in need of deliverance from the "SELF"?

The Self is the single, most important factor causing the human race to sin. It causes man to rebel and stands in his way to surrender to God. God promised, though, that if we would humble ourselves and seek Him, He would hear us, forgive us and heal our land.

If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. 2 Chronicles 7:14 KJV

Let us take Peter's self-life as an example of how easily we can operate in the flesh. When Jesus asked His disciples who they believed He was, Peter boldly answered, "You are the Son of God". Jesus replied, "**flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven**" (Matthew 16:16 KJV). However, when Jesus was speaking about His upcoming sufferings, Peter stood up and said, "*Be it far from thee, Lord*". Jesus rebuked him by saying, "**Get thee behind me satan!**" (Matthew 16:22-23 KJV).

The following facts about Peter may come as a surprise, but they are real! They are also true of many of us who proclaim to be advanced Christians! We need deliverance from the Self, as Peter did.

- Peter trusted in his own wisdom.
- He tried to prevent Christ from doing what He came for - dying for our sins.
- He trusted his own perceptions about divine things.
- He sought his own honour above that of others.
- His self-life was strong!

**Although Peter left behind his boats and nets to follow Jesus,
he did not leave behind his OLD SELF!**

Denying Yourself

After Jesus had rebuked Peter, He said, "**If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me**" (Matthew 16:24 KJV). The word "**cross**" in Greek refers to "**a death sentence on a stake**". No man can follow Jesus unless his old self dies on the cross! The Self must be utterly denied!

What does this mean?

Peter denied the Lord three times by saying, "*I know Him not*" (Luke 22:57 KJV).

- He implied He had nothing to do with Jesus. He denied their friendship and connection with each other.
- Instead of denying Christ, Peter should have denied the SELF!
- The Self must be ignored and rejected!

DENYING YOURSELF IS THE ROOT OF TRUE DISCIPLESHIP!

Peter did not understand the above concept. How often do we, too, hear this message, yet do not understand its true meaning.

When Jesus said, "*Before the cock crow twice thou shalt deny me thrice*" (Mark 14:30 KJV), Peter answered, "*Although all shall be offended, yet will not I. I am ready to go with thee, both into prison, and to death*" (Mark 14:29 KJV; Luke 22:33KJV). He sincerely meant it and intended to do it, BUT...

- He did not know himself.
- He did not believe he could be so unfaithful as to deny Jesus.

How bad we know ourselves! Our very human nature, our self-centred life, is unclean (See Romans 7).

What are we to do with this flesh that is entirely under the power of sin?

We need deliverance from it! Peter did not realise it and in self-confidence denied his Lord. Jesus used the word "**deny**" twice. He first told Peter to **DENY HIMSELF** (Matthew 16:24 KJV) and later He said Peter would deny **HIM** (Matthew 26:34 KJV). Before we come to the point of complete self-

denial, we will inevitably deny Jesus, eventually! **It is either denial of the SELF or denial of CHRIST.** These are two great powers fighting each other.

This is the **second secret** of the apocalypse of our full salvation. ***Either of these two will rule within us!***

- The self-nature, operating by the power of sin OR
- Christ, who is the power of God.

The love of the SELF created the DEVIL!

- Initially, the devil was an angel of God, but he desired to exalt himself above God.
- This selfishness resulted in him being thrown from heaven and becoming a devil destined for eternal doom.
- The Self caused the fall of man as well.
- Eve wanted to fulfil her own needs, which led to our first parents falling into the wretchedness of sin.
- Their children (you and I) have inherited the awful nature of sin.

Contemplate the following. Adam and Eve lived a perfect life in a perfect environment - the Garden of Eden. They knew nothing bad. They lived in perfect communion with their heavenly Father, the Creator of the universe, yet **they were not satisfied**. It does not matter how much we have; we are always on the lookout for more. This mentality proves that the **Self**, the main reason for mankind's fall, is still in control.

Peter was being prepared for a future deliverance from the SELF. After he had denied the Lord, he learned an important lesson. This is evident from the next verses.

If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye, for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you. 1 Peter 4:14 KJV

Hereunto were ye called, (to suffer) because Christ also suffered for us. 1 Peter 2:21 KJV

On Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit was poured out, Peter became a changed man! The change in him was not only perceivable in the boldness, power and insight by which he preached, but it was something way deeper!

HIS COMPLETE NATURE WAS CHANGED!

Instead of ever denying Christ again, he found joy and pleasure in self-denial, in crucifying the Self, and in giving up his own life to death. That is why Peter could boldly say before the Council, "*We ought to obey God rather than men*" (Acts 5:29 KJV).

The ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. 1 Peter 3:4 KJV

Be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility.
1 Peter 5:5 KJV

Peter had changed completely! The self-pleasing, self-trusting, self-seeking, full of sin, constantly in trouble, foolish and impetuous man was filled with the Spirit and life of Jesus!

Christ did it FOR Peter through His Holy Spirit! It is the work of our blessed Lord Jesus to **disclose the power of the Self.**

There are two lessons to learn from Peter's life.

Lesson 1

- Peter cast out devils and healed the sick, yet the flesh still had power over him.
- Likewise, many of us may be very earnest, godly, devoted believers in whom the power of the flesh still operates strongly!
- It is because of our self-lives that the power of God cannot work through us as mightily as He intends.

God is longing to deliver tenfold blessings on us, but our self-life, self-confidence, and impetuosity hinder Him from doing so. Christ said to DENY THE SELF! All is rooted in that one word – the “Self”!

What bitter shame, sorrow, pain, agony and failure result from our inability to deny ourselves! After Peter had denied Christ, he went out and wept bitterly (Luke 22:62). As for him, our deliverance only starts once we acknowledge our self-love and repent of it.

Lesson 2

How could the carnal, self-willed, self-loving Peter ever become a man of Pentecost and the writer of many epistles? It was because:

- Christ placed Himself in charge.
- Christ watched over him.
- Christ personally taught and blessed him.
- Christ warned him beforehand as part of his training.
- Christ led Peter to Pentecost.

Today, Christ still takes charge of every heart willing to surrender itself to Him! Only Christ can bring deliverance from the power of the Self.

Jesus invites you today to humble yourself before Him!

If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. 2 Chronicles 7:14 KJV

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THE CONFLICT

Since Jesus' ministry started, there has forever been conflict. What is the root of this conflict?

MISINTERPRETATION OF THE WORD!

People constantly **misinterpret the words of Jesus**, as in the following case. Jesus had fed the multitudes and departed to the other side (John 6). The following day, when the people found Him on the other side of the sea, they said to Him, "***Rabbi, when did You come here?***" (John 6:25 NKJV). His answer was profound, as He knew what was inside their hearts.

Most assuredly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw the signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled.

John 6:26 NKJV

They were not looking for the signs and wonders they had witnessed the previous day or for healing. They were looking for food! In the rest of Chapter 6, Jesus explained to the people that they should "*not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him*" (John 6:27 NKJV). They simply **could not understand** how eating His flesh could bring everlasting life (John 6:51 NKJV).

A similar misinterpretation happened when Nicodemus said to Jesus, "*Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.*" (John 3:2 NKJV). Once again, Jesus already knew his heart. He came for knowledge, but Jesus knew he needed Life!

Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. John 3:3 NKJV

Unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. John 3:5-6 NKJV

Nicodemus did **not understand** these words. Instead, he thought he had to enter his mother's womb and be born a second time. In both these cases, Jesus was offering eternal life, but was misunderstood. They interpreted his words wrongly and reasoned from their physical minds.

But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. 1 Corinthians 2:14 NKJV

Although Jesus used earthly concepts in his parables, they did not believe His words! How would they believe when He spoke heavenly things? (John 3:12 KJV).

The same happened when Jesus encouraged the people by saying He would destroy the temple and raise it again in three days.

Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up. John 2:19 KJV

Instead of finding hope in these words, the people misinterpreted it again. They later used these same words against Jesus and sent Him to the cross.

And there arose certain, and bare false witness against him, saying, We heard him say, I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and within three days I will build another made without hands. Mark 14:57-58 KJV

His words of truth made many turn against Him and walk away from Him!

"It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life." ⁶⁴ But there are some of you who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the beginning who they

were who did not believe, and who would betray Him. ⁶⁵ And He said, "Therefore I have said to you that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father." ⁶⁶ **From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more.**
John 6:63-66 NKJV

Jesus healed a man blind from birth

And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth.
² And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? ³ Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him. John 9:1-3 KJV

By performing this miracle, Jesus was telling the people that He was indeed the **Light** of the world!

As long as I am in the world, **I am the light of the world**. ⁶ When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay, ⁷ And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing. ⁸ The neighbours therefore, and they which before had seen him that he was blind, said, Is not this he that sat and begged? ⁹ Some said, This is he: others said, He is like him: but he said, I am he. ¹⁰ Therefore said they unto him, How were thine eyes opened? ¹¹ He answered and said, A man that is called Jesus made clay, and anointed mine eyes, and said unto me, Go to the pool of Siloam, and wash: and I went and washed, and I received sight. ¹² Then said they unto him, Where is he? He said, I know not. ¹³ They brought to the Pharisees him that aforetime was blind. ¹⁴ And **it was the sabbath day when Jesus made the clay**, and opened his eyes. ¹⁵ Then again the

Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. He said unto them, He put clay upon mine eyes, and I washed, and do see.

*¹⁶ Therefore said some of the Pharisees, **This man is not of God, because he keepeth not the sabbath day.** Others said, How can a man that is a sinner do such miracles? And there was a division among them. ¹⁷ They say unto the blind man again, What sayest thou of him, that he hath opened thine eyes? He said, He is a prophet.*

John 9:5-17 KJV

Jesus healed the blind man with a purpose! Could it be that religion is constantly keeping its members blind, preventing them from seeing the Light? Ironically, Jesus proclaimed, “***I am the light!***” (John 9:5 KJV). The Pharisees were in constant conflict with Jesus because He did not obey their religious rules. Religion can be more cruel than sin! In verse 16, they openly declared that Jesus could not be a man from God as He did not keep the sabbath day!

This Man cannot be a prophet!

On another occasion, one of the Pharisees called Simon, asked Jesus to eat with him. During the meal, according to Luke 7:36-37 (TPT), an immoral woman from the streets, known to all as a prostitute, took an exquisite alabaster flask filled with the most expensive perfume, went into the home of the Jewish religious leader, and knelt at the feet of Jesus in front of all the guests.

(She) stood at His feet behind Him weeping; and she began to wash His feet with her tears, and wiped them with the hair of her head; and she kissed His feet and anointed them with the fragrant oil.

Luke 7:38 NKJV

The Pharisee, Simon, thought to himself, *“This man cannot be a prophet of God.”*

Now when the Pharisee which had bidden him saw it, he spake within himself, saying, This man, if he were a prophet, would have known who and what manner of woman this is that toucheth him: for she is a sinner. Luke 7:39 KJV

The Pharisees were focused on traditions, rather than on compassion and love. They did not eat unless they washed their hands in a specific way because they held the tradition of the elders. These Pharisees accused Jesus and His disciples of not washing their hands before eating bread.

Jesus answered them: “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written: This people honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men. Mark 7:6- 7 NKJV

Jesus addressed them sternly.

Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law; justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone· ²⁴ Blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel!²⁵ Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you cleanse the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of extortion and self-indulgence· ²⁶ Blind Pharisee, first cleanse the inside of the cup and dish, that the outside of them may be clean also· ²⁷ Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead men’s bones and all uncleanness· ²⁸ Even so you also outwardly appear righteous to men,

but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.

Matthew 23:23-28 NKJV

While the Pharisees were judging Jesus, His disciples, and other people by their outward appearance, Jesus was revealing the actual condition of their hearts to them. Outwardly, they seemed to be holy, but that was far from the truth. They were so aware of the straining out of gnats (*a metaphor of what is least and insignificant*), but in the meantime, they swallowed the camel (*a picture of self-righteousness, which could indeed kill them*). It is what comes out of the heart that defiles man!

There is nothing from without a man, that entering into him can defile him: but the things which come out of him, those are they that defile the man. Mark 7:15 KJV

The Religious Leaders

The religious leaders, who were spiritual guides, thought of themselves as **superior** to those who did not keep the law as perfectly as they did. They preserved the Law of Moses (Torah) and its right interpretation. They gathered students and taught them in the Law. They administered the Law as judges in the Sanhedrin. The Sadducees were politically and economically powerful people and members of rich families. Their main social concern was to keep the social status and respect of the Romans. The Sanhedrin comprised rich and powerful leaders who had the authority to deal with matters regarding religion, justice, and the economy. Their power and authority stood in their way to see the true intentions of Jesus. They simply did not have the spiritual discernment to recognise the Messiah.

***Jesus challenged the Pharisees' interpretation of the Law
because they lacked LOVE and COMPASSION!***

Their interpretation did not even incorporate the “Law of Love”. Through their tradition, they made the word of God of no effect.

Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye. Mark 7:13 KJV

Jesus exposed them for who they truly were. They were more concerned about keeping manmade rules than about loving people. **Modern-day believers do the same!**

The leaders did not understand the resurrection of Christ or the power of God. Their concept of God was simply too small. They wanted to control everything around them. **We still see this tendency today!** The conflict was, and still is, about:

- Authority
- Self-awareness vs God-awareness
- Priorities and values.

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A NEW COMMANDMENT

The reason Jesus gave us a new commandment, is clear.

*A new commandment I give unto you, That ye **love one another**; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. John 13:34 KJV*

This commandment holds a profound apocalypse – the unveiling of our **full salvation**! When we truly love one another, the world will know that we are indeed His disciples!

By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another. John 13:35 KJV

After Jesus had healed the man who was born blind, the Pharisees intimidated the man by continually asking him who had healed him and how it had happened. He then asked if they also wanted to become disciples of Jesus. Their response was, “**We are disciples of Moses.**”

He answered them, I have told you already, and ye did not hear: wherefore would ye hear it again? will ye also be his disciples? ²⁸ Then they reviled him, and said, Thou art his disciple; but we are Moses' disciples. John 9:27-28 KJV

By claiming to be disciples of Moses, they implied their religious rules and laws were superior to the new law of love! When we place a higher value on religion, rules, regulations and tradition, there is little, if any, opportunity to love!

The **third and most important secret** of the apocalypse of our full salvation is in the mystery of the “**law of love**”!

God is love. 1 John 4:8

John did not stop there. He clearly explained, “**as He is, so are we in this world.**”

Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

1 John 4:17 KJV

Let us meditate on these profound, life-changing words! Our heavenly Father is telling us we can be like Him in this world. Not in the future new world or in heaven, but in THIS current world. As He is, so are we in this world! God is love and He desires that we must also be “love”. Love is our only outstanding debt to this world, as the Apostle Paul revealed to the Romans.

*Don't owe anything to anyone, except your outstanding debt to continually love one another; for the one who learns to love has fulfilled every requirement of the law. For the commandments, “Do not commit adultery, do not murder, do not steal, do not covet”, and every other commandment can be summed up in these words: “**Love and value other the same way you love and value yourself.**” Love makes it impossible to harm another, so love fulfils all that the law requires. Romans 13:8-10 TPT*

We are indeed in debt to this world! Let us **love one another from a sincere heart**, as John says, “*Herein shall the world see that you are truly My disciples* (John 13:35).

Love is the root of true discipleship.

The fulfilment of the law is settled when we love one another.

To live like this is all the more urgent, for time is running out and you know it is a strategic hour in human history. It is time for us to wake

*up! For our **full salvation** is nearer now than when we first believed.*

Romans 13:11 TPT

Paul is speaking here of **full salvation**. He links it not only to the law of love but to the profound phrase, “when we first believed”. This phrase has to do with our initial stage when we were born again. We will discuss this aspect in Part 2.

THE HOLY SPIRIT

There is one very important aspect of this apocalypse that should not be neglected -nobody can love from his own heart! The carnal man in the flesh cannot love. Self-denial and surrender are the first requirements and even to accomplish this, we need the Holy Spirit, the “**Ruach HaKodesh**”, for “*the fruit of the Spirit is love* (Galatians 5:22 KJV).

Full transformation takes place only once we allow the Holy Spirit to do His work in us.

*And I pray that he would unveil within you the unlimited riches of his glory and favour until supernatural **strength floods your innermost being** with his divine might and explosive power. ¹⁷ Then, by constantly using your faith, the life of Christ will be released deep inside you, and the resting place of his **love** will become the very source and root of your life. ¹⁸⁻¹⁹ Then you will be empowered to discover what every holy one experiences – the great magnitude of the astonishing **love** of Christ in all its dimensions. How deeply intimate and far-reaching is his love! How enduring and inclusive it is! Endless **love** beyond measurement that transcends our understanding – **this extravagant love pours into you until you are filled to overflowing with the fullness of God!** ²⁰ Never doubt*

God's mighty power to work in you and accomplish all this. He will achieve infinitely more than your greatest request, your most unbelievable dream, and exceed your wildest imagination! He will outdo them all, for his miraculous power constantly energizes you. Ephesians 3:16-20 TPT

Now to Him Who, by (in consequence of) the [action of His] power that is at work within us, is able to [carry out His purpose and] do superabundantly, far over and above all that we [dare] ask or think [infinitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, hopes, or dreams]. Ephesians 3:20 AMPC

Let us meditate on this prayer by the Apostle Paul and allow his words to germinate inside of us, like a seed, and permanently change our nature towards our full salvation. **Let us wait, as on growing seed, for our full salvation!**

*Only to God is my soul in silence; **from Him comes my salvation.***
Psalm 62:1 MKJV

The Apostle Peter picked up this same subject in his first epistle. After he had denied the Lord three times, he learned his lesson and could share this marvellous truth with us.

You are not forgotten, for you have been chosen and destined by Father God. The Holy Spirit has set you apart to be God's holy ones, obedient followers of Jesus Christ who have been gloriously sprinkled with his blood. May God's delightful grace and peace cascade over you many times over! ³ Celebrate with praises the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has shown us his extravagant mercy. For his fountain of mercy has given us a new life – we are reborn to experience a living, energetic hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. ⁴ We are reborn into a perfect inheritance that

can never perish never be defiled, and never diminish. It is promised and preserved forever in the heavenly realm for you! ⁵ Through our faith, the mighty power of God constantly guards us until our full salvation is ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ May the thought of this cause you to jump for joy, even though lately you've had to put up with the grief of many trials. 1 Peter 1:2-6 TPT

These scriptures convince us that the author of all 66 books of the Bible could only be the Holy Spirit Himself! Both Paul and Peter mentioned that the power of the Holy Spirit is doing the work deep within us.

The following verses unveil the mystery of our full salvation.

For you are reaping the harvest of your faith—the full salvation promised you—your souls' victory!

1 Peter 1:9 TPT

Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls. 1 Peter 1:9 KJV

The Complete Jewish Translation sheds more insight into this mystery.

Meanwhile, *through trusting, you are being protected by God's power for a **deliverance** ready to be revealed at the Last Time.*

1 Peter 1:5 CJB

*And you are receiving what your **trust** is aiming at, namely, your deliverance. 1 Peter 1:9 CJB*

“Meanwhile” means after we have received Jesus Christ as our Saviour. It means that, while we are waiting for our full salvation, we are trusting our Lord Jesus Christ for **deliverance**, which we will indeed receive! **“Trust”** means having faith that the Lord will do it for us and will bring us to full

salvation. The Complete Jewish Bible (CJB) says in 1 Peter 1:5 above that we need deliverance. The question is, “What do we need to be delivered from?” (The answer will be discussed in Part 2).

The Body of Christ neglects encouraging, teaching and correcting each other concerning false doctrines and our full salvation! We do not realise there is still much more to the Christian life after we have confessed with our mouths and believed with our hearts that Christ Jesus is our Saviour and blessed Hope (Romans 10:9-10). We often forfeit our full salvation when we stop at Romans 10:10, which says in the Passion Translation, “***The heart that believes in him receives the gift of the righteousness of God – and then the mouth gives thanks to salvation.***” God has more in store for us than only believing and confessing. Although believing and confessing ensure our place in heaven, He intends for us to live a victorious life while waiting to go to heaven. But, many believers never experience it! Romans 8:11 says the same power God used to raise Jesus from the dead is also in us, namely the Spirit of Resurrection! God will also raise our dying bodies to life by the same Spirit that breathes life into us.

He would unveil within you the unlimited riches of his glory and favour until supernatural strength floods your innermost being with his divine might and explosive power. Then, by constantly using your faith, the life of Christ will be released deep inside you, and the resting place of his love will become the very source and root of your life.

Ephesians 3:16-17 TPT

1 Peter 1:2 says the Holy Spirit is responsible for “***setting us apart***” to be God’s holy ones. When this happens, we will “*be empowered to discover what every holy one experiences – the great magnitude of the **astounding love of***

Christ in all its dimensions” (Ephesians 3:18 TPT). The mighty power of God constantly guards us until our full salvation (1 Peter 1:5 TPT).

The word “**guard**” is a military term meaning a “fort” or an “army garrison” stationed to defend a city (a body of troops stationed in a fortress or town to defend it). We are continually being watched over and protected by God's mighty power. This is our blessed hope, our triumphant hope, and we are encouraged to look for it.

Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ. Titus 2:13 KJV

In the first epistle of Peter, we see three results following our new birth.

- Receiving a **new life**.
- Receiving **eternal inheritance**.
- Receive our **full salvation** (deliverance).

A new life: God makes us **newborn believers filled with the life of Christ**. He is truly our Father who gives us new life through His living mercy.

Eternal inheritance: Our NEW BIRTH ensures an eternal inheritance which is available by faith. It will be reserved in heaven for us until we pass through death to life.

Deliverance: Our new birth brings deliverance. This happens when Christ is unveiled.

Our salvation is ready to be revealed and is waiting to be discovered.

- The Greek verb “**apokalypto**” means **to unveil and disclose**.
- Peter is saying that there is a more complete salvation awaiting us when Christ is unveiled in the last days.
- The nominalised form of “**apokalypto**” is the title of the last book of the Bible, Revelation, which is indeed the unveiling of Jesus Christ!

Fasten your seat belts!

We must prepare our hearts and minds for action! Almost like “roll up your sleeves” or “fasten your seat belts!” ***There is an extravagant grace that will be revealed to us in the last days!***

*So then, **prepare your hearts and minds for action**. Stay alert and fix your hope firmly on the marvelous grace that is coming to you. For when Jesus Christ is unveiled, a greater measure of grace will be released to you. ¹⁴ As God's obedient children, never again shape your lives by the desires that you followed when you didn't know better ¹⁵ Instead, shape your lives to **become like the Holy One** who called you. 1 Peter 1:13-15 TPT*

God is holy and so can we be, because the Holy Spirit lives in us (1 Peter 1:16).

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OUR DAILY SACRIFICE

Full salvation does not come by a once-off confession, but, as Paul urges us, by a continual presentation of our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto God! **Being a living sacrifice is another mystery of our full salvation!**

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. Romans 12:1 KJV

Beloved friends, what should be our proper response to God's marvelous mercies? I encourage you to surrender yourselves to God to be his sacred, living sacrifices. And live in holiness, experiencing all that delights his heart. For this becomes your genuine expression of worship. Stop imitating the ideals and opinions of the culture around you, but be inwardly transformed by the Holy Spirit through a total reformation of how you think. This will empower you to discern God's will as you live a beautiful life, satisfying and perfect in his eyes. Romans 12:1-2 TPT

Notice Paul's urgent request to **surrender ourselves and reform how we think.** A completely renewed mind is a prerequisite for our full salvation. We cannot be living **sacrifices** to God without a **total surrender** of the Self.

In the Old Testament, God took the **daily sacrifices** seriously. Under the law of Moses, a daily sacrifice of a lamb was to be offered evening and morning.

And thou shalt offer every day a bullock for a sin offering for atonement: and thou shalt cleanse the altar, when thou hast made an atonement for it, and thou shalt anoint it, to sanctify it. Exodus 29:36 KJV

This offering was mandatory and dealt with Israel's sin and guilt. It was a shadow of the ultimate sacrifice to be made for all the sins of the world by Jesus, our Passover Lamb!

Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us: ¹³ For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: ¹⁴ How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?
Hebrews 9:12-14 KJV

And he has entered once and forever into the Holiest Sanctuary of All, not with the blood of animal sacrifices, but the sacred blood of his own sacrifice. And he alone has made our salvation secure forever. ¹³ Under the old covenant the blood of bulls, goats and the ashes of a heifer were sprinkled on those who were defiled and effectively cleansed them outwardly from their ceremonial impurities. ¹⁴ Yet how much more will the sacred blood of the Messiah thoroughly cleanse our consciences! ¹⁵ So Jesus is the One who has enacted a new covenant with a new relationship with God so that those who accept the invitation will receive the eternal inheritance he has promised to his heirs. For he died to release us from the guilt of the violations committed under the first covenant. Hebrews 9:12-15 TPT

Jesus is our perfect propitiation!

Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God. Romans 3:25 KJV

The God-given destiny of Jesus was to be the **sacrifice taking away the sins of the world**. He is now our Mercy Seat because of His death on the cross. We come to Him for mercy, for God has made provision for us to be forgiven by faith through the sacred Blood of Jesus. This is the perfect demonstration of God's justice, because, until now, He has been so patient by holding back His justice out of tolerance for us. He also covered the sins of all those who had lived before His crucifixion.

Because God the Father required a regular **mandatory** sacrifice from His people, Jesus volunteered to make a once-and-for-all sacrifice for the remission of the sin of the world.

In the Old Testament, God required a **voluntary** peace offering from those who had already dealt with their sin and guilt by bringing an offer, and were, therefore, blameless. Likewise, He also requires from us, as New Testament Saints, a voluntary peace offering now that He has dealt with our sins. This is why Paul encourages us to surrender ourselves to God as a living sacrifice.

We give ourselves as a peace offering!

*And all the oxen for the sacrifice of the **peace offerings** were twenty and four bullocks, the rams sixty, the he goats sixty, the lambs of the first year sixty. This was the dedication of the altar, after that it was anointed. Numbers 7:88 KJV*

Notice the number “twenty and four” in this verse! It is used seven times in Revelation and is linked with the peace offering in the Old Testament.

Encircling the great throne were twenty-four thrones with elders in glistening white garments seated upon them each wearing a golden crown of victory. Revelation 4:4 TPT

The 24 elders mentioned in Revelation 4, refer to the following aspects:

- Elders are those **mature** in Christ!
- The immature will not be allowed to rule and reign.
- The root word for *maturity* is the same word translated as *perfection*!
- The union of Jesus was the 12 tribes of Israel and the 12 apostles of Jesus (the Church).
- The elders are a rank of heavenly beings serving as God's cabinet officers.
- They are a symbol of the 24 prophetic books of the Old Testament.
- They are an actual council of elders (believers) who are subordinate to God but ruling with authority and wisdom.

They are enthroned and wear crowns, which speak of their legal authority. Made up of the overcomers from among the community of the redeemed, the 24 elders are robed in Christ's righteousness. Dressed in white garments, they are enthroned with Him (Ephesians 2:6; Revelation 3:21) and crowned with glory. So, when Peter is saying that we must prepare our hearts and minds for action, we must stay alert and fix our hope firmly on the grace that is coming to us when Jesus is unveiled, according to Revelation!

So then, prepare your hearts and minds for action! Stay alert and fix your hope firmly on the marvelous grace that is coming to you. For when Jesus Christ is unveiled, a greater measure of grace will be released to you. ¹⁴ As God's obedient children, never again shape your lives by the desires that you followed when you didn't know better. ¹⁵ Instead, shape your lives to become like the Holy One who called you. 1 Peter 1:13-15 TPT

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MATURITY

One thing is clear - ***our full salvation is about perfection and spiritual maturity***. God is raising up a fearless, mature army to rule and reign with Him. The parable of the wheat and the tares in Mark 4:26-29 indicates the trigger to harvest is when the ***fruit is ripe***, or in other words, mature! Immediately, the sickle is put in, for the harvest is ready! What will your fruit be- **wheat or tares**? According to Matthew, tares are the sons of the evil one. When they come to maturity, poison flows from them. Tares and wheat will be harvested together, but the tares will be gathered first and cast into a furnace of fire.

The Parable of the Growing Seed

And he said, So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground: ²⁷ And should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how: ²⁸ For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear ²⁹ But when the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come.
Mark 4:26-29 KJV

The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one; ³⁹ The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels. ⁴⁰ As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. ⁴¹ The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; ⁴² And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom

of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

Matthew 13:38-43 KJV

The Day of Reconciliation, or Atonement, was the only day each year when the Levitical high priest could enter the Holy of Holies behind the veil. Israel was not allowed to work on that day but had to afflict their souls and make an offering to God. Anyone among the people of God who did not come to **repentance** and refused to afflict his soul was cut off from the people of God. Anyone doing his own work instead of God's work was destroyed (Leviticus 23:27-32 KJV). This applies to us as well.

The seven churches in Revelation represent all churches/congregations on earth, as the number seven represents **completion, fullness, wholeness, and perfection!** Just like the seven Spirits of the Lord, we are the seven-in-one Bride!

The Lord had a strong warning to the congregation of Ephesus. He knew all the hard work they had done for Him. He knew they did not tolerate evil and endured suffering without complaining. He knew they bravely endured trials and persecutions because of His name, yet they did not lose their courage! They were doing better than all the other congregations and exhibited good qualities.

- They worked for the kingdom.
- They persevered.
- They did not tolerate sin.
- They examined the claims of ministries.
- They bravely endured trials.

They possessed all these good qualities, but did not have a **passionate love for Christ!** That weakened their power and ability to witness to the world. So, Christ told them:

But I have this against you - you have abandoned the passionate love you had for me at the beginning. Revelation 2:4 TPT

Exclusive love towards Him should have first place in our hearts, above all else. We often fall away from our initial love, commitment, and compassion for God! We need to **repent** and return to the same things we did so passionately in the beginning, for God will remove our lampstands unless we repent (Revelation 2:5). The Greek word for **repent** is "*metanoia*". It is more than merely changing one's mind.

- It means "*to take another mind*".
- It means to **turn from error and take up the mind of Christ!**
(1 Corinthians 2:16)

Return therefore to your initial motivational passion for God!

Celebrating the Day of Reconciliation was a prerequisite for celebrating the fullness of the harvest at the Feast of Tabernacles! The fulfilment of the Day of Reconciliation is the next major event on God's prophetic calendar. It coincides with Revelation 6:14 and Revelation 11:19.

- On the Day of Reconciliation, the TARES will be burned up.
- The wicked will be removed from among the righteous.
(Matthew 13:49).

Those who become mature elders in Christ, know the Lord is worthy to receive glory and honour and virtue because He accomplished our redemption. As we have yielded to Him, His work and not ours has brought us to maturity!

*And I saw that the one seated on the throne was holding in his right hand an unopened scroll with writing on the inside and on the outside, and it was **sealed** with seven seals. Revelation 5:1 TPT*

The revelation Daniel received in the Old Testament was to be sealed, but John's revelation was a book that had to be opened. According to Isaiah, the scriptures have been sealed so the **natural man could not understand it!**

And every vision is unto you as the words of a book that is sealed, which if it were delivered to one that knows how to read, saying, Read this, I pray thee: he shall say, I cannot; for it is sealed!
Isaiah 29:11 JUB

There is a 3rd dimension to Scripture that cannot be unsealed or understood by the natural man or the spiritually immature. Only those who have come to maturity in Christ can look upon it. The only way to become mature, is through HIM!

*And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was **ten thousand** times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands.*
Revelation 5:11 KJV

- *Thousand* is a symbol of perfection.
- *Ten thousand* is the symbol of a military unit under perfect discipline and control.

- *Ten thousand times ten thousand* is the perfection and power of all the heavenly hosts of the armies of God under the command of Jesus Christ.
- **Thousands of thousands signify the sum of and the result of walking in the perfection of Christ.**

Maturity comes from faith in the sufficiency of God's redemptive work, which establishes us as sons and daughters of the Most High. ***As He is, so are we in this world!***

Jesus, in His glorified state, revealed five elements.

- **Glory:** This is the manifested presence of Jesus. He lives in all believers, but the glory of His presence comes to rest on only a few. Sometimes His glory is seen and frequently felt.
- **Tongues of fire:** These were seen on the heads of the apostles on Pentecost. Many believers, however, want to control the fire! When carnal man is in charge, the glory of God lifts.
- **Power:** Being as He is involves being a continuous expression of His power. Most people seek help outside of the church because believers are not clothed with heaven's power. If we truly possess it, it will easily be seen, and people will be attracted to it.
- **Triumph:** Jesus conquered all things! He overcame the power of hell, the grave, sin and the devil. The lowest part of His body (us) has authority over the highest part of everything else. In Him, we, too, are conquerors! This does not mean we will not have battles to fight, but it means our victory is secured!

- **Holiness:** Jesus is perfectly holy and separated from all that is evil. Holiness is the language through which the nature of God is revealed.

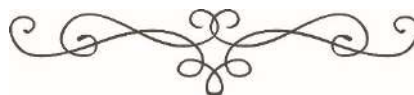
Those living from the triumph of Christ, differ from those living under the influence of their past!

When the angel announced to **Zacharias** that he would have a son, **God silenced him** because he was filled with doubt and unbelief. We should also **silence the voice of unbelief** because words could affect the outcome of a promise. Once Zacharias saw the promise fulfilled, God loosed his tongue (Luke 1:12-21).

Mary's case was the opposite. From the same angel, she also received a message that she would have a son, and, although she did not understand how it would be possible, she answered, "***Be it unto me according to Your Word***" (Luke 1:38).

- We can act like Zacharias and lose our voice as a result, OR
- We can be as Mary and invite God to restore to us the promises we can't control.

Understanding is never a prerequisite for the fulfillment of promises. Our ignorance needs understanding, but our unbelief asks for proof!



THE APOCALYPSE

*“Apocalypse” is the Greek for
“the lifting of the veil”*

Part 2

**Unveiling the Blockages to Your
Promised Land**

INTRODUCTION

Part 1 dealt with the unveiling of our **full salvation** and conveyed the fact that there is more to our salvation than believing in our hearts and confessing with our mouths that Jesus is our Lord and Saviour (Romans 10:9-10). We laid down the principles needed to pursue our full salvation while still on earth.

Part 2 discusses what full salvation entails, and also unveils the mystery of **the blocks** that are preventing us from entering the Promised Land, which is our full salvation.

TETELESTAI – “IT IS FINISHED!”

Regarding our salvation, there could be many opinions but only one Biblical truth. We all agree that, because of satan’s deception, man sinned when Adam and Eve willingly submitted to him and ruined the entire material creation and humanity. Afterwards, man could not restore himself. He could not undergo any change in and of himself. The act of restoration was accomplished in its entirety through the divine intervention of the cross to save the **unredeemed man**. The Spirit of God now performs a work in the individual based upon Christ’s ***past and finished work***.

Because of God’s redemption, man passes “***from death to life***”, based on the ***finished work of God’s Son on Calvary***. Salvation for fallen man is FREE and apart from WORKS, but the procurement of this salvation by God’s Son was by no means free or apart from works.

God's Son provided this salvation through a vicarious sacrifice of Himself! Fallen man can do no more than simply RECEIVING what God's Son has provided. Fallen man is no more in a position to bring himself out of his ruined state than the ruined material of creation is able to do so. Divine intervention is required in both instances.

When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished

G5055 and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost. John 19:30 KJV

The Greek for the English phrase, "It is finished", is "***Tetelestai***".

G5055 (Strong's)

teleō

tel-eh'-o

From G5056; to *end*, that is, ***complete***, *execute*, *conclude*, ***discharge*** (a debt): - ***accomplish***, ***make an end***, *expire*, *fill up*, ***finish***, *go over*, ***pay***, *perform*.

- To end, that is to complete.
- To discharge all debt.
- Something has been accomplished.
- To make an end.
- Finished.
- Paid.

When we add anything else to "***Tetelestai***", it violates the Blood of Christ. It is boasting in the Self and blasphemy against the Holy Spirit.

**The RESURRECTION is the Father's "AMEN" to His Son's
declaration, "IT IS FINISHED!"**

(On our website, see the booklet, “Tetelestai - It is Finished”, for a complete discussion.)

On this foundation of the complete and finished work of the Father’s Son only, can a doctrine of our “***Full Salvation***” be built.

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THE BEGINNING

The Bible is full of typologies and shadows encrypted in the Old Testament and revealed in the New Testament. The better we understand Old Testament scriptures, the more the New Testament unfolds for us. The unfolding and understanding of our full salvation are of critical value! The path we must follow for our full salvation is the same pattern God laid down for creation in the beginning. There is a restorative work that follows a specific pattern, and the matter is accomplished entirely through divine intervention. Within this unchangeable pattern set forth at the very beginning, God reveals how any subsequent ruined creation would, of necessity, have to be restored. It would have to be restored in a certain order, entirely through divine intervention, over a six-day (*six-thousand-year*) period.

In Genesis 1, God set forth to restore a ruined creation. This process would equally apply to the salvation of the spirit, but also to the salvation of the soul. Within the structure of this foundational framework, the salvation of the **spirit** (the salvation we are presently possessing) was already intact at the very beginning of the six days. The salvation of the **soul**, occurring at the end of one's faith, or as the goal of one's faith (1 Peter 1:5, 9), is an ongoing process and will only be intact at the end of the six days, on the seventh day. When man sinned by becoming rebellious and disobedient to God's Word, he became soulish and fleshly. Although man lost God's Spirit as the controlling influence in his life, God continued to give him physical life. But man had become soulish, doing only what pleases the flesh. Man remained

in this soulish condition until Jesus gave him a way to be reconciled to the Father. Genesis recorded the result of man's sin.

And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons. Genesis 3:7 KJV

When the Spirit of God departed from man, he became aware of his flesh. Man's eyes have ever since been focused on the flesh. Without God's spiritual covering, we stand naked before God. Similar to Adam and Eve, we are still trying to cover our sinful nature in various ways. Another example of God's spiritual covering leaving man was in the wilderness during Israel's exodus. Moses was on Mount Sinai to receive the Law from God for His people. The children of Israel became tired of waiting for his return and demanded that Aaron make them an idol to worship. They removed all their gold earrings and made themselves a golden calf. Then Moses returned.

And when Moses saw that the people were naked; for Aaron had made them naked unto their shame among their enemies. Exodus 32:25 KJV

Israel did not remove their clothing as could be interpreted from this scripture, but they were spiritually naked before God and their enemies. Their spiritual covering and protection were removed and they became an easy prey for the enemy to conquer. When God appeared to Adam and Eve, He knew they had no covering for their sins. So, God clothed them with animal skins. It was only by the shedding of blood that Adam and Eve's sins were covered. From that time onward man has been clothed in a beast nature.

The Lord covered them with animal skin as a foreshadowing of the Blood of the Lamb for the remission of our sins. "*Without shedding of blood is no*

remission" (Hebrews 9:22). The word **remission** means "*to be released from bondage and freed from penalty.*" When Jesus died for all mankind, He brought God's salvation plan into being. Those who have their sins forgiven by His shed Blood, enter God's grace and their spirits are saved. The word **saved** means "*to be protected, healed, preserved, to make whole, and rescue from danger.*"

The all-wise Solomon gave us insight into the eternal spirit of man.

Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it. Ecclesiastes 12:7 KJV

All **flesh** returns to the dust of the earth when it dies, whether it is the flesh of man, animals, or fowls. When we enter God's plan of salvation, the spirit is saved and will return to God, who gave it. We will again come into a complete, unhindered relationship with the Father - the same relationship Adam and Eve had in the garden when God walked and talked with them in the cool of the day.

God's perfect gift

Paul shared with Titus God's plan of salvation for the spirit of man. Our works of righteousness (Isaiah 64:6) have nothing to do with the salvation of the spirit. It is solely God's grace and mercy (Ephesians 5:2).

Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; Titus 3:5 KJV

By grace, our spirit is saved. It is God's perfect gift to us. Man died spiritually and when unregenerate man, "**dead in trespasses and sins**" (Ephesians 2:1), is made alive through Christ, he is made alive **spiritually**. The

movement of the ***Spirit*** (Genesis 1:2b) and ***God speaking*** (Genesis 1:3) to restore ruined creation, are simultaneous events. It is the ***Spirit*** using the ***God-breathed*** word to perform effectually a supernatural work in unredeemed man. It is through the ***in-breathing of God*** that life is imparted to that which previously had no life. God breathes into dead man and man is “quicken” - made alive by the Spirit, using the God-breathed Word based on the finished work of the Son (Ephesians 2:1, 5).

The breath of Life

In Genesis 2, man was formed but not yet alive, until the Lord breathed into his nostrils the breath of life.

And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. Genesis 2:7 KJV

Light

What happened after God had spoken light into existence?

And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. Genesis 1:4

Division

Amazingly, God divided the light from the darkness! Life started with the breath of life, the Ruach HaKodesh, who is the Holy Spirit. The very next verse brings division and separation between the light and the darkness. The light shines “**out of darkness**” (2 Corinthians 4:6), division is made between the light and the darkness (Genesis 1:4), and the darkness has no

apprehension or comprehension of that which is light (John 1:5; 1 Corinthians 2:14).

At this point in man's salvation, the spirit is separated from the soul.

The **spirit** of the unsaved man is dead. The spirit is part of the depraved man with his "body of death," in which there dwells "no good thing" (Romans 7:18, 24). With the movement of the Spirit, using the God-breathed Word, man's spirit is made alive and separated from his soul. Hebrews reveals this division between man's soul and spirit.

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Hebrews 4:12 KJV

The Spirit of God moves in Genesis 1:2b, and in Genesis 1:3, God speaks. Concerning man's salvation, it is when the Spirit moves and God speaks (*in what would be referred to as the **foundational type***), that a division is made between man's soul and spirit (*in what would be referred to as the **antitype***).

In the foundational type, the Spirit of God moved, God spoke, and light came into existence. Genesis 1:2b and 3, records the initial act of the Triune Godhead in bringing about the restoration of the ruined material creation - an act in which the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit each participated. The Spirit moved and God spoke, but NOTHING could come into existence apart from the Son (John 1:3)!

In the antitype, within the framework of man's salvation experience, the matter is identical. There must be an act of the Triune Godhead, for this is how God worked to restore a ruined creation in the Genesis account. This established an unchangeable pattern for a later work. Thus, as in the type, so in the antitype, the Spirit of God moves, God speaks, and light comes into existence.

The **soul** remains within the sphere of darkness, which is why *the natural man* [Greek: “**psuchikos**”, soulical] cannot understand *the things of the Spirit of God* (1 Corinthians 2:14). That which remains in the sphere of darkness can have no apprehension or comprehension of that which has shined out of the darkness. There is a God-established division between the two that cannot be crossed over (Luke 16:26).

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SALVATION OF THE SPIRIT

We are so blessed by the conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus. Jesus knew what Nicodemus needed. Nicodemus came for knowledge, but he needed Life!

Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

John 3:5 KJV

Do you see the similarities between John 3:5 and Genesis 1:2b-3?

And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. ³ And God said: "Let there be light," and there was light. Genesis 1:2b-3 KJV

The Spirit of God moved, God spoke, and life came into existence!

It is impossible to please God in the **FLESH**. "So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God" (Romans 8:8). It is also impossible to please God without **FAITH**. "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him" (Hebrews 11:6). The finished work of the Son on Calvary is the divine sacrifice (the act of divinity) to save the human race. God has done His share and now it is up to us to respond to this divine act by faith to be saved from eternal death. So, when we believe with the heart and confess with the mouth, we shall be saved and made unto salvation.

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Romans 10:9-10 KJV

God gives us the WILL to do, and He also gives us the power to DO it!

For it is God which worketh in you, both to will and to do of his good pleasure. Philippians 2:13 KJV

Man is a triune being

The word **triune** means "three in one". We are created in the image and likeness of God and thus have a spirit and a soul and dwell in a body.

And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. Genesis 1:26 KJV

God's plan of salvation for His created man is three-fold, reaching into all three realms of man's existence. God intends to make us whole again in spirit, soul, and body.

And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Thessalonians 5:23 KJV

Paul is referring to all three parts of the human nature being blameless at the coming of the Lord. This is often misunderstood in the Body of Christ! Many believe when they have confessed and have been immersed in water, they are fine. Others think since their parents and grandparents were Christians, they are too. Others rely on faithfully going to church every Sunday. But every individual must truly accept Jesus Christ as his Messiah and make a public proclamation!

Some pay attention only to their physical bodies. They exercise excessively and use many vitamins. In other cases, people solely rely on medication as the alpha and omega to keep their physical bodies healthy.

God is most definitely interested in the sanctification of the complete human being – spirit, soul and body!

The entire salvation process of the spirit, soul and ultimately, the body, is a divine work.

Salvation is of the Lord. Jonah 2:9

Therefore, dear reader, eternal life is the free “***gift of God***” obtained completely apart from works. Not one act by man, neither before nor after becoming a recipient of eternal life, has anything to do with the fact that Life becomes our possession solely by grace through faith (believing in God’s Son). Grace is what God does entirely apart from human merit.

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: ⁹Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9 KJV

Christ’s finished work on Calvary provides salvation to fallen man, which he can only receive because of what has already been accomplished on his behalf, and only through faith!

SOZO

The word ***saved*** in Greek is “***SOZO***”, meaning “to deliver, protect, heal, preserve, safe from self, rescue from danger and make whole.” We use key terms interchangeably to describe our relationship to God - ***saved, born again, being a believer***. But what does being saved mean? And what are

we saved from? Many believers who have repented, been forgiven and have gone through water baptism believe this is all God requires of them. Others believe, besides initial salvation and water baptism, that it is also necessary to be baptised in the Holy Spirit, with the evidence of speaking in tongues. They are being taught that they are now born again and have become believers. Having received forgiveness of sin, water baptism and the baptism in the Holy Spirit are indeed necessities in God's plan of salvation, but these are only the first steps in the complete salvation plan God has instituted for mankind.

The following text tells us when we believe and are baptised, we shall be saved.

He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved ^{G4982}; but he that believeth not shall be damned. Mark 16:16 KJV

G4982 (Strong's)

sōzō

sode'-zo

From a primary word σως sōs (contraction for the obsolete σάος saos, "safe"); to save, that is, **deliver** or **protect** (literally or figuratively): - **heal, preserve**, save (self), do well, be (make) whole.

By now we know we must believe in our hearts to be saved (Romans 10:9-10 KJV). How do we know for sure, proven by scripture, that these are only the first steps in the complete salvation plan of God? The writer of Hebrews informs us that there is a process that still needs to be followed.

*Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us **go on** unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, of the doctrine of baptisms, and*

of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. Hebrews 6:1-2 KJV

What more is needed to realise God's complete salvation plan reaches far beyond what we were taught? Will we believe the Word of God or consider it to be mere religious doctrines? God's salvation plan is just like His restoration plan for the planet. It is a **process** for us and for nature. All three parts of man must be saved! It is a **continual** process until we come into the image and likeness of the Father.

SALVATION

The Greek word for *salvation* is "**SOTERIA**", which means "***deliverance, preservation, justification, purification and becoming righteous.***"

G4991 (Strong's)

sōtēria

so-tay-ree'-ah

Feminine of a derivative of G4990 as (properly abstract) noun; **rescue** or safety (physically or morally): - **deliver, health, salvation, save, saving.**

When we use "**salvation**" interchangeably with "**saved**", we might believe we have made it unto salvation after our initial salvation experience. We must ask ourselves, though, whether these changes (***deliverance, preservation, justification, purification and becoming righteous***) happened at the moment of our initial salvation experience or afterwards. Salvation is indeed a process that takes place during our daily lives as we submit to the will and cleansing power of the Holy Spirit. Our initial salvation is only the beginning. As we rightly divide the Word of Truth, we

discover there must be a continual action on our part if we are to move forward in God's complete three-fold salvation plan.

THE PROCESS FOR ENTERING INITIAL SALVATION

- **The first step is confessing the Lord Jesus.** The word *confess* is the Greek word “*homologio*”. It comprises two Greek words - “*homo*”, which means *together* and “*logeo*”, which means *word*. When we *confess* the Lord Jesus, we come *in agreement* with the Written Word of God.
- **The next step is believing in our hearts.** The word *believe* is the Greek word “*pisteuo*”, which means *to trust in, to think to be true, to be persuaded, and to place confidence in*. The Greek word comes from the base word “*pistis*”, which is translated as *FAITH*. When we confess with our mouths, we come into agreement with the Word. Then we must act in faith. This is done by believing in our hearts and learning to put our confidence and complete trust in the Lord.

We must be fully persuaded that God raised Jesus from the dead and He is alive forevermore, sitting at the right hand of the Father. By putting our faith into action, the salvation process starts in our lives. If we do not believe with our whole hearts that Jesus was raised from the dead, then our faith is in vain (worthless) and we remain in our sins.

And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins.

1 Corinthians 15:17 KJV

We must confess with our mouths and believe in our hearts if we want to walk in God's complete salvation plan. Then, and only then, will He protect, heal, and preserve us until we are made completely whole. If the fact that God raised Jesus from the dead is not resident in our hearts, then our faith in God and His Word is in vain and worthless. If we are to act in faith, we cannot offer only lip service, merely repeating what we are told to. We must speak and come into an agreement with the life-changing power of the Word of God. This is the only way we can come into God's righteousness. The heart (mind, soul, and spirit) must change, because "*with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*" What our mouths confess must line up with the Word of God!

...Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.

Matthew 12:34 KJV

As we come to the realisation that God's salvation plan is a three-fold process by which we were saved, are being saved, and will be saved, our ***way of thinking will change***. As this process unfolds, our mouths will confess what is becoming more and more evident.

But without faith it is impossible to please Him: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him. Hebrews 11:6 KJV

To come into God's complete plan of salvation, we must know three things. These things must be evident in our lives if we are to become what God created us to be.

- Without faith it is *impossible to please God*.
- When we come to God, we must *believe He is God*.
- If we expect to receive a reward, we must *diligently seek Him*.

When God speaks of the heart, He is not speaking of the pump that circulates the blood through our bodies. **The heart is the centre of our physical and spiritual life.** The soul, or mind, is the fountain and seat of all thoughts, passions, desires, appetites, affections, purposes, and endeavours. It encompasses our understanding and is the seat of the intellect, which controls our will and character. Since man is a triune creation, God's salvation plan for His "creation man" must be three-fold. If the whole man is to be preserved until the coming of the Lord, then man's spirit must be saved, his soul must be saved, and his body must be saved. As we search the scriptures, God's three-fold salvation plan is revealed for all to see.

Search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life...

John 5:39 KJV

Paul shared the salvation message with three congregations.

*For **by grace** are ye saved, through **faith**; and that **not of yourselves**: it is **the gift** of God.* Ephesians 2:8 KJV

*For we are **saved by hope**: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?* Romans 8:24 KJV

*Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, **work out your own salvation** with fear and trembling.* Philippians 2:12 KJV

How do we work out our own salvation if it's a gift from God? If it is then a gift of God, how are we saved by hope?

What doth it profit, My brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? Can faith save him? James 2:14 KJV

James asked, "Can we be saved by faith?" We know that without faith it is impossible to please God (Hebrews 11:6). James explains, "*Even so faith, if it*

hath not works, is dead, being alone" (James 2:17). Faith in God is dead unless it is **accompanied by works**.

Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.

James 2:18 KJV

FAITH AND WORKS

Can faith save us? **It can! If it is accompanied by the works God has given us to do.** What are these works we must act upon? God has given each person He has called a particular task to perform for Him. These are the works we must do. Many believe because God did not call them to preach, teach, evangelise, prophesy, or apostle, they are not called by God to do anything except to warm the pew. Then again, some are involved in every committee and every board, and are the centre of all activities in the church. They believe their "busy"ness is acceptable before God because they have neglected every other duty in order to serve Him. Both these groups are mistaken.

God assigned jobs for His people to fulfil, but when there is no public honour, glory, or recognition for doing it, it rather goes undone. God has called many to be prayer warriors. He has given others the ministry of uplifting and encouraging others. Helping those in need is another ministry that is neglected. The ministry of giving was ordained by God, but some lavish the money on their own lusts. Neglecting any of these jobs limits the expansion of God's Kingdom. Our works are done when we discover God's will and purpose for our lives. God has given some the ability to share the Word on a

one-on-one basis. To others, He has given the ability to admonish through the Word (*in love, of course*). God's works are for His glory, not ours. When we perform God's works, our reward and recognition come from the Father, not from man. The last way we can be saved is by fire. This is not the eternal fire called the second death, but the fire of God's judgment that He will bring upon the earth.

If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire. 1 Corinthians 3:15 KJV

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SALVATION OF THE SOUL

For the unregenerate man to be restored to his original state, the correct procedures must be followed. The Spirit will quicken. His words are spirit and life!

It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life. John 6:63 KJV

The natural, unregenerate man cannot understand God's spiritual words because to him it is foolishness!

But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. 1 Corinthians 2:14 KJV

When we are saved by grace, the natural man becomes spiritually alive. The Word of God will penetrate the heart and bring conversion to the unregenerate man. Therefore, the preceding process is the manner God uses to deliver the spirit from its fallen state, which was the result of Adam's sin. Because the spirit has been delivered, there can once again be communion with God.

Man can now comprehend spiritual things and there can be a progressive, continual work by the Spirit of God within him so he can ultimately be delivered to the place of rest God decreed for man to occupy at the end of six days, meaning at the end of six thousand years.

THE PROCESS OF RESTORATION

By one man, Adam, sin entered the world.

Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.

Romans 5:12 KJV

In Hebrew, the name Adam refers to the colour red, which reflects the red soil from which he was made. Adam is identified with humankind and not with a particular nationality. Adam, also referring to the “man in the flesh”, brought the entire world into sin. But One Man, our “First Fruit”, the Spiritual Man, brought the entire world out of eternal death into eternal life.

For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

Romans 5:19 KJV

Within the framework of the type in Genesis 1, this was the very first thing to be foreshadowed. This had to be set forth first, for man had to be made alive. He had to pass “**from death to life**” before anything else in the restorative process could occur. Thus, this is foreshadowed at the very beginning of the six days that God, under His established pattern, would bring about man’s complete restoration of spirit, soul, and body!

And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Thessalonians 5:23 KJV

The soul is the life of the body. If the body is to be saved, the soul must be saved first!

The word **soul** is the Greek word “**psuche**”. It was translated fifty-eight times as **soul** and forty times as **life**. It is also translated as **mind** and **heart**. The definition of “**psuche**” is “**the breath of life**, the vital force which animates the body”. The soul is the seat of feelings, desire, and affections. It is the heart of man.

*For as he thinketh in his **heart**, so is he.* Proverbs 23:7a KJV

The soul area is where man makes all his decisions, whether good or evil. Man's conscience is also in the soul. The conscience is where man hears the voice of God. As long as we are listening to our consciences, we are hearing from God. When our consciences are hardened, we can no longer hear God. That is when we start listening to the spirit of darkness, and fall into sin. If we yield our souls to God, then our consciences will lead us into the paths of righteousness. If we resist God, we will fall into sin and drift away from Him. His grace and mercy will be withheld as long as we remain in this condition.

Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? Romans 6:16 KJV

When man refuses to retain God in his thinking processes, God gives him over to a reprobate mind. This is a mind rejected by God.

And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient. Romans 1:28 KJV

Man does not repent of his evil unless he is convicted of his sin by the Spirit. His mind serves the flesh and the things that please the flesh. If he does not repent, there is no light in him and he will be given over to the spirit of darkness.

The holy commandment is the Word of God. As we study the Word and search the scriptures, we realise that our spirits have been saved and our bodies will be saved, too. ***The area of our lives that is in the process of being saved right now are our souls.***

The Apostle Peter, who was given the keys of the Kingdom, said:

Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls.

1 Peter 1:9 KJV

To briefly illustrate how God's restoration of man is patterned after His complete restoration of the material creation in Genesis 1, note three things.

- The complete ***restorative process began on day one***, as mentioned.
- What occurred ***on each of the succeeding days***, from day two through six, is significant.
- The **restorative process** led to ***the seventh day***, the Sabbath, a day of rest following six days of work.

Within a type-antitype framework, pertaining to man's salvation in the antitype, that which occurred in the type on day one ***pertains to the salvation of man's spirit***, and that which occurred in the type on days two through six ***pertains to the salvation of man's soul***, leading to the seventh day. ***The salvation of the spirit is an instantaneous event where one passes "from death to life," but not so with the salvation of the soul.*** This is a progressive event. It is a process that begins when man is made alive spiritually, and will not be completed until the end of that which is foreshadowed by the six days of restorative work — 6 000 years of restorative work!

The Judgment Seat of Christ which will occur at the end of the six days (at the end of 6 000 years - the end of the present dispensation), will concern issues surrounding the salvation [or loss of salvation] of the soul/life. It will be at the Judgment Seat, not before, that man will realise (or fail to realise) the salvation of his soul/life. Since this will be the case, we must note what occurred on days two through six during the restoration of the ruined material in Genesis. Then, to see the overall picture of that which must be done to bring about the salvation of redeemed man's soul, these same events can be viewed regarding God's present continuing restoration of man, a subsequent ruined creation.

- Events on **days two and three**, as on the first day, have to do with **divisions**. On the second day, God established **division** between the waters (vv. 6-8). On the third day, He established **division** between the dry land with its vegetation, and the waters (vv. 9-13).
- Then events on days **four through six** belong together as another unit, depicting things beyond the divisions previously established.
- On the **fourth** day, God placed **lights** in the heavens to give light upon the earth (vv. 14-19). On the **fifth** day, He created **birds** that could soar above the earth, as well as marine life that could move through the depths of the sea (vv. 20-23). On the **sixth** day, He created the **land animals** which included great creatures roaming the earth (vv. 24, 25).

As previously noted, all of God's restorative work to the material creation in Genesis foreshadows the whole of God's restorative work in relation to man.

- After man has passed from death to life, wherein the spirit is separated from the soul entirely by divine intervention, redeemed man finds himself now in a position and condition where a continued divine work

not only can occur, but must occur, if he is to realise the salvation of his soul.

- Only through this continued **divine work** can the whole of God's restorative work, as it pertains to man, be realised.

Man, as part of the material creation, must be completely *passive* in the salvation of the *spirit*. He is dead, rendered incapable of acting. But as part of the material creation, he must be *active* in the salvation of the *soul*. He now has spiritual life, allowing him to act in the spiritual realm. As in the restoration of the material creation, the entire salvation process of the spirit and soul, and ultimately the body, is a divine work.

Salvation is of the Lord. Jonah 2:9 KJV

- Events occurring during the **first three days**, point to the elementary things or the basics in one's spiritual life and growth.
- Events occurring during day **one**, point to a division between the soul and the spirit, having to do with the impartation of life.
- Then, events occurring during **days two** and **three** point to divisions and distinctions as one begins to progressively grow within the framework of the new life brought into existence on the first day.
- One should learn to distinguish between the soulical and spiritual, spiritual and carnal (fleshly), Jew, Gentile, and Christian, the dispensations, etc.

This is depicted by the work of the Triune Godhead during these three days. It points to things beyond elementary truths in the antitype. After one has passed from death to life, after one has been instructed in the elementary truths and has grown to a degree in his Christian life, then he can view

deeper spiritual truths of the Word with understanding. He can then view those things in the Word depicted by events on days four through six.

- An individual in this position can begin to sink deep shafts into the Word and mine its treasures.
- He can look into the Word and understand that which is depicted by the lights in the heavens.
- He can, in the true sense of the Word, "*mount up with wings as eagles... run, and not be weary... walk, and not faint*" (Isaiah 40:31) as he scales the heights; or he can scale the depths of the Word, as the sea creatures plunge to the depths of the sea; or he can roam through the Word, as the land creatures roam the earth.

This is the beginning and not the end of discovery!

Our soulish area must be saved before we can stand before God one day. Our hearts, our thinking, and every area of our lives must line up with God's holy commandment, the Word of God. Too many people are serving their religious ideas and believe they are righteous before God.

That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death.

Philippians 3:10. KJV

If we are to be part of the first resurrection, we must be made conformable unto His death. This is "dying to the self, self-rule, self-esteem, and selfishness". This is how we become conformable unto His death. Jesus never exalted the self. All glory was returned to the Father.

The writer of Hebrews wrote the following about Jesus.

And being made perfect, He became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey Him; Hebrews 5:9 KJV

Jesus is the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him. How do we obey Him? By becoming the example of the life He lived. This life can only be lived when our souls are saved from the influence and destruction of the world.

Our spirits are saved by God's grace and there is nothing we can do to add or subtract from that process. Our souls, however, are a completely different situation. God's salvation plan for the soul must be worked out before God with fear and trembling. It is a continual process in our lives and must not be taken lightly.

*Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only but now much more in my absence, **work out your own salvation** with fear and trembling.* Philippians 2:12 KJV

The words *fear* and *trembling* mean "to be quaking, one who distrusts his own ability completely in meeting any task". The church has put forth an easy religion. "Simply believe and hang on! Try to do what is right. God understands the weakness of the flesh." This message has caused multitudes to come short of what God offers in His Word.

But he that sinneth against Me wrongeth his own soul: all they that hate Me love death. Proverbs 8:36 KJV

Those who sin against God, wrong their own souls. When sin is resident in the soul, it not only destroys our relationship with the Father, but it also destroys the body. Sin causes sickness, both of the mind and the body.

By the unction of the Holy Spirit, Solomon informed us that we actually hate God when we sin, and bring death upon our flesh.

Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul. 1 Peter 2:11KJV

FLESHLY LUSTS WAR AGAINST OUR SOULS

Some who call themselves Christians do not realise we are only strangers and pilgrims in this world. Christians are accumulating wealth and amassing great estates as if the world was their hope of glory.

Their inward thought is, that their houses shall continue for ever, and their dwelling places to all generations; they call their lands after their own names. Psalm 49:11 KJV

Those who desire the things of this life are warring against their own souls. The salvation of their souls has yet to begin. John, the beloved disciple, wrote, "***Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth***" (3 John 1:2 KJV)

Many are prospering in the things of this life, but their souls are destitute and devoid of any love, joy, peace, long-suffering, and fruit of the Spirit. They call themselves Christians, yet do not keep Christian principles in their lives. They do not follow the example Jesus gave us.

Jesus came to earth as a mortal man clothed in flesh, demonstrating God's overcoming power available to all flesh. Paul wrote to the church of Corinth, "***And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit***" (1 Corinthians 15:45 KJV).

Just as the first Adam, Jesus came as a living soul. He came in the likeness of fallen man.

For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh. Romans 8:3 KJV

Jesus came in the likeness of sinful flesh to condemn sin in the flesh. He came to show creation the way back to the Father. Paul informed the church in Rome, "***Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of Him that was to come***" (Romans 5:14 KJV).

The original Adam, created in the Garden, was a figure of Jesus, who was to come. The word ***figure*** means "example, pattern, or image". Jesus came in sinful flesh as a living soul. This is the same condition of every man ever born. Jesus came to demonstrate the overcoming power available to all His creation through the Holy Spirit.

For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Hebrews 4:15 KJV

Jesus was tempted with every temptation known to man, yet He sinned not. He never wronged His soul. He never failed the will of the Father. How was that even possible? Because His soul was pure before God. Jesus was the Word made flesh (John 1:14).

The salvation of our souls is a daily process. We move into His promises for our lives as the old man with his old ways is being dealt with and our minds are being changed to think only godly thoughts.

God promised we can have perfect peace that surpasses all understanding if we do two things.

- **First, we need to keep our minds on the things of Christ.**
- **Second, we need to trust Him in all things.**

To accomplish these, we must have a change of heart (mind). When our thoughts are controlled by our consciences instead of by the lust of the

flesh, then our souls have entered into God's salvation process. This is when we can lay claim to the word of the Psalmist.

Praise ye the Lord, Praise the Lord, O my soul. Psalm 146:1 KJV

Our praises to God, our obedience, and our allowing Him to work in our lives come from our innermost being and not from our thoughts or the words of our mouths. When we praise God, our whole being praises Him for who **He is, not for what He can do for us**. There are many people today who are drawing back rather than going all the way with their Creator. They draw back to perdition.

But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul. Hebrews 10:39 KJV

The word **perdition** means "destruction, loss of eternal life". Only those who **believe and act** upon what they believe will receive the salvation of their souls. Those who only mouth their faith, but whose lives do not line up with God's holy commandments, are deceiving themselves. Our utmost aim, as Christians, should be to change our way of thinking. Yet, many are more interested in what others think of them than what God thinks of them. They make time for everything else, but they have no time for God or His Word. The Psalmist David wrote, "***I said, Lord, be merciful unto me: heal my soul; for I have sinned against thee***" (Psalm 41:4 KJV).

When we sin, our souls are being wounded, the same as when we cut a finger. It needs healing. When we miss the mark of God's calling for our lives, we must repent of it and receive His healing touch in our souls. God has provided a way for this healing to take place.

The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. Psalm 19:7 KJV

The law of the Lord is the **complete Word of God**, from Genesis to Revelation. His Word was given for the healing of the soul and the return of our souls to a right relationship with the mind of Christ. When we are in tune with the Holy Spirit's anointing, it brings us to the man, newly created in righteousness and true holiness. We cannot come unto the newly created man unless our thought processes change. Our thoughts must come under the complete control of the Holy Spirit's anointing on our lives.

The Lord redeemeth the soul of His servants: and none of them that trust in Him shall be desolate. Psalm 34:22 KJV

Our souls must be redeemed! The word **redeemed** means "**ransomed, rescued, and delivered**". This process can only be accomplished through God's anointed Word. We must not only completely trust in His Word, but it must be applied to every situation in our lives, every day. The Word must be as frontlets before our eyes. It must constantly abide with us in every thought and circumstance. Our trust must be complete in God and His Word. When we trust in Him, we shall not be desolate (guilty). We will then be free from sin (guilt) and ready to have a personal meeting with God.

My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God? Psalms 42:2 KJV

The psalmist was pouring out his heart before God. He knew he had to change his thought process before he could stand before the living God. He continued his lamentation.

My tears have been my meat day and night, while they continually say unto me, Where is thy God? Psalm 42:3 KJV

He sought God with tears. He was mocked and scorned for his diligent search for his God.

When I remember these things, I pour out my soul in me: for I had gone with the multitude, I went with them to the house of God, with the voice of joy and praise, with a multitude that kept holyday.

Psalm 42:4 KJV

The psalmist, like many today, went to the house of God with the multitudes. He displayed joy with his voice. He praised God and kept the holy days. He performed the correct religious duties, as many of us do. We praise and worship God with our voices. We keep our religious rituals, but our souls continually cry out for God because our religious activities do not fulfil our need for a personal relationship with God. Performing our duties does not transform the soul (*way of thinking*). This can only be accomplished by the anointed Word of God.

THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELIGIOUS SYSTEM.

People are called by God's name, yet remain captive in their carnal, worldly thought processes. They miss what God has in store for them because the riches, pleasures, and cares of this life choke the Word out of their lives and they fall by the wayside (Luke 8:14). Paul revealed the difference between those whose souls have been changed and those who have remained unchanged.

Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled. Titus 1:15 KJV

Those who allow the salvation of the soul to take place are becoming pure. To the pure, all things are pure. Their thinking is pure, their way of life is pure, their relationships are pure, their words are pure. Those who have not allowed the Word to change their way of thinking are defiled and unbelieving. Nothing to them is pure. Their minds and consciences remain defiled. We would like to believe that Paul wrote the last part of this scripture for worldly people. But the Bible was written for the people of God. Many claim the name of "Christian", yet their minds and consciences remain defiled. They have not changed their way of thinking. The old man is still obviously visible in their daily walk. Their thinking remains as that of the world. God's salvation process for the soul is not evident in their lives.

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

Philippians 4:8 KJV

God desires a people whose thinking has been changed. He will use them to inhabit His Kingdom. The old things must pass away before all things can become new in our lives. The change must first happen in the way we think, then our actions, too, will change, and, ultimately, our lives will change. The salvation of the soul will be complete and only then have we reached the full salvation of our souls!

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CHRISTIAN MATURITY AND SPIRITUAL VICTORY

These two go hand in hand! They bring to pass the **salvation of the soul**. The entire process of God's restoration work throughout the six days is with a view on that which lies beyond, on the seventh day. It has a view on the Sabbath rest awaiting the people of God. In this is the mystery of our full salvation. It follows God's pattern for the restoration of creation.

A REST FOR THE BELIEVER

God created the heavens and the earth in **six days**, and **He rested on the seventh day!**

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them.² And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made.³ And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made. Genesis 2:1-3 KJV

The Bible says one day is like 1 000 years and 1 000 years as one day. This means that, from the beginning, the Lord intended 6 000 years for His body to rule and reign before man would enter His divine rest!

But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. 2 Peter 3:8 KJV

In Genesis 1, the Lord used the phrase “**evening and morning, and it was the first day.**” This was repeated until the sixth day.

*And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the **evening and the morning were the sixth day.***

Genesis 1:31 KJV

In the original Hebrew text, the Bible did not have any chapters. The end of Chapter 1 connected with the first verse of Chapter 2 which states that the heavens and the earth were finished and God rested from all His work on the seventh day.

*Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. ² And on the **seventh day God ended his work which he had made**; and he **rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made**. ³ And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made. Genesis 2:1-3 KJV*

There was no mention of **evening and morning** again. This is profound, because God created Adam only in verse 7.

And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. Genesis 2:7 KJV

This indicated that God created Adam at a very precise time and day for him to enter the Sabbath day, in other words, God's Rest. God created man towards the sunset of the sixth day. God ceased from His works on the Sabbath day. Adam and Eve entered the Sabbath day - God's rest. When God created Adam and Eve, they did not need to petition God for food or any provision! God had already created everything they needed so they could enter their rest! This is what the Sabbath pictures. In the New Covenant, God has already done everything so we can enter our rest.

There remains a rest for the believer!

*Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. ² And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he **rested** ^{H7673} on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. ³ And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made. Genesis 2:1-3 KJV*

The word **rested** means “**shabath**”.

H7673 (Strong's)

shâbath

shaw-bath'

A primitive root; to *repose*, that is, **desist from exertion**; used in many implied relations (causatively, figuratively or specifically): - (cause to, let, make to) cease, celebrate, cause (make) to fail, keep (sabbath), suffer to be lacking, leave, put away (down), (make to) rest, rid, still, take away.

The Sabbath is a time of rest!

In Genesis 2, the Lord took the man and “**put**” him in the Garden of Eden.

*And the LORD God took the man, and **put** ^{H5117} him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. Genesis 2:15 KJV*

H5117 (Strong's)

nûach

noo'-akh

A primitive root; **to rest**, that is, *settle down*; used in a great variety of applications, literally and figuratively, intransitively, transitively and causatively (**to dwell**, *stay*, *let fall*, **place**, *let alone*, *withdraw*, *give comfort*, etc.): - cease, be confederate, lay, let down, (be) quiet, remain, (cause to, be at, give, have, make to) **rest, set down**.

Let us compare H5117, G4520 and G2663.

H5117 is the word “*nûach*”, which means a **place of rest**. Our place of rest refers to our dominion rest. Paul understood this concept.

There remaineth therefore a rest ^{G4520} to the people of God.

Hebrews 4:9

In Greek, ***rest*** means “*sabbatismos*”, which refers to the Sabbath Rest.

G4520 (Strong’s)

Sabbatismos

sab-bat-is-mos

Paul used the word *rest* in verse 9. “*There remains therefore a **rest**, “sabbatismos” (G4520), and then in verse 10, “for he that is entered into this rest”, that is “katapausis” (G2663), which is the same Hebrew word, “nûach,” referring to the **place of rest**.*

*There remaineth therefore a **rest** ^{G4520} to the people of God. ¹⁰ For he that is entered into his **rest** ^{G2633}, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his. ¹¹ **Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest ^{G2633}, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.** Hebrews 4:9-11 KJV*

G2663 (Strong’s)

κατάπαυσις

katapausis

kat-ap'-ow-sis

From G2664; *reposing down*, that is, (by Hebraism) *abode*: - rest.

There is thus a difference between “**Dominion Rest**” and “**Sabbath Rest**”. The best way to differentiate between the two types of rest is this:

- **Sabbath Rest** is a *time of rest*.
- **Dominion Rest** is a *place of rest*. It is the rest that comes after you have taken dominion of your appointed inheritance!

To enter your Dominion Rest, you must war, labour and, at times, struggle!

- Hebrews 4:11 says we must labour to enter that rest!
- You can only experience Dominion Rest when your enemies have been defeated!
- Be aware, for the enemy always tries to occupy your inheritance, just like the Canaanites occupied the Promised Land.
- As soon as you drive the enemy from your inheritance, you enter Dominion Rest!

Compare the following. Hebrews 4 is the counterpart to Genesis 1 and 2.

- **Hebrews 4:3 – Rest = Katapausis – kat-ap'-ow-sis. A dwelling place or an abode. This is Dominion Rest.**
- **Hebrews 4:9 – Rest = Sabbatismos – sab-bat-is-mos. This is Sabbath Rest.**

When you turn your back on the Promised Land, you will never enter His Rest because you are not willing to fight for it!

Forty years long was I grieved with this generation, and said, It is a people that do err in their heart, and they have not known my ways:

*¹¹ Unto whom I swear in my wrath that they **should not enter into my rest.** Psalm 95:10-11 KJV*

*For we who have believed (adhered to and trusted in and relied on God) do enter that rest, in accordance with **His declaration that those [who did not believe] should not enter when He said, As I swore in My wrath, They shall not enter My rest;** and this He said although [His] works had been completed and prepared [and waiting for all who would believe] from the foundation of the world. [Psalm 95:11.] Hebrews 4:3 AMPC*

The Israelites were afraid of the giants and, thus, forfeited the right to possess the Promised Land. They died wandering in the wilderness! We can also lose our dominion rest through:

- Unbelief
- Refusing to war
- Disobedience
- Idolatry
- Being under a curse

Do not forfeit your place of rest! Be determined to press forward into your REST!

We rarely experience a peaceful Christian life because we do not mix our faith with the preached Word of God!

For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it. Hebrews 4:2 KJV

Real faith is anchored in the invisible realm and is connected to the authority given to us in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Authority to cast out demons is found in rest. Rest is the climate in which faith grows.

Accordingly, I swore in My wrath and indignation, They shall not enter into My rest. [Ps. 95:7-11.] Hebrews 3:11 AMPC

*Let us therefore be zealous and exert ourselves and **strive diligently to enter that rest** [of God, to know and experience it for ourselves], that no one may fall or perish by the same kind of unbelief and disobedience [into which those in the wilderness fell]. Hebrews 4:11 AMPC*

Rest comes from the peace of God. The Prince of Peace will soon crush Satan underneath our feet.

And the God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah) be with you. Romans 16:20 AMPC

There is indeed a rest for the people of God!

For he spake in a certain place of the seventh day on this wise, And God did rest the seventh day from all his works⁵ And in this place again, If they shall enter into my rest⁶ Seeing therefore it remaineth that some must enter therein, and they to whom it was first preached entered not in because of unbelief⁷ Again, he limiteth a certain day, saying in David, To day, after so long a time; as it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts⁸ For if Jesus had given them rest, then would he not afterward have spoken of another day. Hebrews 4:4-8 KJV

THE SPIRIT OF EDOM

What was the main hindrance that kept God's people from entering the Promised Land? It was their **unbelief**! They did not exhibit faith when they saw the giants. Remember that Adam's name refers to the colour red, symbolising the man in the flesh. This is part of the answer. You may wonder what this has to do with our soul salvation. To be exact – everything! Let us investigate this mystery.

Esau

Genesis 25 introduces us to the two sons of Izak - Jacob and Esau. God later changed Esau's name to "Edom", from whom the Edomites descended. Esau means red, as he was born with a reddish colour. Esau is synonymous with the FLESH, referring to the carnal man. Also, Esau, as the firstborn, did not care about his birthright but served the flesh. He sold his birthright for red stew to his brother, Jacob.

Esau Sold His Birthright

And Jacob sod pottage: and Esau came from the field, and he was faint: ³⁰ And Esau said to Jacob, Feed me, I pray thee, with that same red pottage; for I am faint: therefore was his name called Edom. ³¹ And Jacob said, Sell me this day thy birthright. ³² And Esau said, Behold, I am at the point to die: and what profit shall this birthright do to me? ³³ And Jacob said, Swear to me this day; and he sware unto him: and he sold his birthright unto Jacob. ³⁴ Then Jacob gave Esau bread and pottage of lentiles; and he did eat and drink, and rose up, and went his way: thus Esau despised his birthright.
Genesis 25:29-34 KJV

Esau served his flesh, and in the process, despised his birthright given to him by God. He sold the right to be the next leader of the family in favour of feeding his flesh. He valued his God-given right to leadership inferior to a bowl of stew. As a result, ***Esau (Edom) and the Edomites, became a type of the FLESH throughout the Bible.***

Jacob

Jacob was also a very flesh-serving fellow. He did anything he could to get ahead in life. He took advantage of his brother's weakness to get hold of his birthright. He used outright deception to steal Esau's blessing. He implemented craftiness when dealing with Laban to get his flocks.

But there was one thing that separated Jacob from Esau. Jacob had a heart for the Lord, while Esau did not. Through a series of events, God revealed Himself to Jacob, culminating in an ultimate all-night struggle that left Jacob aware of his weakness. He finally submitted to God, who then gave him a new name - Israel (Gen 32:24-30). Israel means "God rules, power with God and man, or Prince with God."

As such, Jacob is a type of the fleshly man who has been saved by God, given a new spiritual name and made a new creation.

He is a type of the renewed SPIRIT of man in submission to God. His descendants, the Israelites, were also a type of the spiritual man. Can you see the link – a man in the flesh and a man in the spirit? We are born with both a fleshly and spiritual nature. They are twins. We are separated from God because of Adam's sin, and in need of salvation, through faith in Jesus Christ, to reconcile our spirits to God the Father. Once saved, we are a new creation in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17) and our spirits are grafted into the

family of God (Romans 11:17), given the right to be called sons of God (John 1:12). On the other hand, our older brother, the flesh, is not saved, and is sentenced to death (Romans 8:13).

All the Old Testament stories about the Edomites and the Israelites now serve to illustrate this central theme - the struggle between the flesh and the spirit.

To further establish this picture, the Edomites settled in a very mountainous land . They carved out their dwellings in the mountains. Today, the most famous of these remains is Petra. Mount Seir was their capital city and considered an impregnable fortress. Enemies had to approach through extremely narrow canyons, but the defenders could be perched high up above and easily slaughter any invading army with impunity.

This is yet a further illustration of the flesh making its dwelling place in high and lofty pride, impregnable to attack, unwilling to submit or admit wrong, considering itself aloof from all others. Furthermore, the dwellings were carved straight out of the rock, speaking of a hardened heart, which is what pride produces.

The Attack of the Amalekites

The first time we bump into the Edomites is when the Israelites had just left Egypt, a type of the world. In typology, this is the picture of Israel's salvation experience. They crossed the Red Sea in a spectacular and powerful water baptism, where all their old enemies were cut off and thoroughly destroyed. They were miraculously blessed with bread from heaven (John 6:35) and water (John 4:14) from a rock (Psalm 18:2). When Israel left Egypt, the Egyptians gave them tons of gold and riches as a "parting gift." Thus, Israel

was carrying with them the wealth of Egypt. This is not insignificant! Then came **Amalek** (Exodus 17:8), who happened to be the grandson of Esau. His father's name was Eliphaz (Genesis 36:16). Eliphaz means "my god is fine gold". Amalek took on his father's and grandfather's natures. He swooped in and stole Israel's blessing - the gold. Amalek is like the birds of the air that devour the seed as soon as it hits the ground (Luke 8:5).

Whenever you gain something in the spirit, watch out for Amalek! He will snatch away whatever victory you've gained by whatever means is available.

The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy.

John 10:10

In this story, the only way the **Israelites could overcome the Amalekites was for Moses to hold out his staff with both hands** on top of the mountain. Looking up from below, the soldiers would have seen a silhouette of the cross. When Moses lowered the staff, the Amalekites were winning, but as long as that cross was lifted up over the battle, Israel had the victory. Amalek is a type of the **flesh, empowered by demonic forces** (birds of the air). He will take any opportunity to steal the blessings and freedom we have in the spirit.

The Edomites Blocked the Passage to the Promised Land

The next time we come across the descendants of Esau is when Israel wanted to cross Edomite territory to get to the Promised Land.

Now Moses sent messengers from Kadesh to the king of Edom. "Thus says your brother Israel: 'You know all the hardship that has befallen us, ¹⁵ how our fathers went down to Egypt, and we dwelt in Egypt a

long time, and the Egyptians afflicted us and our fathers. ¹⁶ When we cried out to the Lord, He heard our voice and sent the Angel and brought us up out of Egypt; now here we are in Kadesh, a city on the edge of your border. ¹⁷ Please let us pass through your country. We will not pass through fields or vineyards, nor will we drink water from wells; we will go along the King's Highway; we will not turn aside to the right hand or to the left until we have passed through your territory.

¹⁸ Then Edom said to him,

“You shall not pass through my land, lest I come out against you with the sword.”

¹⁹ So the children of Israel said to him, “We will go by the Highway, and if I or my livestock drink any of your water, then I will pay for it; let me only pass through on foot, nothing more.” ²⁰ Then he said,

“You shall not pass through.”

So Edom came out against them with many men and with a strong hand . ²¹ Thus Edom refused to give Israel passage through his territory; so Israel turned away from him. Numbers 20:14-21 NKJV

The Bible records this as a conversation between two brothers and not two nations.

Here is the question each of us ought to ask:

Does my flesh prevent my spirit from entering its promised inheritance in Christ?

The answer is undeniably “YES!” The flesh ALWAYS tries to block the spirit from its inheritance. The **flesh** has its own agenda, and that is the agenda of the **antichrist**. “**Antichrist**” means “**in place of Christ**” and, in that sense, the flesh is always seeking pre-eminence at the expense of Christ. The two are mutually exclusive.

David Conquered the Edomites

Let us fast forward Bible history a few hundred years to when King David was establishing his kingdom. Edom is mentioned as a type of the flesh.

He also put garrisons in Edom; throughout all Edom he put garrisons, and all the Edomites became David's servants. And the Lord preserved David wherever he went. 2 Samuel 8:14 NKJV

David is a type of the **overcomer** in Christ, so he fits in perfectly with our picture of Israel being the renewed spirit. However, David, as a type of the overcomer, has turned the tables on the Edomites and made them his servants. This is a great picture of conquering the flesh (1 Corinthians 9:27) and giving it no opportunity to rebel. In the New Testament, Paul tells the Ephesians to “**not give the devil a foothold**” (Ephesians 4:27). He also says to “**put to death the works of the flesh**” (Romans 8:13).

We are not to tolerate the works of the flesh, even under guard, but we are to crucify the flesh with its “passions and desires” (Galatians 5:24).

Amaziah – Conquering Flesh with Flesh

Then Amaziah strengthened himself, and leading his people, he went to the Valley of Salt and killed ten thousand of the people of Seir. ¹² Also the children of Judah took captive ten thousand alive, brought them to the top of the rock, and cast them down from the top of the rock, so that they all were dashed in pieces. ¹³ But as for the soldiers of the army which Amaziah had discharged, so that they would not go with him to battle, they raided the cities of Judah from Samaria to Beth Horon, killed three thousand in them, and took much spoil. ¹⁴ Now it was so, after Amaziah came from the slaughter of the

Edomites, that he brought the gods of the people of Seir, set them up to be his gods, and bowed down before them and burned incense to them. ¹⁵ Therefore the anger of the Lord was aroused against Amaziah, and He sent him a prophet who said to him, “Why have you sought the gods of the people, which could not rescue their own people from your hand?” ¹⁶ So it was, as he talked with him, that the king said to him, “Have we made you the king’s counselor? Cease! Why should you be killed?” Then the prophet ceased, and said, “I know that God has determined to destroy you, because you have done this and have not heeded my advice.” 2 Chronicles 25:11-16 NKJV

The lesson here is that Amaziah tried to conquer the Edomites through his own strength (*“Amaziah strengthened himself”*). Initially, it appeared as if he was going to battle in faith because he turned away the Israelite mercenaries he had hired. But then he strengthened himself and proceeded tossing 10 000 captives off a cliff alive and adopt their gods for himself! The secular kings of the day understood that if they conquered another nation, their own gods were stronger than those of the conquered nation.

This is the reason Pharaoh mocked the God of the Israelite slaves. Since he ruled over the Israelites, he assumed their God was inferior to the gods of Egypt. The Babylonians, and others, did the same. If you conquered someone, your gods were stronger than theirs! But Amaziah took the gods of the people he had conquered as his own gods (the Edomites/Flesh). He worshiped the gods of the flesh, rather than the Living God, Yahweh.

When you try to conquer the flesh through the flesh, you will end up serving the flesh. In other words, flesh will always win. You cannot put

to death the flesh through works of the flesh, because the flesh will never commit suicide. The flesh must be destroyed by the work of the Spirit.

How often do we see someone trying to lose weight, simply to take up smoking instead? Or trying to lose weight, but becoming addicted to working out? If a person believes he talks too much, he becomes perpetually silent instead. Satan always tries to get us off the moderate middle ground. He doesn't care which extreme we're at, as long as it is an extreme and not the straight and narrow way with Christ. If you "yo-yo" back and forth from one fleshly position to another, he is completely happy with that! As long as you do not overcome the flesh by the Spirit!

The other lesson from this story is that the voice of the ***Spirit will cease*** when we ***worship the gods of the flesh***. The prophet was silenced, and Amaziah no longer had the benefit of God's advice and direction for his reign. The same holds true in our lives! If someone deliberately chooses flesh over spirit, they should not expect to hear much from the Spirit, until there is repentance.

Perpetual Enmity

Throughout history, the Edomites took every single opportunity to steal, kill, and destroy their brethren, the Israelites. There was never any mercy, never a missed opportunity. It was sheer vicious hatred.

Moreover the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, ² Son of man, set thy face against mount Seir, and prophesy against it, ³ And say unto it, Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, O mount Seir, I am against

thee, and I will stretch out mine hand against thee, and I will make thee most desolate. ⁴ I will lay thy cities waste, and thou shalt be desolate, and thou shalt know that I am the Lord. ⁵ Because thou hast had a perpetual hatred, and hast shed the blood of the children of Israel by the force of the sword in the time of their calamity, in the time that their iniquity had an end. Ezekiel 35:1-5 KJV

Edom had a perpetual hatred for Israel (See also Amos 1:11). Other translations render it as “ancient hostility, eternal hatred, everlasting enmity, and perpetual enmity”.

This describes the problem of the flesh quite perfectly: the flesh has an everlasting hatred and hostility towards the things of the Spirit.

Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. Romans 8:7-8 NKJV

In Romans, Paul says, “*the carnal mind is enmity against God.*” That is its very nature and the flesh cannot change its nature any more than a leopard can change its spots. Indeed, the flesh cannot submit to the Spirit. It’s not even a matter of refusing to do so, because that implies a choice. It simply cannot fulfil the law of God! It contrasts God completely!

So here’s another big question: Do we discern and understand the true nature of our flesh? According to Jeremiah 17:9 NKJV, “*The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it.*” We should understand that our flesh is inherently evil and dead set on the destruction of anything that Christ has done or wants to accomplish in our lives! Once we begin to understand how vicious this fleshly nature is, we begin to see why Paul said in Romans 8:13 NKJV, “*For if you live according to*

the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.” I’d like to clarify that the flesh is not the physical body, although it plays a role. Our bodies are not inherently evil. They were created by God, and although we struggle with the consequences of sin (sickness, disease, etc), it does no good to literally destroy any part of our bodies in the hope of getting rid of the flesh. Paul said to put to death the deeds of the flesh, not the flesh itself. We are in fact talking about the flesh nature within each one of us. The desires of the soul (James 1:14) are intimately connected to our bodies, and yet they are also distinct. There are doctrines going around that we ought to beat our bodies into submission via torture, cutting, or whatever other means. These are demonic doctrines and I do not in any way advocate them. Our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19-20) and must be treated and respected as such.

Our flesh, the desires and will of our soul, though, must be brought into alignment with the spirit.

HEROD, THE EDMITE

During the time of Jesus, the Edomites (flesh nature) were thoroughly integrated into Jewish life. It is not surprising, then, that Israel’s religion had turned completely **fleshly**, to the point that Jesus often openly rebuked the Pharisees.

*They answered and said to Him, “Abraham is our father.” Jesus said to them, “If you were Abraham’s children, you would do the works of Abraham.” ⁴⁰ But now you seek to kill Me, a Man who has told you the truth which I heard from God. Abraham did not do this. ⁴¹ You do the deeds of your father.” Then they said to Him, “**We were not born of fornication**; we have one Father — God.” ⁴² Jesus said to them, “If*

God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me. ⁴³ Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word. ⁴⁴ You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.” John 8:39-44 NKJV

The flesh will try to appear spiritual wherever possible, but you cannot change its true nature. Jesus saw right through the smoke screen, and called a spade a spade!

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THE GOOD NEWS

Another problem is that pride blinds us. Something must cut through that pride, that flesh nature, to reveal the true nature of our flesh, because if one thing is certain, our flesh will never do that on its own.

The good news is that we have now been made a new creation in Christ Jesus and we no longer have to live by the flesh! In Romans 6-8, Paul develops this theme. Our flesh nature has been crucified with Christ, the spirit has been made anew, and we are no longer slaves to sin. With that said in Romans 7, Paul describes the battle between the flesh and the spirit, the old man and the new man. As long as we are in these bodies, we will continue to have this struggle. That doesn't mean we can't be victorious. I sincerely believe that it is possible to live a victorious life! But it does mean that, like David, we need to constantly be on guard against the flesh.

ULTIMATELY, THE FLESH WILL BE COMPLETELY DESTROYED.

AND THAT, MY FRIEND, IS GOOD NEWS!

OBADIAH – VICTORY OVER THE FLESH

Personal Testimony

During my cleansing period, God gave me a Rhema word from Obadiah on the 14th of June 2010. Before then, I had never even read this book, so the message I received was completely new to me. Obadiah is a very short book, consisting of only one chapter with 21 verses.

*At the same time, God was focusing my attention on **Genesis 32:36**, which tells the story of Esau and Jacob's division. **Jacob**, whose name means "**betray**er", ultimately culminated in an all-night struggle that left him very aware of his weaknesses, and he finally submitted to God. God then gave him a new name, **Israel**, which means "**God rules**", "power with God and man", or "Prince with God".*

These messages made a huge impression on my soul. I was cut to the heart at that stage. I wept over it for a very long time and I also testified to what the Spirit of the Lord had put in my heart. I confessed to my whole family (brothers, sisters-in-law, mother, father and wife).

It is a pity that I have never come to understand the fullness of the message until now! How blessed is the man who receives understanding from the Word of God! Blessed be Your Name, My Lord, for revealing these profound truths to me! There is indeed wonderful news for all of us in the Rhema Word from e Obadiah!

The vision of Obadiah. Thus saith the Lord GOD concerning Edom.

Obadiah 1:1 KJV

Initially, I missed that the opening statement was a vision God gave to Obadiah about the destruction of Edom (the Edomites, the carnal man). Today my spirit and soul are 100% the opposite of what they were on the 14th of June 2010! Both my spirit and soul are at peace and my heart is filled with melodies, hymns and psalms because My GOD DELIVERED me from the old carnal man in the flesh! Glory to the Lord!

Arise ye, and let us rise up against her in battle. Obadiah 1:1b KJV

THE BATTLE BETWEEN THE FLESH AND THE SPIRIT

The pride of thine heart hath deceived thee, thou that dwellest in the clefts of the rock, whose habitation is high, that saith in his heart, Who shall bring me down to the ground? Obadiah 1:3 KJV

As mentioned, the Edomites settled in very mountainous land, very much like my current physical dwelling place! God was telling me that my *flesh* had made its dwelling place in high and lofty pride, impregnable to attack, unwilling to submit or admit wrong, considering itself aloof from all others. My house (dwelling) was erected on solid rock, speaking of a hardened heart, which we know is the result of pride.

Though thou exalt thyself as the eagle, and though thou set thy nest among the stars, thence will I bring thee down, saith the LORD. Obadiah 1:4 KJV

I took this verse very literally. I thought God's punishment, judgment, wrath, etc., would immediately come down on me. Because we do not know the nature of God, we are reluctant to trust in Him and His ways. The more we come to an understanding of His true nature, the more we realise that God's judgment and wrath are for our correction and not for destruction!

Arise for the battle! Our Father is preparing the battlefield! He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to conquer everything standing between Him and His Bride. On our behalf, He is destroying the carnal man in the flesh! We only need to allow Him!

The following verses in Obadiah, up to verse 16, deal with the battle between the FLESH and the SPIRIT, using Esau and Jacob as a typology! Then comes the turning point – the good news. But I just want to pause here for a moment...

On the 4th of November 2012, the Lord gave me another message that helped me understand His intentions! Since then, God has revealed much to me and opened my understanding of His Rhema Word. His word was, ***“I want you to come up to Mount Sion, make time and go to a place of rest and restoration, where your inner (emotional and spiritual) healing can take place through the ministry of the Holy Spirit.”*** I also had another Rhema Word from the Lord in August 2011. God said, ***“When you see these signs, up on your feet, your deliverance is near!”*** God gave me the signs, which meant, in a nutshell, that things would go from bad to worse!

Back to the turning point in Obadiah.

But upon mount Zion shall be deliverance, and there shall be holiness; and the house of Jacob shall possess their possessions.
Obadiah 1:17 KJV

**THIS WAS OVERWHELMING! GOD WORKS IN MYSTERIOUS
WAYS!”**

Sion is a place of fortification. He is inviting us to come to this spiritual place to engage with Him. He desires to strengthen us, purify us, sanctify us and make us whole and holy. He desires to set us apart for His special use and for us to become blameless and spotless as His Bride!

I sincerely pray that the Holy Spirit will reveal God’s intentions for each of us. I also want to share the following with you from my personal notes.

This all comes down to one thing – we must be willing to deny ourselves, take up our crosses and follow Jesus the Messiah.
(Luke 9:23)

Self-denial is the cross we have to bear. The old man of flesh and sin has to be rendered dead. Self-importance has caused many believers to forsake their FIRST LOVE. We become so busy with the Self that the enemy seduces us into dancing to his melody whilst making us believe we are dancing with our Lord.

God wants us to come to Sion with songs and everlasting joy upon our heads. There we shall obtain joy and gladness and all sorrow and sighing shall flee away, because God Almighty will come and save us. (Isaiah 35:10 KJV)

Our blind eyes shall be opened and our deaf ears shall be unstopped (Isaiah 35:5 KJV). In the wilderness where we dwell, water shall break out and streams will come up in the desert to quench our thirst. (Isaiah 35:6 KJV)

I, your God, will make a highway for you, called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein. (Isaiah 35:8 KJV)

Rejoice in the Lord! Give Him thanks for setting us FREE!

ON MOUNT ZION, THERE SHALL BE DELIVERANCE AND HOLINESS!

And the house of Jacob shall be a fire, and the house of Joseph a flame, and the house of Esau for stubble, and they shall kindle in them, and devour them; and there shall not be any remaining of the house of Esau; for the LORD hath spoken it. Obadiah 1:18 KJV

Saviours shall come to Mount Zion to judge the mountains of Esau, and the kingdom shall be the Lord's. Here, the house of Jacob and Joseph (*Israel*) represent the Spirit. The flesh, Esau, is the fuel!

There are many Biblical examples of dying to the self, of which Esther is a great example! Many times in the Bible, the Spirit is likened to a flame of fire. Flames appeared over the heads of the disciples in the upper room. Fire fell on the altar of sacrifice, and burned up the flesh, representing our own flesh there on the altar. The life of the cross is one of absolute surrender.

Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. Matthew 16:24-25 NKJV

The Israelites (born-again members of the Body of Christ) are prophesied to possess the territory of the flesh (Esau). When Christ returns, we will all be transformed (2 Corinthians 3:18). We will be given glorified bodies, like the one Jesus had after His resurrection. No longer will we have a fleshly nature to deal with, but our bodies will be fully submitted to our spirit as it is supposed to be. In the meantime, though, we are to give nothing to the work of the flesh in our lives. We are to conquer it and keep it under close guard as David did, and even put it to death entirely as Paul did. God spoke and His word will not return void!

***There shall not be any remains of the house of Esau! If we surrender,
God will conquer the flesh through the spirit.***

So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it. Isaiah 55:11 KJV

The Edomites blocked the passage to the Promised Land for the Israelites. Likewise, the flesh blocks the passage for us to enter the Promised Land, our Dominion Rest and full salvation! There remains a rest for God's people!

WARFARE

Warfare is a necessity to possess the Promised Land! This is not a physical battle, but a spiritual battle. The good news is, once you are in the Promised Land on the other side of the Jordan, the Lord says, “**Be not afraid, for this battle is not yours, but God’s**” (2 Chronicles 20:15c KJV). God is fighting the battle for us! We must only allow Him and obey!

I would like to encourage you to read 2 Chronicles 20 for the complete, amazing story. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the major truths captured and embedded in this chapter to you.

So the realm of Jehoshaphat was quiet: for his God gave him rest round about. 2 Chronicles 20:30 KJV

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SALVATION OF THE BODY

The last part of man's triune existence to be saved is the body. Man's spirit is saved by **grace** and his soul by **works**, although not works of the flesh.

For by grace are ye saved through faith and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God, ⁹ Not of works, lest any man should boast.
Ephesians 2:8-9 KJV

The body is saved by **hope**.

And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of the body. For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for? But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it. Romans 8:23-25 KJV

Paul was speaking of the redemption of the body. "*We are saved by hope*". The word **hope** is a futuristic word meaning "**to anticipate, expect, and to have faith**". "**Hope that is seen is not hope**". When we see something, it becomes a fact. Hope is not seen. Therefore, with patience, we wait for it. We have the hope of a new body. In his letter to the Corinthians, Paul mentions a change to our mortal body.

Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed. 1 Corinthians 15:51 KJV

The mystery is that "**we shall not all sleep (die), but we shall be changed**." How will our bodies be changed? They will be changed from a natural body to a spiritual body.

There is a natural body, and there is a Spiritual body.
1 Corinthians 15:44 KJV

Jesus is our example of the spiritual body, but He is also our example of the natural body. While on earth, He had a natural body. He occupied the same type of body every human occupies. Jesus' body experienced heat, cold, pain, anger, emotion, and humiliation, just as we do. The body Jesus had while on earth was terminal, because it was in the likeness of sinful flesh. He bore the image of the earthly man.

After Jesus' resurrection, He walked the earth in a different body for forty days. This body was not recognised by those who knew Him. His body could appear and disappear instantaneously. It was a spiritual body and could only be seen when God opened the people's spiritual eyes. When He re-opened their physical eyes, Jesus would be gone. This happened with Jesus' disciples on the road to Emmaus, and also in the upper room. This is the example of the spiritual body we will be changed into, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, according to 1 Corinthians 15:52. This mortal body will put on immortality, and this corruptible body will put on incorruption.

So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

1 Corinthians 15:54 KJV

When this change takes place, death will be swallowed up in victory. This will be the redemption of the body, spoken of by Paul. This is when God's salvation plan will be completed in His creation man. This is not some new doctrine. It is the revelation of the oldest doctrine that God planned for man.

In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began. Titus 1:2 KJV

The hope of eternal life coming forth in mankind has been promised by God since before the world began. Unfortunately, eternal life has been related to a place, not a time. The church system, because of their lack of spiritual understanding, has relegated eternal life to a place called Heaven. Once we realise heaven is not a place but a **realm**, our entire outlook on the Bible changes. Heaven is the higher realm, where God dwells. It is the realm that rules over the realm of the earth or flesh. When the change in our bodies takes place, the bonds that tie us to this earth will be broken. The same Spirit that raised Jesus from His state of death, can also raise us from our state of death.

But if the Spirit of Him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, He that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by His Spirit that dwelleth in you. Romans 8:11 KJV

As we yield our lives to Him, He will consume the old, fleshly man. By the same Spirit, He will quicken the inner man and renew us day by day.

In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 1 Corinthians 15:52 KJV

Paul revealed the blowing of the last trumpet to the Thessalonians.

For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first. 1 Thessalonians 4:16 KJV

When the last trumpet is sounded, the dead in Christ shall rise first. Paul was not speaking of those who died physically and had gone to the grave. He was referring to those who have died to the self and the old carnal ways. These people have become alive in Christ! Paul became our example of those who will be like Christ at His coming.

I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me.
Galatians 2:20 KJV

Paul died to the Self, and the life he was living was the Christ-life that God was living through him. Paul was living by the faith of the Son of God. He was not living by his own faith, conjured up in himself. He was living the resurrected life, free from the bonds of death. Death no longer had a hold on his life. Paul had a vision for all who would see. ***The vision was of the salvation of the body.*** Paul spoke much about the change he had witnessed in the Spirit. These changes will come upon our mortal bodies.

For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven: If so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked. For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life. 2 Corinthians 5:2-4 KJV

God's body is groaning, being burdened by the old, fleshly man. God's body is desiring their spiritual houses, their spiritual flesh. This is when mortality will be swallowed up by eternal life. This can only happen through the Spirit. As Paul proclaimed, "We are saved by hope" (Romans 8:24). **But what is our hope?**

*To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the **hope of glory**:* Colossians 1:27 KJV

It is not the Spirit that rests upon each of us that is our hope of glory, it is Christ in us that is our hope of glory. When we submit our will to the will of the Spirit and yield our whole beings to the anointing, we will be filled with

His glory. When the salvation of the body takes place, our mortal bodies will be quickened and we will be changed. This is when mortality is swallowed up by the life of Christ, the living God.

God's plan of salvation is sure.

- The saving of the **spirit** was ordained by God through *grace*.
- We must work out the saving of our **souls** with *fear and trembling*.
- The saving of our **bodies** will happen when we allow the *Holy Spirit* to do His complete work in our lives.

Unless we can cry out, “O, wretched man that I am!”, all our efforts for full salvation will be in vain.

O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 7:24-25b KJV

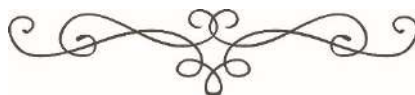
This scripture is the gateway to Chapter 8. In the first 16 verses, the name of the Holy Spirit is found 16 times. This is the promise of the life a child of God can live in by the power of the Holy Spirit.

For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. Romans 8:2 KJV

Paul speaks of the great privileges of the child of God who is led by the Spirit of God. The gateway into all this is found at the end of chapter seven, “O, wretched man that I am!” Romans 7 describes man struggling and wrestling in his own power to obey the holy law of God, only to fail. In his wrestling, he finds the answer.

"I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord!"

Man cannot make it to salvation! He needs a Deliverer, Jesus Christ, the Anointed One, our Messiah. The unveiling of Jesus Christ will be discussed in Part 3.



THE APOCALYPSE

*“Apocalypse” is the Greek for
“the lifting of the veil”*

Part 3

The Unveiling of Jesus Christ

INTRODUCTION

Part 1 laid down the fundamental principles of our full salvation and Part 2 unveiled the salvation of the spirit, soul and body. It also unveiled the mystery that blocks man's way to enter his Promised Land (full salvation). Full salvation can only be manifested fully when man comes to where he cries out:

O wretched man that I am! Romans 7:24 KJV

It is at this point that man has come to the end of himself and realises he needs a deliverer. That deliverer can only be our Lord, Jesus Christ. He is the only Saviour, Deliverer and Messiah, the Anointed One! Romans 7 describes the man who struggles and wrestles in his own power, trying to obey the holy law of God, but then fails. In his wrestling, he finds the answer.

I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord! Romans 7:25 KJV

Therefore, no man can discover the fullness of Jesus Christ on his own.

God is omnipotent, omniscient and omnipresent

- **Omnipotent:** He is *All-Powerful*, a supreme power, infinite or limitless.
- **Omniscient:** He is *All-Knowing*. He is aware of the past, the present, and the future. Nothing takes him by surprise. His knowledge is complete. He knows all there is to know and can be known.
- **Omnipresent:** He is *All-Present*. He is everywhere at the same time. His divine presence encompasses the entire universe. There is no location that he does not inhabit. This should not be confused with

pantheism, which suggests that God is synonymous with the universe itself. Instead, omnipresence indicates God is distinct from the universe but inhabits the entirety of it. Man can never comprehend the fullness of God. That is why the angels, the seraphim and the cherubim, are praising Him day and night in heaven without rest.

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

Revelation 4:8 KJV

Each time they discover something new about God, they fall down and cry out,

“Holy, holy, holy thou are, our Lord Almighty!”

I do not claim that the veil of Jesus Christ has been completely lifted off of me, but I desire to share with you some important aspects related to the ***unveiling of our full salvation***. There is no end to this message. There can never be a period behind the last sentence. It is an ongoing, never-ending message for man to discover as we long for and grow into maturity in Christ.

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THE APOCALYPSE OF JESUS CHRIST

Revelation 1:1 opens with the words, “***This is the unveiling of Jesus Christ.***” Many scholars are trying to use the Book of Revelation to unlock future events on planet Earth. But when we discover the true meanings of the symbols, figures, and colours in the Old Testament, the Book of Revelation unveils itself. Many pastors use the message of the Apocalypse to instil fear into people to lead them to salvation. The opening statement of John’s message is very clear.

“It is the apocalypse of Jesus Christ.”

This is our blessed hope. It is a message of hope and encouragement. The Apostles Paul, Peter, and John all received this revelation. Peter says, “*For when Jesus Christ is **unveiled**, a greater measure of grace will be released to you*” (1 Peter 1:13). This is when we will receive our full salvation and/or deliverance.

- **We must take action.** “Roll up your sleeves” or “Fasten your seatbelts!”
- **The truth has been unveiled.** Stay alert and share the news about the joy you received through the revelation of Jesus the Messiah.
- **Holiness.** Everything about God is holy. True holiness includes justice, mercy, truth, and righteousness. Holiness is to be absolutely devoted to God in all we do, while demonstrating to the world who He is. Holiness surrounds God's throne, and we are seated with Him in heavenly places. (Ephesians 2:6)

The Hebraic concept of holiness is “**SET APART**”. We are a people set apart for God, even as God is “*set apart*” from all other gods.

- ***Grace has embedded holiness*** into our lives, yet we are to make the right choices and yield to Christ and God's Word as the Holy Spirit lives in us.
- ***Holiness*** is not merely actions we perform, but it is what we absorb and manifest as we live our lives in God's presence.
- Christ is our holiness (1 Corinthians 1:30).

But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification (holiness), and redemption.

1 Corinthians 1:30 KJV

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. Ephesians 2:8-9 NASB

RIDING FORTH TO CONQUER

Revelation 6 starts with the Lamb breaking open the first of the seven seals. John heard the voices of four living creatures call out with a powerful voice, “**Come forth!**” This “*come forth*” reflects in the groaning of creation to see the unveiling of the sons of God.

For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. Romans 8:19 KJV

*So I looked, and behold, there was a bright **white horse**. Its rider had a **bow** and was given crown of victory. He rode out as a conqueror ready to conquer.* Revelation 6:2 TPT

The Horse: An emblem of overcoming and invincible power in battle.

- The colour white is found throughout Revelation and is always associated with Christ or with spiritual victory.
- White horses are associated with armies of heaven and holiness (Revelation 19:11, 14).
- The bow without arrows shows He is coming to conquer, not militarily but spiritually. He holds a bow to shoot the arrows of truth into our hearts!

Christ is coming forth as a King in authority and power, riding out to **conquer** everything within us that hinders the Life of Christ to emerge in our transformation process (Psalm 45:3-5). This is the calling forth of Christ by the power of his Spirit to conquer us fully. The complete universe will one day be conquered by the One riding on the white horse! Here he rides alone, but in Revelation 19, He comes with those whom He has conquered. Jesus confirmed to the Father that every soul He had shown Him had not been lost, but was raised up on the last day!

All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out ³⁸ For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me ³⁹ And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day ⁴⁰ And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day. John 6:37-40 KJV

This is our blessed hope!

It is worthy to hope for and wait upon! It is profoundly good news!

When he broke open the second seal, I heard the second living creature call out: "Come forth!" And there appeared another horse, red like fiery flames, and its rider was given a great sword and the power to take peace from the earth, causing one to put to death another. Revelation 6:3-4 TPT

Fiery flames: Derived from the root word for PURE or PURIFY.

- Christ rides this fiery red horse as one robed in the flames of GOD to bring purity to his priestly people (Psalm 12:6).
- Read Matthew 10:34; Hebrews 4:12; Ephesians 6:17; Colossians 3:5

The earth is currently a realm of religion.

- Those who use the things of God for personal gain and obtain the things and pleasures of this world, are those who dwell on the earth.
- They will face serious trouble as the *Day of the Lord* nears.
- If we are truly born again from above, the heavenly Jerusalem is our mother, and our spiritual citizenship is not of this earth.

When the Lord commissions a ministry directly from His throne and sends the "horses" forth to apply the two-edged sword of His truth, the peace of this earth will vanish.

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." Hebrews 4:12 KJV

Jesus warned the congregation of Pergamos that He would come and fight against them with the sword of his mouth (Revelation 2:16), because they

were holding the doctrine of Balaam and the Nicolaitans and did not repent thereof. This is what Jesus did after he had arrived on earth 2 000 years ago with the TRUTH, and entered the religious land of the Jews.

Think not that I have come to introduce peace into the land - I came not to introduce peace, but a sword. Matthew 10:34 JUB

This conflict will continue on a worldwide scale before the Second Coming.

Then he broke open the third seal, and I heard the third living creature call out, "Come forth!" And behold, I saw a black horse right in front of me, and its rider was holding measuring scales. Revelation 6:5 TPT

Black is symbolic of the ways of God.

- Because of a lack of understanding, the works of God appear black to natural man!
- This is the way of the cross.
- Zechariah described a chariot with black horses going forth to the north country. God lives on the sides of the north (Zechariah 6:6; Psalm 48:2).

And I heard what seemed to be a voice from among the living creatures saying, "A small measure of wheat for a day's pay, and three measures of barley for a day's pay, but don't harm the olive trees producing oil and the vines producing wine." Revelation 6:6 TPT

Four commodities point us to the Promised Land of God's blessings.

- Wheat and Barley - Passover Feast.
- 2nd Day of the Feast - Unleavened Bread – Wheat.

- 3rd Day of the Feast - Sheaf of Barley – The first grain harvested in the land was waved before the Lord (Leviticus 23:9-11).
- Jesus was crucified on Passover, the 3rd day. JESUS, God's first fruit (three measures of barley) was raised from the dead and waved as a first fruit before the Father (1 Corinthians 15:20, 23).

TO TRULY FEED UPON HIM WILL COST US ALL WE HAVE!

(Proverbs 23:23; Revelation 3:18)

The Feast of Passover is the winter wheat harvest. Jesus is typed as the first of the first fruits which are offered to God.

- If we enter through the narrow gate (*Jesus is the narrow gate*), He will apply His Blood onto us, and we will enter for His service.
- A denarius is a day's wage. We receive one measure of "*wheat*" (the bread provided by God for us).
- Jesus is our Passover Lamb. We shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God (Matthew 4:4).
- The Feast of Pentecost is next. This is the Barley Harvest. At Pentecost, they were given three measures of barley for the same denarius (*wage*).
- *AS GOD is bringing us into fruitfulness and blessing, He will give us more than we need to see what we will do with the excess!*
- The Feast of Tabernacles occurs at the same time as the grapes and olives are being harvested. It is unlimited, but it comes with a stern warning:
 - *Do not hurt the oil* (the anointing!) *and the wine* (the life of Christ that flows through the Spirit).

- *Those hurting the oil and the wine will be disqualified from the fullness of the inheritance.*

*When he broke open the fourth seal, I heard the fourth living creature call out, "Come forth!" And behold, I saw a **green** horse, and its rider's name was Death, and Death's Domain followed him. They were given authority **over a fourth of the earth**, to kill with sword, famine, death and by the wild beasts. Revelation 6:7-8 TPT*

The Greek word “*kloros*” means *green*.

- It refers to green grass or green living things. The colour of the horse speaks of *life*, but the rider's name is DEATH.
- Death rides on life. Eternal Life comes through death (of the Self).
- Jesus is riding on a green horse to put to death the flesh of Adam, through the life poured out by Jesus' death.

When Cain offered the work of his hand to God in the form of grain, God rejected it (Genesis 4:5).

- The only way the works of our hands can be accepted is when we are in a covenant with God that involves a blood sacrifice.
- Abel knew this and offered lambs to God.
- Under the law of Moses, a daily sacrifice of a lamb was to be offered evening and morning (Exodus 29:36).

Each lamb had to be offered with:

- One-tenth of an ephah of flour mingled with a fourth part of a hin of beaten oil and a fourth part of a hin of wine.

- Flour (*grain*) represents the work of hands, which should be mingled with oil (*anointing*). A drink offering of wine (*new life*) was also made.
- The amount of oil and wine depended on the type and circumstances of the sacrifice.
- The term “over the fourth of the earth” symbolises the part of the harvest of oil and wine that belonged to the Lord.
- He was the Lamb that was sacrificed for the sins of the entire world!
- In the case of the earth (*Israel and the Church*), Jesus will also harvest His special part as we enter the great feast of Tabernacles at the end of the age of the church and the beginning of the age of the Kingdom.

Killed by the Sword.

- The Word of God both kills and makes alive.
- Killing by starvation is the Lord's method of putting to death our old ways, desires, and lusts!
- His resurrection life emerging in us overcomes (starves to death) what we cannot overcome by ourselves.
- Hunger and thirst for righteousness are the key to being filled (Matthew 5:6; Colossians 3:1-10).

When the Lamb broke open the fifth seal, I saw gathered under the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the Word of God and because they had the testimony of the Lamb.
Revelation 6:9 TPT

The vision shifts back to the heavenly altar in the Holy of Holies.

- The souls of those slain for the Word of God are no longer being held in Hades, as was the case before the death and resurrection of Jesus.
- They are under the heavenly altar, under the Blood of Christ.
- Protected by His life, they are unhappy with religious people who still dwell on earth, misrepresenting the Lord and doing bastardly deeds in His name.

Because of their testimony, these souls are gathered under the altar (emblem of sacrifice unto death), dead in every soulish way, and they are offered as love sacrifices to God.

They cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Sovereign Lord, holy and dependable, how long before you judge those who live on the earth and vindicate our blood on them?" Revelation 6:10 TPT

The primary meaning of vindicate (free from blame) equals validate (rendered valid).

- We are like the souls under the altar.
- We are under the shelter of the altar where Christ was sacrificed on our behalf.
- We are those who cry out for a powerful move of God that will deal with the nature of man and bring the glory of God.
- This is not simply a cry for revenge, but a cry for REVIVAL to break loose among the nations!

Each one was given a glistening white robe. And they were told to rest a little longer, until the full number was fulfilled of both their fellow

servants and brothers and sisters who were going to be killed just as they had been. Revelation 6:11 TPT

These symbolise the robes of the priesthood, the clothing of Christ upon our souls!

And behold! I saw the Lamb break open the sixth seal, which released a powerful earthquake. I saw the sun become pitch black and the full moon become bloodred. Revelation 6:12 TPT

The earthquake indicates a huge shakeup in Israel and the Church!

- God is harvesting those willing to lay down their lives for Him and the cause of the Gospel!
- The sun is a symbol of the system of this world!
- The phrase, “*Black as sackcloth made of goat hair*”, may represent our outward reasoning. What once gave us light is now turned into blackness!
- The moon is the symbol of the light or the witness of the church and Israel. The moon became as blood due to the consequences of the previous seals.
- This moon reflects the light and glory of the sun of this world. As the sun goes black, the moon turns to blood (Thessalonians 2:3; Matthew 24:12).

The stars fell from heaven to the earth, as a fig tree shaken by a stormy wind sheds its unripe figs. The sky receded with a snap - as a scroll rolls itself up. And every mountain and island was moved from its place. Revelation 6:13-14 TPT

The phrase, “*as a scroll rolls itself up*”, suggests the book is closed!

- The old heavens must be removed to make room for a new heaven.
- When Jesus was baptised, the new heavens were opened to Him like a scroll, inaugurating to us an open heaven through Christ!

When the sixth seal is opened, the scene moves to the earth.

- The power of God is released.
- Every continent and every island is shaken.
- Is this destruction meant to be taken literally?

Mountains and islands represent the religious strongholds and private kingdoms that are about to be severely shaken as the day of the Lord commences.

- Earthquakes in the Bible refer to divine visitations.
- Methods, movements, governments, and structures will all be shaken by God during this wonderful visitation.
- Stars do not literally fall to the earth. Some of them are so huge, they are larger than our complete solar system. If they were to fall, they would destroy everything as we know it. Yet, the Bible confirms that earth would still exist.
- The falling stars symbolise that the OLD ORDER of the natural realm is passing away and a new order is being established.
- A superior light of the Kingdom of God will dim the light of the old covenant.

Then the kings of the earth and its great princes and generals, the rich and powerful, and everyone, whether they were slave or free, ran for cover and hid in the caves and among the mountain boulders.

Revelation 6:15 TPT

The heart of each person is being laid bare by the light and glory of Christ rising upon His people. Adam wanted to hide from the face of God because of disobedience, but the believer hides in the Father's love!

They called out to the mountains and the boulders, saying, "Fall on us at once! Hide us quickly from the glorious face of the one seated on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb." Revelation 6:16 TPT

Notice - the wrath of the Lamb and not the anger of the LION!

- This is corrective and redemptive. It does not represent beastly rage but fiery passion to judge whatever gets between the Lamb and His Bride.
- In Greek, it refers to reaching out with passionate desire and taking hold of (Fiery Passion).

For the great day of their wrath has come, and who is able to stand?

Revelation 6:17 TPT

Dwellers of this earth will encounter much trouble when they find themselves exposed to the direct presence of God and the Lamb!

Anyone born from above is a citizen in good standing of the heavenly Jerusalem, the MOTHER of us all, and will be in no danger at all!

For this Agar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children. But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all.
Galatians 4:25-26 KJV

***“So rejoice, you heavens,
and every heavenly being!
But woe to the earth and the sea,
for the devil has come down to you
with great fury, because he knows
his time is short.”
Revelation 12:12 TPT***

HOLDING BACK JUDGMENT

Saying "Do not damage the earth, the sea, or the trees until we have marked the loving servants of our God with a seal on their foreheads?" Revelation 7:3 TPT

How wonderful is the apocalypse of Jesus Christ in these days!

Judgment is temporarily held back by the four angels of Mercy! Yes, through His mercy and longsuffering for us, He is not willing that any should perish!

The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. 2 Peter 3:9 KJV

After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, and they were restraining the four winds so that no wind would blow on the land, on the sea, or on any tree. Revelation 7:1 TPT

The **four corners** of the earth represent universality. **Winds** speak of divine agents that bring either blessing or judgment. **Trees** may point to what is deeply rooted within our souls! **The heavens are open.**

- Those on earth are philandering for cover as judgment is about to fall.
- The angel makes an important announcement. **“Those who belong to God are to be sealed in their foreheads!”**

Then I saw another angel ascending from the east, who had the seal of the living God. He shouted out with a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to damage earth and sea.

Revelation 7:2 TPT

The east can be interpreted as follows.

- *It is often associated with blessings.*
- It is where God will appear from (Genesis 2:8; Ezekiel 43:1-4; Matthew 2:1).
- *Ascended* refers to the star of Jesus that was rising from the east.
- *This messenger, rising from the east*, represents the living God.
- God is rising inside His people, bringing the light of a new day.
- It is a company of messengers, arising out of the light of the sunrise to bring the seal of God upon His people!

Judgments are about to hurt:

- The **Land** - Symbolic of *Israel and the church*.
- The **Sea** - *Lost humanity*.
- The **Trees** - *Man's life* (Deuteronomy 20:19-20)

Hurt not the land neither the sea nor the trees until we have sealed the slaves of our God in their foreheads. Revelation 7:3 JUB

The Jubilee Bible speaks of seals in their forehead, meaning our thoughts.

God never destroys the righteous along with the wicked!

- In every previous example of judgment, God has sealed and protected the righteous!!

THE SEAL

- It represents the mind of CHRIST.

*For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him?
But we have the mind of Christ. 1 Corinthians 2:16 KJV*

- Without Christ, we are incapable of proper discernment.
- Partaking of Christ's mind empowers us to be:
 - Righteous judges
 - Righteous kings
 - Righteous priests

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

This SEAL is more than just a seal of protection from the coming judgments.

- It is a seal that qualifies us to bring the righteous judgments of God to the earth.
- It is the nature of God being written upon the foreheads and minds of His holy ones.
- “*In the right hand*” speaks of **actions** and “*in the forehead*” speaks of **thoughts**.

And because of him, when you who are not Jews heard the revelation of truth, you believed in the wonderful news of salvation. Now we have been stamped with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit
¹⁴ *He is given to us like an engagement ring is given to a bride, as the first installment of what’s coming! He is our hope-promise of a future inheritance which seals us until we have all of redemption’s promises and experience complete freedom—all for the supreme glory and honor of God! Ephesians 1:13-14 TPT*

We are the seven-sealed scroll.

- We are broken open so the all-conquering life of Christ will subdue all things (Philippians 3:21).
- We are living letters, written not with ink but by the Spirit of God, who writes truth upon our hearts (Hebrews 10:16).
- In the volume of the book (the scroll), it is written about Christ (Psalm 40:7).

The Holy Spirit confirms this to us by this Scripture, for the Lord says,
¹⁶ *“Afterwards, I will give them this covenant: I will embed my laws into their hearts and fasten my Word to their thoughts.”* ¹⁷ *And then he says, “I will not ever again remember their sins and lawless deeds!”*
¹⁸ *So if our sins have been forgiven and forgotten, why would we ever need to offer another sacrifice for sin? Hebrews 10:15-18 TPT*

We are predestined.

Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will.

Ephesians 1:5 KJV

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

Romans 8:15 KJV

The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. 2 Peter 3:9 KJV

And I discovered the number of those who were sealed. It was one hundred and forty-four thousand, sealed out of every tribe of Israel's people. Revelation 7:4 TPT

God began the nation of Israel with 12 tribes. Likewise, Jesus began the church with 12 apostles.

- 12 x 12 equals 144.
- 1 000 represents perfection.
- 144 000 is the perfect number of those who are sons of God.
- There is no division between Jews and Gentiles (Romans 10:12).
- There is no salvation outside of Christ.

It speaks of completeness and represents the raising up of God's sons and daughters.

- They fully carry His image and likeness.
- It is not a literal head count.
- It is the number of **Christ multiplied in his sons and daughters coming into the likeness of the Son.**

In the fullness of time...

That in the dispensation of the fullness of the time He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth in Him. Ephesians 1:10 KJV

And because of God's unfailing purpose, this detailed plan will reign supreme through every period of time until the fulfillment of all the ages finally reaches its climax—when God makes all things new in all of heaven and earth through Jesus Christ. Ephesians 1:10 TPT

Who are Israel's people?

- They are those who have wrestled with their carnal nature.
- They have been given a new name.
- They have received a new nature.
- They have become princes with God (Genesis 28:24-28; Galatians 3:29).

The Lord promised us a NEW NAME (Revelation 2:17)!

- Our new names will be written on white stones.
- We will feast on hidden manna.
- These names are the signs of a complete change in nature.

This is a wonderful promise for the overcomers!

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MY PERSONAL TESTIMONY

On the 9th of April 2009, at 3 p.m., the Lord woke me up and instructed me to read from Revelation. As I read the messages to the seven churches, His voice came to me clearly.

“THIS MESSAGE IS FOR YOU, EL-AZAR!”

*“I know everything about you, everything that you are doing. I know that you hate the Nicolaitans and that you cannot withstand them, which I also hate. You know that the people held the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balak to cast a stumbling block before My children to commit fornication. Stop tolerating the Jezebel spirit! **I see all these things, but do you still love Me, El-Azar? Repent, overcome and keep my works unto the end and I will give you power over the nations.**”*

I was surprised to hear the Lord expected of me to repent. I was hurt by His question, “Do you still love me?” I did not understand His message. My soul was in pain for three months and I could not even explain to people what the Lord had told me. Although I had been under the influence of the Jezebel Spirit for a long time, I did not know what the spirit was. Now that I know its evil works, I understand why Elijah fled into the wilderness when Jezebel had sent him a message that she was going to kill him. This spirit is currently very active in the Body of Christ and is out to destroy whoever gets in her way. Looking back, I now understand my 911 call to the Lord in November 2011, while on horseback.

“Lord, I am not sure if You know this, but here on earth we have an emergency phone number, 911. When somebody is in trouble, we dial the number, and somebody comes to our rescue.”

There was silence... No reply from the Lord.

But, as soon as I arrived home, the Lord spoke through His Word.

Before any of this happens, they'll arrest you, hunt you down, and drag you to court and jail. It will go from bad to worse, dog-eat-dog, everyone is at your throat because you carry my name. You'll end up on the witness stand, called to testify. Make up your mind right now not to worry about it. I'll give you the words and wisdom that will reduce all your accusers to stammers and stutters. Luke 21:12 MSG

When all this starts to happen, up on your feet. Stand tall with your heads high. Help is on the way! Luke 21:28 MSG

*Now when these things begin to occur, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption (**deliverance**) is drawing near. Luke 21:28 AMPC*

I did not realise that the “*bad-to-worse, dog-eat-dog*” part would be as bad as it was. I thought that “*dragging me to court and jail*” was only an expression. I did not realise it would physically happen to me. Then came 2012, the 4th of November, when the Lord appeared to my wife in a dream. The next morning, she told me about her dream.

“We were on holiday in a beautiful small town. All the houses were painted white, and the roofs were blue. When I asked you where we were and what the name of the town was, you answered: ZION.”

When I heard the word Zion, I paid attention! It took me a five-year journey to discover the fullness of the meaning of this dream and what the Lord wanted to achieve with me and my household. In short, the explanation of the aspects of the dream was:

Walls: *God's promise and place of protection, safety. The new Jerusalem, or salvation.*

White: *Symbol of holiness and purity, praise and worship, glory, victory and happiness.*

Roof: *God's protection and oversight. This is a promise on the one hand and a responsibility on the other hand.*

The interpretation of the dream was very profound at that stage of my life. According to the world standards, one can say that I was a very successful businessman (*I share it in meekness*), but I had lost everything. My second wife and I had both recently come through divorces and I was at the lowest point of my life ever. My three children were living with their mom, and I could see how they were falling away deeper and deeper into depression. It took me years to fully grasp the complete message the Lord had given me.

I had clearly tolerated the Jezebel Spirit in my life! That was one reason for my suffering!

"Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols." Revelation 2:20 KJV

This background may give you a better understanding of the Lord's message to me.

“I want you to make time to get to a place of rest and restoration where the Holy Spirit can start with emotional and spiritual healing. The white walls symbolise My sanctification and purification in you to overcome in victory and happiness. The blue roofs are my protection and oversight of you. This is My promise, but you also have a responsibility to repent of all your hidden sins. If you do, then My promise is valid for you. It also pointed to spiritual revelations. You must be aware and sensitive to the Holy Spirit for divine revelations.”

It took me ten years to allow His words to deeply penetrate my heart. What an amazing journey under leadership of the Holy Spirit it has been since then!

To learn the truth you must long to be teachable, or you can despise correction and remain ignorant. Proverbs 12:1 TPT

MY BATTLE

Since childhood, I have loved the Lord, but I lived a life of frustrations. Deep inside of me, I had a desire to do the right things, but I always ended up doing what was wrong. I messed up so many times in my life! I had the desire to share sincere love, but I destroyed people and relationships. The more I tried to overcome my shortcomings, the worse it seemed to get.

I don't understand myself at all, for I really want to do what is right, but I can't. I do what I don't want to—what I hate.¹⁶ I know perfectly well that what I am doing is wrong, and my bad conscience proves that I agree with these laws I am breaking.¹⁷ But, I can't help myself

because I'm no longer doing it. It is sin inside me that is stronger than I am that makes me do these evil things. Romans 7:15-17 TLB

The Lord reminded me ***that I had cried out to him already more than 30 years ago!*** During a weekend church camp at University, when I was still a student, a theology professor asked what Paul meant by, “*For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I*” (Romans 7:15). In later years, the meaning became alive! God used all the revelations I have shared with you so far to make me realise that the truth sets me free. I now live a life of freedom, peace, and joy in Jesus Christ. Amen!

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IMPOSSIBLE FOR MAN

And he said, The things which are impossible with men are possible with God. Luke 18:27 KJV

*“These two thoughts mark the two **great lessons** that man has to learn in the Christian life. It often **takes a long time to learn the FIRST LESSON**—that in the Christian life man can do nothing, that salvation is impossible to man. And often a man learns that, and yet he does not learn the **second lesson**—what has been impossible to him is possible with God. **Blessed is the man who learns both lessons!** The learning of them marks stages in the Christian’s life.”*
Murray, Andrew. Absolute Surrender (Kindle Locations 577-580)

When I read these words, the Lord reminded me of my search for answers 30 years earlier. Now, I can only fall to my knees and thank God for how blessed I am to have learnt these lessons. It took me over 30 years, but eventually, I learned them well!

How great my desire for you to also learn these precious lessons.

MAN’S WORK

Peter spent three years in Christ’s “school” but never learned that it was impossible for him to do anything. Until he denied his Lord! Afterwards, He went out and wept bitterly! In man’s early stage of conversion, he soon finds himself very disappointed in his own failures, but he thinks, “I was not cautious enough! I did not make my resolutions strong enough”. And again, he vows, and again he prays, and yet he fails time and time again. He thinks, “Am I not a redeemed man? Have I not the life of God within me?”

"Yes, I do! And I have Christ to help me. I CAN live the holy life!"

Many Christians are living a life of failure and sin because they trust in their own efforts. They mingled their efforts with God's grace. The sooner man can say, "I cannot, it is impossible for me!", the sooner he will enter his rest and victory. It is because of lack of understanding that so many give way to despair. We all give our best but never expect to get very far. Thank God that He leads us to the next stage where man accepts that "***it is impossible***". This is when man cries out, "***Lord, what is the meaning of this? How am I to be freed from the power of sin?***" This is the state of the regenerate man trying to live the holy life (Romans 7). "*To will what is good is present with me*" (Romans 7:18). His heart loves the law of God, and his will has chosen that law.

For I delight in the law of God after the inward man. Romans 7:22 KJV

If only I had known this good news earlier in my life! Not only do we need "to delight in the law of God after the inward man and will what God wills", but we need a divine omnipotence to work inside of us.

It is God which worketh in you, both to will and to do of his good pleasure. Philippians 2:13 KJV

My dear friend, it is GOD who does the work, both to ***WILL*** and to ***DO***. God gives us the power to accomplish what He desires. Let us receive this as the **first great lesson** in the spiritual life.

- **It is impossible for me, my God!**
- **Let there be an end to the flesh and all its powers, an end to the Self, and let it be my glory to be helpless!**

It takes absolute surrender to God to allow Him to do the work. If ever you feel that you can't, then you are on the right track!

My heart's desire and delight, O God, is absolute surrender, but I cannot perform it. It is impossible for me to live that life! It is beyond me.

Fall down and learn that when you are utterly helpless, God will come to work in you not only to will but also to do.

GOD'S WORK

The **SECOND LESSON** to learn is that these things which are impossible with man, are possible with God. How many of us give up in helpless despair because we do not humble ourselves to learn that ***all things are possible*** with Christ! Our Christian life is to be a continuous proof that God works impossibilities. Our Christian life is to be a series of impossibilities made possible and actual by God's almighty power. The whole of Christianity is a work of God's omnipotence. **The birth of Christ Jesus is proof!**

For with God nothing shall be impossible. Luke 1:37 KJV

Christ's resurrection is proof! It was according to the exceeding greatness of His mighty power that God raised Christ from the dead! Christianity had its beginning in the omnipotence of God. In every soul, Christianity must have its continuance in that omnipotence. We know it was God's omnipotence that created the world, light out of darkness, and man. But have we ever studied God's omnipotence in the works of redemption?

God demonstrated His omnipotence to His people throughout the Scriptures.

- To Abraham, to trust in Him.
- To Moses, to lead the people out of Egypt.
- To Joshua, to bring Israel into the Promised Land.
- All the Old Testament Saints counted on the omnipotence of God to perform impossibilities.

Have you ever said, “In worship, in work, in sanctification, in obedience to God, I can do nothing of myself! So, my hope is in believing that He will work in me, every moment?”

Let us review Peter.

Peter was full of self-confidence, self-power and self-will. So much that he denied His Lord! Maybe you can identify with Peter’s selfish life! Do you believe there is deliverance from denying Jesus? Do you believe that the Almighty God can reveal Christ to you so you can allow the Holy Spirit to rule? Do you believe it is possible for the self-life to no longer have power or dominion? Have you ever, with tears of penitence, deep humiliation and feebleness, cried out, “O God, it is impossible for me! I cannot do it, but glory to Your name, it is possible with God.”? **Have you already claimed deliverance?** If not, do so right now. Surrender yourself afresh into the hands of a God of infinite love. As infinite as His love is, is His power to do it.

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ABSOLUTE SURRENDER

The lack of absolute surrender prevents the Holy Spirit from filling us. This is also the reason we cannot live entirely separated unto the Holy Spirit. This is why the flesh, and the self-life cannot be conquered. We do not truly understand what it means to surrender ourselves to God and Jesus. Many believers claim absolute surrender to God, but few are truly surrendered and thus do not experience victory.

- What is impossible for man, is possible for God!
- God can maintain that!
- I am under God's charge, and He is working out my life for me!

We all are longing for sanctification, and yet it appears to be so far off. "The things which are impossible with men are possible with God", is scriptural and real and effectual. It is an omnipotent God working in the hearts of His believing children by His omnipotence, so Christ can become an indwelling Saviour!

That he would grant you according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man.

Ephesians 3:16 KJV

Our hearts must be filled with life from above - from the Fountain of everlasting love. Then, it will be just as natural for us to love our fellow men as it is natural for the lamb to be gentle and the wolf to be cruel. We must be brought to such a state that the more people hate us and speak evil of us, the more unlikable and unlovable people are, the more we will love them. We should be brought to such a state where the more obstacles, hatred, and ingratitude surround us, the more the power of love will triumph in us. Then we will know that what is impossible with man is possible with God!

Paul said Jesus “*is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think*” (Ephesians 3:20,21 KJV). Adore and trust Him as the omnipotent One, not only for your own life but for all the souls that are entrusted to you. Never pray without adoring His omnipotence. “Mighty God, I claim Your almightiness!”

THE WRETCHED MAN

O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 7:24-25 KJV

As already mentioned, this scripture is the gateway into Romans 8. In the first 16 verses, the name of the Holy Spirit is found 16 times. This is the promise that a child of God can live in the power of the Holy Spirit.

For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. Romans 8:2 KJV

Paul continues to speak of the great privileges of the child of God who is led by the Spirit of God. The gateway into all of this is found at the end of chapter seven.

“O, WRETCHED MAN THAT I AM!”

Romans 7 describes the man who struggles and wrestles in his own power to obey the holy law of God, but he continually fails. In his wrestling, he finds the answer:

“I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord!”

We are continually being warned that it is a great danger for the believer to go back into bondage.

For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear.

Romans 8:15 KJV

These words are the language of, firstly, a **regenerate** man, secondly, a **weak** man, thirdly, a **wretched** man, and fourthly, of a man on the border of **complete liberty**.

The Regenerate Man

The regenerated man is a man who knows that his heart and nature have been renewed and that sin is now a power in him that is not himself! When he sins, he dares to say:

It is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. Romans 7:17 KJV

Paul deals with **justification** and **sanctification**.

- In dealing with justification, he lays the foundation of the doctrine in the teaching about **SIN**.
- Firstly, Paul deals with the actual transgressions. Notice plural - sins.
- Then, in Romans 5, he deals with sin as a power.

When the regenerate man's **will has been renewed**, **he** can say:

I delight in the law of God after the inward man. Romans 7:22 KJV

The Weak Man

We are often mistaken to believe that once there is a renewed will, it is enough.

- The weak man says, "*I will to do what is good, but the power to perform I find not.*"
- This man is as determined as any man could be, and yet he makes the confession, "*To will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good, I find not.*" (Romans 7:18)

We can see it is God who brings man to the will to do right - ***a right will, with a heart that longs to do good and to do its very utmost to love God.*** In Romans 7, neither the name of the Holy Spirit nor that of Christ appears. Instead, the law is mentioned nearly 20 times. It shows a believer doing his very best to obey the law of God with his regenerate will. The man is wrestling and struggling to fulfil God's law. The words "***I***", "***me***" and "***my***", occur more than 40 times. It is the regenerate "***I***" in its weakness, seeking to obey the law, but without being filled with the Spirit.

The following is the experience of every saint.

- After conversion, a man begins to do his best, but he fails.
- When we are brought into the full light, we no longer need to fail.
- We will indeed not fail at all if we have received the Spirit in His fullness at conversion.

God allows failure so the regenerate man should realise his own utter inability. It is during this struggle that the sense of our utter sinfulness dawns on us. It is God's way of dealing with us. In our strives and wrestles, we are brought to realise that "*I am a regenerate child of God, but I am utterly helpless to obey His law!*"

But I am carnal, sold under sin! Romans 7:14 KJV

*I see another law in my members bringing me into captivity. Romans
7:23 KJV*

*O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of
this death? Romans 7:24 KJV*

Not only is the regenerate man weak but he is also a wretched man. He is utterly miserable! It is because God has given him a nature to love Him. Man is deeply wretched because he feels he is not obeying his God. He says with a brokenness of heart, "It is not I who does it, but I am under the awful power of sin which is holding me down!" Blessed is the man who can say, "***O wretched man that I am***", from the depth of his heart. That man is on his way to Romans 8!

NB! When a man is brought to this confession, deliverance is at hand!

- The thought of continually grieving God becomes utterly unbearable!
- Who shall deliver us?
- I thank God through Jesus Christ, my Lord!

THE ALMOST DELIVERED MAN

This man has tried to obey the beautiful law of God.

- He has loved the law, wept over his sins, and tried to conquer.
- He has tried to overcome failure after failure, but every time he is unsuccessful.

What does "*the body of this death*" mean in Romans 7:24? Does it mean the body when we die? No, it is the deeds of the body.

*If ye through the Spirit do mortify the **deeds of the body**, ye shall live.*

Romans 8:13 KJV

He is seeking deliverance from the body of death.

*I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind,
and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my
members. Romans 7:23 NKJV*

It is a captive man that cries, "*O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death?*" This man feels bound. But look at the contrast in Romans 8:2.

*The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath **made me free** from
the law of sin and death. Romans 8:2 KJV*

This is deliverance through Jesus Christ our Lord. Previously, man did not know what the Holy Spirit could do for him. When the Lord wants to give us the Holy Spirit whom He has promised, He first brings us to the end of ourselves. He brings us to the conviction that, though we have been striving to obey the law, we have failed. By the Holy Spirit only can live a holy life

Then He shows us that, **in the Holy Spirit**, we have:

- The power of obedience.
- The power of victory.
- The power of real holiness.

Where do you currently see yourself?

"O wretched man that I am, who shall deliver me?"

OR

"I thank God through Jesus Christ."

The law of the Spirit has set me free from the law of sin and death. This is the work of the Holy Spirit. When the heart is opened wide to receive Him, He comes in and reigns within us. He mortifies the deeds of the body day by day, hour by hour and moment by moment. Many Christians still yield to the flesh. The Spirit is within us, but the flesh rules the life! To be led by the Spirit of God is what we need!

The Holy Spirit is a necessity for every believer, every moment of the day. Let us praise God that we have Him and that He gives us the full experience of deliverance in Christ, as He makes us free from the power of SIN! What good is there in going to church, studying our Bibles, or praying, unless our lives are filled with the Holy Spirit?

**There is deliverance; there is the liberty of the Holy Spirit.
The Kingdom of God is “Joy in the Holy Spirit.”
(Romans 14:17)**

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MY REVELATION

So, what can we say of these? From my experience, after many hours of studying the scriptures, the Lord has revealed to me:

- **The unveiling of our “*full salvation*”.**
- **The unveiling of “the blockage to our Promised Land.”**
- **The unveiling of “*Jesus Christ*.”**

How mistaken we are to believe that, after we have confessed with our mouths and believed in our hearts that Jesus Christ is our Saviour, we have reached the milestone! Indeed, no! There is so much more that Christ wants to do in our lives.

- Once we are born again and have become new creatures, there are still many things to overcome, as indicated in the messages to the seven churches.
- Only the overcomers will receive crowns of victory and have the privilege to eat of the Tree of Life.
- What will happen to the non-overcomers is an unthinkable thought!

On the 9th of April 2009, God gave me the message that it is His heart for all believers to overcome. As a regenerated man, there were still many things between me and my First Love, as there are between the Bride of Christ and the Bridegroom. If I had only known then that God would use my failures to bring me to full salvation. God even gently prepared me for bad things that were coming.

Before any of this happens, they'll arrest you, hunt you down, and drag you to court and jail. It will go from bad to worse, dog-eat-dog, everyone at your throat because you carry my name. You'll end up on

the witness stand, called to testify. Make up your mind right now not to worry about it. I'll give you the words and wisdom that will reduce all your accusers to stammers and stutters. Luke 21:12 MSG

God told me to stand tall with my head high when I see these signs because my deliverance would be near! I learned that deliverance is a prerequisite for making it unto full salvation.

When all this starts to happen, up on your feet. Stand tall with your heads high. Help is on the way! Luke 21:27-28 MSG

*Now when these things begin to occur, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption (**deliverance**) is drawing near. Luke 21:28 AMPC*

Jesus is perfectly holy and separated from all evil. He cannot marry an unclean Bride. God takes us through the process of sanctification to purify us so we can be a spotless Bride!

You are to be holy, because I am holy. 1 Peter 1:16 TPT

That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. Ephesians 5:27 KJV

It is, however, the lack of absolute **surrender** that prevents the Holy Spirit from filling us. It is also the reason we cannot live entirely separated unto the Holy Spirit. We have never understood exactly what it means to be surrendered to God, as Jesus did. This is why the flesh, and the self-life, cannot be conquered.

What would it take for us to surrender, totally surrender, every aspect of our lives to our First Love?

For Peter, it took three denials that he knew the Lord Jesus Christ. Afterwards, he wept bitterly, surrendered himself to God, and was delivered. In my case, I lost everything - all my possessions and my family. Afterwards, I also wept and surrendered. I realised it was just impossible for me, but everything was possible for God! How about you? Have you surrendered yet? Will you trust Him?

You have one of two options. You can either deny the Self (Matthew 16:24) or your Lord (Matthew 26:34).

And he said, The things which are impossible with men are possible with God. Luke 18:27 KJV

READY TO CONQUER

We need the unveiling of Jesus Christ, the revelation of who He is, to bring us unto full salvation. Christ Jesus, the Messiah, will do everything to conquer what stands in the way of His Bride! This is profound!

So I looked, and behold, there was a bright white horse. Its rider had a bow and was given crown of victory. He rode out as a conqueror ready to conquer. Revelation 6:2 TPT

Notice that the rider had a bow but no arrows, meaning this is not a military quest, but rather a spiritual battle with arrows of truth shooting into our hearts! Horses are the emblem of overcoming and of invincible power in battle. The colour white is found often in Revelation and is associated with Christ or spiritual victory. It symbolises holiness and the armies of heaven (Revelation 19:11, 14). Christ is coming forth as King in authority and power, riding out to **conquer** everything within us that hinders the life of

Christ from emerging during our transformation (Psalm 45:3-5). This is the calling forth of Christ by the power of his Spirit to conquer us fully. All the universe will one day be conquered by the One riding this white horse. Here He rides alone, but in Revelation 19, He comes with those whom He has conquered.

My Lord, O king, according to thy saying, I am thine, and all that I have.

1 Kings 20:4 KJV

God is looking for a mature Bride. Maturity comes from faith in the sufficiency of God's redemptive work that establishes us as sons and daughters of the Most High.

As He is, so are we in this world. 1 John 4:17 KJV

This is profound! God the Father sent His Son, Jesus Christ, as the perfect man to demonstrate to us how to walk on earth. He now requires us to be like Him. He puts it in much stronger words when He says, “***As I am, so are you...***” Not one day in heaven, but in this world, today, while we are still living in our mortal bodies! The Body of Christ lacks understanding of this very deep truth! The very thing God spoke in the beginning, “Let us make man in our image and likeness”, is what the god of this world robbed us of!

And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.

Genesis 1:26 KJV

But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. ³ But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: ⁴ In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel

of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

2 Corinthians 4:2-4 KJV

The mature Christian will victoriously overcome the beast, his image, his mark and his number.

And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God. Revelation 15:2 KJV

And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints. Revelation 15:3 KJV

Man tends to rely on his own understanding of these verses.

And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: ¹⁷ And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name: ¹⁸ Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six. Revelation 13:16-18 KJV

Notice that it says a mark **IN** their right hand and **IN** their foreheads. This refers to our actions and our thoughts. The number six is man's number, and seven is God's number.

- **The number 1 refers to light (1'st day – “*Let there be light*”).**
- **The number 10 refers to Law (10 Commandments).**
- **The number 100 refers to plans (Noah spent 100 years building the ark).**

Therefore, the number 666 refers to man's **plans**, according to man's **laws**, in man's **light**!

Man without GOD is the BEAST!

I said in mine heart concerning the estate of the son of men that God might manifest them and that they might see that they themselves are beasts. Ecclesiastes 3:18 KJV

A beast is him who acts and thinks according to the ways of the natural man! Therefore, a prerequisite is to be born again, this time out of water and out of the Spirit (John 3:3-6), not from a corruptible, but from an incorruptible seed (1 Corinthians 15:53). It is the new spiritual man, sealed by the Holy Spirit, who now has the image and the likeness and the mind of Christ. We have the mark of Christ and have been fully transformed from 666 to 777!

“God’s plans, according to God’s laws, in God’s light!”

We are now new creatures (2 Corinthians 5:17) with the mind of Christ (1 Corinthians 2:16b) and we have the same measure of faith (Romans 12:3). Our newborn spirit is as perfect as Christ, vacuum-packed and sealed with the Holy Spirit, and will never change again (Ephesians 1:13).

As He is, so are we in this world. 1 John 4:17 KJV

Let down the old, corrupt man, with his deceitful lusts. Put on the new self, created after the likeness of God, in true righteousness and holiness (Ephesians 4:22, 24).

THE CONDITION OF THE HEART

Unfortunately, when man still walks in pride (*the first sin that enters man, since we are born with pride*), there is no place for surrender. Pride is the opposite of surrender. The prideful man can only love himself and fails to surrender.

The Purpose of Parables

Jesus often spoke in parables. **First**, He spoke in parables because the people are seeing but see not, they are hearing, but they hear not and neither do they understand (Matthew 13:13). Matthew 13 gives us information on the condition of the heart of the believer.

*And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why speakest thou unto them in parables? ¹¹ He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given. ¹² For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath. ¹³ **Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand.** ¹⁴ And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By **hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive:** ¹⁵ For this people's **heart is waxed gross**, and their **ears are dull of hearing**, and their **eyes they have closed**; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be **converted**, and I should heal them. ¹⁶ But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear. ¹⁷ For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things which ye see, and*

have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them. Matthew 13:10-17 KJV

The reason is the condition of their hearts! Their hearts are waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing. This means that, over time, like wax in their ears, their hearts became so dull that there is no room for the Word of God!

Second, we should be converted (Matthew 13:15b). Jesus explained the parable by giving more information on how the “seed”, the “Word of God”, has been taken away by the persecutor (the devil) by the tribulations and cares of this world.

The Parable of the Sower Explained

Hear ye therefore the parable of the sower. ¹⁹ When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side. ²⁰ But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and anon with joy receiveth it; ²¹ Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended. ²² He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful. ²³ But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Matthew 13:18-23 KJV

It is only in good, well-prepared and fertile soil that the seed can germinate and bear good fruit. Interestingly, immediately after this, Jesus told them about the harvest. The enemy sowed his seeds, but Jesus said to leave it, though, until harvest time.

The Parable of the Weeds

*Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field: ²⁵ But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way. ²⁶ But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also. ²⁷ So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares? ²⁸ He said unto them, **An enemy hath done this.** The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up? ²⁹ But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. ³⁰ **Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.** Matthew 13:24-30 KJV*

What then is the trigger for harvest time? It is maturity! Wow!

But when the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come. Mark 4:29 KJV

When both the sons of the evil one (the tares/weeds) and the sons of God (wheat) come to maturity, immediately the sickle is put in, because the harvest is come. The tares are gathered to be burned while the wheat is

gathered into the barn, the new heavenly Jerusalem where we will rule and reign with the Lord. How will we know the difference between the tares and the wheat? Only by its **fruits**!

The fruits of the old man, who bears the mark of the beast

Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, ²⁰ Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, ²¹ Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.
Galatians 5:19- 21 KJV

The fruits of the new spiritual man, bearing: the mark of Christ

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, ²³ Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. Galatians 5:22-23 KJV

Those who belong to Christ with His mark, His image and His likeness have crucified all the affections and lusts of the flesh and are now walking in the Spirit.

And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. ²⁵ If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.
Galatians 5:24-25 KJV

WAITING ON GOD

Third, we must learn to wait on God!

Only to God is my soul in silence; from Him comes my salvation!

Psalm 62:2

We have all been chosen by God even before the foundation of the world to be holy and without blame before Him! ***We are predestinated to be children of adoption!***

According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: ⁵ Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will.
Ephesians 1:4-5 KJV

It is not only us who are waiting, though! God's creation is eagerly waiting as well! ***His entire universe is yearning to see the unveiling*** of the sons and daughters of God!

I am convinced that any suffering we endure is less than nothing compared to the magnitude of glory that is about to be unveiled within us. ¹⁹ The entire universe is standing on tiptoe yearning to see the unveiling of God's glorious sons and daughters! ²⁰ For against its will the universe itself has had to endure the empty futility resulting from the consequences of human sin. But now, with eager expectation, ²¹ all creation longs for freedom from its slavery to decay and to experience with us the wonderful freedom coming to God's children. ²² To this day we are aware of the universal agony and groaning of creation, as if it were in the contractions of labor for childbirth.
Romans 8:18-22 TPT

It is as if creation is having labour pains. Not only nature, but we also, groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption. (Romans 8:23 KJV)

And it's not just creation. We who have already experienced the firstfruits of the Spirit also inwardly groan as we passionately long to experience our full status as God's sons and daughters—including our physical bodies being transformed. ²⁴ *For this is the hope of our salvation.* Romans 8:23-24 TPT

And not only they, but ourselves also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, that is to say, the redemption of our body. Romans 8:23 KJV

“God is unceasingly giving and working.

His children are unceasingly waiting and receiving”

Andrew Murray: Waiting on God

We must wait on God to know who HE IS and then what HE WILL DO!

Have courage and believe that God will hear and help you! We are waiting on a God who will never disappoint His people. For God is love (1 John 4:8) and love seeks not its own.

“This is our own sufficient warrant of our expectation!”

Patience is an important element of the Christian life and character. Nowhere is a better place for cultivating or displaying it than while waiting on God. We are sometimes impatient with Him because He does not do our bidding as soon as we expect Him to! Our will, desires and efforts all depend on God's mercy!

*Rest in the LORD, and **wait patiently for him**: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass. Psalm 37:7 KJV*

*For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that **wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth.** Psalm 37:9 KJV*

***LET PATIENCE HAVE ITS PERFECT WORK, THAT YOU MAY BE
PERFECT AND COMPLETE.***

James 1:4 NKJV

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 1:4 TPT

The purpose of waiting is to teach us our absolute dependency upon God's mighty working, and to make us, in perfect patience, place ourselves at His disposal.

Those who wait on the Lord will inherit the land. (Psalm 37:34)

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FEATURES OF THE MATURE CHRISTIAN LIFE

The first epistle of Peter gives us three very important results of rebirth.

- **A new Life in Christ.**
- **A perfect inheritance.**
- **A full salvation, ready to be revealed.**

Celebrate with praises the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has shown us his extravagant mercy. For his fountain of mercy has given us a new life—we are reborn to experience a living, energetic hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. ⁴ We are reborn into a perfect inheritance that can never perish, never be defiled, and never diminish. It is promised and preserved forever in the heavenly realm for you! ⁵ Through our faith, the mighty power of God constantly guards us until our full salvation is ready to be revealed in the last time. 1 Peter 1:3-5 TPT

To live like this is all the more urgent, for time is running out and you know it is a strategic hour in human history. It is time for us to wake up! For our full salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. Romans 13:11 TPT

The mature children of God are those who are moved by the impulses of the Holy Spirit. ¹⁵ And you did not receive the “spirit of religious duty,” leading you back into the fear of never being good enough. But you have received the “Spirit of full acceptance,” enfolding you into the family of God. And you will never feel orphaned, for as he rises up within us, our spirits join him in saying the words of tender affection, “Beloved Father!” ¹⁶ For the Holy Spirit makes God’s fatherhood real to us as he whispers into our innermost being, “You are God’s beloved child!” ¹⁷ And since we are his true children, we qualify to share all his treasures, for indeed, we are heirs of God

himself. And since we are joined to Christ, we also inherit all that he is and all that he has. We will experience being co-glorified with him provided that we accept his sufferings as our own.
Romans 8:14-17 TPT

Transformed Relationships

Let the inner movement of your heart always **be to love one** another, and never play the role of an actor wearing a mask. Despise evil and embrace everything that is good and virtuous. ¹⁰ Be devoted to tenderly loving your fellow believers as members of one family. Try to outdo yourselves in respect and **honor of one another**. ¹¹ Be enthusiastic to serve the Lord, keeping your passion toward him boiling hot! **Radiate with the glow of the Holy Spirit** and let him fill you with excitement as you serve him. ¹² Let this hope burst forth within you, releasing a continual joy. **Don't give up in a time of trouble**, but **commune** with God at all times. ¹³ Take a constant **interest in the needs of God's beloved people** and respond by **helping them**. And eagerly welcome people as guests into your home. ¹⁴ **Speak blessing, not cursing**, over those who reject and persecute you. ¹⁵ Celebrate with those who celebrate, and weep with those who grieve. ¹⁶ Live happily together in a **spirit of harmony**, and be as mindful of another's worth as you are your own. Don't live with a lofty mind-set, thinking **you are too important to serve others**, but be willing to do menial tasks and identify with those who are humble minded. Don't be smug or even think for a moment that you know it all. ¹⁷ Never hold a **grudge** or try to get even, but plan your life around the noblest way to benefit others. ¹⁸ Do your best to live as everybody's friend. ¹⁹ Beloved, **don't be obsessed with taking revenge**, but leave that to God's righteous justice. For the Scriptures

say: “If you don’t take justice in your own hands, I will release justice for you,” says the Lord. ²⁰ And: If your **enemy is hungry**, buy him lunch! Win him over with kindness. For your surprising generosity will awaken his conscience, and **God will reward you with favor**. ²¹ Never let **evil defeat you, but defeat evil with good**.
Romans 12:9-21 TPT

WHAT MORE CAN I SAY, BUT “I REST MY CASE!”

The deeper we bow in holy fear before His holiness and adore Him in awe, deep reverence and humble self-abasement, the more His holiness will rest upon us. Even the angels veil their faces before the throne! The lower we bow, the more intensely we feel that we have nothing to hope for but His mercy. The more we humble ourselves, the nearer God will come and make our hearts bold to trust Him.

Humility and Faith

If you bow low in God’s awesome presence, he will eventually exalt you as you leave the timing in his hands. ⁷ Pour out all your worries and stress upon him and leave them there, for he always tenderly cares for you. ⁸ Be well balanced and always alert, because your enemy, the devil, roams around incessantly, like a roaring lion looking for its prey to devour. ⁹ Take a decisive stand against him and resist his every attack with strong, vigorous faith. For you know that your believing brothers and sisters around the world are experiencing the same kinds of troubles you endure. ¹⁰ **And then, after your brief suffering, the God of all loving grace, who has called you to share in his eternal glory in Christ, will personally and powerfully restore you and make you stronger than ever.** Yes, he will set you firmly in place and build you up. ¹¹ And he has all the power needed to do this—forever! Amen. 1 Peter 5:6-11 TPT

After our brief suffering, God will personally restore each of us and make us stronger than ever! Hallelujah! ***And then our maturity will be recognised by:***

- **A change in our speech.**
- **Singing and making melody.**
- **Always giving thanks.**
- **Submitting to one another!**

How you live is evidence of your maturity in Christ!

...but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ submitting to one another in the fear of God. Ephesians 5:18b-21 NKJV

LOVE

The ultimate proof to the world that we are indeed disciples of Jesus is the godly, persevering love that we have for each other! This love will be the result of the apocalypse of our Full Salvation, as revealed to us by Jesus Christ Himself.

A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. ³⁵ By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.
John 13:34-35 KJV

In Ephesians 4:11, Paul says that the Lord gave grace ministries to His body, namely Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers. These

ministries are to nurture, prepare and equip the holy believers to do their own works of ministry to enlarge and build up the Body of Christ (Ephesians 4:12 TPT). Paul also discussed a variety of Spiritual Gifts in his epistle to the Corinthians.

The Spirit gives to one the gift of the word of wisdom.

To another, the same Spirit gives the gift of the word of revelation knowledge.

⁹ And to another, the same Spirit gives the gift of faith.

And to another, the same Spirit gives gifts of healing.

¹⁰ And to another the power to work miracles.

And to another the gift of prophecy.

And to another the gift to discern what the Spirit is speaking.

And to another the gift of speaking different kinds of tongues.

And to another the gift of interpretation of tongues.

¹¹ Remember, it is the same Holy Spirit who distributes, activates, and operates these different gifts as he chooses for each believer.

1 Corinthians 12:8-11 TPT

Paul then concludes this chapter by saying:

Not everyone is an apostle or a prophet or a teacher. Not everyone performs miracles ³⁰ or has gifts of healing or speaks in tongues or interprets tongues. ³¹ But you should all constantly boil over with passion in seeking the higher gifts. 1 Corinthians 12:29-31 TPT

There is a higher gift above all these grace ministries and spiritual gifts.

And now I will show you a superior way to live that is beyond comparison! 1 Corinthians 12:31b TPT

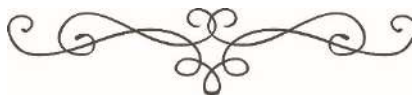
What is this superiour gift?

The well-known 1 Corinthians 13 explains perfect love.

Anything done without love has no value at all!

It is empty and worthless!

**Let us therefore pursue love, embrace love and exhibit love
as proof that we indeed appreciate our Full Salvation!**



“Apocalypse” is the Greek word for “the lifting of the veil”.

When the veil is lifted from a bride’s face, a much clearer picture of her beautiful face is revealed. A similar situation occurs when we study the Bible. The more we study the scriptures, the more the veil is lifted, as we mature into the image and likeness of Christ.

There is a beginning of our salvation, which is the salvation of our spirits, at the moment when we believe with our hearts and confess with our mouths that Jesus Christ is our salvation (Romans 10:10). There is also an end to our salvation, as the Apostle Peter clearly explains in his first epistle. The end of our faith is the salvation of our souls (1 Peter 1:5-9). Three very important and prominent aspects are unveiled, namely:

- **The unveiling of our “full salvation”**
- **The unveiling of “the blockage to our Promised Land”**
- **The unveiling of “Jesus Christ”**

It is in surrender that we meet Christ and become friends with Him. Only when we totally surrender and give up everything, is the veil lifted and our Bridegroom reveals Himself to his Bride. The Holy Spirit transforms us into the image of our Bridegroom, and as we slowly leave behind the old man in the flesh, we learn to walk in the spirit. Esau, an Edomite, (representing the man in the flesh), hindered Israel from moving into their promised land. Likewise the man in the flesh will always stand in our way to enter the promised land.

There is victory in the unveiling of our full salvation. Learn from the Book of Obadiah how **Jacob (representing the man in the spirit)** overcame **Esau (representing the man in the flesh)**. It is indeed the overcomers who will receive the crown of victory and have the privilege to eat of the tree of Life!



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