

unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; but speaking the truth in love, may GROW UP INTO HIM in all things, which is the Head, even Christ: (Ephesians 4:13-15)...

This is what is taking place within the true members of the body of Christ. WE ARE GROWING UP INTO HIM! We are not to remain as children (spiritual infants) in our understanding and knowledge of God, but we are to learn how to access the VERY GRACE OF GOD in our Christian walk. Our knowledge of God and His purpose for the creation should also increase. This should take place to where we are beginning to understand the mysteries of the Kingdom of God.

Why is it that **so many** of God's people are afraid, even scared to death, to learn, progress, and grow in grace and in the knowledge of their Lord? We must understand this about man and his fallen condition: Carnal man is eager to remain stagnant in his comfort zone. Anything that seems to be unorthodox or challenging to man is immediately discarded and thrown to the side. It is regarded as "off the deep end".

We ought to guard against believing everything we hear, but we must also guard against discarding everything new that we hear. Many times we may be discarding revelation truth. WE MUST STRIVE TO HAVE A **TEACHABLE SPIRIT**, being led by the Spirit, testing everything we hear and experience by the Holy Scriptures. Let us not be afraid to learn, consider, study, and...

GROW!



## *August 1*

### **LAY NOT THIS SIN TO THEIR CHARGE**

Acts 7:57-60 states...Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord, And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul. And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep...

The beautiful secret to understanding this passage of scripture is to be found in the name STEPHEN. The name "Stephen" means crown. The word "crown" means: a headdress symbolizing royalty, achievement, or victory, a reigning monarch, pertaining to royal status and reward.

Revelation 2:26 tells us that the overcomers will be given power over the nations: And they shall rule them with a rod of iron...The next logical question would be, what causes one to qualify and be classified as an overcomer? The answer to this is found in the meaning of Stephen's name.

"Stephen", whose name means crown, symbolizing royalty, ruling, and reigning, dealt with his persecutors in LOVE AND FORGIVENESS. **THIS IS AN OVERCOMER!** He cried to the Lord with a loud voice, saying...Lord, LAY NOT THIS SIN TO THEIR CHARGE...THOSE ARE

THE WORDS OF AN OVERCOMER! Do they sound familiar? Remember...Jesus said...Father, **forgive** them; FOR THEY KNOW NOT WHAT THEY DO (Luke 23:34)...These are the words of the overcomer of all overcomers. As well, Jesus said...Be of good cheer; I HAVE OVERCOME THE WORLD (John 16:33)...How did He do it? He submitted His life to do the Father's will, being a lover and a forgiver.

In the same sense, we must lose our life for His name's sake, being a lover and a forgiver. Someone who operates in this manner has truly grasped that heart of the Father. This person is truly an OVERCOMER! God is raising up a STEPHEN COMPANY of people who truly understand what is involved in *qualifying* for the CROWN OF LIFE. It is...

SUBMISSION, LOVE, AND FORGIVENESS!



## August 2

### HELL - PART 1

**According to J. W. Hanson:** "Does the Bible teach the idea commonly held among Christians concerning "hell"? Does the "hell" of the Bible denote a place of torment, or a condition of suffering without end, to begin at death? What is the "hell" of the Bible? Manifestly the only way to arrive at the correct answer is to trace the words translated "hell" from the beginning to the end of the Bible, and by their connections ascertain exactly what the divine Word teaches on this important subject. It seems incredible that a wise and benevolent God should have created or permitted any kind of an endless "hell" in His universe. Has He done so? Do the scripture teachings concerning "hell" stain the character of God and clothe human destiny with an impenetrable pall of darkness, by revealing a state or place of endless torment? Or do they explain its existence, and relieve God's character, and dispel all the darkness of misbelief, by teaching that it exists as a means to a good end? It is our belief that the Bible "hell" is not the heathen, nor the "orthodox hell", but is one that is doomed to pass away when its purpose shall have been accomplished, in the reformation of those for whose welfare a good God ordained it." (The Bible Hell, J. W. Hanson)

Before getting into the Hebrew and Greek words that were translated into the English word "hell", we will first take a look at the origin of the English word "hell", and how it grew into its present meaning. Over the coming days we are going to search for what the Bible actually teaches about "hell". We are going to study to show ourselves approved unto God (2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 2:15). We are going to put our beliefs to the test in order to see whether or not the orthodox teaching of Evangelical Christianity concerning "hell" is truth or tradition.

After carefully examining the facts that will be presented, we will seek to prove that the modern day teaching on "hell" is INCORRECT, and does in fact malign the character of our Heavenly Father, Who is not to be looked at as the eternal torturer, but is in fact...

THE SAVIOR OF THE WORLD!

*August 3*

## HELL - PART 2

**According to J. W. Hanson:** “The English word “hell” grew into its present meaning. Horne Tooke says that “hell”, “heel”, “hill”, “hole”, “whole”, “hall”, “hull”, “halt” and “hold” are all from the same root. “Hell”, any place, or some place covered over. “Heel”, that part of the foot which is covered by the leg. “Hill”, any heap of earth, or stone, etc., by which the plain or level surface of the earth is covered. “Hale”, i.e., healed or whole. “Whole”, the same as “hale”, i.e., covered. It was formerly written “whole”, without the w, as a wound or sore is healed, or “whole”, that is, covered over by the skin, which manner of expression will not seem extraordinary if we consider our use of the word “recover”. “Hall”, a covered building, where persons assemble, or where goods are protected from the weather. “Hull”, of a nut, etc. That by which a nut is covered. “Hole”, some place covered over. ‘You shall seek for holes to hide your heads in.’ “Holt”, “holed”, “ho’ld”, “holt”. A rising ground or knoll covered with trees. “Hold”, as the hold of a ship, in which things are covered, or the covered part of a ship. **The word was first applied to the “grave” by our German and English ancestors, and as superstition came to regard the “grave” as an entrance to a world of torment, “hell” at length became the word used to denote an imaginary realm of fiery woe.** Dr. Adam Clarke says: “The word “hell”, used in the common translation, conveys now an improper meaning of the original word; because “hell” is only used to signify the place of the damned. But as the word “hell” comes from the Anglo-Saxon “helan”, to cover, or hide, “henee” the tiling or slating of a house is called, in some parts of England (particularly Cornwall), “heling”, to this day, and the covers of books (in Lancashire), by the same name, so the literal import of the original word “Hades” was formerly well expressed by it.” ([The Bible Hell](#), J. W. Hanson)

With just a little bit of research, we can already begin to see the confusion concerning the word and teaching of “hell” begin to clear up. After taking a look at the origin and meaning of the English word “hell”, we will now attempt to look at and dissect the four words that are translated into the one English word “hell”. They are: The Hebrew word “Sheol”, and the Greek words “Hades”, “Gehenna”, and “Tartaroo”.

Most people have NO IDEA that there are **FOUR DIFFERENT WORDS IN THE ORIGINAL LANGUAGES OF THE BIBLE THAT HAVE BEEN TRANSLATED INTO THE ONE ENGLISH WORD “HELL”**. After finding this out, the next most logical thing to do would be to seek to understand the meaning of each word from the original languages of the Bible. We are going to do just that. So...HANG ON! We are going to take...

A JOURNEY THROUGH “HELL”!



*August 4*

HELL - PART 3

JUST WHAT THE HELL IS HELL?

(By Gary Amirault)

There once was a time, 'twas plain to see  
Just what the hell, Hell was meant to be.  
But then theologians got into the act  
And Hell no longer was a simple fact.

Hell formerly was a dark hidden space  
Imperceivable, covered, a true hiding place.  
It could be a place, as crude as a shed  
Or could be a *helmet*, to cover your head.

Smoochers and kissers oft needed a hell  
For hidden in darkness, no one could tell.  
Hall, hole, and hull come from the same root  
Along with a heel covered with a boot.

"Too simple!" So theologians once said  
And now from their scheming, confusion has spread.  
They hired the Dantes and Michaelangelos  
To paint pretty pictures of many great woes.

Fire and torment, with much superstition  
Was added to pagan mythology and fiction.  
The Goddess of Hel from Norse mythology  
Became Satan, hero of most eschatology.

Jesus the Savior, delivered mankind  
He came not for few, but for ALL men to find.  
His portion became a rather small lot  
While most of mankind, in Hell-fire would rot.

The way to this Hell became broad and wide  
The gift of God's grace was at its low tide.  
Clothes, creeds and days, the right denomination  
Became the sole means, the way to salvation.

Gehenna, Hades, Tartaroo, and Sheol  
All became places that could swallow your soul.  
Preachers now had us, right where they wanted  
"Obey or to Hell with you" they often taunted.

Countless denominations of devilish preachers  
Forsook the Gift and became Satan's teachers.  
Thousands of ways of deliverance from "Hell"  
In common they all have a self-righteous smell.

"Finished" He cried, "I will draw all mankind"  
The Father's desire, "all saved" in His mind.  
The task He was given, He accomplished it all  
And as His witness, He commissioned St. Paul.

Paul's Gospel was different, it's easy to tell  
Because never once did he use the word "hell."  
So "hell" is no more, it's becoming a bore  
It's taking its place along with common folklore.

Punish He will, for our Father is just  
In age-long correction, you surely can trust.  
On vindictive torment our Father's not bent  
Mercy will, *yes!* triumph over judgment.

Well...You did it! You have been to "hell" and back. You have taken a journey through "hell". You have seen the origin of the English word "hell", its distortion by theologians, and how that it grew into its present meaning. You can also see that one English word was used to pitifully portray one Hebrew word and three Greek words. As we journey through "hell", our next stop will be to look at each one of the words that were translated into the English word "hell". They are: "Sheol", "Hades", "Gehenna", and "Tartaroo".

This study will shed even more light on the confusion that has spread concerning what the Bible teaches about "hell". So...HANG ON! The next stop on our journey through "hell" is... "SHEOL"!

ENJOY YOUR SEARCH!



*August 5*

HELL - PART 4

SHEOL

**According to J. W. Hanson:** "That the Hebrew "Sheol" never designates a place of punishment in a future state of existence, we have the testimony of the most learned of scholars, even among the so-called orthodox. We quote the testimony of a few:

Rev. Dr. Whitby: "**Sheol** throughout the Old Testament, signifies not a place of punishment for the souls of bad men only, but the grave, or place of death."

Dr. Chapman: “**Sheol**, in itself considered has no connection with future punishment.”

Dr. Allen: “The term “Sheol” itself, does not seem to mean anything more than the state of the dead in their dark abode.”

Dr. Furbairn, of the College of Glasgow: “Beyond doubt, “Sheol”, like “Hades”, was regarded as the abode after death, alike of the good and the bad.”

Edward Leigh, who says Horne’s, “Introduction,” was “one of the most learned understanding of the original languages of the scriptures,” observes that “all learned Hebrew scholars know the Hebrews have no proper word for “hell”, as we take **hell**.”

Prof. Stuart: “There can be no reasonable doubt that “Sheol” does most generally mean the underworld, the grave or sepulchre, the world of the dead. It is very clear that there are many passages where no other meaning can reasonably be assigned to it. Accordingly, our English translators have rendered the word “Sheol” grave in thirty instances out of the whole sixty-four instances in which it occurs.”

Dr. Thayer in his Theology of Universalism quotes as follows: Dr. Whitby says that “hell” “throughout the Old Testament signifies the grave only or the place of death.” (The Bible Hell, J. W. Hanson)

Well...There you have it! The word “Sheol” means: **the grave, or the place of the dead**. In no way does it denote a place of punishment, torment, or torture. The idea that “Sheol” signified a place of punishment entered in through pagan mythology. We are now on our way to understanding the “hell” of the Bible. Our next stop on our journey through “hell” will be to look at and dissect the Greek word “Hades”. We will see that “Hades” is the Greek equivalent to the Hebrew word “Sheol”. It is the New Testament word that signifies the grave, or the place of the dead.

O WHAT A DIFFERENCE THE TRUTH MAKES!



*August 6*

HELL - PART 5

HADES

**According to J. W. Hanson**: “The Greek Septuagint, which our Lord used when He read or quoted from the Old Testament, gives “Hades” as the exact equivalent of the Hebrew “Sheol”, and when the Savior, or His apostles, use the word, they must mean the same as it meant in the Old Testament. When “Hades” is used in the New Testament, we must understand it just as we do (“Sheol” or “Hades”) in the Old Testament.

Dr. Campbell well says: “In my judgment, it ought never in scripture to be rendered “hell”, at least, in the sense wherein that word is now universally understood by Christians. In the Old Testament, the corresponding word is “Sheol”, which signifies the state of the dead in general without regard

to the goodness or badness of the persons, their happiness or misery. In translating that word, the seventy have almost invariably used "Hades". It is very plain, that neither in the Septuagint version of the Old Testament, nor in the New, does the word "Hades" convey the meaning which the present English word "hell", in the Christian usage, always conveys to our minds."

Le Clere affirms that "neither "Hades" nor "Sheol" ever signifies in the Sacred Scripture the abode of evil spirits, but only the sepulchre, or the state of the dead." (The Bible Hell, J. W. Hanson)

**According to J. W. Hanson:** "That "Hades" is the kingdom of death, and not a place of torment, after death, is evident from the language of Acts 2:27, "You will not leave my soul in hell: neither will You suffer Your Holy One to see corruption." Verse 31: "His soul was not left in "hell"; neither His flesh did see corruption," that is His spirit did not remain in the state of the dead, until His body decayed. No one supposes that Jesus went to a realm of torment when He died. Jacob wished to go down to "Hades" to his son mourning, so Jesus went to "Hades", the under-world, the grave. The Apostle's Creed conveys the same idea, when it speaks of Jesus as descending into "hell". He died, but His soul was not left in the realms of death, is the meaning." (The Bible Hell, J. W. Hanson)

1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15:55 tells us that "hell" ("Hades") will be destroyed. It states...O death, where is your sting? O grave ("Hades", "hell"), where is your victory? So we can see that "hell" ("Sheol", "Hades") is the grave, or the place of the dead. We can also now see that "hell" ("Sheol", "Hades") is not to endure forever, but is destined to be destroyed. This is also in harmony with Revelation 20:13,14, which tells us that death and "hell" ("Hades") shall be consumed by the fire of God. This is speaking of the purifying fire of God. AWESOME!

O "HELL" ("HADES", GRAVE), WHERE IS YOUR VICTORY?



*August 7*

**HELL - PART 6**

**GEHENNA**

(Hope For All Generations And Nations, Gary Amirault)

"Israel, during one part of its history, began to mix the worship of Yahweh with some of the customs of the pagan nations around them. They molded a statue which was half man and half bull. They called this god, MLK. (The original Hebrew had no vowels. One had to put in the vowels from memory.) Some scholars render these three consonants Molock or Molech, others believed it was the word Melech, which means "king" in Hebrew. The latter view would mean that Israel had made an image of Yahweh (their king) in the image of being half man and half animal. Either way, they felt they had *not* abandoned the worship of Yahweh. They felt this new practice was harmonious with the other religious traditions of the Hebrew faith. Regardless of

whether he was called Moloch, Molech or Melech, the Israelites took their own babies and placed them in the hands of this statue. Beneath the hands was a pot under which was a very hot fire. The child would fall out of the hands of MLK into the burning pot. As the child screamed with pain, the adults would go into a sexual frenzy as the sounds of the burning children mixed with the beating of drums. MLK was a fertility god. In other Jewish rites, the Jews were commanded to offer up the first-fruits of a harvest unto Yahweh that He might bless the rest of the harvest. The Israelites extended this practice by offering up some of their children as a burnt-offering. Yahweh told Jeremiah the prophet He was going to destroy the city in which they were committing these horrible acts. The location where these rites were performed was in the Valley of the Son of Hinnom (also called Tophet in the Bible) right outside the Southwest wall of **Jerusalem!** When speaking of Israel burning their own children, Yahweh said that such a thing never entered His mind. ***If God prepared a place in which He was going to torture billions of the human beings He created, how could He say it never entered His mind. Obviously, God never intended, nor ever will eternally burn and torture the men and women He created!*** This cruel teaching came from the same place from which Israel got the idea of burning their own children, that is, from a mind which was not subject to the true God; from a depraved mind. When Jesus in the New Testament used the word which has been incorrectly translated “hell” in most Christian Bibles, the place He was referring to was this valley in which *Israel* burned their own children, not God. The place called “Gehenna” (translated “hell”) was the Greek form of the Hebrew “Ge Hinnom”. This valley became a disgraceful reminder to Israel of what their forefathers did. It became the city dump. Jesus warned the very generation in which He lived that if they did not repent, they would find themselves thrown into this valley of garbage which burned night and day. To tell a Jew something like this was the absolute worst of insult. It meant that their lives were worthless. A Jew’s honor was very important to him, especially at his death. It was not uncommon to hire professional mourners at one’s funeral. Imagine paying someone to cry tears at your funeral. This is an example of how vain God’s own people were during Jesus’ physical presence on earth. Jesus told some of the most religious people of His day, their lives were only fit to be thrown into the city dump! What an insult! *And* what a prophecy! The very people who heard these words would find their bodies thrown over the Southwest wall of Jerusalem during the siege against the city in 70AD. Because they did not follow Christ and participated in His crucifixion, their lives truly did become worthless.” (Gary Amirault)

Now that we are educated as to the literal history and meaning of “Gehenna”, understanding that it is a place on this earth, let us take a look at what this literal valley represents spiritually and metaphorically.

FIRST THE NATURAL, THEN THE SPIRITUAL!





*August 8*

HELL - PART 7

GEHENNA CONTINUED

**According to J. Preston Eby:** “In the New Testament there appears the word “GEHENNA” referring to the “Valley of Hinnom”, or “Gehenna”, which was the city dump outside the walls of Jerusalem, a place of constant burning of refuse. It is interesting to note that those who are pictured as going into “Gehenna” are, without exception, not the sinners of the world, but the SINNERS AMONG GOD’S PEOPLE. How precise the type! “Gehenna” was the city dump of Jerusalem, the Holy City, where every unclean and unnecessary thing was burned and consumed. The antitypical “Gehenna” to which our Lord alluded in His teaching is the process of PURIFICATION by which every unclean and unnecessary thing in the lives of His Holy People is purged and consumed by the fires of His judgment. “The Lord Whom you seek, shall suddenly come to HIS TEMPLE ... but who may abide the day of His coming? and who shall stand when He appears? for He is like a REFINER’S FIRE, and like fuller’s soap: and He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and He shall PURIFY the sons of Levi (the Priesthood), and PURGE them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness” (Mal. 3:1-3). “Gehenna” stands as a type of the place or process of the PURIFICATION OF GOD’S PEOPLE. It is referred to in the Old Testament by the name of “Tophet,” located in the “Valley of Hinnom”, a place where many sacrifices were made and dead bodies consumed.” (Hell, J. Preston Eby)

The idea of God’s people being purified in and through fire is also to be found in the apostle Paul’s writings. 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 3:12-15 states...Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; Every man’s work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man’s work of what sort it is. If any man’s work abide which he has built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man’s work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire...

This is obviously speaking of a spiritual fire, of which GOD IS! Remember...GOD IS A CONSUMING FIRE (Hebrews 12:29)...Now we can begin to see that Jesus pointed to the literal fire of “Gehenna”, which did consume literal refuse, to teach us about **the spiritual fire of God**. He used “Gehenna” to *typify, symbolize, and portray* what the fire of God was like. HE USED “GEHENNA” AS A METAPHOR!

The fire of God is His judgment in our lives that consumes the refuse in us, which is WOOD, HAY, AND STUBBLE! God’s fire is for PURIFICATION, **NOT ETERNAL TORTURE!** Nothing was tortured in “Gehenna”, only consumed and **changed into another form**. Can you now begin to see your FIERY TRIALS as the process in which God is consuming your carnality and CHANGING YOU INTO THE VERY IMAGE OF THE SON OF GOD? As you believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, you are being consumed by the Holy Ghost and FIRE, being changed from glory to glory. This is what “Gehenna” represents. It speaks of the ALL-CONSUMING FIRE OF GOD!

THANK GOD FOR THE FIRE OF “GEHENNA”!

*August 9*

## HELL - PART 8

### FACTS ABOUT GEHENNA

(The Bible Hell, J. W. Hanson)

“Gehenna” was a well-known locality near Jerusalem, and ought no more to be translated “hell”, than should Sodom or Gomorrah. See Josh. 15:8; II Kings 17:10; II Chron. 28:3; Jer. 7:31, 32; 19:2.

“Gehenna” is never employed in the Old Testament to mean anything else than the place with which every Jew was familiar.

The word should have been left untranslated as it is in some versions, and it would not be misunderstood. It was not misunderstood by the Jews to whom Jesus addressed it. Walter Balfour well says: “What meaning would the Jews who were familiar with this word, and knew it to signify the “Valley of Hinnom”, be likely to attach to it when they heard it used by our Lord? Would they, contrary to all former usage, transfer its meaning from a place with whose locality and history they had been familiar from their infancy, to a place of misery in another world? This conclusion is certainly inadmissible. By what rule of interpretation, then, can we arrive at the conclusion that this word means a place of misery and death?”

Neither Christ nor His apostles ever named it to Gentiles, but only to Jews which proves it a locality only known to Jews, whereas, if it were a place of punishment after death for sinners, it would have been preached to Gentiles as well as Jews.

It was only referred to twelve times on eight occasions in all the ministry of Christ and the apostles, and in the gospels and epistles. Were they faithful to their mission to say no more than this on so vital a theme as an endless “hell”, if they intended to teach it?

Only Jesus and James ever named it. Neither Paul, John, Peter nor Jude ever employ it. Would they not have warned sinners concerning it, if there were a “Gehenna” of torment after death?

Paul says he “shunned not to declare the whole counsel of God,” and yet though he was the great preacher of the gospel to the Gentiles he never told them that “Gehenna” is a place of after-death punishment. Would he not have repeatedly warned sinners against it were there such a place?

When Jesus warned against the judgment of “Gehenna” in Matthew 23:33, He immediately explained it as about to come in this life (vs. 36...All these things shall come upon **this generation...**)” (The Bible Hell, J. W. Hanson)

The damnation (judgment) of “hell” (“Gehenna”) did come upon the Jews in 70-73 A.D. In July of 70 A.D. the Roman Army, led by Titus, attacked and overran the city of Jerusalem. According to Josephus, over 1,000,000 Jews perished in the siege. The prophecy of Jeremiah 7:30-34 came to pass in 70-73 A.D. The “Valley of the Son of Hinnom” became the valley of slaughter. The Roman Army destroyed Jerusalem, leveled the Temple, and burned the city to the ground. As Jesus prophesied in Matthew 23:33-36, the Jews did not escape the JUDGMENT OF “GEHENNA”, FOR THEIR BODIES WERE PILED UP IN THE VERY VALLEY OF “GEHENNA”. Let us stop teaching the traditions of men about “Gehenna”. Let us...

TEACH THE TRUTH!

*August 10*

## HELL - PART 9

### TARTAROO

**According to J. Preston Eby:** “Next we consider the Greek word “TARTAROO” - the English form is “Tartarus.” The passage where this word is found is II Pet. 2:4. “God spared not the angels (messengers) that sinned, but cast them down to “hell” (“Tartarus”), and delivered them into *chains of darkness* to be *reserved unto* judgment.” Jude also presents the same truth without mentioning the name as he writes, “And those angels (messengers) who kept not their first position of power and authority, but left their habitation, He has kept *in chains under thick darkness*, for the judgment of the great day” (Jude 6). The whole thought is of a restraint, a confinement, a prison, a condition in which apostates are held for a specific period of time, in the same manner as prisoners are often held in jail awaiting the day of trial. “Tartarus” is not the judgment itself, but a state or condition in which persons are inescapably held over unto a day of judgment.” (Hell, J. Preston Eby)

**According to J. W. Hanson:** “Peter alludes to the subject just as though it were well-known and understood by his correspondents. “If the angels that sinned.”-what angels? “were cast down to “Tartarus,” where is the story related? Not in the Bible, but in a book well-known at the time, called the Book of Enoch. It was written some time before the Christian Era, and is often quoted by the Christian fathers. But no one can fail to see that the apostle employs the legend from the Book of Enoch to illustrate and enforce his doctrine of retribution. As though he had said: “If, as is believed by some, God spared not the angels that sinned, do not let us who sin, mortal men, expect to escape.” If this view is denied, there is no escape from the gross doctrine of “Tartarus” as taught by the pagans and that, too, on the testimony of a solitary sentence of scripture! But whatever may be the intent of the words, they do not teach endless torment, for the chains referred to only last unto the judgment.” (The Bible Hell, J. W. Hanson)

It is believed by many that Peter and Jude were referring to sinning messengers in the days of Noah. These sinning messengers were referred to as “the sons of God” who took “the daughters of men” as wives and produced children by them (Genesis 6:2). As to the nature of these angels (messengers), there are many different thoughts and opinions. Some believe that the flood, in Noah’s day, was brought on and designed by God for the very purpose of thwarting these fallen angels (messengers) in their design.

The important point to see though, is that “Tartarus” does in no way teach endless torment, for the chains referred to only last **unto the judgment**. It is to be seen as a state or condition in which persons are held over unto a day of judgment for the purpose of correction. The Lord knows how to reserve...

THE UNJUST UNTO THE DAY OF JUDGMENT!



*August 11*

## HELL - PART 10

### CONCLUSION

The English word “hell” is to be found 54 times in the original “Authorized Version” of the King James Bible. This one English word is used to represent **four different words** in the original languages of the Bible. The one Hebrew word is “Sheol”, and the three Greek words are “Hades”, “Gehenna”, and “Tartaroo”. After an in-depth study on each one of these words, we have discovered that none of these words support the idea of the modern day teaching of an endless “hell of torture”. After studying the origin of the English word “hell”, we found it to mean: a hidden place, or to hide. This meaning is in no way harmonious with the present day meaning that it has grown into. We must see that the “hell” preached by Evangelical Christianity **IS NOT THE “HELL” THAT THE BIBLE TEACHES.**

**According to J. W. Hanson:** “Canon Farrar truthfully says, in his “Eternal Hope”: “And, finally, the word rendered “hell” is in one place the Greek word ‘Tartarus,’ borrowed as a word for the prison of evil spirits not after but before the resurrection. It is in ten places ‘Hades,’ which simply means the world beyond the grave, and it is twelve places ‘Gehenna,’ which means primarily, the “Valley of Hinnom” outside of Jerusalem in which after it had been polluted by Moloch worship, corpses were flung and fires were lit; and, secondly, it is a metaphor not of final and hopeless but of that purifying and corrective punishment which as we all believe does await impenitent sin both here and beyond the grave. But be it solemnly observed, the Jews to whom and in whose metaphorical sense the word was used by our blessed Lord, never did, either then or at any other period attach to that word ‘Gehenna,’ which He used, that meaning of endless torment which we have been taught to apply to “hell”. To them and therefore on the lips of our blessed Savior Who addressed it to them, it means not a material and everlasting fire, but an intermediate, a metaphorical and a terminal retribution.” (The Bible Hell, J. W. Hanson)

After evaluating the **FACTS**, we can now see that “Sheol”, “Hades”, and “Tartaroo” speak of literal death (the grave) or the consequences of sin, and “Gehenna” was the city dump used in a metaphoric way by our Lord to explain the consuming fire of God.

O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR STING? O “HELL” (“HADES”), WHERE IS YOUR VICTORY?



*August 12*

## THE RICH MAN AND LAZARUS - PART 1

### IT IS A PARABLE!

The first and most important thing that we must see concerning the story of The Rich Man and Lazarus is: IT IS A PARABLE! A “parable” is: a short allegorical story designed to illustrate or teach a spiritual truth, religious principle, or moral lesson.

Matthew 13:34 tells us that **Jesus spoke to the multitudes in parables** (figurative language); **and without a parable did He not speak unto them: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, I will open My mouth in PARABLES; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world...** With this in mind, we can now approach the teachings of Jesus in a proper way. Remember...Jesus always spoke in parables when He opened His mouth in public before the multitudes.

Starting with Luke chapter fifteen Jesus begins to speak a five-part parable. Notice who His audience is. He is speaking to the: publicans, sinners, Pharisees, and scribes.

The five parables are:

1. THE LOST SHEEP
2. THE LOST COIN
3. THE TWO LOST SONS (THE PRODIGAL SON)
4. THE UNJUST STEWARD
5. THE RICH MAN AND LAZARUS

The first three parables are spoken to encourage the publicans and sinners concerning God’s love for them. The last two parables are spoken to warn the Pharisees and scribes (the religious leaders) of God’s disapproval of their self-righteous behavior, which would ultimately lead to the Kingdom of God being stripped from the Jews and given to the Gentiles.

The reason it is so important that we understand that Jesus spoke to the multitudes in parables is because of this: **Many people literalize things in scripture that are to be understood spiritually, or in a metaphoric sense.** This is the MISTAKE that is often made by most concerning the parable of The Rich Man and Lazarus. We must also understand that the meaning of a parable is LOCKED to the mind of human intellect, which is the carnal (fleshly) mind.

1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 2:14-16 states...But the natural man receives not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he that is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. For who has known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct Him? **But we have the mind of Christ...**

MAY WE APPROACH THIS PARABLE WITH THE MIND OF CHRIST!



*August 13*

## THE RICH MAN AND LAZARUS - PART 2

### THE MEANING OF THE PARABLE

Now that we have established that the story of The Rich Man and Lazarus is a PARABLE, let us seek to understand its true meaning.

The meaning of the parable is as follows:

**A CERTAIN RICH MAN:** This represents the Jewish Nation as a whole (Judah...More specifically: The Priesthood), for they were spiritually rich in the things of God (Romans 3:1,2... Romans 9:3-5).

**CLOTHED IN PURPLE AND LINEN:** This statement further clarifies who the Rich Man is, for purple represents royalty, and fine linen represents the priesthood. The Nation of Israel was to be a nation of kings (purple) and priests (linen) before God (Exodus 19:5,6).

**FARED SUMPTUOUSLY EVERY DAY:** This once again reaffirms that the Jews were a blessed people, having been given the adoption, glory, covenants, law, service, promises, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came (Romans 9:4,5).

**A CERTAIN BEGGAR:** This represents the Gentiles (Nations) as a whole, for they were spiritual Beggars concerning the things of God (Ephesians 2:11,12). The Gentiles (Nations) were referred to as the *Uncircumcision*. They were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world.

**LAZARUS:** The name "Lazarus" comes from the Hebrew name "Eleazar", which means: "WHOM GOD HELPS". The reason Jesus used the name of "Lazarus" in this parable is for this very reason. The Gentiles (Nations) are those WHOM GOD HAS HELPED.

**AT HIS GATE...FULL OF SORES...FED WITH CRUMBS...THE DOGS LICKED HIS SORES:** These phrases all point to a description of the Gentiles (Nations), and how they were viewed by the Nation of Israel during the time that Jesus walked the earth. The Gentiles (Nations) were referred to as "dogs", and were considered to be uncircumcised filth by the Jews (Matthew 15:21-28...Mark 7:25-30).

**THE BEGGAR DIED:** This represents a **change** in the Beggar's condition. The Gentiles (Nations) died to their old condition of a Beggar, and would now be included and brought into the blessings of God (Ephesians 2:13-22).

**ABRAHAM'S BOSOM:** "Abraham's Bosom" is NOT a physical location. The term represents a place of **spiritual favor and honor**. The Gentiles (Nations) were now given the opportunity to become the children of Abraham. This represented the death of their Beggar status.

**THE RICH MAN DIED, AND WAS BURIED:** This represents a change in the Rich Man's condition. It signifies the death of Judaism (their religion). We must see that the Rich Man and Lazarus **changed places**. The Rich Man became a Beggar, and the Beggar became a Rich Man. Jesus took the Kingdom from the Jews (the Rich Man) and gave it to the Gentiles (Lazarus...the Beggar...the dogs). (Matthew 21:33-43...Matthew 8:12...Matthew 23:13-39...Mark 12:1-12... Acts 13:46,47...Luke 13:28,29).

**IN HELL:** The English word “hell” (used here) comes from the Greek word “Hades”. The word “Hades” simply means: **“the grave, or the place of the dead”**. It carries with it the idea or meaning of **“un-perception”**. The Rich Man, along with his religion (Judaism), was now to be buried, finding himself in a place of un-perception, which refers to not being able to “see” (understand) or grasp the Kingdom of God (John 3:3).

**LIFTED UP HIS EYES...IN TORMENTS...SEES ABRAHAM AFAR OFF...LAZARUS IN HIS BOSOM:** This represents the Jews suffering the punishment of their sins, in the destruction of their city (70-73 A.D.) and temple, and the sore calamities which have befallen on them ever since. As we now know, the Jews have been through torment for the last 2,000 years due to the rejection of their Messiah. Their religion is dead, and they are currently in un-perception (outer darkness). The Rich Man now sees that Abraham (their spiritual roots) is afar off (cut off), and that Lazarus (the Gentiles / Nations) is in his bosom (a place of favor with God).

**FATHER ABRAHAM...MERCY ON ME...SEND LAZARUS...DIP HIS FINGER IN WATER...COOL MY TONGUE...I AM TORMENTED IN THIS FLAME:** This is all metaphoric language to show the change of positions and current conditions of the Rich Man and Lazarus. The Jews are now tormented in the flame of having rejected their Messiah. The Rich Man (the Jews) is now asking Lazarus to come and help (comfort) him, whereas before he wanted nothing to do with him, even referring to him as a dog.

**THERE IS A GREAT GULF:** The great gulf is explained by the apostle Paul in Romans 11:25-36. It is simply this: GOD BLINDED ISRAEL IN PART, UNTIL THE FULLNESS OF THE GENTILES (NATIONS) BE COME IN. Until then, the Rich Man can not pass from where he is (his condition) to where Lazarus is (his condition), and Lazarus can not pass from where he is to where the Rich Man is.

**SEND HIM TO MY FATHER’S HOUSE...I HAVE FIVE BRETHREN...LEST THEY ALSO COME TO THIS PLACE OF TORMENT:** This represents that the Jew learns mercy and compassion after his season of torment. The terminology “five brethren” gives us another undeniable clue as to the meaning of this parable. Modern day Israel, at the time of Jesus, was referred to as Judah (Note: After Solomon died, his Kingdom fell apart - Judah in the South and Israel in the North. What was a strong and united empire broke in two. God divorced Himself from Israel {the Northern Kingdom} in 745 B.C., causing them to be invaded by the Assyrian Empire and deported to the region of Nineveh.). God would later divorce Himself from Judah (the Southern Kingdom) in 70-73 A.D., causing them to be invaded by the Roman Army. This resulted in the destruction of Jerusalem. In this parable, Jesus was speaking to Judah (the Southern Kingdom). He was actually warning them of their destruction that was about to come if they did not repent. It is **extremely interesting** to note that Judah (in the Old Testament) had **FIVE FULL-BLOODED BROTHERS!** They were: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Issachar, and Zebulun. The words “five brethren”, used by Jesus, were a direct clue as to the identity of the Rich Man.

**MOSES AND THE PROPHETS:** This represents the law and the prophets, which could also be said to represent the Old Testament Scriptures. Jesus said...Let them hear them!

**IF ONE WENT TO THEM FROM THE DEAD, THEY WILL REPENT:** Jesus here alluded to HIS DEATH AND RESURRECTION from the dead, knowing that even though He would rise from the dead, yet would the Jews (as a whole) still not believe and repent.

\***NOTE:** Notice how that the Rich Man referred to Abraham as Father, and how that Abraham referred to him as son. This further clarifies the identity of the Rich Man.

Now that we have had our minds renewed (concerning this parable) to the mind of Christ, being brought to a proper understanding of this parable, we can discard the foolish ideas of the traditions and doctrines of men (concerning this parable), which state that this story is about eternal torture in hell. **THAT IS NOT CORRECT!** It is simply a parable which talks about...

THE JEWS AND GENTILES!



*August 14*

### THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS WITHIN YOU - PART 1

Luke 17:20,21 states...And when He (Jesus) was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, He answered them and said, The kingdom of God comes not with observation: Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you...

**According to J. Preston Eby:** "Some say that the correct translation should be: For the kingdom of God is *"in your midst,"* or *"among you,"* meaning that the Kingdom was present in their midst in the person of Jesus, "among" them but not "within" them. It cannot be denied—the Kingdom was indeed present among them in the very life of the Son of God, the King of glory! **But that is not the meaning of this passage.** The clearest meaning of the Greek can always be ascertained by *usage*. The way a word is *used* reveals its true meaning—the meaning that the Holy Spirit of inspiration puts upon it, not the meaning our English translators give it. It is a thing of wonder—the Holy Spirit has faithfully, powerfully, wisely and indisputably recorded for us the precise meaning of the word here translated "within". The Greek word is "ENTOS" meaning simply, according to Strong's Concordance, "inside; within". The word is used in only one other place in the New Testament, in Matthew 23:26. It is the Lord Jesus Himself that uses the word on both occasions, and notice what He says. "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for you make clean the *outside* of the cup and platter, but *within* they are full of extortion and excess. You blind Pharisee, cleanse first that which is *within* ("entos") the cup and platter, that the *outside* of them may be clean also." No one can argue that "ENTOS" means "in the midst" or "among" in this place—it clearly means "within". "Within" is contrasted with the "outside" of the cup and platter and plainly speaks of the pollution *within* the hearts of men, not *in their midst* or *among* them. The evil in men is not something apart from them or outside of them but something rooted deeply in the inward nature." (The Kingdom of God, J. Preston Eby)

If the Kingdom of God was in the Pharisees, how could they not see it or understand it? How could the Kingdom of God be in the Pharisees? Is the Kingdom of God in every man? What is the Kingdom of God? What does it mean to "see" the Kingdom of God? We will try to answer these questions in the coming days concerning the...

KINGDOM OF GOD!



*August 15*

## THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS WITHIN YOU - PART 2

It is extremely important that we come to the understanding that the Kingdom of God is **within us**. Unfortunately, most Christians believe that the Kingdom of God is a planet that they are going to fly away to one day. They view it (the Kingdom of God) as something “out there”, “up there”, or “over there in the sweet by-and-by”. They constantly sing songs that say...“Won’t it be wonderful *there*”. No wonder there is SO MUCH IMMATURITY in the body of Christ! It is time for God’s people to see that the Kingdom of God is **within them**! It is not something external, but internal. All of the dealings of God (concerning man) begin within, and then are to be manifested without. Here are just a few scriptures that testify to this...

Colossians 1:26,27 states...Even the mystery which has been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to His saints: 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...

2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 4:7 states...But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us...

Galatians 1:15,16 states...But when it pleased God, Who separated me from my mother’s womb, and called me by His grace, To reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood...

Ephesians 2:22 states...In Whom you also are built together for a habitation (dwelling place) of God through the Spirit...

1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 6:19 states...What? know you not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which you have of God, and you are not your own?...

2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 6:16 states...And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? for you are the temple of the living God; as God has said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people...

1<sup>st</sup> Peter 2:5 states...You also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ...

These are just a few scriptures that show that God’s dealings are within man, not outside of him. God’s Kingdom is a Kingdom that operates within the hearts and lives of people, bringing about righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit. The reason that many remain as spiritual infants is due to the fact that they do not see the Kingdom of God as something that is within. They are waiting to go to God’s Kingdom “one day”. WHY WOULD JESUS TELL US TO SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD IF IT WAS NOT AVAILABLE TO US IN THIS LIFE? (Think about it!)

THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS WITHIN YOU!



*August 16*

## SEEING THE KINGDOM

John 3:3 states... Jesus answered and said unto him (Nicodemus), Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God...

This scripture verse is one of the most cherished verses in the Bible. It is often quoted and preached, but sadly, it is one of the most misunderstood verses in all of the Bible. It is quoted and read correctly, but it is explained and understood incorrectly. Listen to it again, for it states... Except a man be born again, HE CANNOT “SEE THE KINGDOM OF GOD”...Now...Let us talk about what all this means.

The words “born again” mean: to be begotten from above, or to be born from above. They speak of being spiritually awakened by the Spirit of God, or being quickened (made alive) to an awareness of the reality and presence of God in your own personal life. The word “see” means: to perceive, understand, or grasp with the mind. Now...Let us attempt to put all of this together.

Except a man be born again (have a spiritual awakening that is caused by the very Spirit of God Himself, resulting in being spiritually born from above), he cannot see (perceive, understand, or grasp with his mind) the Kingdom (the sovereign rule) of God. This is the very reason that the Pharisees could not see (perceive) that the Kingdom (the sovereign rule) of God was within them. They were thinking and looking in the physical realm for the Kingdom of God. This is why Jesus made the statement...The Kingdom of God does not come with observation...

**The Kingdom of God is in every man, but he cannot see the Kingdom until he is born again to understand that God's seat of authority to rule and reign is within the heart of man.** Jesus did not say that after being born again that we would die and go to the Kingdom, but rather, that we would “SEE” (“PERCEIVE”) the Kingdom, and that the Kingdom would come to earth. The Kingdom is indeed coming to earth in the hearts of those that can...

SEE (PERCEIVE)!



*August 17*

## PERCEPTION AND UN-PERCEPTION

After discussing the word “see”, we have discovered that it means: to perceive, grasp, or understand with the mind. We are then led to the conclusion that: To “see” the Kingdom of God is to “perceive” the Kingdom of God. “SEEING” MEANS “PERCEIVING”, OR “PERCEPTION”. With this in mind, let us consider the opposite of “perception”, which is “un-perception”.

**According to J. Preston Eby:** “Concerning the literal meaning of the word “HADES” there can be no doubt. It comes from the Greek “A(I)DES”. The “a” is a prefix which is equivalent to our

“un-” and the stem “-id” means “*perceive*”. Thus we have “UN-PERCEIVE” or “imperceptible”; the “*unseen*”. That is “Hades” - the unseen world, the unknown realm. Our English word “hell” is derived from an Anglo-Saxon word “hillan” or “helan,” meaning a cavern, anciently denoting a concealed or “UNSEEN” place. In parts of England men still say, “I plan to “*hell*” my potatoes,” meaning to bury them in a hole or pit, that is, a covered place, out of sight. And in the old days a young couple seeking to be alone, sought a “*hell*”, a place where they could make love without being seen by prying eyes.” (Hell, J. Preston Eby)

The reason the Pharisees (or any other person) could not “see” (“perceive”) that the Kingdom of God was within them, was due to the fact that they were in “UN-PERCEPTION” (“Hades”, “hell”). After having stated this, we should now be able to “see” that “**heaven**” is “**perception**” of God, and that “**hell**” is “**un-perception**” of God. It could also be said that “heaven” is the mind of Christ, and that “hell” is the carnal mind.

In conclusion, we are able to “see” that “heaven” and “hell” are not so much physical locations, as much as they are a **state or condition of the soul**. We can be found seated in “heavenly places” in Christ Jesus, having the mind of Christ, or we can be found having made our bed in “hell” (“Sheol”, “Hades”), having the carnal (fleshly, hellish) mind. Remember...Except a man be born again, he cannot “see” (“perceive”) the Kingdom of God. We must understand that only the Spirit of God can LIBERATE man from the “HELL” (“UN-PERCEPTION”) of the carnal mind. Then, and only then, can we begin to “see”...

THE KINGDOM OF GOD!



*August 18*

## DEFINING THE KINGDOM OF GOD

It is amazing that so many people have so little of an understanding of the Kingdom of God. If you were to ask people what the Kingdom of God was, you would get answers like:

We will know more about it in the “sweet by-and-by”...

Go ask a theologian, for I don’t know...

It is a planet that we will “fly away” to “one day”...

It will come to earth “one day”, but it is not for now...

It was among us when Jesus was here, but we must wait until His “second coming” to see it again...

It is a physical structure only, having no spiritual aspect to it...

It is isolated to a coming age only, and by the way, stay away from those “Kingdom Now” people who believe we can access it (the Kingdom) in this life...

With statements like these, it is quite clear that the majority of Christians (including the leadership of Christianity) HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO IDEA WHAT THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS! The Kingdom of God is probably **THE MOST IMPORTANT SUBJECT OF THE BIBLE**, for it was all that Jesus talked about! He was always pointing men to an understanding of the Kingdom of God.

**According to J. Preston Eby:** “The word “kingdom” is from the Greek word “BASILEIA” meaning “rule” or “reign”. Remember when Jesus replied...My Kingdom is not of this world — that is, My Kingdom is not after the order and systems of earthly kingdoms. It is the rule of God by the Spirit...The dictionary defines “kingdom” as “a government or country headed by a king or queen; a monarchical state; a realm or domain.” The word “kingdom” is made up of the noun “king,” and the suffix “dom”. “Dom” is a noun-forming suffix to express rank, position, or domain. For example, a “dukedom” is the domain over which a duke has authority or exercises rule, and in the abstract the rank of a duke. In like manner a “kingdom” is the domain and the people within that domain over which a king exercises authority and rule. It is the “king’s domain”. “Kingdom” is thus a contraction of “king’s domain”. The term, “Kingdom of God”, can mean no other than the domain over which God exercises rule as King. It is God’s declared purpose therefore that His *people*, His *holy nation*, His *peculiar treasure*, should be the domain over which He would rule as King, and ultimately all the earth and all things and every creature.” (To Be The Lord’s Prayer, J. Preston Eby)

As men are awakened to the Kingdom that is within them, they will arise to find that a battle is taking place within them. This battle is called...

THE BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON!



*August 19*

### THE BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON

**According to J. Preston Eby:** “Millions sanctimoniously and religiously pray, “Thy Kingdom come,” thinking it is something outside of themselves, is some distant age, under other conditions — and have no intention whatever of abdicating the throne of their own inner wills and hearts to the King of Glory. They are utterly unwilling to surrender the sovereignty of their lives to God. They are no more prepared to accept the sovereign rule of Christ than were those men who shouted at His crucifixion, “We have no king but Caesar!” So, if I sincerely, earnestly, and genuinely beseech the Spirit of God to *rule* in my life and experience, there to establish His Kingdom, I can only expect that there will be a most tremendous confrontation. It is a foregone conclusion that there will follow a formidable conflict between His divine sovereignty and my self-willed ego. And this, precious friend of mine, is the true BATTLE OF ARMAGEDDON!” (To Be The Lord’s Prayer, J. Preston Eby)

To those who would seek first the Kingdom of God, let us seek His Kingdom with the understanding THAT THIS IS OUR MOST IMPORTANT TASK IN THIS LIFE! Jesus told us to put the Kingdom of God before food, clothing, drink, and anything else for that matter. IT IS TO BE OUR CHIEF AIM! As this takes place, let us not be surprised to find that a battle will begin to rage from within. This battle (The Battle of Armageddon) is a conflict between flesh and Spirit, for they do war against one another (Romans 8:1-10, Romans 7:14-25).

We begin to find ourselves exposed to our Adamic Nature, and as well, to the divine nature, which is the **power source** to overcome the Adamic Nature. This process places us in the valley of decision (Joel 3:14), in which our soul is sanctified, and our decisions (choices) are purified. God exposes us to good and evil, while teaching us to overcome, choosing good. We will find that we are overcoming evil through the **tree of life** (Jesus Christ), and not through the **tree of the knowledge of good and evil** (our carnal mind).

The only way to overcome in this battle is to recognize that THE BATTLE IS THE LORD'S. We must fight the good fight of faith, which is to continually believe that THE BATTLE IS THE LORD'S. This is what it means to labor to enter into His rest (1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 17:47, 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 6:12, Hebrews 4:1-11). When we rest we are changed from glory to glory, causing the flesh to become weak, which in turn opens us up to the strength of the Spirit of God.

SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD!



*August 20*

## THE ETERNAL PURPOSE - PART 1

### THE PURPOSE OF THE AGES

It is our goal in this study to prove that **the teaching of eternal torture is a lie**, and that it is primarily based on the wrong and improper translation of three key words, which are: “**OLAM**”, “**AION**”, AND “**AIONIOS**”.

**According to Nathaniel Scarlett:** “This confused translation of “**olam**”, and “**aion**”, when it occurred as a substantive, and “**aeonian**”, when it occurred as an adjective, and the want of discernment in readers, has been a means of propagating the doctrine of endless damnation, which states that God will kindle a fire, and so constantly supply it with combustible matter, brimstone, and by His all creating power, as to endure as long as He Himself shall exist; and that the subjects of future punishment, being raised incorruptible and indissoluble, shall for the same period endure burning in the lake of fire, God having no ultimate end in view but the endless misery of His creatures.” ([A Translation Of The New Testament](#), Nathaniel Scarlett)

Let us now turn our attention to Ephesians 3:11, which states...According to the *eternal purpose* which He purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord...The word “eternal” in this passage comes

from the Greek word “aion”, and should be literally rendered...**THE PURPOSE OF THE AGES.** With this being brought to our attention, we are now headed in the right direction. We are headed to a proper understanding of God’s purpose of the ages.

To understand God’s purpose for the creation, we must have an understanding of DISPENSATIONS and AGES, for God’s purpose is the purpose of the ages. Without an understanding of AGES we are doomed and even forced to believe the teachings of men, who state that God cannot and will not save all mankind, but will in fact separate, punish, and eternally torture the MAJORITY of the human race, having no end goal or remedial (corrective) purpose in mind.

The goal of this study will be to prove, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that the teaching of eternal torture is FALSE! We will also prove that this teaching is based primarily on the mistranslation of the words “olam”, “aion”, and “aionios”, which refer to the ages, and do not give validity to the BLASPHEMOUS IDEA that God would ever eternally torment any of His created beings. Let us study to show ourselves approved unto God! We are going to...

TAKE A JOURNEY THROUGH THE AGES!



*August 21*

## THE ETERNAL PURPOSE - PART 2

### DISPENSATIONS AND AGES

**According to Joseph E. Kirk:** “The teaching of the scriptures about the eons (ages) provides answers to frustrating questions concerning the meaning of human existence. God’s purpose in creating man, and God’s purpose of the eons (ages) are inseparably related. Many are unfamiliar with this important subject because the facts have been concealed by incorrect and misleading translations of the Bible from the original languages into English. The eons (ages) are the longest periods of time referred to in the scriptures. They should be distinguished from the eras and the dispensations. Time-wise they (the ages) are of indefinite duration, but event-wise they are distinctly marked off by great cataclysms which affect the whole earth. For example, an age may consist of several dispensations, in the same sense that a year does consist of several months.

We are to see that the ages have a beginning:

Heb.1:2: God made the *eons*-vs-God made the *worlds*

1 Cor.2:7: before the *eons* -vs- before the *world*

Tim.1:9: before *times eonian* -vs- before the *world began*

The ages end, individually and collectively:

Heb.9:26: the end of the *eons* -vs- the end of the *world*

1 Cor.10:11: the end of the *eons* -vs- the ends of the *world*

Matt.24:3: the end of the *eon* -vs- the end of the *world*

The Bible speaks of at least five ages, which are: past ages, this present age, and the ages to come:

Col.1:26: hid from the *eons* -vs- Past hid from *ages* (at least two ages have past)

Luke 20:34: this *eon* -vs- this *world* (this present age)

Eph.2:7: *eons* to come -vs- *ages* to come (At least two more to come, thus--a minimum of five eons indicated)" (The above information is from: Eons Of The Bible, Joseph E. Kirk)

As we have just stated, the Bible speaks of at least five ages. Within these ages are eight recognized dispensations. They are: Innocence, Conscience, Human Government, Promise, Law, Grace (Church), Kingdom (The Millennium), The Dispensation Of The Fullness Of Times (The Age Of The Ages).

**According to Joseph E. Kirk:** "The teaching of the scriptures concerning the eons (ages) has been concealed from many by the inconsistencies of the translators. An understanding of the eons (ages) and God's eonian purpose (the purpose of the ages), results in a revelation of God that is most enlightening and edifying. His every attribute becomes more wonderful and glorious. The truth on this subject reveals undreamed of value and success in the saving work of our Lord Jesus Christ. It leads to the solution of many difficult problems which exercise the hearts and minds of spiritual believers." (Eonian: Everlasting Or Age-Lasting?, Joseph E. Kirk)

Our next effort will be to show the many contradictions in some modern day translations. This is due to the mistranslation of the words...

"OLAM", "AION", AND "AIONIOS"!



*August 22*

### THE ETERNAL PURPOSE - PART 3

#### CONTRADICTIONS IN SOME MODERN DAY TRANSLATIONS

(Hell Is Leaving The Bible "Forever", Gary Amirault)

Now let's discover how long the "eternity" REALLY is in many leading "selling" English translations:

- Sodom's fiery judgment is "eternal" (Jude 7)--until--God "will restore the fortunes of Sodom" (Ezekiel 16:53-55).

- Israel's "affliction is incurable" (Jer. 30:12)-until--the Lord "will restore health" and heal her wounds (Jer. 30:17).
- The sin of Samaria "is incurable" (Mic. 1:9)-until-- the Lord "will restore ... the fortunes of Samaria." (Ez. 16:53).
- Ammon is to become a "wasteland forever" and "rise no more" (Zeph. 2:9, Jer. 25:27) --until-- the Lord will "restore the fortunes of the Ammonites" (Jer. 49:6).
- An Ammonite or Moabite is forbidden to enter the Lord's congregation "forever"-until--the tenth generation (Deut. 23:3);
- Habakkuk tells us of mountains that were "everlasting", that is -until-- they "were shattered" (Hab. 3 3:6).
- The Aaronic Priesthood was to be an "everlasting" priesthood (Ex. 40:15), that is-until-it was superseded by the Melchizedek Priesthood (Hebrews 7:14-18).
- Many translations of the Bible inform us that God would dwell in Solomon's Temple "forever" (1 Kings 8:13), that is,-until the Temple was destroyed.
- The children of Israel were to "observe the Sabbath throughout their generations, for a perpetual covenant" (Exodus 31:16)-until--Paul states there remains "another day" of Sabbath rest for the people of God (Heb. 4:8,9).
- The Law of Moses was to be an "everlasting covenant" (Leviticus 24:8) yet we read in the New Covenant the first was "done away" and "abolished" (2 Corinthians 3:11,13), and God "made the first old" (Hebrews 8:13).
- The fire for Israel's sin offering (of a ram without blemish) is never to be put out. It shall be a "perpetual"-- until-- Christ, the Lamb of God, dies for our sins. We now have a better covenant established on better promises (Lev. 6:12-13, Heb. 8:6-13).
- God's waves of wrath roll over Jonah "forever"-until--the Lord delivers him from the large fish's belly on the third day (Jonah 2:6,10; 1: 17); Egypt and Elam will "rise no more" (Jer. 25:27)-until--the Lord will "restore the fortunes of Egypt" (Ez. 29:14) and "restore the fortunes of Elam" (Jer. 49:39).
- "Moab is destroyed" (Jer. 48:4, 42)-until--the Lord "will restore the fortunes of Moab" (Jer. 48:47).
- Israel's judgment lasts "forever"-until--the Spirit is poured out and God restores it (Isa. 32:13-15).
- So, narrow is the way to life and few find it-until-- and His church confiscate the "strong man's" booty, setting the captives free so God becomes all in all (Isa. 61, Luke 11:21-22, Matt. 7:13; 16:18, 1 Cor. 15:24-28).
- The King James Bible, as well as many others, tells us that a bondsman was to serve his master "forever" (Exodus 21:6), that is,-until--his death.



- God is now calling out "a people for His name"--an "elect" or chosen priesthood people who will represent and reflect His loving nature. Many are called and few are chosen--until--the small chosen priesthood people, by the Spirit, restore "David's tabernacle" so ALL mankind may inquire of the Lord. Thus we see that the church is the first-born, the beginning--until--in ALL (later born new creatures in Christ) our Lord will have supremacy (Amos 9:11-12, Matt. 22:14, Acts 15:14-18, Eph. 3:15, Col. 1:18).
- All manner of sin will be forgiven in this AGE as well as in the AGE (not eternity) to come, except blasphemy against God's Spirit--until--such blasphemy finds pardon in the fullness of the times (or ages) when God unites all in Christ. For the Lord does not retain His anger forever because He delights in mercy (Matt. 12:32; 18:11,21-22, Eph. 1:9-11, Rev. 4:11; 5:13, Mic. 7:18-20).
- God's wrath has come upon Israel "to the uttermost" (1 Thess. 2:16). So there is a gulf between "the rich man in purple" (Royal Covenant "Son", Israel) and the saved gentiles (Lazarus) which no man can cross--until--Christ Himself crosses it to bring His promised restoration. For again, scripture promises that ALL Israel will be saved (Jer. 50:5, Luke 16:19-26, John 12:32, Romans 11:26-29). (Gary Amirault)

Hang on...

THERE ARE MORE TO COME!



*August 23*

#### THE ETERNAL PURPOSE - PART 4

#### CONTRADICTIONS IN SOME MODERN DAY TRANSLATIONS CONTINUED

Here are some more contradictions from leading "selling" English translations:

Matthew 24:3 (King James Version) states...And as He sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto Him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the world?...

Ephesians 3:21 (King James Version) states...Unto Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen...

Now...Let us take a look at these two scripture verses from the King James Version. THIS IS AS CLEAR OF A CONTRADICTION AS YOU COULD POSSIBLY HAVE! Matthew 24:3 (King James Version) tells us that the world will end. Ephesians 3:21 (King James Version) tells us that the world will be without end. One verse (Matthew 24:3) tells us that the world will end,

and the other (Ephesians 3:21) tells us that the world will not end. THAT, MY FRIEND, IS A CONTRADICTION, IF THERE EVER WAS ONE!

The reason there are many contradictions to be found in leading “selling” English translations, is due to the fact that certain words (“olam,” “aion,” “aionios”) were not handled or translated correctly as they were brought from the original languages (Hebrew and Greek) into the English language. The meanings of these verses, in the original Greek, carry with them no hint of contradiction, and do indeed paint quite a beautiful picture of the purpose and plan of the ages.

Matthew 24:3 should be translated as follows...And as He sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto Him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age? Ephesians 3:21 should be translated as follows... Unto Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all generations, unto the age of the ages. Amen...

WOW! Now we can see that these passages are referring to the ages, and more specifically, GOD’S PURPOSE AND PLAN OF THE AGES.

**According to Gary Amirault:** “If one wants to get down right technical about it, many leading “selling” English Bible translations have just plain missed it when translating the Hebrew word “olam,” the Greek word, “aion,” and its adjective “aionios.” These words simply should never have been translated by words which indicate an eternal state. Many leading scholars today readily admit that. I’ll just quote one for this non-technical article just for the reader’s sake. **Dr. R. F. Weymouth**, translator of the “New Testament in Modern Speech” states in that work, “Eternal, Greek aeonian, i.e., of the ages: Etymologically this adjective, like others similarly formed does not signify, “during” but “belonging to” the aeons or ages.” (Hell Is Leaving The Bible “Forever”, Gary Amirault)

NOW...LET US GO FROM CONTRADICTION TO CLARITY!



*August 24*

## THE ETERNAL PURPOSE - PART 5

### OLAM

**According to C. Gary Reid and Ernest L. Martin:** “The word “olam” is derived from the primitive root “alam”, meaning to veil from sight, to conceal. An analysis of the passages where “olam” appears shows clearly that the word does not express “eternity” or “everlasting” as it has been frequently translated in the King James Version. Rather, it simply expresses a duration, a time during which a person, thing, or state of a thing exists — literally an age of time which has a definite beginning and conclusion. The duration of an age in scripture is sometimes defined and sometimes undefined. “Olam”, including its usage in the singular and plural and with prepositions and negatives, is translated differently in the Old Testament of our English Version.

These various translations with their number of occurrences are tabulated below:

“for ever and ever” - 24  
“from everlasting to everlasting” - 4  
“for ever” - 251  
“everlasting” - 60  
“of ancient times” “of old time” - 2  
“of old” or “ever of old” - 16  
“world without end” - 1  
“never” - 16  
“perpetual” - 22  
“evermore” - 15  
“old” or “ancient” - 13  
“of” or “in old time” - 3  
“always” or “alway” - 5  
“anymore” - 2  
“world” - 2  
“continuance” - 1  
“eternal” - 1  
“lasting” - 1  
“long time” - 1  
“at any time” - 1  
“the beginning of the world” - 1  
“ever” - 4  
“long” - 2

Total occurrences of olam - 448

The Time Periods for Salvation, Part 1

by C. Gary Reid and Ernest L. Martin, Ph.D., 1975

Typeset and footnoted by David Sielaff, November 2004”

The following is an excerpt from: (The Power Of Life And Death In A Greek Four Letter Word - Aion, Gary Amirault)...“While studying this Hebrew word “olam,” I came across some quotations from leading scholars which began to give me much understanding. The classical Wilson’s Old Testament Word Studies by William Wilson gives as the meaning of “olam,” “duration of time

which is concealed or hidden,” in other words, an unknown length of time. This unknown length of time could be 3 days and nights as in the case of Jonah, or the length of a man’s life, or as long as the period of time the Aaronic Priesthood was in effect, which was around 1600 years. Well, that seemed to solve all the problems. This definition took care of all the clear contradictions between the Old and New Testament and got old Jonah out of “hell forever.” From Jonah’s point of view, while he was in the fish, he didn’t know how long he was there since he couldn’t see the sun and moon. (They didn’t invent Timex watches until a few thousand years later.) But while the problem was solved in the Old Testament, it presented some different problems in the New Testament. The Greek equivalent for the Hebrew “*olam*” is the word “*aion*”. We get the English word “eon” from this word. It seems that many Bible translators carried the error of mistranslating “*olam*” to the Greek word “*aion*”. (Gary Amirault)

This brings us to our next stop on our journey through the ages. We will consider the Greek word “*aion*” next, giving its meaning, and showing how it too has been grossly mistranslated in many leading “selling” English translations. We are now beginning to see...

THE PURPOSE OF THE AGES COME TO LIGHT!



*August 25*

THE ETERNAL PURPOSE - PART 6

AION

**According to C. Gary Reid and Ernest L. Martin:** “The noun “*aion*” means “age” or “eon” and is found 128 times in 105 passages of the New Testament. It doubly occurs in 23 of the 105 passages. In its simple form (noun only), it is found 37 times and with prepositions 68. “*Aion*” is translated as follows in the Authorized Version:

<u>USAGE</u>	<u>NUMBER OF OCCURRENCES</u>	<u>REPRESENTATIVE SCRIPTURE</u>
Age	2	Ephesians 2:7
Course	1	Ephesians 2:2
World	40	Hebrews 6:5
Ever	72	Jude 13
Never	7	John 11:26
Evermore	4	2 Corinthians 11:31
Eternal	2	1 Timothy 1:17

Here are seven different renderings of the word “*aion*” as it appears in the form of a noun. On the surface, it seems that the translators were confused as to the right meaning of this important word. The word “world” in the English language is used to describe the present arrangement of human life and activity, but it certainly indicates a terminable period. It had a beginning and will have an end. Indeed “world” conveys no duration of time whatever. Yet “*aion*” shows “time” — though the time is always indefinite as to length. It is just like “*olam*” in Hebrew. The usual words in English which best approximate the original meaning of “*aion*” are “age” and “eon” (the latter word is derived from the Greek original itself). ”

The Time Periods for Salvation, Part 1

by C. Gary Reid and Ernest L. Martin, Ph.D., 1975

Typeset and footnoted by David Sielaff, November 2004

The following is an excerpt from: (The Power Of Life And Death In A Greek Four Letter Word - Aion, Gary Amirault)...“One of the major problems the King James translators have caused by their incorrect handling of this word, deals with the end of the world. It seems most Christians throughout the Christian era have been very interested in this time period. Martin Luther, in his time, was convinced he was living in “the end of the world.” The King James translation contradicts itself using this phrase. Most present day Bible translations have corrected this error in many places, but not enough to clear up the confusion completely. In Hebrews 9:26 we read from the King James translation: “For then must He often have suffered since the foundation of the world; but now once in the end of the world has He appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.” According to this King James verse, the end of the world occurred 1900 years ago. If we are supposedly living in the end of the world, the “end of the world” has been going on for 1900 years of the 6000 year Biblical record! But this is not the end of the confusion, it gets worse. According to Ephesians 3:21(see also Isaiah 45:17), there is to be no end of the world: “Unto Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.” The King James Bible tells us that the end of the world occurred 1900 years ago, yet at the same time tells us the world will never end! And we wonder why there are so many atheists out there! This problem is immediately cleared up when we discover “*aion*” should never have been translated world. The Greeks had a perfectly good word to describe “world”, the word “cosmos”. We use this word in the English today, but with a slightly different meaning than in the Greek of Biblical days. If the King’s translators had done what most leading Bible translations today have done with the word “*aion*” in these cases where the KJV translated it “world,” much of the confusion about the “end of the world” would disappear. The word “*aion*” should have been translated “age” (or something similar). Jesus would then have been living at the end of the Jewish “age.” After that came a new “age,” the one we are currently experiencing.” (Gary Amirault)

When a word is translated correctly...

IT MAKES A “WORLD” OF DIFFERENCE!



August 26

THE ETERNAL PURPOSE - PART 7

AIONIOS

According to C. Gary Reid and Ernest L. Martin: "In the translation of the adjective in the King James Version there is not as much variation. "*Aionios*" is rendered into only four English words.

<u>USAGE</u>	<u># OF OCCURRENCES</u>	<u>SCRIPTURES</u>
Eternal	42	Titus 3:7
Everlasting	25	2 Thessalonians 1:9
Ever	1	Philemon 15
World	3	Titus 1:2

The adjective form "*aionios*" cannot carry a force or express a duration greater than the "age" of which it speaks. It cannot mean "eternal" or "everlasting". It literally means "of the age" or "age-long." Once these meanings of the Hebrew "*olam*" and the Greek "*aion*" are understood, a flood of light will shine forth to show how God has been using various ages or strategic time periods to perfect His plan of salvation for man."

The Time Periods for Salvation, Part 1

by C. Gary Reid and Ernest L. Martin, Ph.D., 1975

Typeset and footnoted by David Sielaff, November 2004

The following is an excerpt from: (The Power Of Life And Death In A Greek Four Letter Word - Aion, Gary Amirault)... "There are some who after wrestling with the facts above will admit that the word "*aion*" means "an age," but they say its adjective "*aionios*" has to mean "eternal" because it is used so often to describe God. Professors in seminaries say these kind of **foolish things**. Anyone with a little bit of sense recognizes that an adjective cannot have a greater force or meaning than its noun. "Hourly" cannot mean "yearly," for example. The adjective gets its force from the noun. If the noun "*aion*" means "age," then the adjective "*aionios*" has to pertain to "age" and not to something greater than "age." It cannot therefore correctly represent "eternity". Just because "*aionios*" is used to describe God Who is "eternal" does not mean "*aionios*" means "eternal." God is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Does that mean He is not the God of the rest of us? Of course, not! God can be the God of **ages** as well as being **eternal**. The very nature of God commands the idea of "eternity". He doesn't have to be called "eternal" to make Him "eternal". That is part of His nature. The Bible has many other ways to express "endlessness" or not being exposed to the corruption of death. "Endlessness" is expressed in the scriptures by the simple phrase "no end" (Luke 1:33; Dan.

7:14; Isa. 9:7). The thought of permanence is also expressed in Hebrews 7:16, “the power of an endless or indissoluble life,” and in 1 Peter 1:4, “an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fades not away.” (Gary Amirault)

HE IS THE GOD OF ETERNITY AND TIME (AGES)!



*August 27*

## THE ETERNAL PURPOSE / PART 8

### A PROPER TRANSLATION OF OLAM, AION, AND AIONIOS... FINDING A GOOD BIBLE TRANSLATION

(L. Ray Smith)

“The first page of my Oxford University Press edition of the King James Bible says this:

*Containing the Old and New Testaments Translated out of the Original Tongues and with the former Translations diligently compared and revised by His Majesty's special command*

Notice that it “contains” the Old and New Testaments from the original tongues, but IT was not translated FROM the original tongues, but is rather, a revision of “former Translations!” Sadly to say, although we owe MUCH to the King James or Authorized Version of the scriptures, it is NOT a translation of the original Hebrew and Greek languages of the scriptures. To its credit, many (thousands) of inconsistencies have been corrected over the years. However, NOT ALL. There still remains some colossal errors that translators and scholars either are overlooking or are purposefully ignoring. The following Bible Translations are helpful in seeing the honest rendering of such King James words as, “everlasting”, “evermore”, “forever and ever”, “eternal”, “hell”, etc. They either render these words properly or show in the margins what the literal Hebrew or Greek is, rather than attempting to prop up the fancied pagan doctrine of eternal torment in an ever-burning hell of literal fire. I am not recommending that you buy any of these Bible Versions. You can understand the truths of God by merely coming to understand the proper translation of two or three words in your King James Bibles. But, if you decide to actually buy one of these Versions, I would suggest Rotherham's over the others. Besides it may be the only one that you can find in a book store.”

**Ray**

*Rotherham's Emphasized Bible, 1959*

*Young's Literal Translation of the Holy Bible, 1898*

*The Holy Bible in Modern English (Fenton), 1903*

*The Emphatic Diaglott, 1912 edition (Greek/English Interlinear)*

*The New Covenant, 1884*  
*The New Testament in Modern Speech, 1910*  
*The Restoration of Original Sacred Name Bible, 1976*  
*The New Testament of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Anointed, 1958*  
*The New Testament a Translation, 1938*  
*Concordant Literal New Testament, 1983*  
*The Companion Bible, 1990 A King James Reference Bible*

After a careful study of “olam”, “aion”, and “aionios” from the original Hebrew and Greek, along with these more accurate translations, the pagan idea and doctrine of eternal torment will disappear from the pages.

MAY THE LOVE OF GOD FILL YOUR HEART!



*August 28*

## THE ETERNAL PURPOSE- PART 9

### EXAMPLES OF OLAM, AION, AND AIONIOS TRANSLATED CORRECTLY

Let us now look to some of the more accurate translations of the Holy Scriptures for a proper rendering of “olam”, “aion”, and “aionios”. In order to do this, we will consider Daniel 7:18 in the King James Version, The Emphasized Bible, and The Young’s Literal Translation.

Daniel 7:18 (King James Version) states...But the saints of the MOST HIGH shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever...(Note: Have you ever stopped and thought about the phrase “for ever and ever”? What is “for ever and ever”? Is it “eternity and eternity”? Does that really make any sense? Why would you need to place an “ever” on top of a “for ever”? Would not one “for ever” be enough? THINK ABOUT IT!)

Let us now look to Rotherham’s Emphasized Bible. This Bible is a literal word by word translation from the original Hebrew and Greek. We will look at the same scripture to see if Rotherham is able to make more sense of our “for ever and ever” dilemma.

Daniel 7:18 (Rotherham’s Emphasized Bible) states...But the holy ones of the Highest, shall receive the kingdom, - and shall possess the kingdom **for the age, yea for the age of ages...**

We are already beginning to go from confusion (“for ever, even for ever and ever”???) to clarity (“for the age, yea for the age of the ages”!!!). We are now able to see that this scripture is referring to a coming “age”, and then referring to an “age above all ages”, which is referred to as the “AGE OF THE AGES”. (Note: We will go into the meaning of the terminology...“for the age, yea for the age of the ages”...in greater detail in a future teaching.)



The Young's Literal Translation of the Holy Bible renders Daniel 7:18 as follows...And receive the kingdom do the saints of the Most High, and they strengthen the kingdom **unto the age, even unto the age of the ages...**

These two Bible **TRANSLATIONS** (The Emphasized Bible and The Young's Literal Translation) do properly and correctly represent the original Hebrew words used in Daniel 7:18. They (The Emphasized and The Young's) teach us of a coming "age", as well as an "age of the ages". This scripture (Daniel 7:18) does not refer to endlessness, as is incorrectly portrayed by the King James Version, but rather, it refers to the coming "Kingdom Age", as well as "The Age Of The Ages". The next stop on our journey through the ages will be in the book of Jonah. We must figure out...

HOW TO GET JONAH OUT OF THE BELLY OF HELL!



*August 29*

#### THE ETERNAL PURPOSE - PART 10

##### EXAMPLES OF OLAM, AION, AND AIONIOS TRANSLATED CORRECTLY

We now turn our attention to the book of Jonah. According to the King James Version of the Bible, the great prophet is to be found "in the belly of hell" crying out for God to hear his voice, and is said to be there "for ever". Wait...It gets even more confusing. According to Jonah 1:17, Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights. Jonah 2:6 tells us that Jonah went down to the bottoms of the mountains; the earth with her bars was about him **for ever**...The remainder of Jonah 2:6 states...**yet have You brought up my life from corruption, O Lord God...**

Well...The King James Version has *ONCE AGAIN* left us a *messy contradiction* that we must clean up! In essence, we find Jonah: in the belly of **hell**, going down to the bottoms of the mountains; the earth with her bars was about him **for ever**; **yet God brought up his life from corruption**. Let us begin our **RESCUE MISSION!** We must save Jonah from the "belly of hell", in which he is to be doomed "for ever", that is, unless we are able to find a way to get him out. It is important that Jonah is rescued from the belly of the great fish, for he must go to Nineveh, that great city, to preach God's message to them.

In order to save our good friend Jonah, we must do something very courageous! **WE MUST READ FROM ANOTHER BIBLE TRANSLATION OTHER THAN THE KING JAMES VERSION! CAN YOU HANDLE IT? ARE YOU READY?** We will look to two very accurate translations to help us solve our problem.

Jonah 2:2,6 (The Emphasized Bible) states...I cried - out of my distress - unto Yahweh, and He answered me, - Out of the belly of **Hades** (the grave, or the place of the dead...un-perception) called I, You did hear my voice...To the roots of the mountains, went I down, As for the earth, her bars, were about me, **age-abidingly**, - Then did You bring up - out of the pit - my life, O Yahweh my God...

Jonah 2:2,6 (Young's Literal Translation) states...I called, because of my distress, to Jehovah, And He did answer me, From the belly of **Sheol** ("Sheol" is the Hebrew equivalent of the Greek word "Hades"...they both mean the same thing) I have cried, You have heard my voice...To the cuttings of mountains I have come down, The earth, her bars [are] behind me **to the age**. And You bring up from the pit my life, O Jehovah my God...

After having consulted the Emphasized Bible and the Young's Literal Translation, our dilemma is solved, Jonah is released from "Sheol" (as well as the great fish), having been there **to the age** ("olam" - a hidden or concealed amount of time), and Nineveh will be preached to, so that they will repent.

WOW!...ALL THIS FROM READING SOME OTHER BIBLE TRANSLATIONS!



*August 30*

## THE ETERNAL PURPOSE - PART 11

### EXAMPLES OF OLAM, AION, AND AIONIOS TRANSLATED CORRECTLY

After having solved the "for ever and ever" dilemma, and rescuing Jonah from the belly of "eternal hell", we are now ready to continue our journey through the ages. We will cite one other contradiction in the King James Version concerning the word "olam". This contradiction refers to the Aaronic Priesthood as being an "everlasting" one, which we know is not true, for it has been replaced by the Priesthood after the order of Melchisedec.

Exodus 40:15 (King James Version) states...And you shall anoint them, as you did anoint their father, that they may minister unto Me in the priest's office: for their anointing shall surely be an **everlasting** priesthood throughout their generations...

Hebrews 7:14-19 (King James Version) states...For it is evident that our Lord sprang out of Juda; of which tribe Moses spoke nothing concerning priesthood. And it is yet far more evident: for that **after the similitude of Melchisedec there arises another priest**, Who is made, not after the law of a carnal commandment, but after the power of an endless life. For He testifies, **You are a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec. For there is verily a disannulling** of the commandment going before for the weakness and unprofitableness thereof. For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw near unto God...

Exodus 40:15 (Young's Literal Translation) states...And anointed them as you have anointed their father, and they have acted as priests to Me, and their anointing has been to be to them for a priesthood **age-during**, to their generations...

We can now see that after a proper translation of Exodus 40:15, that it is in total harmony with Hebrews 7:14-19. The Aaronic Priesthood was never to be an "everlasting" priesthood, but rather, it was to give way to the Priesthood after the order of Melchisedec. Hebrews 7: 14-19 makes this very clear. This is **OBVIOUSLY** another one of the many contradictions of the King James Version.

It is EASILY cleared up when we see that the Aaronic Priesthood was to be an **age-during (age-lasting)** priesthood. The mistranslation of the word “olam” in the Old Testament has caused many contradictions. But fear not, for with a little bit of research...

THEY ALL CLEAR UP!



*August 31*

## THE ETERNAL PURPOSE - PART 12

### EXAMPLES OF OLAM, AION, AND AIONIOS TRANSLATED CORRECTLY

We will now turn our attention to the New Testament, in which we will show and correct some of the mistranslations of the words “aion” and “aionios”. We will begin by showing that there is NO SUCH THING as an “unpardonable sin”. The words “unpardonable sin” are nowhere to be found in scripture, FOR THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS AN “UNPARDONABLE SIN” WITH OUR LOVING FATHER! Those words were later ADDED to study Bibles, causing many to believe this FALSE CONCEPT. Let us first quote from the King James **Version**, and then from a **translation** that deals with these passages (Matthew 12:31,32...Mark 3:28-30) in a proper way.

Matthew 12:31,32 & Mark 3:28-30 (King James Version) state...Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men. And whosoever speaks a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaks against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come...Verily I say unto you, All sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and blasphemies wherewith soever they shall blaspheme: But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost has never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation. Because they said, He has an unclean spirit...

Let us now focus on the words: “world”, “never”, and “eternal damnation”. According to the Young’s Literal Translation, the word “world” in Matthew 12:32 should be translated...**age**, for it comes from the Greek word “aion”. The words “never forgiveness” in Mark 3:29 should be translated...**no forgiveness to the age**. The words “eternal damnation” in Mark 3:29 should be translated...**age-during (age-lasting) judgment (the judgment of the ages)**.

So we can see that those who blaspheme the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, neither in this “age”, neither in the “age” to come. In essence, they have no forgiveness to the “age”, and are in danger of “age-during” (“age-lasting”) judgment. The GOOD NEWS is that the judgment is not **eternal**, but “age-during” (“of the ages”, or “within the ages of time”). The other point that needs to be made concerning the words...“this age, or the age to come”, is that this is also GOOD NEWS! The apostle Paul told us in Ephesians 2:7 that there are **AGES** to come, not just one more age to come. This would then show us that there WILL BE FORGIVENESS IN THE LAST AND FINAL

AGE FOR THIS SIN! The fact that there are ages to come, and that this sin is not to be forgiven only to the “age”, leaves the door open for God’s forgiveness in the following age, which is referred to in scripture as the AGE OF THE AGES, OR THE DISPENSATION OF THE FULLNESS OF TIMES. O WHAT AN ALL-WISE, MERCIFUL, AND LOVING GOD! TO HIM BE GLORY...

UNTO THE AGE OF THE AGES!



*September 1*

### THE ETERNAL PURPOSE - PART 13

#### EXAMPLES OF OLAM, AION, AND AIONIOS TRANSLATED CORRECTLY

Matthew 18:8 (King James Version) states...Wherefore if your hand or your foot offend you, cut them off, and cast them from you: it is better for you to enter into life halt or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet to be cast into everlasting fire...

The first and most important thing to take note of in this passage of scripture is: That Jesus is using metaphoric (figurative) language to describe what the punishment (correction) and the consuming fire of God is like. These words are not to be taken to heart in a literal sense, but in a metaphoric sense. For if they are meant to be taken literally, then we must at once begin to pluck out our eyes and cut off our hands and feet, so as to not end up in everlasting fire. Now that that point has been made, let us once again refer to a **more accurate translation** concerning these verses of scripture.

Matthew 18:8,9 (The New Testament In Modern Speech) states...If your hand or your foot is causing you to fall into sin, cut it off and away with it. It is better for you to enter into Life crippled in hand or foot than to remain in possession of two sound hands or feet but be thrown into the **fire of the Ages**. And if your eye is causing you to fall into sin, tear it out and away with it; it is better for you to enter into Life with only one eye, than to remain in possession of two eyes but be thrown into the **Gehenna** of fire...

Notice that the word “everlasting”, when referring to fire, is correctly and properly translated as...**of the ages**...rather than “everlasting” or “eternal”, which it should not be translated as, for it comes from the Greek word “aionios”, which means: of the ages, or belonging to the ages of time. Jesus is here describing the consuming fire of God by pointing to the literal valley of “Gehenna”, in which the fire did consume the refuse which was cast into it. But the point at hand is this: The fire that is spoken of is “aionios” (of the ages), not eternal, which shows us that this fire does indeed have a **CORRECTIVE PURPOSE**, and is not endless. This is the same fire spoken of in the words...“Holy Ghost and fire”.

THANK GOD FOR THE FIRE OF THE AGES!