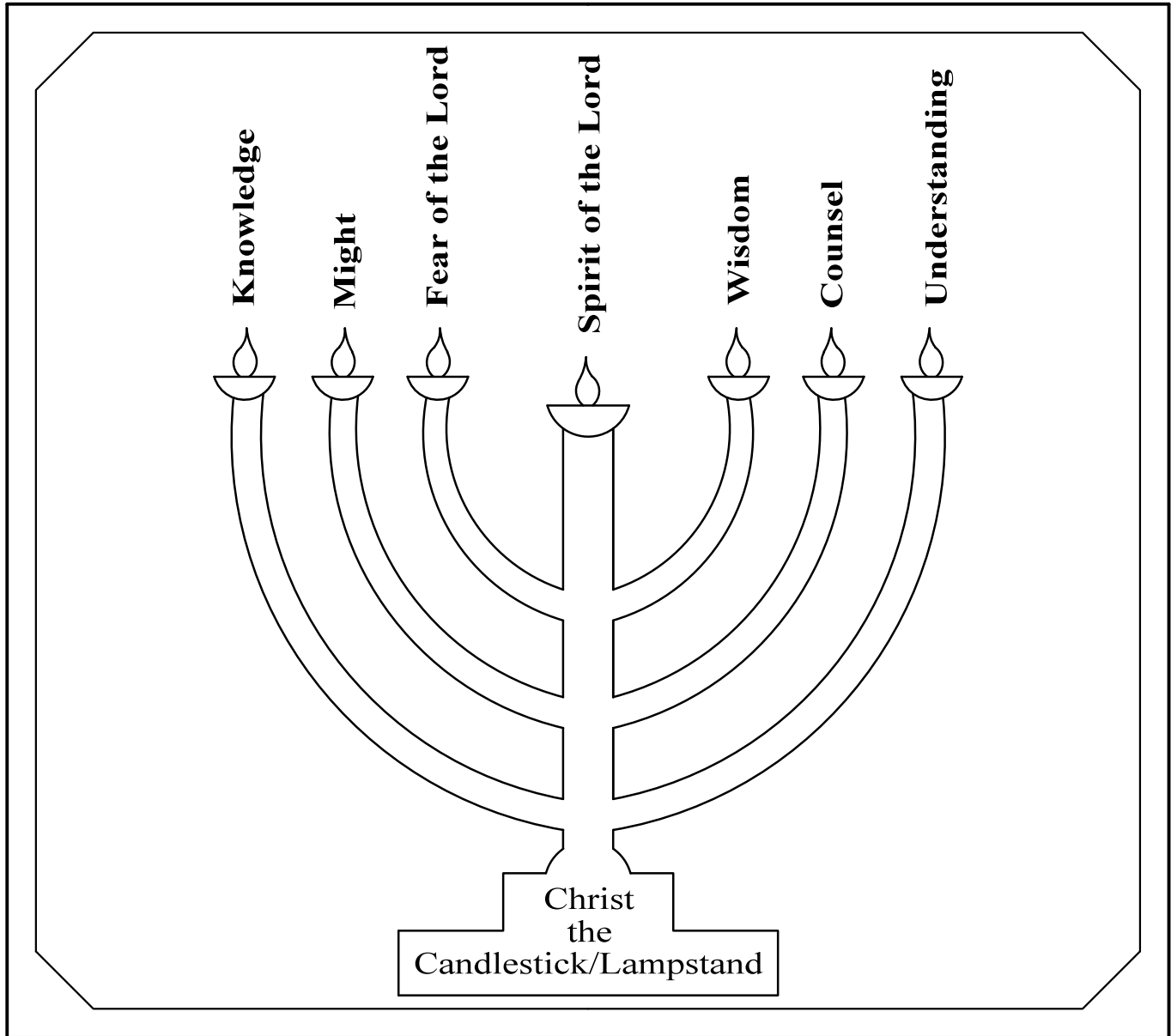


The Eight Milestones to Maturity



Part 1: What the Milestones Are

Part 2: The Spiritual Milestones as Seen in the Tabernacle

Part 3: The Eighth Milestone is Christ, the Fulfillment of the First Seven

Part 4: The Seven Milestone Spirits Held by the Eighth

Part 5: Some "Types", (Symbolic Examples), of the Eight Milestones

(Total of 23 Pages)

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Editorial Review by Mary Elizabeth Ellis

Bible Concepts

Lesson 7

The Eight Milestones to Maturity

Introduction:

These Bible studies are meant to be a simple straightforward presentation of Bible truths as a tool to help you to better understand the Word. It is however only by the Holy Spirit (who leads us into truth) that you will be able to see the extent of what is here. Religious traditions make the word of God ineffective, so the Word & His Spirit are my focus rather than a particular denominational doctrine, (Mark 7:13). I am blessed that He has enabled me to see the part that I do. I believe the Father would have me share these delights with others who seek to closely know Him as well. These lessons are to encourage you on into a deeper relationship with God.

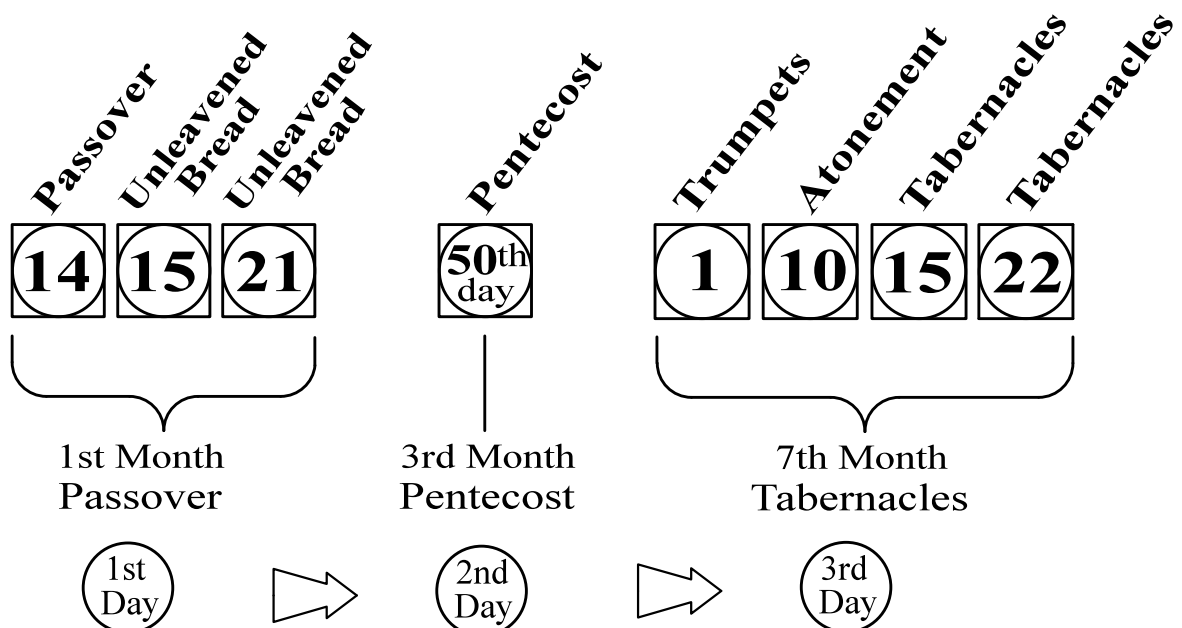
[Bracketed words within verses are my comments inserted to add clarity. I have also CAPITALIZED some words in the verses for emphasis.]

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Part 1: What the Milestones Are:

In the last lesson we saw that our journey to the full-stature of Christ, (**Ephesians 4:13**), is done in three phases. The diagram below was used to point out how the three major feasts of the Lord are a “type” to point out the three major events in this travel.

In this lesson we dig deeper. We will see that the three steps of growth can be further broken down into a journey that has each of these eight feast days as a landmark...a milestone in that process of spiritual growth. We are to encourage each other to keep moving upward into higher levels of maturity in Christ as we go along.



All men were commanded by the Lord to attend these three major feasts. (Note that all men are sons). As men & women we are to experience all eight milestones in order to be part of the *special resurrection* as Sons of God, (Luke 20:34-38 YLT). Here are the verses:

“17. THREE TIMES IN THE YEAR ALL THY MALES SHALL APPEAR BEFORE THE LORD GOD...19. The first of the firstfruits of thy land, [that’s His life in you], thou shalt bring into the house of the LORD thy God, [seek to be spiritually where He is]. Thou shalt not see the a kid in his mother’s milk, [meaning move on from milk to meat].” **Exodus 23 KJV**

“23. THRICE IN THE YEAR SHALL ALL YOUR MEN CHILDREN [Sons] APPEAR BEFORE THE LORD GOD...25. Thou shalt not offer the blood of my sacrifice [Christ] with leaven, [not with your works but with sincerity & truth, (1Corinthians 5:8)]; neither shall the sacrifice of the feast of the passover be left unto the morning, [receive Christ decisively as Savior then move on, (Hebrews 6:1)].” **Exodus 34 KJV**

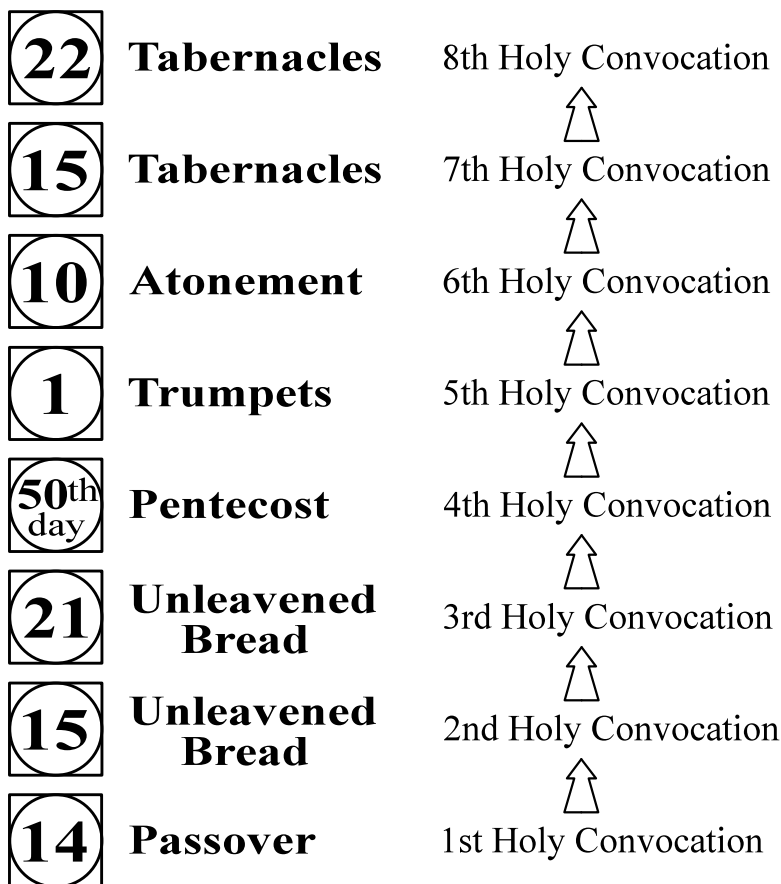
“THREE TIMES IN A YEAR SHALL ALL THY MALES APPEAR BEFORE THE LORD THY GOD in the place which he shall choose, [His way, not ours]; in the feast of unleavened bread, [this cluster of feast days is also referred to as “Passover”] and in the feast of weeks, [Pentecost], & in the feast of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before the LORD empty, [but with more of the harvest (fruit of Christ) evident in you as you grow]:” **Deuteronomy 16:16 KJV**

This diagram shows the three major feasts broken down into their eight holy convocations. There are no others!

“Holy” means sacred or dedicated. Something holy is *something set apart from all the others* for a special purpose.

“Convocation” means a gathering or assembly of people who are called out from the others.

“Holy Convocation” means a *gathering of those who hear the call to be set apart for a special purpose*. It is *not* an assembly of believers who decide to skip a feast or are content to stop. It is an assembly of believers who are responding to a call. They are the ones moving from one feast to the next with a focus to arrive at the last holy convocation. Each holy convocation is a milestone in their journey.



“19. Having, therefore, brethren, boldness for the entrance into the holy places [the last five feasts] in the blood [life] of Jesus, 20. which way he did initiate for us [to go there]...through the vail,...his flesh, [making a way for us to enter the Holiest Place to dwell in Him & He in us as shown by the last feast]— 21. and [Jesus is now] a high priest over the house of God, [the temple, which we are, (1Corinthians 3:16)], 22. may we draw near [to experience Him in every feast]... in full assurance of faith...having the body bathed with pure water [the Word]; 23. may we hold fast...the hope, [of resurrected bodies like His, the last feast where God dwells fully in us]...24. and may we consider one another to provoke to love & to good works [to keep growing in Him], 25. NOT FORSAKING THE ASSEMBLING OF OURSELVES TOGETHER, [with those who also have this same hope & are responding to this call to maturity/perfection/full-stature in Christ], as a custom of certain is [who get together physically but without assembling up into a higher place spiritually which would be just a religious form without the life], but exhorting [each other to keep responding to His love], and so much the more as ye see the day coming nigh [of this resurrection of sons to rule with Him in the next age].”

Hebrews 10 YLT

The gathering together that we are not to forsake is the gathering of the Christ Body! It is the call to the virgins to wake up...to move on with lamps full of oil to have union with Jesus Christ the Head. It is a call to NOT assemble with other virgins, (those of the church system who were not faithful to keep their lamps full of oil). We must keep moving. The virgins who move on have already bought all the oil they could find. They traded their life for His, [received Jesus by more than just words], to get this oil. The others were still holding onto some part of their lives, like Vashti, (who wanted the blessings of being a queen without full submission to the King).

We are not to keep the feasts in the literal sense. They are to be fulfilled in a spiritual sense. So what does that mean for us today?

We need to begin with a clear understanding of the starting point...the first feast...the first milestone. Then we need to have a clear understanding of the ending point...the goal...the last feast...the last milestone in our journey.

Christ is the beginning and the end as shown here.

22

Tabernacles
(Ending point)

15

Tabernacles

10

Atonement

1

Trumpets

**50th
day**

Pentecost

21

**Unleavened
Bread**

15

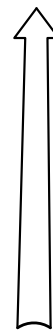
**Unleavened
Bread**

14

Passover
(Starting point)

{ God dwells in us as Resurrection.
Perfection, (complete) in Christ.
Christ the Body joined to the Head.

{ Christ is the Passover Lamb for us.
We receive the free gift of His life.
We begin the new journey.



The starting point and the ending point milestones were shown as the first and eighth feasts. They are the same as in Lesson 6, “The Three Days Journey”, but seen in greater detail here. This journey to the 8th milestone feast is the high calling Paul talks of:

*“10. I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead. I want to suffer with him, sharing in his death, 11. so that...I will experience the resurrection from the dead. 12. I don’t mean to say that I have already achieved these things or that I have already reached perfection. But I press on to possess that perfection for which Christ Jesus first possessed me. 13. No,...I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past [milestones, (see **Hebrews 6**)] and looking forward to what lies ahead, 14. I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.”*

Philippians 3 NLT

So we see that these feasts represent the different stages of growth that we are to experience in our walk with Christ. What the feasts represent spiritually are shown by what they commemorate in the natural. First see **THE NATURAL MILESTONES**:

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------|---|
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin: 0 auto;">22</div> | Tabernacles — | To remember that each day was a temporary stop to get here...
...the final harvest on the 8th day which is also the 8th feast.
This is the completion of the harvest & of dwelling in booths. |
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin: 0 auto;">15</div> | Tabernacles — | To remember that the Lord made Israel to dwell in booths...
...to keep moving when delivered out of Egypt.
A time that begins final harvest...a time of great joy. |
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin: 0 auto;">10</div> | Atonement — | To remember atonement for the High Priest & the people...
...by the High Priest taking blood & incense into Holiest Place.
This was done toward evening once per year. |
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin: 0 auto;">1</div> | Trumpets — | To remember to focus on the 7th month of the religious year.
Announces the time for the final harvest.
Many trumpets are blown, but not all hear this call. |
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin: 0 auto;">50th
day</div> | Pentecost — | To remember when God gave the Law, (Word) to Israel...
...and it was when Israel & God made covenant.
It was the marriage day between Israel & God. |
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin: 0 auto;">21</div> | Unleavened Bread — | To remember how God took them thru the Red Sea...
...to deliver them from the bondage of Egypt.
On this day they reached safety on the other side. It took 7 days. |
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin: 0 auto;">15</div> | Unleavened Bread — | To remember that one had to eat all the lamb...
...and bread with no leaven and with bitter herbs...
...and then immediately leave Egypt, the land of their slavery. |
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 40px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin: 0 auto;">14</div> | Passover — | To remember that the firstborn son escaped death...
...because the lamb was slain & his blood put on entry to home.
It's how Israel was born as a nation of His Sons, (Ex. 4:22). |

Now by the Word & Spirit we can translate the natural events into spiritual milestones. We will start with the three feasts of Passover. These parallel in type the Court of the Tabernacle, the “hub” of the Feasts. Here in the Court we have the Bronze Altar & the Laver. The Passover Day itself represents *beginning a new way of life*, made possible by receiving Christ our Passover Lamb. It was by transfer of life at the (brazen) altar. The first feast of unleavened bread represents *walking a new way* by washing our feet at the Laver, (in the Word). The second feast of unleavened bread represents *changing how we do things* by washing our hands at the Laver, (in the Word). We are washed by the Word as we grow in the knowledge of Christ in the written Word, (**Ephesians 5:26**). When you are faithful to go as far as you can then Christ makes a way where there is no way. It is Him. He is the way.

21 Unleavened Bread

Spiritual

As **2Cor. 5:17** unfolds you start to do things differently.
Changing how we do things...from our works to His works.
The Word guides us how to be in the world, (sea), but not of it.



Natural

To remember how God took them thru the Red Sea.
To remember how God separated them from their enemy.
Finally safe from their enemy on this day, the 7th day of fleeing.

15 Unleavened Bread

Spiritual

Apply within all of the deliverance offered by the Life of Christ.
Begin to be guided by the Word to learn where & how to walk.
Immediately forsake the way you would walk. Walk in His ways.



Natural

To remember they had to eat all the lamb with unleavened bread...
...then immediately leave Egypt, starting 7 days of escaping.
They fled but needed God to direct them & to make the way.

14 Passover

Spiritual

To receive the free gift of Jesus Christ our Passover Lamb...
...by which we are reconciled back to God.
This enables us to become part of a nation of first-born Sons.



Natural

To remember that the firstborn son escaped death...
...because the lamb was slain & his blood put on entry to home.
This was the reason Israel was born as a nation of God's Sons.

Now look at the Feast of Pentecost. This is the 4th milestone in our journey. It comes in the 3rd month. It is the 50th day after the Wave Offering of Firstfruits of barley grain. This Wave Offering was the day after the last consecutive Sabbath following the Passover. Jesus was resurrected on this day so the Wave Offering is a “type”...a foreshadow of the resurrection. The 50th day after that is emphasized as the day after **7 times 7 days**...to point out that we are to get practice walking in the Word. How many times? Over & over & over again. This “walking it out” strengthens us in our new life in Christ. The man who becomes righteous falls seven times along the way, but keeps getting up to move on, (**Proverbs 24:16**). As another example, David was strengthened for kingship by fighting many battles.



Pentecost

Spiritual

On this day after the resurrection the Holy Spirit was given.
Receive His Spirit to equip us in a New (marriage) Covenant.
Start to understand His Word by His Spirit.



Natural

To remember when God gave the Law (Word) to nation of Israel...
...which was the covenant vow between Israel & God.
It was the marriage day between the nation of Israel & God.

The Feasts in the natural are the Old Covenant between natural Israel and God. The Feasts in the spiritual are the New Covenant between spiritual Israel and the Lord. His people could not keep the Old Covenant. It involved following the letter of the Word, (Law). This led to bondage & condemnation, (**Galatians 4:19-21**).

The Word, (Law), was given to point the way to Christ, (see **Galatians 3:24** in the NIV). It was given to show that they could not keep it in their flesh nature. The people needed to be in His nature. They needed to know in their minds what the Lord would have them to do, and to want to do it in their hearts. This can never be done in the first Adam carnal flesh mind & nature. The carnal mind is at enmity against God. This is clearly explained in **Romans 7 & 8**. They could only walk together in marriage if they agreed, (**Amos 3:3**). They could only agree if the people had the mind of Christ and walked in the Spirit, for God is Spirit. Those that worship Him must worship Him in Spirit & in truth, (**John 4:23,24**). Works in the flesh may be good or bad, but they can never please God because they are not directed by Him. This is why the Lord rejected Cain's offering. He does not judge by outward appearances. You will see this in the following verse. He looks on the heart to see who is hearing and obeying and trusting and believing and submitting to Him.

“2. And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; 3. And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and HE SHALL NOT JUDGE AFTER THE SIGHT OF HIS EYES, NEITHER REPROVE AFTER THE HEARING OF HIS EARS: 4. BUT WITH RIGHTEOUSNESS shall he judge...” **Isaiah 11 KJV**

Here are the last four spiritual milestones to maturity in Christ. They are all found in the third major feast. These last four feasts together are often referred to as the Feast of Tabernacles. Mature fruit is gathered and tares are burned. Here the Word is known not just by the Letter, or by the Spirit, but by His life. This is the final stage of becoming the Word made flesh!

22

Tabernacles

Spiritual

God dwells in us in fullness, made obvious by our resurrection.
Perfection, (complete, mature, full-stature), in Christ.
Christ the Body fully joined to Jesus Christ the Head.

Natural

To remember that each day was a temporary stop to get here...
...the final harvest on 8th day in booths, which is the 8th feast.
This is the completion of the harvest & of dwelling in booths.



15

Tabernacles

Spiritual

Begin the final walk to enter your rest in the fullness of Christ.
Know Him by His nature in the depths of your being.
Receive your cross to follow Him...final separation.

Natural

To remember that the Lord made Israel to dwell in booths...
...to keep moving from Egypt, on to harvest in Promised Land.
A time of final harvest, great joy, and a new beginning.



10

Atonement

Spiritual

We "afflict our souls" by death to flesh nature & carnal mind.
Prepare to enter the Holiest Place, the seat of His authority...
...as burnt incense by baptism of fire to deepest roots of Adam.

Natural

To remember atonement for the High Priest & people...
...by High Priest taking blood & incense to Holiest Place.
This was done toward evening once per year.



1

Trumpets

Spiritual

Hear the high calling that Paul heard.
Understand the call & pay attention to His final work in you.
This final work is only for overcomers, those with ears to hear.

Natural

To remember to focus on the 7th month of the religious year...
...which is final harvest (& also 1st month of agricultural year).
Trumpets sound to prepare for final harvest & a new beginning.



Below is a summary of all eight spiritual milestones of our growth into maturity in Christ:

The Spiritual Milestones

- 22** **Tabernacles** — God dwells in us in fullness, made obvious by our resurrection.
Perfection, (complete, mature, full-stature), in Christ.
Christ the Body fully joined to Jesus Christ the Head.
- 15** **Tabernacles** — Begin the final walk to enter into your rest in the fullness of Christ.
Know Him as His nature in the depths of your being,
Receive your cross to follow Him...final separation.
- 10** **Atonement** — We "afflict our souls" by death to flesh nature & carnal mind.
Prepare to enter the Holiest Place as a cloud of incense.
Receive Baptism of Fire in the hidden parts of the flesh nature.
- 1** **Trumpets** — Hear the high calling that Paul heard...move to apprehend His Life.
This final work is only for overcomers...those with ears to hear.
Forget what is behind. Separate from religious works.
- 50th day** **Pentecost** — On this day after the resurrection the Holy Spirit was given.
Receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit to equip us to move on.
Begin to understand His Word by His Spirit.
- 21** **Unleavened Bread** — As **2Corinthians 5:17** unfolds you start to do things differently.
Changing how we do things...our works to His works.
The Word guides us how to be in the world, (sea) but not of it.
- 15** **Unleavened Bread** — Apply within all the deliverance offered by the Life of Christ.
Begin to be guided by the Word to learn where & how to walk.
Immediately forsake the way you would walk. Walk in His ways.
- 14** **Passover** — Receive the free gift of Jesus Christ our Passover Lamb...
...by which we are reconciled back to God.
This enables us to become part of a nation of first-born Sons.

Except for the first two feasts, there were days or months before you came to the next feast. These gaps of time represent the walk we have before we reach the next milestone. This is where we walk out what we received at the previous milestone. It is where we deepen our relationship with the Lord before full union with Him. It takes seven walks to grow into the full stature of Christ. Our next part further explains the seven walks.

Part 2: The Spiritual Milestones as Seen in the Tabernacle

Before moving on we compare all 8 spiritual milestones found in the Feasts with the types in the wilderness Tabernacle. Together they confirm truth of what happens at each milestone.

The Feasts

The Tabernacle

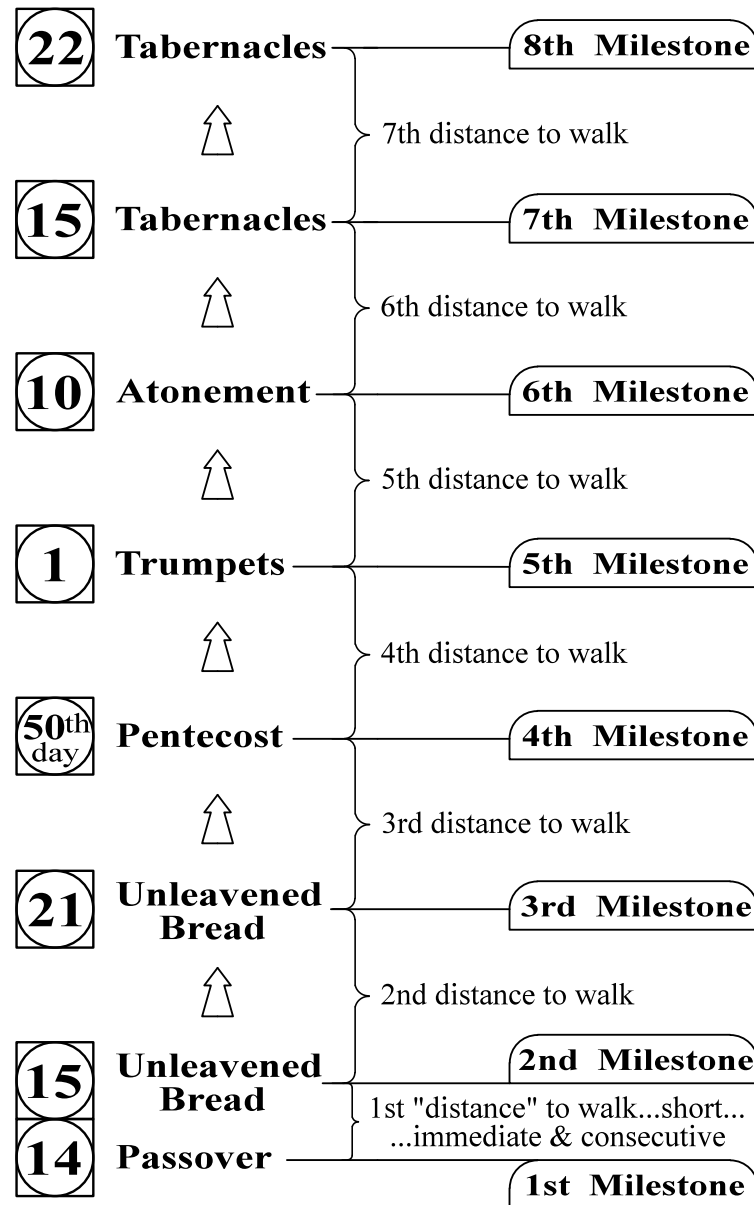
22	Tabernacles — Mercy Seat — (Cloud)	Incense cloud merges with the cloud... ...over the Throne where God dwells. The 2 become 1 cloud, Christ Head & Body.
15	Tabernacles — Incense Censer — (Cloud)	Our lives are a sacrifice of praise unto Christ. Burning incense is carried into the Holiest Place. Incense cloud caught up to Throne of God.
10	Atonement — Golden Altar —	Receive Baptism of Fire in Christ. Incense burned on Golden Altar in Holy Place... ...hidden "tares" within are burned.
1	Trumpets — Golden Table —	We get ears to hear a deeper Word... ...made clear by the light of the Candlestick. We leave the gold table to go to the gold altar.
50th day	Pentecost — Lampstand —	Receive Baptism in Holy Spirit, (His Spirit). The 7 Spirits of Christ partially light our way. Word now seen with spiritual insight.
21	Unleavened Bread — Laver — (Word)	Wash our hands in the water of the Word... ...to start doing things in a new way. We receive Baptism in Water, (Word). Exodus 30:19-21
15	Unleavened Bread — Laver — (Word)	Wash our feet in the water of the Word... ...to walk in a new direction. Exodus 30:19-21
14	Passover — Bronze Altar —	We receive Salvation. Jesus Christ our Passover Lamb... ...slain for our atonement.

Unleavened Bread is a type of truth, (1Corinthians 5:8). Eating it is symbolic of taking in truth, (the Word). Eating...the Lamb, Unleavened Bread & Bitter Herbs...is feeding on Christ, the Word. The bitter herbs represent the growing pains along the way...the tests, trials & challenges to overcome. The Laver is where the priests washed...symbolic of being washed in the water of the Word. Our first big walk after receiving Jesus as our Savior is walking according to the Word. The Word begins to cleanse our minds, walk, & works.

Then during the eight days of the Feasts of Tabernacles the two clouds merge to become one cloud. The cloud of incense is "swallowed up" into the cloud of Christ. Christ the Body is resurrected to join Christ the Head.

Now let's look at the distinction between the milestones & the gaps between them.

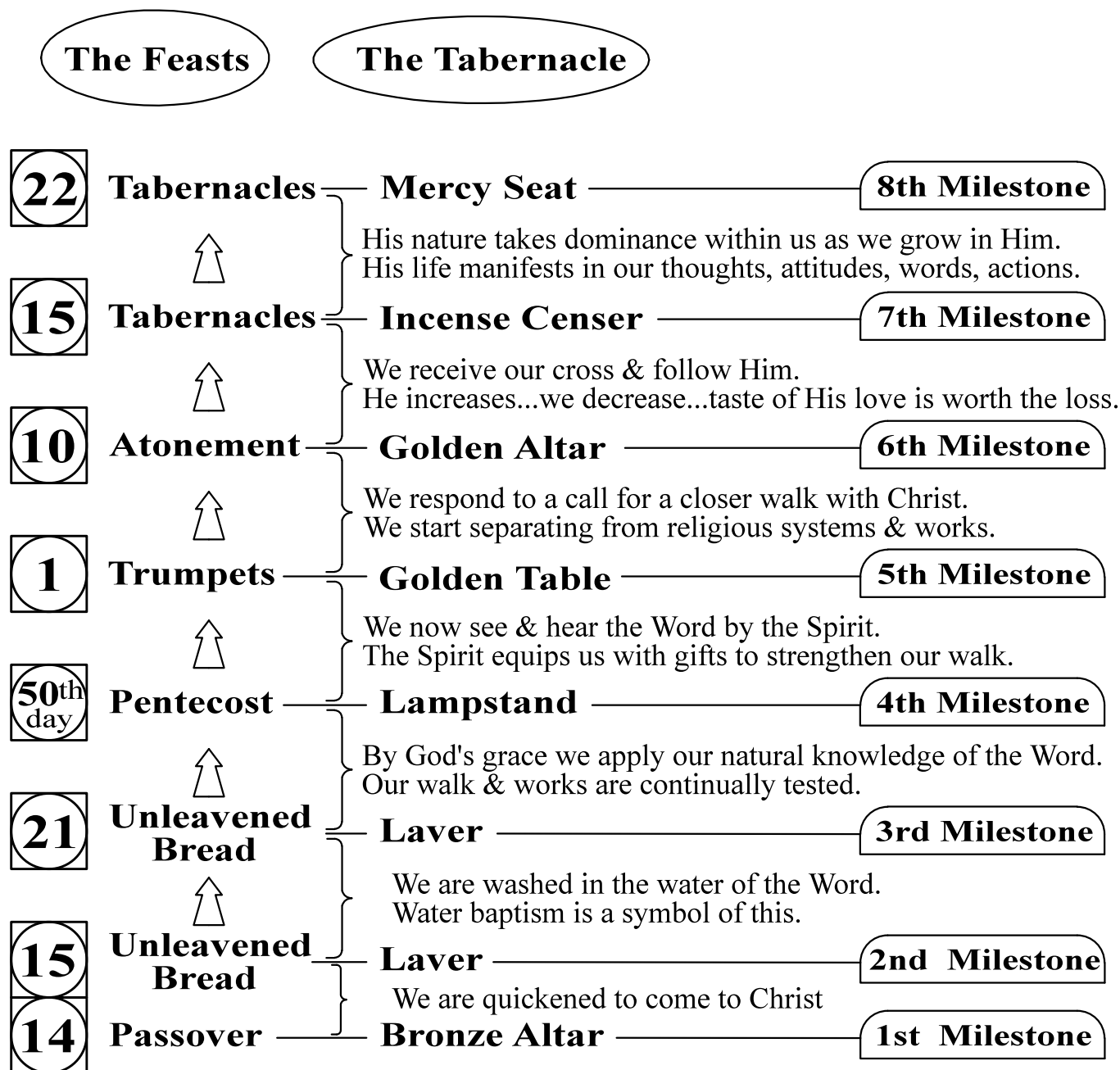
Gaps Between Milestones



These Biblical feast days begin at sunset & end at the following sunset. The first two feasts are consecutive. On the 14th the Lamb is slain. It's blood is put on the home's entryway. The lamb is then prepared to eat. Supper is just after sunset, the beginning of the 15th. The Lamb is eaten entirely (including the unfavored parts) with unleavened bread & bitter herbs. Soon after, the Lord passes over you to guard you from the destroyer. Once the destroyer has passed by, then flee from home and from the land of bondage.

If you didn't go from the 1st milestone to the 2nd then you missed the whole point. If you didn't leave the 2nd milestone to head to the 3rd then you are left behind...cut off. It's purpose is to get you to the 3rd...to the other side of the Red Sea. If you don't leave the first three milestones to get to the 4th, then you miss being a part of the marriage covenant with the Lord at the 4th milestone. If you don't walk by the Spirit beyond the 4th milestone then you won't hear the call of the 5th...and so on. We are strengthened by each walk to go on.

Below we see the distinction between the milestones and the distances between them. The milestones are provided by Christ. The walk between them is our part by grace through faith. We have seven distances to walk. Each one is walking out a further stage of the growth of His life in us. It starts with an incorruptible seed which grows up into an incorruptible life.



Note again that the first two feasts are consecutive. The first transitions into the second. In the first the lamb is slain and its blood is put on the entryway to the home. In the second the lamb is roasted with fire, eaten entirely, and then one immediately leaves that home to go live in tents. The first feast makes the second possible. The first has not been received if it is not acted upon.

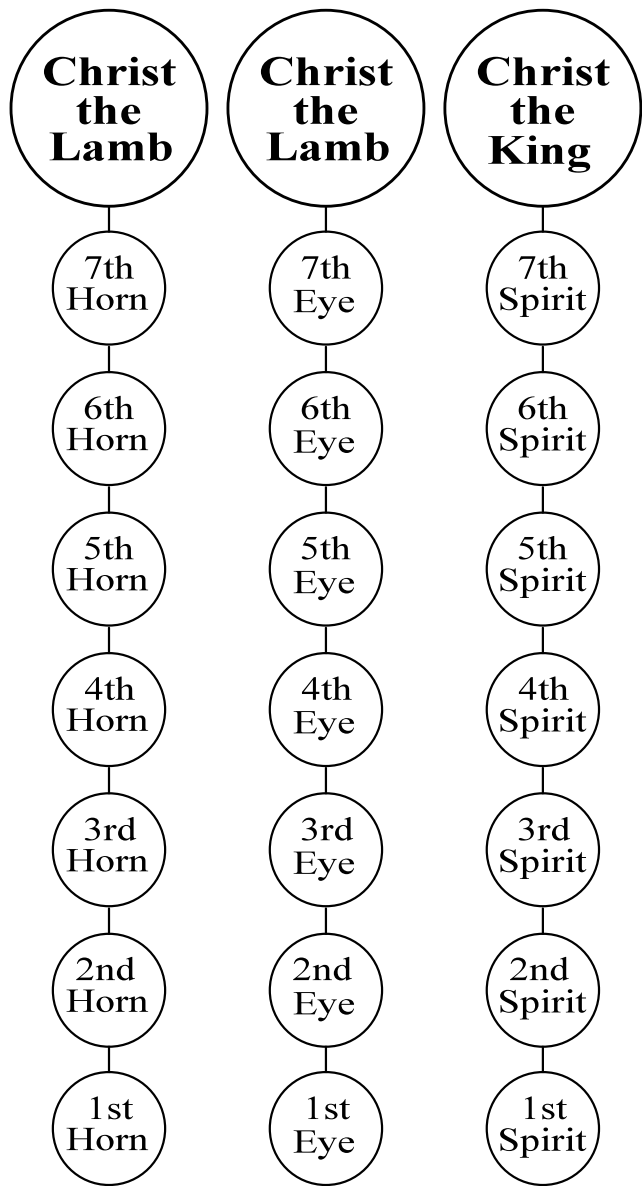
Part 3: The Eighth Milestone is Christ, the Fulfillment of the First Seven

At each milestone we receive more of His life to help us walk out the next stage of our journey. Jesus Christ is the eighth milestone. The goal is to be found mature in Him.

We first look at Jesus Christ, the Lamb upon the throne. He is there because He was obedient unto death, even the death of the cross, (**Philippians 2:8-11**). We too are called to rule with Christ as His Kings, (**Revelation 1:6**). We too must humble ourselves and obey.

“6. ...in the midst of the throne...stood a LAMB as it had been slain, HAVING SEVEN HORNS AND SEVEN EYES, WHICH ARE THE SEVEN SPIRITS OF GOD sent forth into all the earth [which means they are sent into us, vessels of earth, to equip us to move on into Christ, who is at the throne].”
Revelation 5:6 KJV

“Types” of the 8 Milestones:



“...Grace to you, and peace, from Him who is, and who was, and who is coming, and from THE SEVEN SPIRITS THAT ARE BEFORE [you get to] HIS THRONE,”
Revelation 1:4 YLT

The Lamb is in the midst of the throne. That is the middle of the throne. That means He is on the throne. That is the place of rulership as a King. The purpose of the Seven Spirits is to equip you to also share in His rulership as Kings submitted to Him.

The carnal, natural mind would like to think that the throne is a literal chair, but it is not. *The throne is a symbol of the place of God’s authority.* God is Spirit. He doesn’t need a chair in the divine realm.

Horns represent power. We gather more of His strength as we grow in our relationship with Christ. This happens at each of the first seven milestones.

“They go from strength to strength, till each appears before God in Zion [the place of authority in Christ, that God inhabits].”
Psalms 84:7 NIV

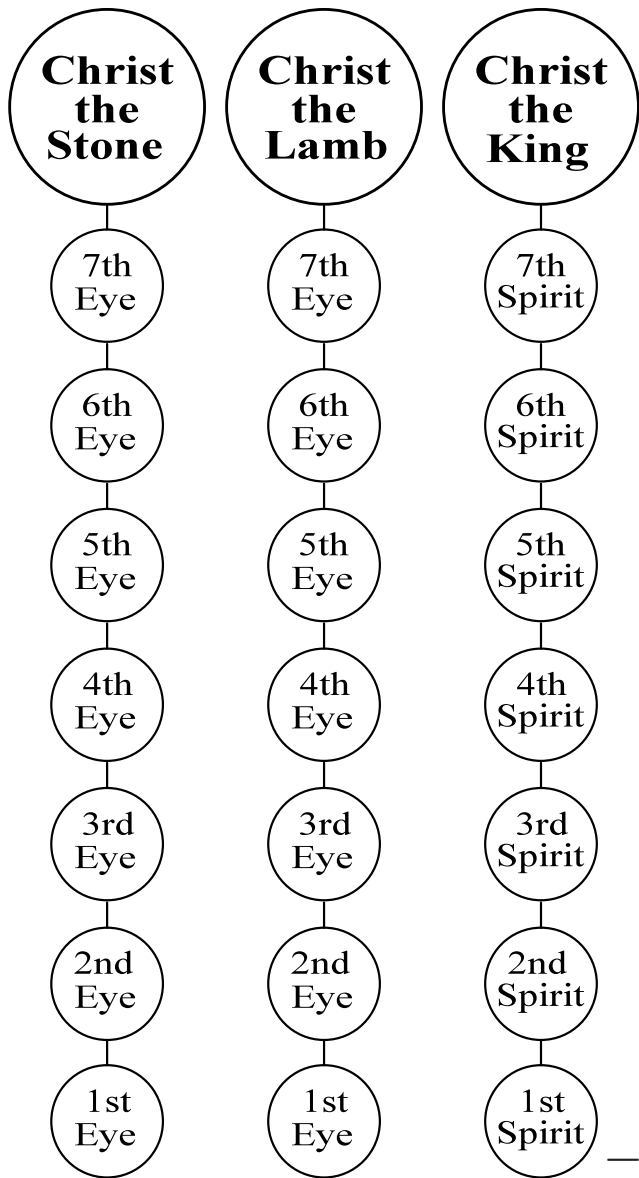
Eyes represent vision. We are also given to see with more spiritual insight as we journey. The Eyes are the Spirit. He walks with us. He never leaves us or forsakes us. It is the Spirit of Christ that helps us to see how & where to walk.

Below I show a verse then repeat it in a different translation. And what is the stone in this verse? It is the Cornerstone, Jesus Christ on which all else is built, (1Peter 2:6,7). The stone is the eighth milestone. The eyes on the stone are the same as the eyes on the Lamb before the throne. The George Lamsa Translation however adds depth of meaning. There we see that each eye represents a different facet of Christ. And we just learned that the eyes before Christ are also Spirits. So the eyes on the Stone are also the Spirits. As we grow in the love & knowledge of Christ we come to understand more of who He is. We eventually come to see the fullness of His nature. It is His nature that He wants to come forth in us. We are in transition from the natural (flesh nature) man to the spiritual (Christ nature) man.

“See, the stone I have set in front of Joshua! THERE ARE SEVEN EYES ON THAT ONE STONE, and I will engrave an inscription on it,’ says the LORD Almighty..Zechariah 3:9 NIV

“...behold the stone that I have laid before Joshua: UPON ONE STONE SHALL BE SEVEN FACETS; behold, I WILL OPEN ITS GATES...” Zechariah 3:9 GLT

“Types” of the 8 Milestones:



So what are the gates? The book of Zechariah is about rebuilding the Temple in Jerusalem. Are the gates entries into the Temple or are they entries into the city?

Now we are the temple, both individually and together as the Body of Christ, a spiritual temple. We are called to become this spiritual temple, the New Jerusalem. There is no temple within the city. The city is the temple! The temple is the whole city! It is *not* a place of many buildings. It has become a group of many people who live with the Lamb on Mount Zion, the place of the throne. *It is the place where God dwells, Joel 3:17.* His nature is the street of gold within this city. The city has 12 gates. Only those with His character & nature are allowed in through the gates.

The seven eyes...the seven spirits make a way for the gates to open to us. But we must enter in. Love causes a response. The way is Jesus Christ. The gates are round about the city. You can come from any background to enter in. But you must walk up seven steps before you can get through a gate into the New Jerusalem, maturity in Christ. To get inside the city we must become one with Him as He did with the Father.

The three verses below give expanded insight when seen together. The diagrams summarize the concepts.

"...and behold a CANDLESTICK, [CALLED "LAMPSTAND" in many versions since the center shaft is a candlestick which holds seven lamps, so it is both], all of gold, [which speaks of the incorruptible nature of Christ]...AND HIS SEVEN LAMPS THEREON,..."

Zechariah 4:2 KJV

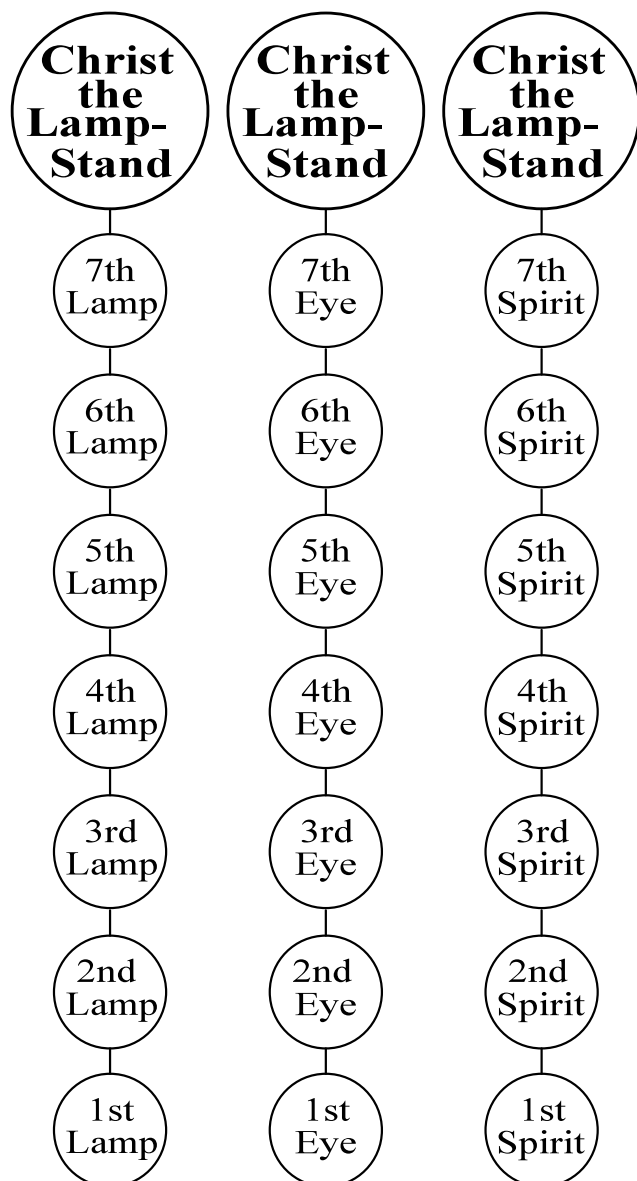
"For who hath despised the day of small things? for they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel with THOSE SEVEN [lamps]; THEY ARE THE EYES OF THE LORD, which run to and fro through the whole earth [within us]."

Zechariah 4:10 KJV

"...and SEVEN LAMPS OF FIRE are burning before the throne, which ARE THE SEVEN SPIRITS OF GOD,"

Revelation 4:5 YLT

"Types" of the 8 Milestones:



From these verses we see that the Lamps, the Eyes, and the Spirits before the throne are all the same thing. They are a partial measure of the Spirit of Christ sent to light our way so that we can see how to walk in the Spirit.

***Lamps represent light*...more enlightenment as we journey on.**

***Eyes represent vision*...more insight as we journey on.**

***Spirits represent who He is*...the mind of Christ...more guidance as we go on.**

They are all different ways of saying the same thing. They are all aspects of the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Christ sent to reveal the Truth, Jesus Christ, (**John 14:6**). They are sent in greater measure as we are faithful to walk in the light that we have. The faithful are given more, while those who turn back or stay put will lose what they had, (**Luke 19:26**). Many are called, few of those are chosen, and only a remnant of these are faithful to endure to the end, (**Proverbs 20:6 & Revelation 17:14**). These are the ones who are able to hear Him say, "He who is having an ear—let him hear what the Spirit saith to the assemblies: To him who is overcoming [its a process]—I will give".

Revelation 2:7 YLT

Next we compare three scriptures in **Revelation**. But be careful not to confuse the seven *LampSTANDS* mentioned below with the seven *Lamps* mentioned previously. They are different items. This is a different scene. They reveal a different perspective of truth.

“1. ‘To the messenger of the Ephesian assembly write: These things saith HE WHO IS HOLDING THE SEVEN STARS IN HIS RIGHT HAND, WHO IS WALKING IN THE MIDST [middle] OF THE SEVEN [separate, individual, golden] LAMP-STANDS...”**Revelation 2 YLT**

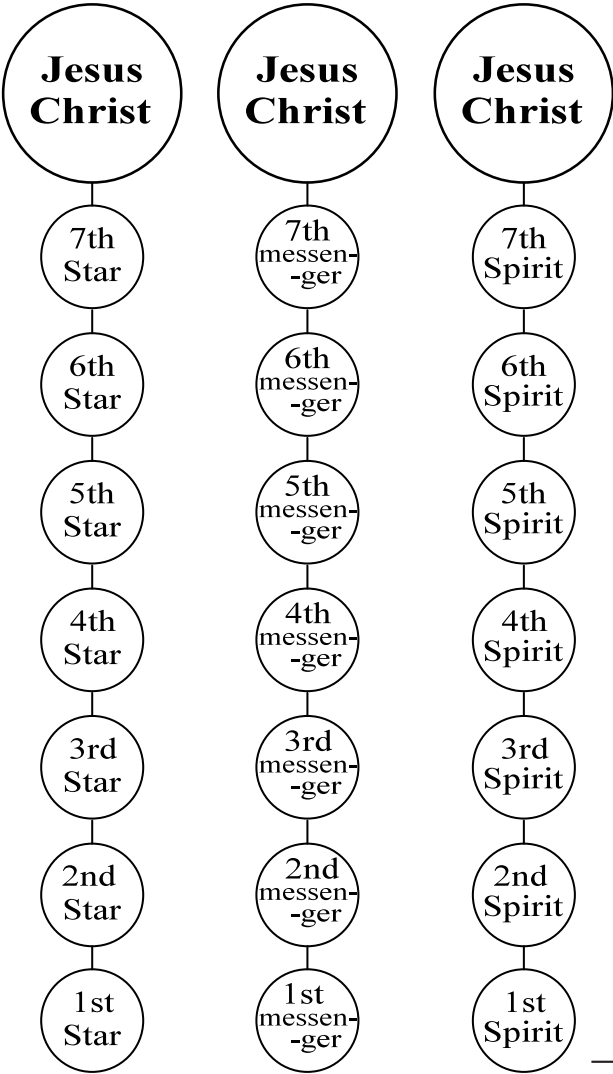
“16. and HAVING IN HIS RIGHT HAND SEVEN STARS...19. ‘Write... 20...the secret of the seven stars...and the seven golden lamp-stands: the SEVEN STARS ARE MESSENGERS OF THE SEVEN ASSEMBLIES, and THE SEVEN LAMP-STANDS...ARE SEVEN ASSEMBLIES.”

Revelation 1 YLT

“1. And unto the messenger of the assembly in Sardis write:- These things saith HE THAT HATH THE SEVEN SPIRITS OF GOD AND THE SEVEN STARS: I know thy works, - that a name thou hast, that thou art living, and art dead. 2. Become thou watchful, and strengthen the things that remain that were about to die; for I have not found thy works fulfilled before my God [and won’t until you get to the last milestone, so keep moving!]...”

Revelation 3 Rotherman’s Emphasized Bible, REB

“Types” of the 8 Milestones:



We see that the stars are symbols that represent messengers. Messengers are forerunners. They run ahead to bring a message. A message is a word.

Notice two more things here. Jesus Christ HAS both the Spirits and the Stars. He is making the connection between the two. He has both the Spirit and the Messenger that brings a Word. It is the Spirit that is the Messenger that brings the Word. It is the Spirit of Christ that brings the Word of Christ.

This Word of Christ is heard only from the Spirit Messenger in the Spirit for spiritual understanding by those who are assembling spiritually at each milestone to move on toward the next. This word is to equip them with strength and vision for the next leg of their journey. Together they bring this word.

It is God who calls us, (1Peter 2:9) and God who has chosen us. We have not chosen Him, (John 15:16). He chose us to be in Christ, (Ephesians 1:3,4), to be Kings & Priests to minister His life to the nations, (1Peter 2:9).

Part 4: The Seven Milestone Spirits Held by the Eighth

In the carnal natural mind we like to limit the Messenger to be an angel, or a man, but that is not so in the Spirit. He brings a message to us either directly, or through an angel, or through dreams, visions, the written word, books, teachings, circumstances, various people, creation, and so on. His Spirit quickens us to what He is speaking to us at the moment and then it is *always* confirmed by the Word. We are often led to share what we are hearing. Those who are assembling with us at the same place spiritually will hear us and we will hear them. This becomes confirmation, encouragement, & enlightenment to keep moving on in Christ, (**Colossians 3:16**). This is His Spirit quickening us.

Sometimes we are so excited that we eagerly share our new insight with those who are not presently assembling at the milestone where we are. They do not have ears to hear for it is not yet their time. They often reject not only what we share, but also us. The Lord often however uses that to separate us to move us on. As we do He connects us with others who are journeying where we are. But be sure to move on in love, (**Colossians 3:14**)

Many repeatedly rejected Jesus for sharing deep truths. One example is when He told them that they must eat His flesh & drink His blood to live, (**John 6:51**). Only those with the closest relationship with Him trusted that He must have meant something important by it. Later they came to understand that in order to have His life then He must be their source. The others justified their lack of understanding as an excuse to leave or to not move on in faith. There were many other things that he wanted to share, **John 16:12**.

Just because you cannot hear or see a truth does not mean that it is not there.

The verse below gives further identity to the Seven Spirits of the Lord.

Spirit of the Lord

Spirit of Wisdom

Spirit of Understanding

Spirit of Counsel

Spirit of Might

Spirit of Knowledge

Spirit of the Fear of the Lord

*“And the **spirit of the LORD** shall rest upon him,*

*the spirit of **wisdom***

*and **understanding**,*

*the spirit of **counsel***

*and **might**,*

*the spirit of **knowledge***

*and of the **fear of the LORD**,”*

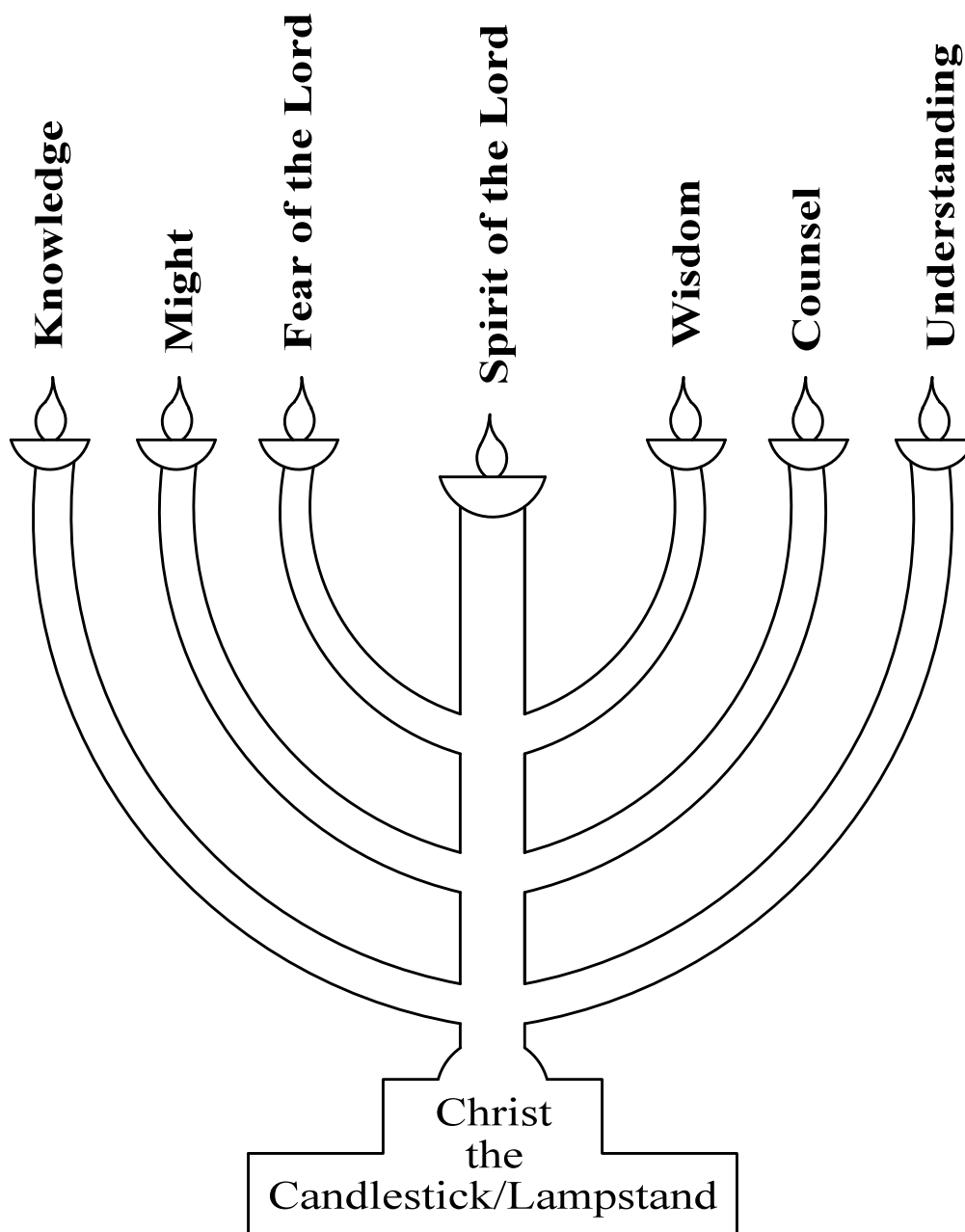
Isaiah 11:2 KJV

I have listed them here in the order as from Isaiah. I have also separated them into three sections. The next diagram provides more insight into how they correlate.

It will further unfold what we learned from Part 3...that the Spirits are also Lights. There we saw this as the Seven Lamps on the Candlestick/Lampstand.

The candlestick-lampstand is found in the Holy Place of the Tabernacle. Upon a closer look it reveals a truth within a truth. These “nested truths” are common throughout the Word. As one comes into more maturity in Christ then they receive more vision by the Spirit. When this happens then these “hidden” truths become more evident. This is when we are given “eyes to see”. Seek these truths as you would seek for berries that are hidden in the bushes. These Seven Spirits are attributes that Christ has...for us. He has them and He upholds them. We let them drop but He doesn’t. He still has them for us. At each milestone we acquire more attributes of Him. This further equips us as we face more trials as we grow up unto Christ the Head. He gives them to us in partial measure for now.

Collectively they enable one to discern and be able to rule in righteousness & godly judgment, (**Psalm 33:5**). I will expound on the diagram below as we go along.

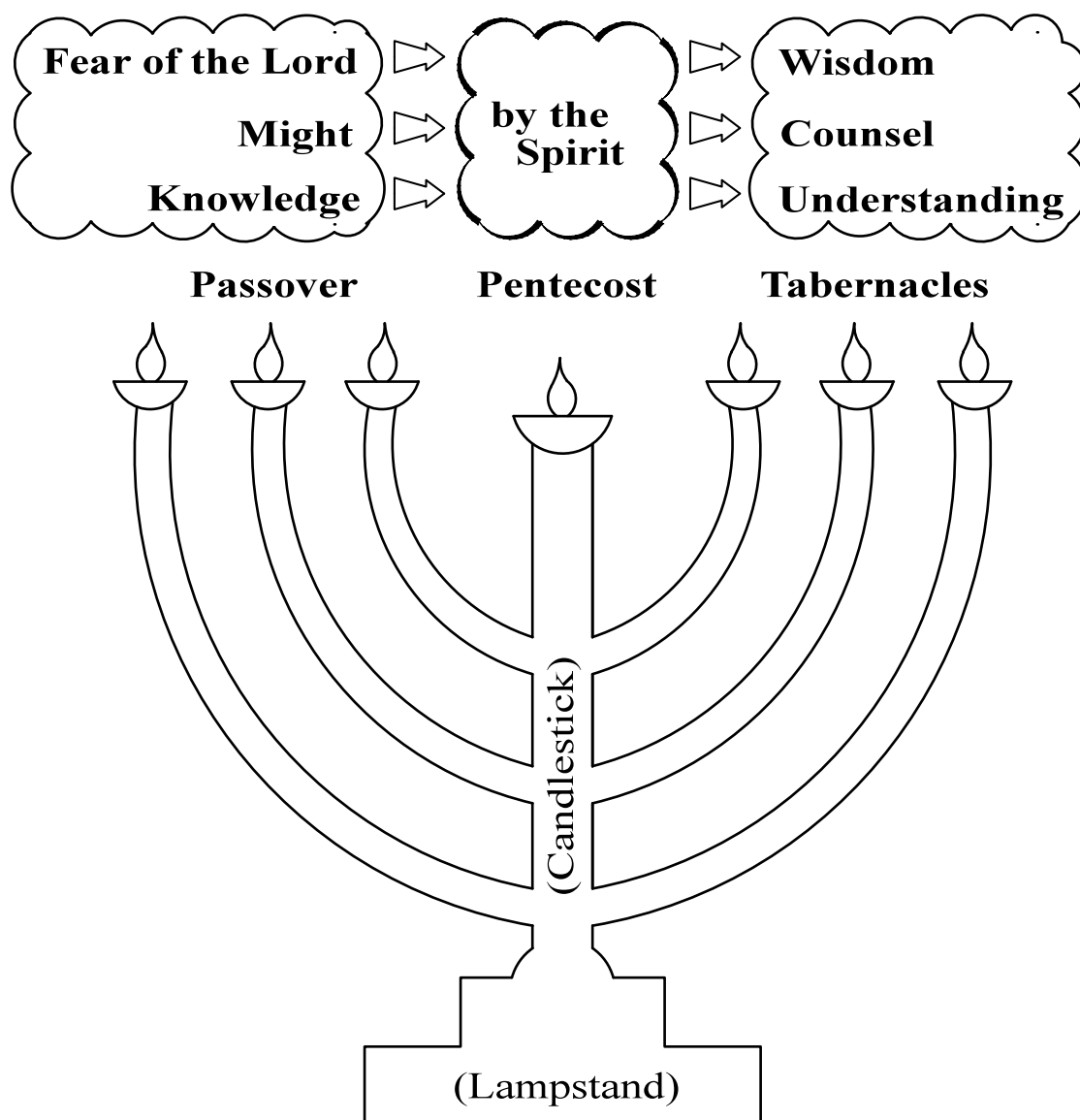


Here are some verses that will help clarify why I laid things out this way.

*“For the reverence and **fear of God** are basic to all **wisdom**. **Knowing** God [in Word & Spirit] results in every other kind of **understanding**.”* Proverbs 9:10 TLB

*“And unto man he said, Behold, the **fear of the Lord**, that is **wisdom**; and to depart from evil [move on once you have **knowledge** of what His will is] is **understanding**.”* Job 28:28 KJV

*“6. ...‘Not by **might**, nor by power, but **by my Spirit**, says the Lord Almighty—you will succeed because of [the guidance & counsel by] **my Spirit**.”* Zechariah 4:6 TLB



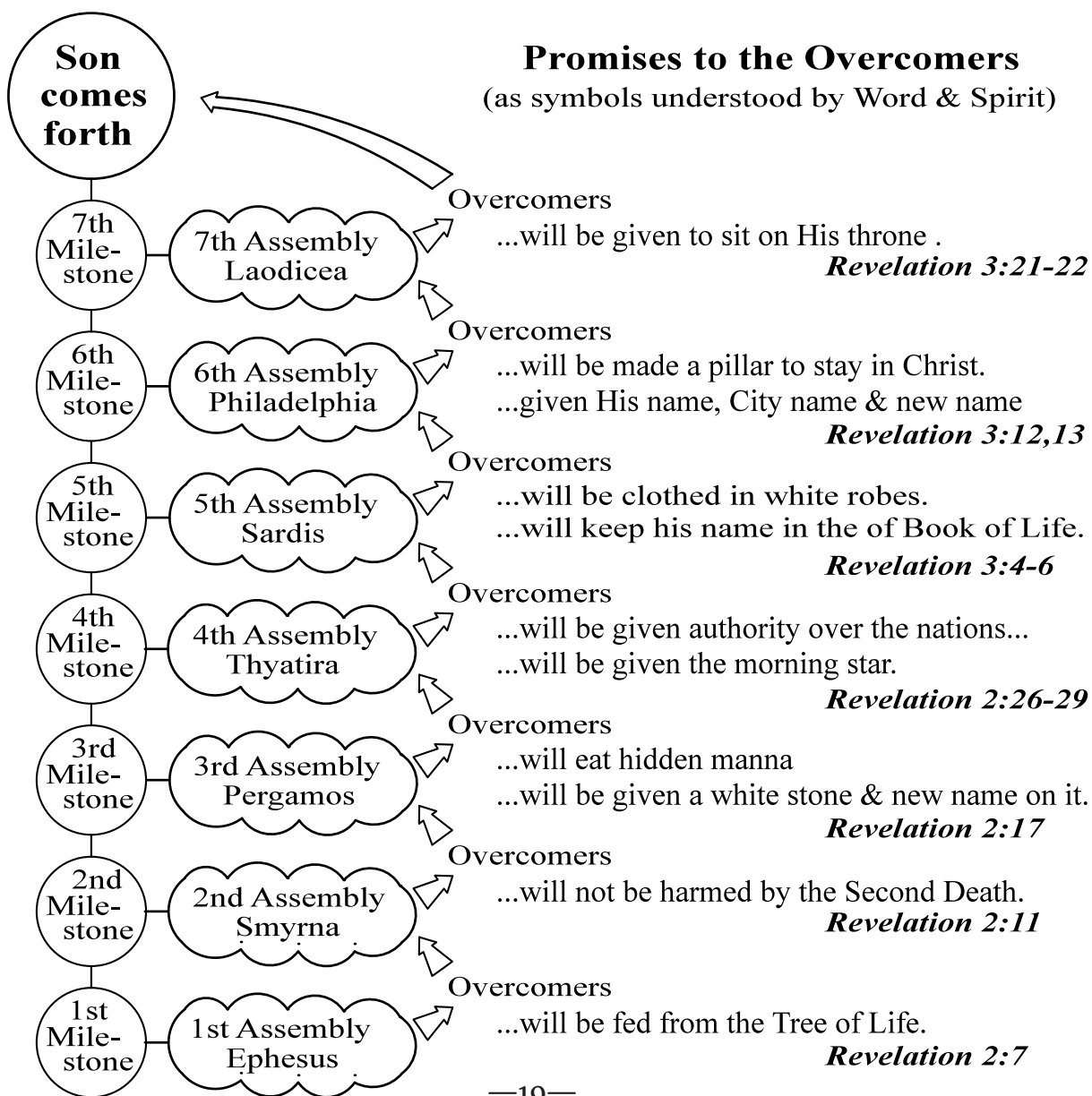
Knowledge (of the letter of the Word) seen *by the Spirit* gives **Understanding** of the Word. **Might** *by the Spirit* is partnered with **Counsel** so as to be applied strategically & effectively. The **Fear of the Lord** *by the Spirit* always leads one into **Wisdom**. Notice that the lamps can be summarized within the three major Feasts/"Days".

This next scripture, like many, confirms that our change is a process as we walk with Him.

“17. For the Lord is the Spirit, and wherever the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 18. So all of us who have had that veil removed can see [and hear] and reflect the glory of the Lord. And THE LORD—WHO IS THE SPIRIT—MAKES US MORE AND MORE LIKE HIM AS WE ARE CHANGED INTO HIS GLORIOUS IMAGE.”
2 Corinthians 3 NLT

At each milestone the Lord gives us more vision, insight, & strength to endure to the end. He gives a promise about the 8th milestone. With the promise He exhorts: “He who is able to hear, let him listen to **and heed** what the Spirit [*who is the messenger*] says to the assemblies...to he who overcomes...” (TAB). Only a remnant is able to hear enough to leave that assembly, overcome what is set before them & move on to the next...by grace through faith. The arrows below show the path of the overcomer as they leave one assembly to find their way on to the next.

“Type” of the 8 Milestones:

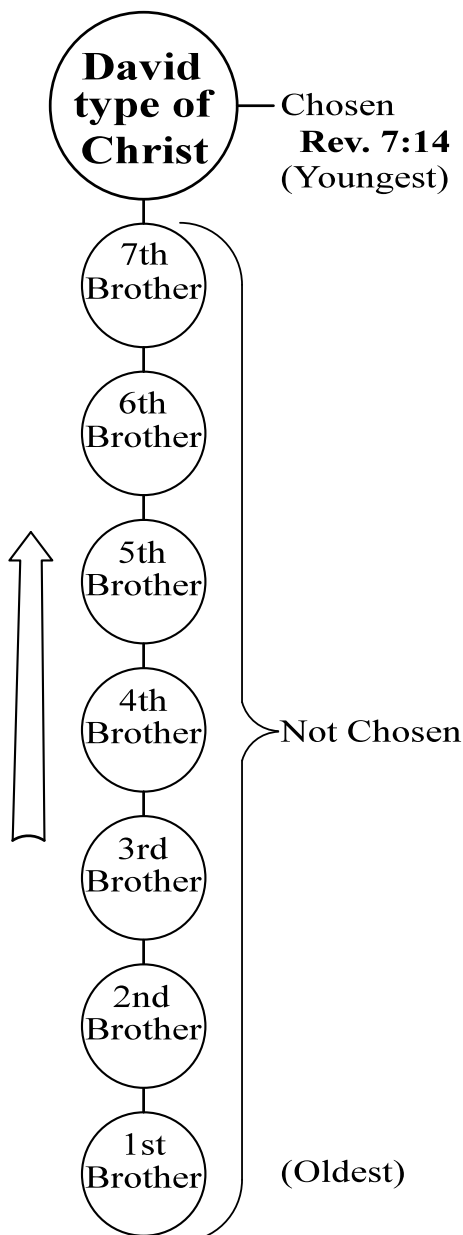


Part 5: Some “Types”, (Symbolic Examples), of the Eight Milestones

The natural mind tends to limit its understanding of God to limited carnal views. But we will see in this part that there are many more truths to be seen in the eight milestones to maturity. Your growth into the fullness of Christ, to be birthed as Sons is the core of God’s Plan. It is so important to Him that the Word is filled with *hundreds* of “types” of this. To find them pay attention whenever you see a “7”, “7th”, “70th”, “700”, “8” and so on in your Bible reading. Then ask the Spirit to reveal the truths hidden there. Also discern whether a “7” is a type for the first 7 milestones or the 7 walks between the 8 milestones.

Now we go on to look at Jesse’s eight sons. Samuel the prophet was sent to anoint one of them to be king over Israel.

Type of the 8 Milestones:



“10...Jesse made SEVEN of his sons to pass before Samuel. And Samuel said unto Jesse, THE LORD HATH NOT CHOSEN THESE. 11. And Samuel said unto Jesse, Are here all thy children? And he said, There remaineth yet the youngest [David, the eighth]...”
1Samuel 16 KJV

The destiny of David, the eighth son of Jesse was to be King over all of the 12 tribes of Israel. He is a “type” of Christ who was to come. These eight brothers represent the eight milestones in our spiritual life as we mature in Christ. We are not given the authority of the throne until we become the eighth brother. At each milestone we are “birthed” into a higher life as a new man with the previous man passing away from the focus.

Here we see that the least noticed in the natural is the most important in the spiritual. Also the last shall be first since David is last to be birthed. The least in the world’s eyes is the greatest in God’s Kingdom. Man judges by outward appearance but God looks at the heart. These are all important spiritual concepts that we embrace as we grow into Christ. We learn all these principles in this example of David.

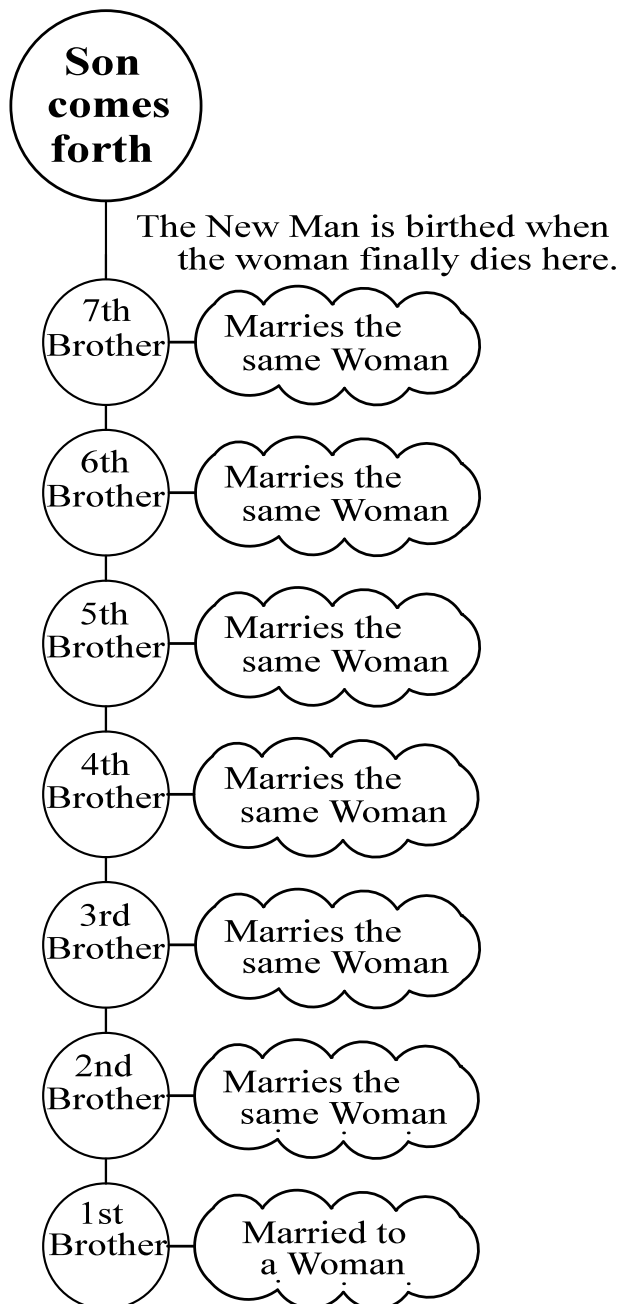
It was not important to David that he be important. He was more interested in caring for his father’s sheep. He had proven twice that he was willing to lay down his life for the sheep. He had killed both a lion and a bear. They had threatened the sheep. Next he would be used of God to kill Goliath. This giant threatened the people (sheep) of Israel.

On a higher level of truth Goliath is our first Adam nature that tries to overrule the budding nature of Christ within.

Matthew 25 reveals a different aspect of the seven brothers before the eighth. Spiritually speaking, we become the new brother when we reach a new milestone. We leave the “old brother” behind when we leave a signpost to start a new walk to the next milestone. Becoming this new younger brother speaks of new life in Christ at each stage of our growth. This next scripture confirms that you become the new brother when the old one dies. Remember from the end of Part 4 that growing into the fullness of Christ is a process.

“Therefore if any man be [growing] in Christ, he is [becoming] a new creature [at each milestone]: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.” **2Corinthians 5:17 KJV**

“Type” of the 8 Milestones:



Back to **Matthew 25**, we see that each of the seven brothers in turn marries the same woman before they die. But this woman does not go to the 8th brother. “Woman” in the Bible is often a symbol used to represent our flesh nature. This stems from **Genesis 2:23** where she is defined as “Adam’s flesh [nature] tied to his flesh [body]”. The woman is thus also seen as representing the soul which expresses itself through a body. In Adam the soul is “married” to the body and submits to it. In Christ the woman is to be submitted to the Spirit.

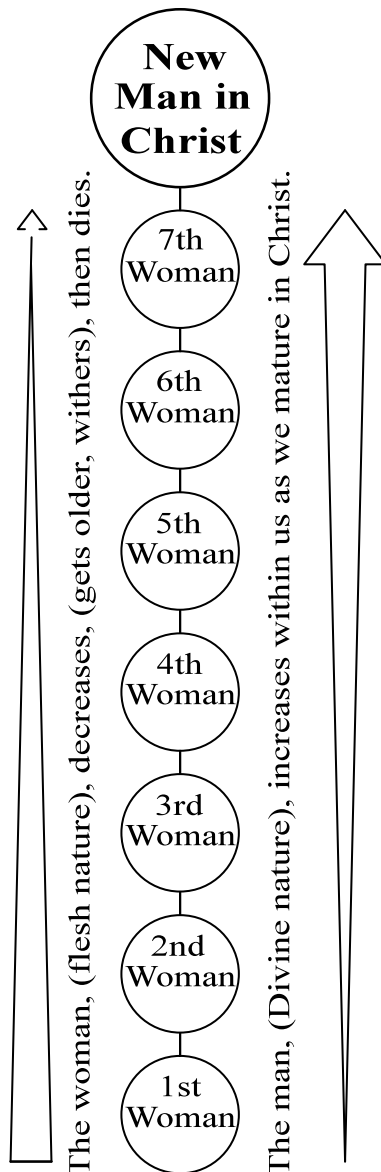
“25. Now there were seven brothers AMONG US [translated “with us” in Youngs Literal Translation...which hints that in a way we are the seven brothers...a different one at different stages of growth...at different milestones]. The first one married and died, and since he had no children [son/heir birthed as a firstfruits in the fullness of Christ], he left his wife to his brother. 26. The same thing happened to the second and third brother, right on down to the seventh. 27. Finally, the woman died. 28. Now then, at the resurrection, whose wife will she be of the seven, since all of them were married to her?” 29. Jesus replied, “You are in error because you do not know the Scriptures or THE POWER OF GOD. 30. At the resurrection people will neither marry nor be given in marriage [they will no longer be married to a woman who represents the flesh nature]; they will be like the angels in heaven [in a higher place spiritually where they are changed from an earthly flesh nature man into a heavenly spirit nature man...a new man...a Son in the image of Jesus Christ].”

Matthew 25 NIV

Carrying this thought further let's take a close look at seven other women.

"1. In that day SEVEN WOMEN WILL TAKE HOLD OF ONE MAN and say, "WE WILL EAT OUR OWN FOOD AND PROVIDE OUR OWN CLOTHES; ONLY LET US BE CALLED BY YOUR NAME...4. The Lord will wash away the filth of the women of Zion;...by a spirit of judgment and a spirit of fire. 5. THEN the LORD will create over all of Mount Zion and OVER THOSE WHO ASSEMBLE THERE [this is the assembly that we seek to be a part of!] A CLOUD of smoke by day and a glow of flaming fire by night;" **Isaiah 4 NIV**

Type of the 8 Milestones:



Now this woman is the part of you that still wants its own life...its own self-rule...its own identity...its own way. We are married to her! She is a part of us! What other food do you think this woman likes to keep in the cupboard? She still wants the freedom to eat from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good & Evil! She wants to keep the freedom to decide what she wants to do and what she doesn't care to do. But the man she is married to prefers to feed on Christ. He eats from the Tree of Life.

What clothing does the woman want? She wants to clothe herself in her own righteousness. This is what Adam & Eve did with the fig leaves. It is what Cain did with his own offering/works. But the man is on a journey. He is stripping himself of his former nature. He is clothing himself in the new nature, **Romans 13:14**. He is buying white garments (righteousness) from the Lord by trading his life for the Lord's, **Revelation 3:18**.

This woman however does want to be called by the man's name. She wants to be respected & thought of as a Christian. But she wants her own life. Vashti (**Esther 1:10-12**) is a classic example of her. Vashti is like religion in a form of righteousness without the life, (the King). The King had sent **seven attendants**, (spirits at each milestone), *to bring her in on the 7th day of his feast* but she refused to come. She was having her own party.

The last (7th) leg of the journey is cut short for the elect's sake. Otherwise we would not make it, (**Matthew 24:22 & Mark 13:20**). This pattern is found in David ruling in Hebron 7 & 1/2 years before ruling on Mt. Zion in Jerusalem, **2Samuel 2:11,5:5**.

Notice in the verse above from Isaiah what happens when these seven women are destroyed by fire during the 7th walk. It is **THEN** that the Lord inhabits the Mt. Zion Assembly, **Joel 3:17**.

The Christ nature is not fully birthed in us as long as this woman, ("stranger"), is a part of us. As we journey on she decreases while the Christ in us increases, (**John 3:30**). She is also seen as the 7 nations in the Promised Land within us to be conquered...one at a time.

Here are a few of the many “types” of our flesh nature departing fully during the 7th stage:
David’s sick child of sin died sometime on the 7th day, (2Samuel 12:18).

The fever left the boy (that Jesus prayed for) in the 7th hour, (John 4:52).

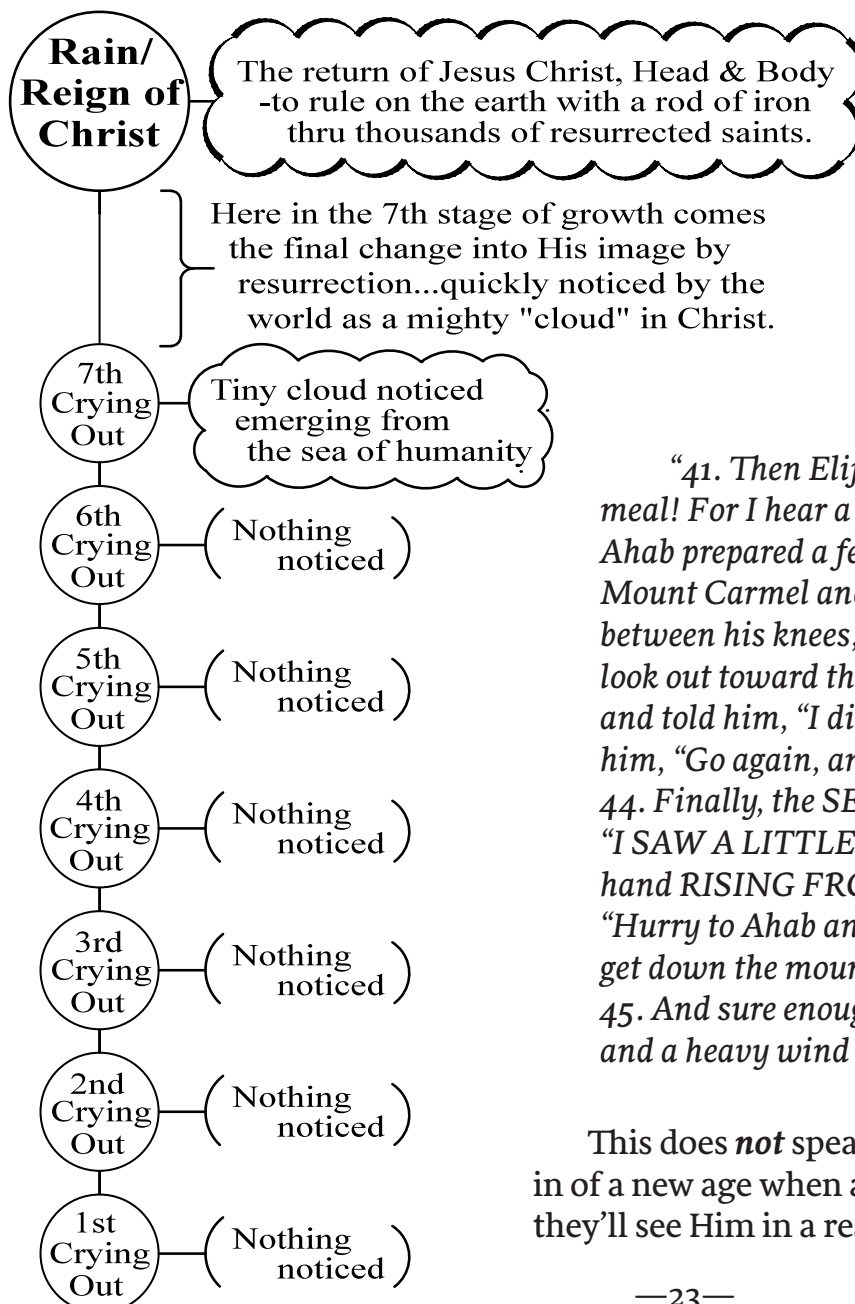
Naaman was free of leprosy after the 7th washing in the Jordan, (2Kings 5:14).

Nebuchadnezzar had a beast nature till he had passed thru 7 years (Daniel 4:16-34).

Works cease & rest comes during the 7th day of creation/week (Gen. 2:2, Ex. 20:10).

There are some that prefer the Lamb over their flesh nature wife. They prove it by moving on until she is finally dead. They are the overcomers...the ones who love not their lives unto death, (Revelation 12:11). They are the Sonship Company of Lambs who assemble on Mount Zion when the seven women are dead. It is *THEN* that the cloud of God covers them. Note in Exodus 24:16 that it was on the seventh day that God called to Moses out of the cloud.

“Type” of the 8 Milestones:



At the evening sacrifice the incense was burned. Then it was taken into the Holiest Place. There the cloud of incense merged with the cloud over the Mercy Seat. The two became one cloud...union...marriage. The resurrected Body of Christ is called the cloud of witnesses, (Hebrews 12:1). We close with another example of a cloud below.

“41. Then Elijah said to Ahab, “Go and enjoy a good meal! For I hear a mighty rainstorm coming!” 42. So Ahab prepared a feast. But Elijah climbed to the top of Mount Carmel and got down on his knees, with his face between his knees, 43. and said to his servant, “Go and look out toward the sea.” He did, but returned to Elijah and told him, “I didn’t see anything. Then Elijah told him, “Go again, and again, and again, seven times!” 44. Finally, the SEVENTH TIME, his servant told him, “I SAW A LITTLE CLOUD about the size of a man’s hand RISING FROM THE SEA.” Then Elijah shouted, “Hurry to Ahab and tell him to get into his chariot and get down the mountain, or he’ll be stopped by the rain!” 45. And sure enough, the sky was soon black with clouds, and a heavy wind brought a terrific rainstorm.”

1Kings 18 TLB

This does **not** speak of revival, but of the ushering in of a new age when all will know of the Lord...because they’ll see Him in a resurrected people, (Habakkuk 2:14).

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