from the Greek word "psuche", which refers to our mind, will, and emotions. We obviously know what our body is. It is the physical part of man that houses his spirit and soul. With this in mind, let us now attempt to understand the PROCESS of our salvation.

Our spirit is saved as we believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. This is referred to as JUSTIFICATION. Our soul is being saved through the transforming power of God's divine nature. This is referred to as SANCTIFICATION. Our bodies are yet to be saved at the last trump. This is referred to as GLORIFICATION. In essence, WE ARE SAVED, WE ARE BEING SAVED, AND WE SHALL BE SAVED! The next time someone asks you if you are saved, tell them NO! Tell them that you are in the process of God's salvation, which is the salvation of your spirit, soul, and body.

This is to be seen as well in symbolic form in the Old Testament. As we study the three main feasts of the Jewish people (PASSOVER, PENTECOST, AND TABERNACLES), WE WILL FIND THAT THEY DO REPRESENT THE SALVATION OF OUR SPIRIT, SOUL, AND BODY. Can we be honest enough to admit that we are God's workmanship? Can we be honest enough to admit that we are a work in progress? We have not yet attained to our FULL SALVATION, but we are in the PROCESS of being made in His image. Thank God for the cross and the blood of Jesus Christ, which is saving us...

SPIRIT, SOUL, AND BODY!



March 1

THE CORRECTIVE JUDGMENTS OF GOD

According to Ray Prinzing: "Man has long viewed God's judgments as a vindictive action prompted by a motive for revenge and supported by a tumultuous wrath that must be pacified. NOT SO! Such is a gross caricature of our God! His mercy and grace are superabundant, and though He finds it necessary to chasten, His wisdom and righteousness produce a just and pure chastisement conditioned to correct the situation, and thus bring forth a creature improved by the process." (Redemption, Ray Prinzing)

We must understand that all of God's judgments ARE CORRECTIVE IN NATURE! Hear it again! GOD'S JUDGMENTS ARE FOR THE PURPOSE OF CORRECTION! Jeremiah 10:24 states...O Lord, CORRECT ME, BUT WITH JUDGMENT; not in Your anger, lest You bring me to nothing (lest You diminish me)...As you can see, judgment brings about correction, and correction is the result of judgment. They go hand in hand. The Hebrew word for correct is "yasar", and has also been translated as - to instruct, to chasten, be taught, and be reformed. The Greek word is "paideuo", and includes the thought of child-training, involving the whole process of discipline which girds us up to the right way.

The purpose of God's judgments, which are corrective, must always be seen in this light. If they were corrective in the past, and are corrective now, then they will be corrective in the ages to come. Remember...When God's judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness (Isaiah 26:9)...Read 1st Chronicles 16:13-36 and Psalm 72. These passages of scripture declare that the whole creation is longing for the judgment of God. Let the heavens be glad, And let the earth rejoice: And let men say among the nations, The Lord reigns...

HIS JUDGMENTS ARE IN ALL THE EARTH!



March 2

VENGEANCE

Romans 12:19 states...Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is Mine; I will repay, says the Lord...Sounds pretty bad, huh? All judgment, punishment, wrath, fire, and vengeance scriptures sound bad to the carnal mind. When we think of these terms, we think of God inflicting punishment, pain, injury, suffering, and loss for the purpose of vindication, satisfaction, and malicious retaliation. THIS TYPE OF THINKING IS NOT CORRECT! THIS IS THE WAY THAT THE CARNAL MIND PERCEIVES GOD AND HIS DEALINGS WITH MAN. COME OUT from this Babylonian mindset that paints a picture of God as an angry torture-hungry monster. GOD IS OUR FATHER! HE LOVES US! THAT IS WHY VENGEANCE BELONGS ONLY UNTO HIM! HE IS THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS HOW TO ADMINISTER IT IN A JUST WAY!

If vengeance was left up to man, we would all be in BIG TROUBLE. We are mean, vindictive, malicious, and always on the lookout for retaliation. God, Who is our Father, is not like that. According to Ray Prinzing: "The word "vengeance" literally speaks of that action which is out of righteousness, out of that which is just, and for the purpose of bringing everything else into alignment with that which is just. Only a just action can produce justice. Two wrongs never make a right." (Redemption, Ray Prinzing)

VENGEANCE IS A GOOD THING! IT IS A VERY GOOD THING! Only God has the power, wisdom, and love to bring it about in a just way. The Lord, through the manifested sons of God, shall declare the DAY OF THE VENGEANCE OF OUR GOD; to comfort all that mourn (Isaiah 61:2)...Our God, Who is just, will not fail to repay every wrong, and to reward every right, while at the same time correcting, chastening, and restoring ALL THINGS AND ALL PEOPLE UNTO HIMSELF!

VENGEANCE IS HIS...THANK GOD!



IT'S ALL GOOD

According to Dr. Harold Lovelace, "The Good News is: The Bad News is also Good News!" This is quite a statement! Do we believe it? Do we understand it? Much of Christianity teaches us that God is fighting against evil, principalities, powers, and Satan. THIS IS NOT WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES!

The Bible states that:

GOD CREATED GOOD AND EVIL...(Isaiah 45:7)

GOD CREATED PRINCIPALITIES AND POWERS (RULERS AND AUTHORITIES)... (Colossians 1:16)

GOD CREATED THE WASTER TO DESTROY... (Isaiah 54:16)

ALL POWER IS OF GOD...(Romans 13:1)

ALL THINGS ARE OF GOD...(2ND Corinthians 5:18)

Well...That settles it! God is in charge of and responsible for everything (the good and the bad)! Romans 8:28 states...And we know that ALL THINGS work together for GOOD to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose...

Can we GROW UP in God? Can we be mature enough to see God's hand in ALL THINGS? God is not fighting against evil, but has created it to be a tool in His hand. He uses it to show us how to overcome evil with good. How could we know what good was if there were no such thing as evil (THINK ABOUT IT)? Bad news is actually good news in disguise. I know it is easy to say that, but tough to always believe it. Nevertheless, it is true!

Remember...ALL THINGS ARE OF GOD (Romans 11:36, 1st Corinthians 8:6, 1st Corinthians 11:12, 2nd Corinthians 5:18, Ephesians 1:11, Hebrews 2:10)! There is nothing that has ever happened, is happening, or ever will happen that God is not able to work together for our good.

WOW!

So... "The Good News is: The Bad News is also Good News!" Do you believe that God is that BIG of a God? Do you really believe He is SOVEREIGN?...ALMIGHTY?...ALL-POWERFUL?... ALL-KNOWING?...ALL-PRESENT?...ALL-LOVING? Let us not limit God!

ALL THINGS ARE OF GOD!



ISOLATION

Matthew 5:14-16 states...You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill can not be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it gives light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven...Surely you have heard the statement...NO MAN IS AN ISLAND! Well...It is true. If we are a light in the midst of darkness, then we are not to hide or isolate ourselves. We are to see ourselves as vessels, called to shine forth the light of the Father. If we isolate ourselves from people, then we are headed for disaster.

As we charge ahead into the deep things of God, we must guard against this very thing. Isolation is a side road that will lead you to destruction. On this road there is a ditch on either side called PRIDE AND BITTERNESS. Many people become prideful because they know something about God that others do not. As well, many people become bitter because they can not convince others to see what they see (perceive) in God. STAY AWAY FROM THIS ROAD! DO NOT ISOLATE YOURSELF FROM FELLOWSHIP WITH PEOPLE! ISOLATION IS A RECIPE FOR RUIN AND HEARTACHE! DO NOT FORSAKE THE ASSEMBLING OF YOURSELF TOGETHER WITH OTHER BELIEVERS, AND EVEN ALL TYPES OF PEOPLE!

We must learn to be all things to all men, that we might by all means save some (1st Corinthians 9:22)...In actuality, we need fellowship as much as others need our fellowship. God will not share His glory with any one person alone, but He will share it with His body (the body of Christ). This body must be willing to come together in one mind and one accord. This is obviously the opposite of isolation.

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE!



March 5

I WILL MAKE A NEW COVENANT

Jeremiah 31:31-33 states...Behold, the days come, says the Lord, THAT I WILL MAKE A NEW COVENANT with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which My covenant THEY BRAKE, although I was a husband unto them, says the Lord: But this shall be the covenant that I WILL MAKE with the house of Israel; After those days, says the Lord, I WILL PUT MY LAW IN THEIR INWARD PARTS, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be My people...WHAT A BEAUTIFUL AND UNCONDITIONAL PROMISE!

This promise is to be performed by the Lord and not man. THIS IS THE NEW COVENANT! This passage of scripture speaks of the difference between the LAW OF MOSES and THE LAW OF THE SPIRIT OF LIFE IN CHRIST JESUS. So many Christians are still trying to live under the Old Covenant. They are bound by a legalistic way of thinking and living, which leads to a self-righteousness in their lives that stinks to the high heavens. Man can do nothing with the Old Covenant, BUT BREAK IT!

Under the New Covenant, God will write His laws in our inward parts and in our hearts. Notice this: The Old Covenant was based upon man's performance. The result was (and always is) FAILURE. The New Covenant is based on God's performance. As we learn to place our faith in God's performance (Christ and Him crucified), the result will always be VICTORY! Remember... We are God's workmanship.

The New Covenant is a work of the Spirit, whereas the Old Covenant was a work of the flesh. The New Covenant is based upon us BELIEVING AND PLACING OUR FAITH in God's performance. The Old Covenant was based upon man's ability to perform God's law. God gave man the law to show him that he (man) was not able to keep it in and of himself. It was a schoolmaster (a tutor or guardian of boys) to lead us to Christ, for only God (by His Spirit) can write His laws on our heart, and in our inward parts (our minds).

We must realize the difference between the letter of the law and the spirit of the law. The letter of the law was written upon tables of stone, but the spirit of the law is to be written upon the tables of our hearts and minds. In essence, Jesus did not come to destroy the law, BUT TO FULFILL IT. He blotted out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us (the letter of the law), which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, NAILING IT TO HIS CROSS; (Colossians 2:14)...He paved a NEW AND LIVING WAY FOR US! By nailing the letter of the law to His cross, He opened the door for the spirit of the law to be written upon our hearts. The apostle Peter said it like this...WE HAVE BEEN MADE PARTAKERS OF THE DIVINE NATURE (2nd Peter 1:4)...

Partaking of God's divine nature is not to be seen as something that is complicated, but in actuality, it is to be seen as something simple. It simply means to participate and operate in what God has already provided and accomplished for us. IT CAUSES US TO REST FROM THE WORKS OF THE FLESH, WHICH DO PROFIT NOTHING! Along with God's divine nature comes HIS DIVINE POWER, which becomes our power source. This new power source enables us to overcome the flesh (the carnal mind or corrupt nature of Adam). As we go through this process, GOD IS ACTUALLY WRITING HIS LAWS UPON OUR HEARTS.

The Old Covenant showed man that he did continually miss the mark of God (sin). The New Covenant shows man the ability of God to perform a life-changing work in our hearts and lives. There is so much more to be said on this beautiful subject, for this is the very heart of the GOOD NEWS. How sweet it is to trust in the performance of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, rather than having to rely on our own pitiful efforts.

THIS IS GOD'S NEW COVENANT!



I WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU

There have been times in all of our lives when we have denied, rejected, and not believed in God. The atheist, when questioned about God, with a sarcastic shrug of the shoulders, will surely say that he or she does not believe in God. The answer to mankind, whether a weak Christian, or an atheist is: IT DOES NOT MATTER IF YOU DO NOT BELIEVE IN GOD RIGHT NOW. HE BELIEVES IN YOU!!! Hear it again. HE BELIEVES IN YOU, CARES FOR YOU, HAS CREATED YOU, AND WILL NEVER LEAVE OR FORSAKE YOU!

God has formed you in your mother's womb, and has a purpose for you. He is the potter and we are the clay. He knows what is in the heart of man. He knows it is hard for us to believe in Him at times, for many times we walk by sight and not by faith. Remember Peter? He denied even knowing Jesus, but the Lord knew he would do that, and had already prayed for and forgiven Peter in advance. JESUS BELIEVED IN PETER, EVEN THOUGH AT ONE TIME PETER FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE IN JESUS. Luke 22:31,32 states...And the Lord said, Simon (Peter), Simon, behold Satan has desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: But I have prayed for you, that your faith fail not: and when you are converted, strengthen your brethren... WOW!

Jesus looked beyond Peter's failures to the potential that was in Peter down the road. Remember Hebrews 13:5? It states...For He has said, I WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU, NOR FORSAKE YOU... STOP basing your experience with God on your performance. He said that He would NEVER LEAVE US. This sounds like someone Who is committed, does it not? He knows that there are going to be times when we operate in unbelief, and struggle to believe Him and in Him. But rest assured. HE BELIEVES IN US (or you could say that He believes in His ability to bring us through every situation).

The Lord loves you, believes in you, has forgiven you, has prayed for you that your faith fail not, will convert you, AND WILL NEVER LEAVE OR FORSAKE YOU. HE IS WITH YOU...

ALWAYS!



March 7

UNDERSTANDING THE PURPOSE OF THE AGES (OLAM, AION, AIONIOS)

Ephesians 3:11 states...According to the eternal purpose which He purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord...The words "eternal purpose", when looked up in the original Greek, should literally read...THE PURPOSE OF THE AGES. This is one of the many mistakes made by the King James Version. This version is consistently WRONG when it comes to its handling of the Greek word "aion", which means an age or period of time.

Here are some quotes from: <u>The Outcome Of Infinite Grace</u>, by Dr. Loyal Hurley, to help clear up the misunderstanding and mistranslation of the words "olam", "aion", and "aionios", which all refer to time, and are not endless in their meanings as we have been incorrectly taught.

"The Hebrew word "olam" and the Greek word "aion" both mean "age" or "eon". For evidence of this refer to Young's Analytical Concordance. Incidentally, Robert Young in his "Literal Translation of the Bible" always translates these word by "age" and never once as "ever", "everlasting", or "eternal". The Hebrew word "olam" comes from a root meaning hidden. The word therefore means a period of time, but a period of unknown or hidden length. The word was often used to mean a man's lifetime because it was an unknown period. The adjective "aionios" is often translated "age-lasting" or "ageduring", but would be more properly translated "pertaining to the ages", that is, something that occurs within the ages, but not necessarily lasting even through one entire age."

"Many things in your Bible will continue to be confusing, and apparently contradictory, until you see this truth of the scriptures (about ages)."

"There are so many Biblical statements that become clear when one grasps the truth of the ages."

"Only as one sees the plan of the ages does he see the beauty of God's program for the redemption of the race. (1st Corinthians 15:22-28)"

"The scriptures speak often of this present age. Again they speak of ages past, and ages to come. (Ephesians 2:7 speaks of the ages to come)"

We can now clearly see that all of God's dealings with man are confined to the ages of time (the purpose of the ages). The life of God would be more properly stated as "the life of the ages", or God's life inserted into the ages of time. The punishment, wrath, judgment, vengeance, and consuming fire of God are all also to be seen as "of the ages", and for the purpose of correction. Matthew 25:46, according to the King James Version, speaks of everlasting punishment. This is once again an incorrect translation of the Greek word "aionios", which should be translated "the punishment of the ages". In actuality, the word "punishment" should be translated as CORRECTION, for it does come from the Greek word "kolasis", which means a punishment (correction) for the BETTERING of the offender.

As we mentioned earlier, Ephesians 2:7 speaks of at least two ages to come. These ages are referred to as the Millennium and the Age of the Ages. When speaking of both of these ages at the same time, the Bible (in the original Greek) refers to these ages as THE AGES OF THE AGES. This means that there have been ages, but these two ages are of greater significance than all of the previous ages that have gone before them. When the Bible (in the original Greek) speaks of the final age, it refers to it as THE AGE OF THE AGES. This means that the final age (also referred to as the dispensation of the fullness of times) IS THE GREATEST AGE OF ALL!!! The purpose of the Millennium is to gather ALL NATIONS unto the Father. The Age of the Ages, which is the final age, and the greatest age of all, is for the purpose of gathering ALL THINGS INTO CHRIST (Colossians 1:20) that have not been previously gathered into Him. This age will bring about the end of death and hell (Hades, the grave).

The study of ages will set you free from the traditional teaching of the church, which has led us to believe that God will lose the vast majority of His creation to eternal torments forever. This is not the God of the Bible. For our God will be...

ALL IN ALL!

THE APOSTLE PAUL'S MESSAGE

What was the apostle Paul's message? Do you know? Are you sure? Before we talk about what his message was, we need to talk about what his message was not. PAUL DID NOT TEACH A SALVATION FROM EVERLASTING TORTURE IN HELL! Check his writings for yourself. How many times does the word "hell" appear in his writings (keep in mind that he wrote about ¾ of the New Testament)? What is the answer? How about...ZERO!!!...WHAT?

Paul did use the word "Hades", that could have been translated "hell", and was translated "hell" in other places, but the King James Version did not translate it "hell" in this case. 1st Corinthians 15:55 states...O death, where is your sting? O grave ("Hades", or "hell"), WHERE IS YOUR VICTORY?...WHAT?

The English word "grave" in this passage comes from the Greek word "Hades". This same word ("Hades") was translated "hell" in many other spots, including the PARABLE of Lazarus and the Rich Man. Why did they not translate it as "hell" here? The reason it was not translated "hell" here, was due to the fact that it would have made their eternal torture and hell-fire doctrine fall to the ground, and become of no consequence. O HELL, WHERE IS YOUR VICTORY?

"Grave" is actually the correct translation, but the point is... THE KING JAMES TRANSLATORS PICKED AND CHOSE HOW THEY WANTED TO TRANSLATE A WORD IN ORDER TO MAKE IT FIT THEIR TEACHINGS. YOU CAN NOT DO THAT! YOU MUST MAKE YOUR TEACHINGS TO CONFORM TO THE BIBLE, AND WHAT THE WORDS MEAN IN THE ORIGINAL LANGUAGES (Hebrew and Greek).

Most church leaders teach a salvation from everlasting torture in a literal fire. Where do they get that from? Surely they do not get it from the apostle Paul, for he did not teach it.

They get it from:

- 1. THE CARNAL MIND...
- 2. THE DARK AGES (AUGUSTINE)...
- 3. THE TRADITIONS AND DOCTRINES OF MEN...
- 4. THE MISTRANSLATION OF THE WORDS "OLAM", "AION", AND "AIONIOS"
- 5. THE MISTRANSLATION OF THE WORDS "SHEOL", "HADES", "GEHENNA", AND "TARTAROO"...

So...What was the apostle Paul's message? Paul spoke of:

THE MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION...

THE IN-GATHERING OF ALL THINGS UNDER THE HEADSHIP OF JESUS CHRIST... GOD HAVING MERCY ON ALL...

ALL DYING IN ADAM...

ALL BEING MADE ALIVE IN CHRIST, EVERY MAN IN HIS OWN ORDER...

GOD BEING ALL IN ALL (EVERYTHING TO EVERYONE)...

JUDGMENT, PUNISHMENT, WRATH, AND VENGEANCE FOR THE PURPOSE OF CORRECTION...

EVERY KNEE BOWING (A WORSHIPFUL BOW)...
EVERY TONGUE CONFESSING JESUS CHRIST AS LORD...

This is quite different from the everlasting torture and hell-fire gospel ("so-called") of the modern day church. Paul's message was TRUTH. Today's message is TRADITION. Why don't you check out Paul's writings for yourself. I would rather know the truth.

HOW ABOUT YOU?



March 9

ORIGEN'S GRAND STATEMENT

Here is what J. W. Hanson said about Origen: "This greatest of all Christian apologists and exegetes, and the first man in Christendom since Paul, was a distinctive Universalist. He could not have misunderstood or misrepresented the teachings of His Master. The language of the New Testament was his mother tongue. He delivered the teachings of Christ from Christ Himself in a direct line through his teacher Clement; and he placed the defense of Christianity on Universalistic grounds. When Celsus, in his "True Discourse," the first great assault on Christianity, objected to Christianity on the ground that it taught punishment by fire, Origen replied that the threatened fire possessed a disciplinary, purifying quality that will consume in the sinner whatever evil material it can find to consume."

In 249 A.D., Origen was arrested, tortured and died in 251 A.D. Most honest Christian writers consider him one of the greatest Christian leaders ever. Origen was responsible for composing the first system of Christian theology in the year 230 A.D., of which a fundamental and essential element was the doctrine of the universal restoration of all fallen beings to their original holiness and union with God. In the year 544 A.D., this doctrine was for the first time condemned and anathematized as heretical. From and after this point (A.D. 553) the doctrine of eternal punishment reigned with undisputed sway during the Middle Ages that preceded the Reformation. With man having painted a picture of God as the Eternal Tormentor, NO WONDER THE WORLD WENT INTO THE DARK AGES! THAT FALSE MESSAGE BRINGS WITH IT A DARKNESS THAT SWALLOWS UP THE LIGHT OF THE TRUE GOSPEL! With this in mind, let us now turn our attention back to Origen and his GRAND STATEMENT.

Here is Origen's GRAND STATEMENT... "with God the one fixed point is the end, when God shall be all in all. All intelligent work has a perfect end of Colossians 1:20 and Hebrews 2:19, he says: Christ is the Great High Priest, not only for man but for every rational creature. In his Homilies on Ezekiel, he says: If it had not been conductive to the conversation of sinners to employ

suffering, never would a compassionate and benevolent God have inflicted punishment. Love, which never fails, will preserve the whole creation from all possibility of further fall; and God will be all in all forever."

Do you believe God is compassionate? Do you believe God is love? Do you believe His love will never fail? Let us join the ranks of this great theologian, and declare our God as merciful and compassionate. Let us declare THAT GOD IS LOVE, AND THAT HE IS A LOVE THAT WILL NEVER FAIL!!!

HIS LOVE WILL NEVER FAIL!



March 10

EARS TO HEAR

HE THAT HAS EARS TO HEAR, LET HIM HEAR!

According to Dr. E. W. Bullinger: "These words were never used by mortal man. They were heard only from the lips of Him Who spoke with Divine authority (Matthew 7:29); and on earth only on seven distinct occasions, in order to emphasize and call attention to the utterance He (Jesus Christ) had just made." (Dr. E. W. Bullinger)

The seven occasions are found in:

- 1. MATTHEW 11:15
- 2. MATTHEW 13:9
- 3. MATTHEW 13:43
- 4. MARK 4:23
- 5. MARK 7:16
- 6. LUKE 8:8
- 7. LUKE 14:35

For the eight occasions after the ascension of Christ, see: Revelation 2: 7, 11, 17, 29; 3: 6, 13, 22; 13:9

Let us now turn our attention to the book of Revelation, and that this phrase is uttered SEVEN TIMES IN TWO CHAPTERS. Do you think these words are important, or what? Let us stop and think for a minute! What is the book of Revelation? IT IS THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST! It is the unveiling of the Christ. So...It takes ears to hear to receive the revelation of Jesus Christ. What does this phrase mean? It means to perceive or understand something with the mind.

Remember the parable of the sower? Jesus said...he that received seed into the good ground is he that hears the word and UNDERSTANDS it...This brings forth fruit, some hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty...

Having ears to hear is equivalent to:

RECEIVING REVELATION FROM GOD...
UNDERSTANDING HIS WORD...
SEEING, HEARING, AND UNDERSTANDING SPIRITUAL THINGS...
PERCEPTION OF GOD...
SEEING THE KINGDOM OF GOD...

How do we acquire ears to hear? ASK, SEEK, KNOCK! We must humble ourselves and DILIGENTLY ask, seek, and knock. Jesus said...I will open My mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world...

WOW!

We must understand that the understanding of God is LOCKED UP in parables, secrets, and in mysteries. What unlocks the parables, secrets, and mysteries of God? THE VERY SPIRIT OF GOD UNLOCKS THEM TO US. He does it by giving us ears to hear.

So let us ask, seek, and knock for ears to hears. Without ears to hear, we are seeing, but we see not, and we are hearing, but we hear not, NEITHER DO WE UNDERSTAND! Thank God for ears to hear. Blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear.

O FATHER...GIVE US EARS TO HEAR!



March 11

COME OUT OF HER

Revelation 18:4 states...And I heard another voice from heaven saying, Come out of her, MY PEOPLE, that you be not partakers of her sins, and that you receive not of her plagues...Revelation 17:5 states...And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH...

According to Dr. E. W. Bullinger: "Babylon, which means CONFUSION, is the fountainhead of all idolatry and systems of false worship. This is the mystery of iniquity (2nd Thessalonians 2:7) seen in all the great religions of the world. All alike substitute another god for the God of the Bible; a god made either with hands or with the imagination, but equally made; a religion constituting of human merit and endeavor." (Dr. E. W. Bullinger)

So as we can see, Babylon is the confusion of man-made religion of any kind, including the governmental and economic systems of man as well. Babylon is that spirit of confusion in man that permeates his mind, producing false and idolatrous ideas about God. This is BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH! IT IS CONFUSION! Those who are captivated by her (Babylon) are wooed into an idolatrous relationship, in which they do fornicate with a false god, or false ideas of the true God. In essence, it is the religious, governmental, and economic ideas of MAN. IT IS THAT WHICH MAN PRODUCES, WHICH DOES COME OUT OF HIS BEAST NATURE, AND IS THE VERY SPIRIT OF ANTI-CHRIST (that which is against or instead of Christ)!

The good news is that there is another city that is spoken of in the book of Revelation. This city is the city of God. It is JERUSALEM! This city represents the true God, along with HIS GOVERNMENT, AND HIS TRUE PLAN OF ECONOMICS FOR THE HUMAN RACE. This government is now available to the sons of God through faith in Jesus Christ. IT IS THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD! It is that government which is currently being set up in the body of Christ, and will continue into the ages to come, until the creation is set free. The question is...How much of the creation will be set free? If we are to truly believe what the Bible teaches, then we must admit that the government of God, which is to be manifested through the sons of God, will result in the deliverance of the entire creation (EVERY PERSON WHO HAS EVER LIVED, OR WILL LIVE)!

Notice who is told to come out of Babylon in Revelation 18:4. IT IS GOD'S PEOPLE!

WHAT?

YES...God's people are presently in confusion. They are confused about the purpose and plan of God. Many do not yet understand the hope of their calling, which is: TO JUDGE THE WORLD IN RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND TO SET THE CREATION FREE! O CHILD OF GOD...COME OUT OF HER (BABYLON, CONFUSION)! BE SET FREE, TO SET THE CREATION FREE! Free from what? FREE FROM CONFUSION ABOUT OUR GOD!!! We must learn that our Father is LOVE! He is a love that NEVER FAILS!

God wants to give you:

- 1. POWER
- 2. LOVE
- 3. A SOUND MIND

Babylon is:

- 1. WEAKNESS
- 2. HATE
- 3. CONFUSION

COME OUT OF HER, GOD'S PEOPLE!

FROM DELUSION TO DUNAMIS

The church is pictured in the book of Acts as full of power (dunamis, Acts 1:8), and turning the world upside down (Acts 17:6). The church is presently in a state of STRONG DELUSION (2nd Thessalonians 2:11), and says that it is rich, and increased with goods, and has need of nothing; not knowing that it is wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked (Revelation 3:17). WOW! WHAT HAPPENED?

The apostle Paul prophesied in 2nd Thessalonians 2:3 that there would come a falling away. This falling away began in about the year 313 A.D. with the entrance of a man named Constantine. He was responsible for the legalization of Christianity. This resulted in the secularization of the church. Christianity became a matter of fashion. Many heathen customs and usages, under altered names, crept into the worship of God and the life of the Christian people. This resulted in the people of Christianity forsaking the truth in exchange for the traditions and doctrines of men. So...GOD SENT THEM STRONG DELUSION, THAT THEY SHOULD BELIEVE A LIE! Naturally, the downward spiral of the church continued.

According to Dr. Harold Lovelace: "The great truth of the salvation of all creation by God was denounced by the Fifth General Council of the Catholic Church held in Constantinople from May 4, A.D. 553 until June 2, A.D. 553. The dark ages came upon the world for about 1,000 years, and this great truth was hidden." (Read And Search God's Plan, Dr. Harold Lovelace)

The first sign of hope was in 1517 A.D., when Martin Luther broke away from the Catholic Church, by stating...THE JUST SHALL LIVE BY FAITH! We must realize this: Martin Luther came out of the Dark Ages, but he brought some of the Dark Age teaching with him, ESPECIALLY THE TEACHING OF ETERNAL TORTURE.

The church has been gaining some ground ever since. BUT THE CHURCH IS STILL WEAK! WHERE IS THE POWER (DUNAMIS) OF THE BOOK OF ACTS? Many people are in bondage to a LIE. The Bible states that you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. If the body of Christ is not free, then it does not know the truth.

The early apostles had the power (dunamis) of the Spirit of God, which led them into REVELATION TRUTH OF THE PURPOSE AND PLAN OF GOD. If it is true that the same baptism with the Holy Spirit is available to us today, which it is (and many have received the baptism with the Holy Spirit), then what is it that we are missing, and why is there no power in the body of Christ? The only logical conclusion is that we are missing revelation truth concerning the purpose and plan of God. Remember...IT TAKES SPIRIT AND TRUTH TO BE A TRUE WORSHIPPER OF GOD! As we take our position in Christ, preaching the true gospel under the inspiration and anointing of the Holy Spirit, we will once again see the power (dunamis) of God. THE REASON THE CHURCH IS WEAK AND LIMITED, IS DUE TO THE FACT THAT IT IS BELIEVING AND PREACHING A LIE!!! IT PREACHES A GOD WHO IS WEAK AND LIMITED, AND WHO DOES NOT CARE ABOUT HIS CREATION, BUT WILL ETERNALLY TORTURE WELL OVER 95% OF ALL THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE EVER BEEN BORN. IT PREACHES A WEAK, LIMITED, AND UNMERCIFUL GOD, WHICH IN TURN CAUSES THE BODY OF CHRIST TO BE WEAK, LIMITED, AND UNMERCIFUL (you are what you eat)!

Oddly enough, this falling away was DESIGNED BY GOD HIMSELF, to separate truth lovers from lovers of injustice. Remember...It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honor of kings is to search out a matter (Proverbs 25:2)...Let us line up with God's truth. He is bringing us from...

DELUSION TO DUNAMIS (POWER)!



March 13

HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM

Have you received the Holy Spirit since you believed? In Acts 19:1-7, we find the apostle Paul coming into Ephesus and addressing this very situation. He simply asks the disciples there...HAVE YOU RECEIVED THE HOLY SPIRIT SINCE YOU BELIEVED? They did not even know what he was talking about.

Many today in Christendom do not know what Paul was talking about either. They reject the baptism with the Holy Spirit, saying...it passed away with the early apostles, or they say that you are automatically baptized with the Holy Spirit at the moment you believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. In addition to this, they are strongly against the idea of speaking in tongues, for they say that this too did pass away with the early apostles. SAD...ISN'T IT?

The very Holy Spirit of the living God is available to us, and many either reject it (because of their denominational beliefs), or they find some way to explain it away. Well...Such is the story of the Gentile Church.

The baptism with the Holy Spirit is clearly a separate experience after believing on the Lord Jesus Christ. Paul cleared this issue up for all to see. Paul asked the question...Have you received the Holy Spirit SINCE YOU BELIEVED? Paul was obviously making a distinction between believing on the Lord Jesus Christ, and then receiving the baptism with the Holy Spirit, which is then evidenced by speaking with tongues. Acts 19:6 states...And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, THE HOLY SPIRIT CAME ON THEM; AND THEY SPOKE WITH TONGUES AND PROPHESIED...

For those who say that this experience has passed away with the early apostles, FOR THEM IT HAS! But for those who believe the Bible, IT HAS NOT PASSED AWAY, FOR WE KNOW BY EXPERIENCE THAT IT IS STILL REAL TODAY!

Read also:

Acts chapter 2...

The entire book of Acts...

Paul's comments on speaking in tongues in his epistles...

Mark 16:17 states...And these signs shall follow them that believe; In My name shall they cast out devils; THEY SHALL SPEAK WITH NEW TONGUES...

Are you a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ? Have you received the Holy Spirit since you believed? Seek God for what He wants to give you! As well, keep in mind that it is not just a one time experience (read Acts 4:29-31). The Holy Spirit of God was over His people in the Old Testament (a cloud by day and a fire by night). The Holy Spirit of God was with His people as He came to be manifested in the flesh (Jesus...Emmanuel...God with us). And finally, the Holy Spirit of God is IN US, and shall come forth out of us as rivers of living water.

Even the Spirit of truth; Whom the world cannot receive, because it sees Him not, neither knows Him; for He dwells with you, AND SHALL BE IN YOU (John 14:17)...

HAVE YOU RECEIVED THE HOLY SPIRIT SINCE YOU BELIEVED?



March 14

WHAT IS GOD'S NAME?

There is much controversy over the question of God's name. Many try to determine God's name by looking to the Old Testament alone. This can not be done, for the New Testament is the fulfillment of the Old Testament. The Old Testament sheds some light on this question, so we will start there.

In the Old Testament, God's name is represented by the tetragrammaton (four letters) Yod He Waw He, transliterated into the Roman script YHWH. Because it was considered blasphemous to utter the name of God it was only written and never spoken. This resulted in the original pronunciation being lost. The name may have originally been derived from the old Semitic root (hwy) meaning "to be" or "to become".

According to Dr. Stephen Jones: "Adonai Yahweh is one of the prophet Ezekiel's favorite terms for Yahweh. He uses the term 214 times—for example, Ezekiel 2:4. It is translated "The Lord God" in the KJV. Personally, I would prefer NOT to translate the term at all, but simply leave it as it reads in the Hebrew: Adonai Yahweh. However, if men insist on translating it, the term could more accurately read, "Lord Yahweh." (Putting The Sacred Names In Perspective, Dr. Stephen Jones)

The name Yahweh (YHWH) comes from a verb which means "to exist, be". This, plus its usage, shows that this name stresses God as the independent and self-existent God of revelation and redemption (Genesis 4:3, Exodus 6:3). The name Yahweh tells us much about the character and nature of God.

It tells us that He is:

SELF-EXISTENT THE GREAT I AM I AM THAT I AM INDEPENDENT SELF-SUFFICIENT

As well, there are many who claim that the name of God is Jehovah (Form of <u>YAHWEH</u> used in older translations of the Bible, produced by blending the letters of the tetragrammaton with the vowels from ADONAI.).

While the name Yahweh tells us much about God, it still leaves us with just a general picture of God, and a longing for a greater, more specific name that defines Who and what He is. Let us now look to the New Testament to know beyond a shadow of a doubt what God's name is.

John 17:6 states...(Jesus is speaking) I HAVE MANIFESTED YOUR NAME unto the men which You gave Me out of the world...John 17:26 states...(Jesus is speaking) And I have declared unto them YOUR NAME, and will declare it...John 8:58 states...Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I AM (Sound familiar?...How about...I AM THAT I AM!)...Revelation 1:8 states...(Jesus is speaking) I AM Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, says the Lord, Which is, and Which was, and Which is to come, THE ALMIGHTY... John 14:7 states... (Jesus is speaking)...IF YOU HAD KNOWN ME, YOU SHOULD HAVE KNOWN MY FATHER ALSO: AND FROM HENCEFORTH YOU KNOW HIM, AND HAVE SEEN HIM...Finally, Jesus states in John 5:43...I AM COME IN MY FATHER'S NAME!!!... Well...What name did He come with? YES...YOU GUESSED IT! The name He came with was... J E S U S! According to Dr. Stephen Jones: "(The Greek name itself is spelled *Iesous* or *Iesus* and is translated into English as Jesus. Of course, the "J" in the English language did not come into usage until about 200 years ago, so prior to this time it was spelled with an "I."" [Putting The Sacred Names In Perspective, Dr. Stephen Jones])!

The name Jesus is the English form of *Iesous*, which was the Greek form of the Aramaic name *Yeshua*. *Yeshua* is itself a contracted form of *Yehoshua* (see <u>JOSHUA</u>). It means SAVIOR (YAHWEH SAVES)!

Well...There you have it! It is undeniable! We have our answer!

GOD'S NAME IS JESUS!



March 15

PROVE ALL THINGS

1ST Thessalonians 5:21 states...Prove all things; hold fast to that which is good...The word "prove" in this passage means: to test, try, approve, or to examine. The apostle Paul is here telling us to test, try, approve, and to examine ALL THINGS. Did he say to prove some things? NO! HE SAID TO PROVE ALL THINGS!

Why is it then, that so many Christians are afraid to, do not want to, or will not test, try, approve, or examine their beliefs in God?

Here are the two main reasons:

- 1. They already have a belief system about God, and they refuse to stay open minded, afraid that they will come across something in their studies that will either confuse them, or show they have been believing something about God that is incorrect. They are not willing to go against the traditions and doctrines of men. In other words, they have all their "ducks in a row", have put God in a box, and already have their mind made up about God. THEY REFUSE TO STUDY OR EVEN CONSIDER ANYTHING CONTRARY TO WHAT THEY HAVE ALREADY BEEN TAUGHT. THIS IS DECEPTION, AND STRONG DELUSION!
- 2. They are LAZY! They do not want to take the time to prove (examine) or think through their beliefs. This is also part of DECEPTION, AND STRONG DELUSION!

We must test all of our beliefs with the Holy Scriptures. The object of our study must be to arrive at TRUTH! WHAT IS THE TRUTH? This is what the goal of examining all things is... THAT WE SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH, AND THE TRUTH SHALL MAKE US FREE!

According to Dr. Harold Lovelace: "Many people are satisfied with the status quo. They just accept what has been told to them for the truth and never question it. The truth is so important, and it is the truth that will make us free. If we receive less than the full amount of truth, we are denying ourselves of God's blessings. Everything you hold to be true should be tested, doubted, searched, and researched again against all reasonable standards to see if it is in fact truth. You see, all truth, as far as teachings, doctrines, etc. about the Lord God and His Word will in ALL CASES GLORIFY HIM. If it does not, discard it. Many of man's own ideas, those passed down to him or those popular, are accepted without question. Accepting these ideas without researching them is not wise. After all, when you question, doubt, or search thoroughly as the Bereans to see if those teachings are so, you will NOT DO ANY DAMAGE TO THE TEACHINGS WHICH YOU ARE RESEARCHING. Again, if the idea or dogma can't stand the test TO GLORIFY GOD, it should be discarded anyway. In other words, know WHY you believe what you believe." (Read And Search God's Plan, Dr. Harold Lovelace)

PROVE ALL THINGS!



March 16

THE YEAR OF JUBILEE

Leviticus 25:8-10 states...And you shall number seven Sabbaths of years unto you, seven times seven years; and the space of the seven Sabbaths of years shall be unto you forty and nine years.

Then shall you cause the trumpet of the Jubilee to sound on the tenth day of the seventh month, in the Day of Atonement shall you make the trumpet sound throughout all your land. And you shall hallow the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof; it shall be a Jubilee unto you; AND YOU SHALL RETURN EVERY MAN UNTO HIS POSSESSION, and you shall return every man unto his family...

According to Bill Britton: "In basic terms, every fifty years a great change took place in Israel. Everything was to be restored just as it was when the tribes originally inherited the land. If a man waxed poor and sold his land and became a slave or servant to others, this continued only until the year of Jubilee. At that time all slaves were set free, and every man returned to his original inheritance. I HOPE YOU CAN SEE WHAT THIS MEANS TO THE HUMAN RACE! It has a spiritual meaning, and held out a hope to humanity that God had set a day when all bondage would cease and everything that God had given to mankind in the beginning would be restored." (The Year Of Jubilee, Bill Britton)

When we look at the law of Jubilee in the Old Testament as it pertained to natural Israel, we can then see what this law means spiritually to the entire creation. Remember...All the things that happened to natural Israel, happened unto them for examples: and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages are come.

We must see that the Year of Jubilee in the natural represents something that will take place in the Spirit. Because Jesus died on the cross, He has GUARANTEED A JUBILEE FOR THE ENTIRE CREATION, every man in his own order. Jesus purchased the entire creation by laying down His life, shedding His blood, AND TAKING AWAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD. JESUS IS THE JUBILEE!

Because there was a manifestation of the Son of God, there shall be a manifestation of the sons of God, which will result in the creation being set free and restored to the Father (Romans 8:19-22). How much of the creation do you think that the sons of God will set free? How about...ALL OF THE CREATION! Sounds like Jubilee, doesn't it? YOU BETTER BELIEVE IT!

The ages to come (the Millennium and the Age of the Ages) will prove to be a Jubilee for ALL NATIONS, ALL PEOPLE, AND ALL THINGS!

EVERY MAN SHALL RETURN UNTO HIS POSSESSION!



March 17

RECONCILING THE WORLD UNTO HIMSELF

2nd Corinthians 5:18-19 states...And all things are of God, Who HAS RECONCILED us to Himself by Jesus Christ, and HAS GIVEN to us the ministry of reconciliation; To wit, that GOD WAS IN CHRIST RECONCILING THE WORLD UNTO HIMSELF, not imputing their trespasses

unto them, and HAS COMMITTED unto us the word of reconciliation...Let us take note of the terminology in this passage of scripture...

HAS RECONCILED...

HAS GIVEN...

GOD WAS IN CHRIST... RECONCILING THE WORLD UNTO HIMSELF...

HAS COMMITTED...

These words speak of something that is past tense, already accomplished, done, completed, and finished. What a GRAND DAY it is when it becomes a revelation to you that God has (past tense) reconciled you unto Himself. He reconciled you unto Himself before you even knew that you needed to be reconciled. He reconciled you when you were yet His enemy.

The word "reconcile" means: to change, exchange, as coins for others of equivalent value, return to favor with, to receive one into favor, and to make friendly. It is IMPERATIVE that we understand that GOD WAS NOT RECONCILED TO US, BUT WE WERE RECONCILED UNTO HIM! Well...What about repentance? We must understand that when a person repents, this is not what reconciles them to God. When a person repents, IT IS BECAUSE THEY HAVE BEEN AWAKENED TO THE FACT THAT GOD HAS ALREADY RECONCILED THEM UNTO HIMSELF!!!

According to A. P. Adams: "The sinner is not redeemed because he repents, BUT IS CALLED UPON TO REPENT BECAUSE HE HAS BEEN REDEEMED." (<u>The Atonement</u>, A. P. Adams)

This means...THE ENTIRE CREATION (ALL OF MANKIND) HAS BEEN RECONCILED TO GOD THROUGH JESUS CHRIST. IT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED! So...What next?

The scriptures tell us that the message of reconciliation is to come to every man in his own order. They testify to the fact that ALL WILL BE MADE ALIVE IN CHRIST! What remains is for man to go through the process of salvation, which includes: JUSTIFICATION, SANCTIFICATION, AND GLORIFICATION! But remember... This process of salvation is made possible only because GOD WAS IN CHRIST RECONCILING THE WORLD UNTO HIMSELE. In the mind of God we are already reconciled to Him. The sin debt has been paid in full by the PRECIOUS BLOOD OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST! What remains is for us to BECOME WHAT GOD HAS DECLARED US TO BE! He has imputed (to attribute or ascribe) to us His righteousness. In essence, He has given us His righteousness on credit, and based on our faith in the Son of God. As we go through the process of SONSHIP (the salvation process of being made into a fully mature son of God), and as God writes His laws on our hearts, WE ARE BECOMING RIGHTEOUS! NO...we are not earning righteousness, but rather we are God's workmanship, and what is taking place is a work of the Spirit, in which God is bringing our condition up to the level of our position, and bringing our state (of being) up to the level of our standing in Him!

2nd Corinthians 5:20-21 states...Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray in Christ's stead, BE RECONCILED TO GOD. For He has made Him to be sin for us, Who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him...

BE RECONCILED TO GOD!



THE FATHER

There is no story in the Bible quite like the story of the Prodigal Son. It is actually about TWO LOST SONS who both need the forgiveness of their father. Notice the character of the father in the story. Notice that his character and nature never changes. He is one of wisdom, compassion, and love. The father in this story has not a vindictive or vicious bone in his body. He was willing to give his younger son his inheritance, watch him go waste it, wait and watch for him to come to himself, and come home. And finally, to rejoice when he did come home. NOW THAT IS A LOVING FATHER!

We must understand that this story portrays the never-failing love of our Heavenly Father. Our Father, Who is all-powerful and all-loving, WILL NEVER GIVE UP ON HIS CREATION UNTIL ALL HIS LOST SONS COME HOME, whether now or in the ages to come. NOW THAT IS A GOOD DAD!

The father in this story had every right to be angry with his younger son. He could have refused to forgive him by not letting him come back home again. But the father said to his servants...Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: And bring here the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry: FOR THIS MY SON WAS DEAD, AND IS ALIVE AGAIN; HE WAS LOST, AND IS FOUND (Luke 15:22-24)...

Let us also remember... that the father saw him (his son) when he was a great way off, and had compassion, and RAN, and fell on his neck, and kissed him (Luke 15:20)...

The father was SO LOVING that he even forgave his other SELF-RIGHTEOUS, MEAN, AND ANGRY SON, who refused to rejoice over his brother's homecoming. WHAT A LOVING FATHER!!! He forgives riotous living and self-righteousness.

Let us once and for all see our Heavenly Father as the COMPASSIONATE, LOVING, AND MERCIFUL GOD THAT HE IS! YES...There is a consequence for sin! But our Father is powerful enough and loving enough to cause us to come to ourselves, and to bring us back...

HOME AGAIN!



March 19

THE JUSTICE OF GOD

Exodus 22:5 states...If a man shall cause a field or a vineyard to be eaten, and shall put in his beast, and shall feed in another man's field; of the best of his own field, and of the best of his own vineyard, SHALL HE MAKE RESTITUTION...

Let us consider this portion of the Old Covenant, taking into account the spiritual implications of this law, and how that it applies to God and His dealings with the creation in our day and age, and for all of time for that matter.

Jesus told us in Matthew 13:38...that THE FIELD IS THE WORLD...This would obviously represent the entire human race. Remember...GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD (ALL)! We are told in Genesis 3:1... that the serpent was more subtle than any BEAST OF THE FIELD, WHICH THE LORD GOD HAD MADE...Revelation 20:2 states...that the SERPENT IS THE DEVIL (SATAN)...So it would have to be said that God created Satan (the spirit that now works in the children of disobedience). So...What is being said here? Let us put all these thoughts together.

GOD put HIS BEAST (THE SERPENT, SATAN) in the FIELD (THE GARDEN OF EDEN, WHICH GARDEN WE ARE, THE WORLD), and he (THE BEAST) devoured, and did eat the life of Adam (the human race). SO...GOD WAS RESPONSIBLE TO SEND THE BEST (JESUS CHRIST) OF HIS FIELD TO MAKE RESTITUTION! DO YOU SEE IT??? DO YOU UNDERSTAND???

God was responsible for the fall of Adam (subjecting the creation to vanity, NOT WILLINGLY)! This was the purpose of the ages. It was all, and is all a SCHOOLMASTER to bring us to CHRIST! If Adam would have never fallen (sinned, transgressed), THEN JESUS WOULD HAVE NEVER COME. If Jesus would have never come, then we would have never KNOWN the Father, for Jesus said...If you have seen Me, then you have seen the Father...Jesus was the most perfect revelation of the Father. He was God manifested in the flesh!

According to A. P. Adams: So...Here is the point: "THE JUSTICE OF GOD IS NOT **AGAINST** THE SINNER, DEMANDING HIS CONDEMNATION, BUT **FOR** HIM, INSURING HIS SALVATION!" (The Atonement, A. P. Adams)

The word "justice" means: the quality of being just; righteousness, equitableness, or moral rightness, the quality of being true or correct. So...In order for God to be JUST, RIGHTEOUS, RIGHT, TRUE, AND CORRECT, HE WAS RESPONSIBLE TO SEND HIS BEST (JESUS CHRIST) TO MAKE RESTITUTION!

WHY?

Because He (God):

PUT HIS BEAST (SATAN) IN THE FIELD (THE WORLD)...
PUT MAN INTO DESTRUCTION (PSALM 90:1-3)...
SUBJECTED THE CREATION TO VANITY, NOT WILLINGLY (ROMANS 8:20)...

What a restitution it will be! There shall be a restitution of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His Holy Prophets since the world began (Acts 3:21)...

JUSTICE AND RESTITUTION FOR ALL!



GO AND LEARN WHAT THAT MEANS

Matthew 9:12,13 states...Jesus said unto them (the Pharisees), They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick. But go and learn what that means, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am come not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance...

In these verses of scripture, we find Jesus in one of His many disputes with the Pharisees. They were always ready to argue and to point the finger at the publicans and the sinners. So...How did Jesus respond? What did He do?

Jesus exposed the Pharisees for what and who they were. They were, and are, and do represent: Someone who has a knowledge of the scriptures, BUT DOES NOT KNOW OR UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY MEAN. The Pharisee spirit claims to know God, but DOES NOT KNOW GOD. It is one of intellect and self-righteousness, which depends totally on the carnal mind for its interpretation of scripture. Many people live in a world of quoting scriptures, BUT THEY DO NOT KNOW WHAT THE SCRIPTURES MEAN. The Pharisees were masters at quoting the scriptures, but they were babes in their understanding of them.

Let us HUMBLE OURSELVES in asking God to show us what the Holy Scriptures mean. For without the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him (God), we can only hope to become a fine tuned and polished PHARISEE! ARE YOU WILLING TO GO ON A JOURNEY TO FIND OUT WHAT THE WORDS OF THE BIBLE REALLY MEAN? It is important to know the words of the Lord, BUT IT IS MORE IMPORTANT TO KNOW WHAT THEY MEAN!

GO AND LEARN WHAT THEY MEAN!



March 21

SINNERS IN THE HANDS OF A LOVING GOD

According to Gary Amirault: IS GOD LOVE?...OR...IS GOD ANGER? WHICH ONE IS HE? "According to Jonathan Edwards, God is an angry God. Jonathan Edwards has come down to us in history as one of the all-time great men of the Protestant mold. His sermon, "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God," is considered to be an all-time classic. He was a leading player in what came to be known as the "Great Awakening," an American Revival of the 18th century. It is reported that after he dangled huge audiences over the lake of fire with his polished and extreme language, PEOPLE WOULD GO HOME AND COMMIT SUICIDE. Jonathan Edward's God was an angry God. He followed the footsteps of his apostle in the faith, John Calvin. John Calvin did not bring people to their own self-destruction. HE BURNED THEM HIMSELF! (He had Michael Servetus, one of his theological enemies, burned to death in green slow-burning wood.) John Calvin followed

after his apostle in the faith - Augustine. Augustine was perhaps the most influential early church leader in bringing the doctrine of eternal punishment from paganism into Christianity. Prior to Augustine, there were FEW who held such teaching." (Sinners In The Hands Of An Angry God, Gary Amirault)

Let us look at the fruit of Augustine's students:

JOHN CALVIN BURNS PEOPLE TO DEATH OVER THEOLOGICAL MATTERS...
PEOPLE LEAVE JONATHAN EDWARD'S SERMONS TO GO HOME
AND COMMIT SUICIDE...

Last time I checked, neither burning people to death, nor committing suicide were to be found as fruits of the Spirit. These people (Augustine, John Calvin, and Jonathan Edwards) are the Fathers of the false message of eternal torture. They held to a VERY DARK PICTURE OF OUR GOD. Their ideas about God have infiltrated the minds of many, many people. To this day, Evangelical Christianity preaches its message of eternal torture without even considering that it could be incorrect. It has found itself locked into the same DARK PICTURE OF GOD. Christians have come to accept this WARPED VIEW of their Heavenly Father. They are somehow able to accept that GOD IS LOVE, AND THAT GOD IS ALSO THE ETERNAL TORMENTOR AT THE SAME TIME. I guess you could say...THEY BELIEVE IT IS LOVE TO TORTURE SOMEONE FOREVER. WHAT A WARPED VIEW OF OUR HEAVENLY FATHER!!! Have you ever thought through that belief? Can you imagine someone being tortured forever in literal fire (so they say)? THAT IS SICK! Would you take one of your children and torture them forever? Would you torture them even for one moment, with no purpose of correction in mind? ANY SANE PERSON WOULD SAY...NO! Well... Are we more loving than God? Do we have more power to correct than God? Is God that shallow of a being, that the only method that He has to deal with His enemies is to torture them forever? WHAT KIND OF GOD IS THAT? DO WE WANT TO SERVE A GOD LIKE THAT? THAT SOUNDS MORE CRUEL THAN HITLER!!! IF SO, WE SHOULD BEGIN TORTURING OUR ENEMIES JUST LIKE OUR HEAVENLY FATHER DOES HIS! DON'T WE WANT TO BE LIKE OUR GOD? So... What are we to do?

WE ARE TO TEACH AND PREACH THE TRUTH! GOD IS LOVE! WE ARE SINNERS IN THE HANDS OF A LOVING GOD!!! YES...Our Heavenly Father does punish, but it is for the purpose of CORRECTION.

According to Gary Amirault: "Punish He will, for our Father is just. In age-long correction, you can surely trust. On vindictive torment our Father's not bent. MERCY WILL, YES! TRIUMPH OVER JUDGMENT." (What The Hell Is Hell?, Gary Amirault)

WE ARE IN THE HANDS OF A LOVING GOD!



A QUOTE FROM GEORGE HAWTIN

The following words by George Hawtin are most challenging: "The established visible church has preached its multiplied sermons seeking to prove its tradition that the vast majority of God's human creation will be LOST, finally, irrevocably, and eternally, and not only will they be lost to God forever and ever, but they will be given up to the most sadistic, inhuman, ungodly torments that could be devised by the vilest fiends. According to the tradition of the church this hellish torment is to fall upon all who do not believe. It matters not a whit whether they had opportunity to believe or not. It matters not at all if they were born in the darkest jungles of Africa, the swamps of Borneo, or the deserts of India or China. The fact that they never heard there was a God will be no excuse whatever. The fact that they never heard that God had a Son will not impede their dreadful destruction. Heathen who never heard that God had a Son are, according to this teaching, faced with the same dreadful doom as men who heard the gospel from their birth and yet rejected it. To add to the stupidity of their teaching they make pitiful attempts to prove that this is the justice of God and that God is manifesting His love in the punishment of sin. The doctrine of eternal punishment is based on a literal interpretation of some of the metaphors of scripture, to the complete neglect of many other scriptures. No doctrine has ever been propounded with more confidence and greater bitterness nor with a grossness and coarseness more hideous and repugnant, and, in the face of the love and kindness of God, more inconceivable and incredible" -end quote. (George Hawtin)

think about it! Think About It!!

THINK ABOUT IT!!!



March 23

THE SPIRIT OF GOD MOVED

Genesis 1:1-3 states...In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. AND THE SPIRIT OF GOD MOVED upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light...John 3:5,6 states...Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a man be born of WATER and of the SPIRIT, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God...

Can you see the similarities between these two passages of scripture? They both speak of water and Spirit. We must see that the water represents the first act of creation. It represents the natural

man, and the natural birth. When a woman gives birth to her child, first her water breaks, and then the baby comes forth. This of course is our natural birth. The natural man in scripture is many times represented by the word EARTH, or something similar. Remember...We have a treasure hidden in EARTHEN VESSELS.

It takes the Spirit (Breath) of God to make something alive. Remember...The Spirit quickens (makes alive). Genesis 2:7 states...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...

We must understand that life, light, love, and all things that pertain to these three are ONLY FOUND IN THE SPIRIT OF GOD! Outside the Spirit of God is death, darkness, and hate, which man produces as a result of his carnal mind, which is the corrupt nature of Adam (the sin nature).

Remember...The natural man can not discern the things of the Spirit of God. THEY ARE SPIRITUALLY DISCERNED! Let us ask the Father to move by His Spirit on the waters of our carnality. Then, and only then, will we be enlightened to understand our Father and His purpose of the ages. We shall then go from darkness to light.

LET THERE BE LIGHT!



March 24

IN MY NAME

John 14:13 states...And whatsoever you shall ask in My name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son...What does it mean to ask for something in the NAME of Jesus? What does it mean when we say, IN THE NAME OF JESUS? Well...The answer is in the meaning of the word "name". The word "name" means: character or nature. So...to ask for something in the name of Jesus, is to ask in the NATURE AND CHARACTER OF JESUS.

What is the nature and character of Jesus? Remember...Jesus said...for I do always those things that please Him (the Father, John 8:29)...The character and nature of Jesus is one that seeks to please the Father, to do His will, and to be a vessel through which the Father may be glorified. Many people USE the name of Jesus, but do not ask in the NAME (nature) of Jesus. THERE IS A DIFFERENCE! Remember...TO ASK IN HIS NAME, IS TO ASK IN HIS NATURE AND CHARACTER.

As we pray in His name (nature), we will only pray for and ask for what will please the Father. Many people suppose that material gain is godliness, and they are greedy of filthy lucre (greedy for money). As they quench their thirst for things, they use the name of Jesus to acquire it. They are using and speaking the name of Jesus, but what they are doing is NOT IN THE NAME (NATURE) AND CHARACTER OF JESUS! It is in the name of SELF-PROMOTION. Remember...THE LOVE OF MONEY IS A ROOT OF ALL EVIL (1st Timothy 6:10)...

We must realize that the name of Jesus is NOT A MAGIC WORD TO GET THINGS, BUT THAT IT IS THE NATURE AND CHARACTER OF GOD. This very nature is to be manifested in and through us. Let us not use the name (nature) of Jesus to quench our thirst for material possessions. This will cause us to err from the faith, and to pierce ourselves through with many sorrows. But let us grow IN THE NAME (NATURE) OF JESUS! This will enable the...

FATHER TO BE GLORIFIED IN HIS SONS!



March 25

THE LOST SHEEP OF THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL

It is important for us to rightly divide the Holy Scriptures. Many people open the Bible and begin to quote scriptures without even considering who is speaking, who is being spoken to, the setting, circumstance, and situation of the day in which it was spoken.

According to Miles Coverdale: "It shall greatly help you to understand scripture if you mark-not only what is spoken and written, but of whom, and to whom, with what words, at what time, where, to what intent, with what circumstances, considering what goes before and what follows after." (Miles Coverdale)

Matthew 10:5,6 states...These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, GO NOT INTO THE WAY OF THE GENTILES, AND INTO ANY CITY OF THE SAMARITANS ENTER NOT: BUT GO RATHER TO THE LOST SHEEP OF THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL... Matthew 15:24,26 states...Jesus said, I am not sent but unto THE LOST SHEEP OF THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL....It is not profitable to take the CHILDREN'S (Israel's) bread, and to cast it to the DOGS (the Gentiles)...

As we can see, Jesus came to speak first, foremost, and directly to the JEWS ONLY! His primary mission was to convince the Jews that He was the Messiah, and to convince them to repent and believe on Him as the Savior of the world. Jesus, the KING OF THE JEWS, knew that HIS OWN PEOPLE would reject Him as Messiah, but to fulfill all things, He went to them first with the message of the Kingdom of God.

Here are some scriptures that show this very thing:

Matthew 8:12 states...But the children of the kingdom (the Jews) shall be cast into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth (their current day situation in which they find themselves in, for they are blinded to the fact that their Messiah has already come)...Matthew 21:43 states...Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you (the Jews), and given to a nation (the Gentiles) bringing forth the fruits thereof...Acts 18:6 states...And when they (the Jews) opposed themselves, and blasphemed, he (Paul) shook his raiment, and said unto them, Your blood be upon your own heads; I am clean: from henceforth I will go unto the Gentiles...

We can clearly see that Jesus went to the Jews, and that the apostle Paul went to the Gentiles. Jesus warned the Jews that if they did not repent, the Kingdom would be taken from them and given to the Gentiles. In essence, THE RICH MAN (the Jews) did not repent, and the Kingdom was given to LAZARUS (the Gentiles). THE "PARABLE" OF THE RICH MAN AND LAZARUS IS ABOUT THIS VERY THING!

As we know, the Kingdom was indeed taken from the Jews and given to the Gentiles. But Israel is not left without hope! Romans 11:25 states...For I would not, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this MYSTERY, lest you should be wise in your own conceits; THAT BLINDNESS IN PART IS HAPPENED TO ISRAEL, UNTIL THE FULLNESS OF THE GENTILES BE COME IN...Paul then goes on to tell us the GOOD NEWS, which is that...

ALL ISRAEL SHALL BE SAVED!



March 26

THE AGES OF THE AGES

Daniel 7:18 states...But the saints of the MOST HIGH shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever. Have you ever considered what for ever and ever means? Does it mean eternity and eternity? THAT WOULD BE RIDICULOUS! How could you add an eternity on top of eternity? (Think about it!)

These words ("for ever", "even for ever and ever"), when looked up in the original Hebrew, should be translated: UNTO THE AGE, EVEN UNTO THE AGE OF THE AGES. We are now able to see that there are two ages represented in this verse.

They are:

- 1. THE AGE (THE MILLENNIUM)
- 2. THE AGE OF THE AGES (THE DISPENSATION OF THE FULLNESS OF TIMES)

These two ages are referred to in the original languages of the Bible as... THE AGES OF THE AGES. This means: There have been ages, but these two ages are the ages of all ages. They are the two greatest ages of all the previous ages. THEY ARE THE AGES OF THE AGES!

Remember... "Aion", which means an age, has many compounds. They are:

- 1, AGE
- 2. AGES
- 3. UNTO THE AGES OF THE AGES
- 4. UNTO THE AGE OF THE AGE
- 5, UNTO THE AGE OF THE AGES

The Age of the Ages (also referred to as the Age of the Age) is the greatest age of all, and the Ages of the Ages refers to the two greatest ages of all. The apostle Paul spoke of the ages to come in Ephesians 2:7. These ages that he referred to are THE AGES OF THE AGES, Paul went on to tell us that these ages to come would contain THE EXCEEDING RICHES OF THE GRACE OF GOD IN HIS KINDNESS TOWARD US THROUGH CHRIST JESUS! -WOW!-

The question is then, what are we going to do with His exceeding riches, grace, and kindness? Well...We are going to set the creation free! IT IS CALLED THE MANIFESTATION OF THE SONS OF GOD!!! Thank God for the ages to come, for they are...

THE AGES OF THE AGES!



March 27

THE FAITH

2ND Corinthians 13:5 states...Examine yourselves, whether you be in the faith...Notice what is being said here. We are to examine (try) whether or not we are IN THE FAITH! It does not say, examine yourselves whether or not you have faith, but rather, examine yourselves whether you be IN THE FAITH! So...What is THE FAITH?

The words "THE FAITH" speak of faith in a specific person, and a specific work. The person and the work are: The Lord Jesus Christ, His cross, and His resurrection. We must then come to the conclusion that, THE FAITH is...Jesus Christ as the crucified and risen Lord! It is not faith to get things, but faith in Jesus Christ as the crucified and risen Lord of all!

The majority of preaching on faith, is a faith to get material things, rather than faith in the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ. The word "faith" in 2nd Corinthians 13:5 means and refers to the doctrine of faith, or of the gospel promising justification and salvation in Christ.

So...If THE FAITH refers to the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ, and we are to examine ourselves whether we are in THE FAITH, then we are to examine ourselves to see whether or not we are IN CHRIST (Who He is, and what He has accomplished). Sound familiar? Galatians 2:20 states...I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ lives 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...

WOW!

EXAMINE YOURSELF!



NUMBERS IN SCRIPTURE

According to Ray Knight:

"Dr. E. W. Bullinger was a direct descendant of the Bullinger of the Swiss Reformation. He lived from 1837-1913 and was a mighty spiritual man as well deep into the Word of God. He discovered numerical patterns in scripture and creation which led him to believe that His God had purposely placed it there for a reason. His insight to creation and the numerical patterns in God's Word are especially precious."

"Dr. Ivan Panin, a converted Russian Nihilist, later a Harvard Scholar, professor, and mathematician...he once tutored Albert Einstein...learned Greek and Hebrew in four years. He then added Aramaic to his skills. He, quite separately from Bullinger, discovered the mathematical construction of scripture as seen in the two languages used...Hebrew and Greek."

"These two men of God spent many years recording their works and we have access to their findings today and are sincerely blessed by the insight that they have shown us. The "seal of sevens" on all scripture of our Bible was mind boggling...Panin and his assistant WERE CONVERTED THROUGH THEIR DISCOVERY! Panin died in 1942 after spending the remainder of his life in the Word unveiling its mighty treasures." (The above information is from: Bible Numbers Are Mighty, Ray Knight)

Each number has a spiritual meaning:

- 1 = unity, union, oneness
- 2 = witness, double portion
- 3 = completeness, divine perfection
- 4 = world, creation, earth
- 5 = grace, God's goodness
- 6 = carnal man, flesh
- 7 = spiritual perfection
- 8 = new beginning
- 9 = finality
- 10 = trial, testing
- 11 = disorder, chaos
- 12 = divine government
- 13 = sin, rebellion, satan
- 14 = salvation, generations
- 15 = spiritual rest
- 16 = love
- 17 = victory
- 18 = bondage
- 19 = faith
- 20 = redemption

- 21 = degradation of sin
- 22 = light
- 23 = death
- 24 = priesthood
- 25 = forgiveness
- 26 = the gospel of Christ
- 28 = eternal life
- 29 = departure
- 30 = maturity
- 31 = increase
- 32 = covenant
- 33 = promise
- 34 = the naming of a son
- 35 = hope
- 36 = fully man
- 37 = the Word of God
- 38 =slavery to the flesh
- 39 = disease, weakness
- 40 = probation, proving
- 42 = achievement
- 45 = preservation
- 46 = temple devoid of spirit
- 49 = Jubilee announced
- 50 = Pentecost, Jubilee year
- 60 = God's vessel before judgment
- 70 = God's vessel after judgment
- 100 = liberty, deliverance
- 120 = the end of all flesh, the full anointing
- 144 = the spirit filled life, first resurrection
- 153 = the sons of God
- 200 = what man has without God
- 276 = carnal man devoid of spirit, Babylon
- 300 = complete deliverance
- 490 = blessed time
- 600 = warfare
- 666 = the beast nature
- 888 = Jesus, fullness of Christ's body
- 1000 = the glory of God

COUNT NUMBERS, FOR NUMBERS COUNT!



THE DESIRES OF YOUR HEART

Psalm 37:4 states...Delight yourself also in the Lord; and He shall give you the desires of your heart...Let us take note of what is actually being said here. The scripture plainly states, THAT GOD WILL GIVE YOU THE DESIRES OF YOUR HEART! It does not say that we will have desires in our heart, and that God will grant these desires to us, but rather, it states that the very desires that you have in your heart WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU AND PLACED THERE BY GOD HIMSELF!

Many people think that these types of scriptures mean that THEY can just dream up anything they want in their heart, and then God will give it to them. THIS IS NOT SO, AND THIS IS NOT WHAT IS BEING SAID! Many preachers take these types of scriptures out of context, and then use them to justify their lust for material gain. LET US STOP THAT FOOLISHNESS!

As we delight in the Lord, abide in Him, and ask in His name (nature), He will give to us His desires. We will then find ourselves asking for the very same things that He desires. In essence, HIS DESIRES BECOME OUR DESIRES!!!

DELIGHT YOURSELF IN THE LORD!



March 30

THE TESTIMONY OF HANNAH WHITALL SMITH

The following excerpt is from Hannah Whitall Smith's autobiography The Unselfishness of God and How I Discovered It. She was perhaps one of the greatest women evangelists of all time. She is the author of The Christian's Secret of a Happy Life. Millions of copies of this book have been sold, and many Christians of all denominations have been blessed by her writings. This excerpt was originally published in her autobiography. However, after her death, the publishing company decided to totally eliminate three chapters from her book which describe her belief in the universal reconciliation of mankind. We pray that this excerpt will bless you as it has blessed us.

"One day I was riding on a tram-car along Market Street, Philadelphia, when I saw two men come in and seat themselves opposite to me. I saw them dimly through the veil, but congratulated myself that it was only dimly, as I was thus spared the wave of anguish that had so often swept over me at the full sight of a strange face. The conductor came for his fare, and I was obliged to raise my veil in order to count it out. As I raised it I got a sight of the faces of those two men, and with an overwhelming flood of anguish, I seemed to catch a fresh and clearer revelation of the depth of the misery that had been caused to human beings by sin. It

was more than I could bear. I clenched my hands and cried out in my soul, "O, God, how canst thou bear it? Thou mightest have prevented it, but didst not. Thou mightest even now change it, but Thou dost not. I do not see how Thou canst go on living, and endure it." I upbraided God. And I felt I was justified in doing so. Then suddenly God seemed to answer me. An inward voice said, in tones of infinite love and tenderness, "He shall see the travail of His soul and be satisfied."

"Satisfied!" I cried in my heart, "Christ is to be satisfied! He will be able to look at the world's misery, and then at the travail through which He has passed because of it, and will be satisfied with the result; If I were Christ, nothing could satisfy me but that every human being should in the end be saved, and therefore I am sure that nothing less will satisfy Him." And with this a veil seemed to be withdrawn from before the plans of the universe, and I saw that it was true, as the Bible says, that "as in Adam all die -even so in Christ should all be made alive." As was the first, even so was the second. The "all" in one case could not in fairness mean less than the "all" in the other. I saw therefore that the remedy must necessarily be equal to the disease, the salvation must be universal.

I saw all this that day on the tram-car on Market street, Philadelphia--not only thought it, or hoped it, or even believed it--but knew it. It was a Divine fact. And from that moment I have never had one questioning thought as to the final destiny of the human race. God is the Creator of every human being, therefore He is the Father of each one, and they are all His children; and Christ died for every one, and is declared to be "the propitiation not for our sins only, but also for the sins of the whole world" (I John 2:2). However great the ignorance therefore, or however grievous the sin, the promise of salvation is positive and without limitations. If it is true that "by the offense of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation," it is equally true that "by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life." To limit the last "all men" is also to limit the first. The salvation is absolutely equal to the fall. There is to be a final "restitution of all things", when "at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow, of things in heaven, and things on earth, and things under the earth, and every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father." Every knee, every tongue-words could not be more embracing. The how and the when I could not see; but the one essential fact was all I needed-somewhere and somehow *God was going to make every thing right for all the creatures He had created. My heart was at rest about it forever.*

I hurried home to get hold of my Bible, to see if the magnificent fact I had discovered could possibly have been all this time in the Bible, and I had not seen it; and the moment I entered the house, I did not wait to take off my bonnet, but rushed at once to the table where I always kept my Bible and Concordance ready for use, and began my search. Immediately the whole Book seemed to be illuminated. On every page the truth concerning the "times of restitution of all things" of which the Apostle Peter says "God Hath spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began," shone forth, and no room was left for questioning. I turned greedily from page to page of my Bible, fairly laughing aloud for joy at the blaze of light that illuminated it all. It became a new book. Another skin seemed to have been peeled off every text, and my Bible fairly shone with a new meaning. I do not say with a different meaning, for in no sense did the new meaning contradict the old, but a deeper meaning, the true meaning, hidden behind the outward form of words. The words did not need to be changed, they only needed to be understood; and now at last I began to understand them."

WHAT A TESTIMONY!

GOD IS RESPONSIBLE / MAN IS ACCOUNTABLE

Although the words responsible and accountable appear to mean the same thing, they do have different meanings, and do portray two different ideas or thoughts. "Responsible" means: chargeable, with being the source or occasion of something. "Accountable" means: answerable, having to answer for your actions. So... What is God responsible for? What is man accountable for?

God is responsible (the source of) for:

ALL THINGS...

CREATING ALL THINGS...

CREATING LIGHT, DARKNESS, GOOD, EVIL, THRONES, DOMINIONS, PRINCIPALITIES, AND POWERS...

CREATING SATAN (the Prince of the Power of the Air, the SPIRIT that now works in the children of disobedience)...

SUBJECTING THE CREATION TO VANITY (futility, failure),
NOT WILLINGLY PUTTING MAN INTO DESTRUCTION...

THE TREE OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL...

These statements can be supported by researching the following scriptures:

2nd Corinthians 5:18, Colossians 1:16, Isaiah 45:7, Genesis 3:1, Isaiah 54:16, Ephesians 2:2, Romans 8:20, Psalm 90:1-3, Genesis 3:6. So...As we stated earlier, GOD IS RESPONSIBLE FOR EVERYTHING, OR YOU COULD SAY THAT ALL THINGS ARE OF GOD!!! HEAR IT AGAIN! GOD IS RESPONSIBLE FOR, AND THE CAUSE OF...E V E R Y T H I N G! Remember...ALL POWER IS OF GOD (Romans 13:1)!

Now...What is man accountable for?

Romans 14:2 states...that every one of us shall give an account of himself to God. Ephesians 6:12 states...that we wrestle against principalities, powers, the rulers of the darkness of this world, and spiritual wickedness in high places...Remember...God created all this (Colossians 1:16)! This would then mean that man is ACCOUNTABLE to learn how to overcome these things. Romans 12:21 states...overcome evil with good...This would also tell us that we are accountable to learn how to overcome evil with good. BUT HOW???

Colossians 2:14,15 tells us...that Jesus, through His cross, spoiled principalities and powers, making a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it...

We are now able to conclude that Jesus created all things, overcame all things, and now holds us accountable to overcome all things. BUT HOW???

We overcome by placing our faith in the person and the work of the Lord Jesus Christ. We are ACCOUNTABLE to SUBMIT to God and His redemption plan. 2^{nd} Corinthians 5:19 tells us that

God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself...be reconciled to God...In essence, God was responsible to reconcile the world unto Himself, and man is accountable to recognize that reconciliation, and to be reconciled to God. It is important that we do not think that just because God is responsible for everything, that man is not held accountable to God for his actions. The part that we play is one of submission to the sovereignty of God, for in doing this, we do show that we UNDERSTAND that...

GOD IS RESPONSIBLE...AND MAN IS ACCOUNTABLE!



April 1

AS THE WATERS COVER THE SEA

Habakkuk 2:14 states...For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea...WHAT AN AWESOME STATEMENT! The latter end of the statement explains the first part of the statement. The latter part explains how much of the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord. The question is, HOW MUCH OF THE SEA IS COVERED BY WATER? Well...You guessed it. ALL OF IT! This would then tell us that ALL OF THE EARTH shall be covered and filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord.

Hebrews 8:10,11 states...For this is the covenant THAT I WILL MAKE with the house of Israel after those days says the Lord; I WILL PUT My laws into their minds, and write them in their hearts: I WILL BE TO THEM a God, and they shall be to Me a people: And they shall not teach every man his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, know the Lord: FOR ALL SHALL KNOW ME, from the least to the greatest...

WHAT A PROMISE!

These scriptures, which are to be seen as sovereign declarations and unconditional promises, testify that all nations and all people will come to know the Lord in the ages to come. They are promises from God with no exceptions and no conditions! CAN YOU BELIEVE THEM? DO YOU BELIEVE THEM? WILL YOU BELIEVE THEM?

We must begin to see how BIG of a God that we serve. His purpose for the entire creation is much bigger than we have ever imagined. It includes the whole earth, every man, and all things!

ALL SHALL KNOW HIM!

