

Lesson 1

The Two Rdams



Inside see eight pages of diagrams with their supporting scriptures.

Eric J. Ellis

Introduction

These Bible studies are meant to be a simple straightforward presentation of Bible truths as a tool to help you to understand the Word, knowing that it is 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 I do not promote any particular denominational doctrine, (Mark 7:13). I am so blessed that He has enabled me to see the part that I do. I believe the Father would have me to share these delights with others who seek to know Him more. You may notice that these lessons have a common undercurrent of encouraging you on into a deeper relationship with God.

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Beginning of Lesson 1:

God's overall plan is to display His character, nature, love & glory to all of creation and He wants to do this through a man made in His image. But one man is not enough because creation is so vast. So God created man, made him male & female and told them to multiply until men would cover the earth.

God is Spirit (John 4:24) but intends to be seen in the flesh. Through men the creation is to be covered, husbanded, (as a gardener cares for a garden), nurtured & loved. Then the life of God will be seen and experienced throughout creation. This framework is laid out in the first two chapters of **Genesis**, the first book in the Bible.

But in chapter 3 we find that man through disobedience withdrew from God's covering. What went wrong? Was the devil able *to outsmart* God? No!

The serpent in the garden was part of God's plan which we'll see as these lessons unfold.

For better understanding of how God's plan proceeds, look now at **1 Corinthians 15:42-58**. This tells us that God works first in the natural realm, (symbolized by "the earth") and then He completes the work in the spiritual realm, (symbolized by "the heavens").

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-created realm -represented by the "earth" -think of this as the seed

-higher realm of Creator -represented by the "heavens" -think of this as new life seen after the seed dies Now take a look at verse 45 of 1Corinthians 15. Here you'll see that there are 2 Adams!



All men except Jesus find their origin in the first Adam. God is starting with the first Adam in the natural realm but will end up with a people of the last Adam in a higher realm.

But didn't God say in **Genesis 1:27** that He made the first Adam in His image...and in verse **31** that His work was very good?

The word "image" here in the original language (Hebrew) means image in the sense of "the shadow" or "illusion", (and the word translated "likeness" from Hebrew means "resemblance" or "model" or "shape").

In other words, the first Adam was in the image of God in the same sense as a photograph or stature is the image of the real thing, but it is not the real thing. Note however that the last Adam, (Jesus), in his resurrection was in the express (exact) image of God, as shown below from **Hebrews 1:3**.

"[God's son] Who being the brightness of his glory, and the EXPRESS IMAGE of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;"

So in summary the last Adam is the real thing of God in the flesh. This is emphasized in the verse below. The first Adam was necessary in order for the last Adam to come forth, but it is the last Adam that is the goal. First the natural and then the spiritual. This principle reoccurs throughout the Bible.

"Hereby know ye the SPIRIT OF GOD: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come IN THE FLESH is of God: And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world." **1John 4:2,3**

So when God said that the first Adam was very good, it was as a man declares it is very good when he sees a foundation completed and ready for the building. Note also that God sees the end from the beginning and knew that in the end there would be a man in His EXACT image. The first Adam was just the beginning of building God's house. In future lessons we will see how this new spiritual man will multiply to become a great company to cover the earth, all just like Him in nature.

"Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:" Isaiah 46:10

How else do these two Adams differ? The verses below show a clear difference.

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

"And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a LIVING SOUL; the last Adam was made a QUICKENING SPIRIT." 1Corinthians 15:45

The first was made a living soul while the last was made a quickening spirit. We can now add that to our graphic illustration. Quickening in the original Greek means "make alive, give life". The last Adam can impart life to others because he is an "exact copy" of the Father. He is one with the Father, the source of life.



Both Adams were sons of God as is mentioned in Luke 4:38 for the first Adam, and then in John 20:31 for the last Adam.

God spoke that He was well pleased with His last Adam son, Jesus. He spoke this when Jesus was baptized in water & in the Holy Spirit at the beginning of his ministry, (Matthew 3:17).....and then again at the end of his ministry, (Matthew 17:5). This was 3 1/2 years later, right before his crucifixion.

These 3 1/2 years Jesus had the FULL measure of the Holy Spirit, (**John 3:34** shown below). These 3 1/2 years were when the Holy Spirit did miracles through Him for He was the Spirit in flesh. These 3 1/2 years were when God was well pleased with Him, which was declared when Jesus began his walk in the Spirit and then confirmed when he had faithfully completed that walk.

"For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: FOR GOD GIVETH NOT THE SPIRIT BY MEASURE UNTO HIM. The Father loveth the Son, and HATH GIVEN ALL THINGS INTO HIS HAND." John 3:34, 35

The next illustration will compare the 3 parts of the life of Jesus. Note that until Jesus was resurrected his physical body was mortal. It was for this reason that he was born of a woman (as the "Son of Man") so that he could die...so that his life, a perfect life, could be sacrificed to atone for the natural man who had fallen from perfection. No greater love can be found.

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." John 15:13

The three parts of the life of Jesus are added to our teaching.



wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen." 1Timothy 1:17

Jesus was not born perfect but was made perfect, learning obedience by the things that he suffered as shown the verse below. During the first 30 years he grew in wisdom & stature, (see **Luke 2:52**). My next lesson will show how we too may grow into full stature because of Jesus being the forerunner for us.

"Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; And being MADE perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;" Hebrews 5:8,9

Until his death, Jesus was corruptible in that he could choose to disobey, (as did the first Adam, but Jesus was faithful to the end, the death on the cross), as pointed out in **Hebrews 2:17, 18**:

"Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. For in that he HIMSELF HATH SUFFERED BEING TEMPTED, he is able to succour them that are tempted."

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The next diagram adds the term "Christ" since this is a very important concept to understand.

"Christ" is the Greek term for the Hebrew word, "Messiah". Both words mean "the anointed one". This means someone who is consecrated, (set apart from the common), to be like a king and/or a priest in God's service.

The prophecies (especially in the books of Daniel & Isaiah) indicate that the Messiah is the promised seed, (of Adam, then Abraham & then David), who will set creation free from death as shown in **Genesis 3:15**.

"And I will put enmity between thee [the serpent, who represents sin and death...but that's a study in itself for another time] and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel."



Jesus as the Christ is in the express image of God, (see **Hebrews 1:3** on page 2). His position as the Christ was prophesied in **Luke 2:25-32** when Jesus was a baby. Jesus was born to be revealed as the Christ but he was not empowered as the Christ until he was filled with the full measure of the Holy Spirit. That is when the Father first proclaimed that Jesus was His son in whom He was well pleased.

Now let's go back to our comparison of the two Adams and then expand upon their differences, this time focusing on each in their maturity, the first Adam after his "fall" and the last Adam as the resurrected Christ.

We will add the words "death" & "life" because the first Adam has a mortal body destined to die, (**Hebrews 9:27**), but the last Adam is no longer subject to death but is a life-giving spirit. Note the other words of contrast in the illustration below which I then go on to explain.



"Carnal" in the Greek means "unregenerate, pertaining to the flesh". Since each seed reproduces after its own kind, (Genesis 1:12), all of those descended from the first Adam are of his nature. All those found in the first Adam are said to have fleshly natures, not all that different from the beasts of the earth since they all were made from the earth. Both man & beasts tend to be focused on their needs, (especially their bellies), and don't think much about God, (Philippians 3:18, 19). Being focused with the affairs of the natural life is called being earthly-minded, which is another way of saying "carnally-minded".

Doing what comes naturally, (flesh nature), may seem "harmless or bad", but either way it is centered on man and not God, so it ends in death. When man ate of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good & Evil, then he acquired that nature, which was to try to determine his own destiny...to make his own decisions..to do it his way...to be ruler of his life apart from God. It is a mind-set of being opposed to going God's way.

In contrast, to eat of the Tree of Life would be to partake of Christ, which ends in life.

"For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. For TO BE CARNALLY MINDED IS DEATH; BUT TO BE SPIRITUALLY MINDED IS LIFE AND PEACE." **Romans 8:5,6**

The first Adam puts his trust in himself, to decide what is right in his own eyes. The last Adam puts his trust in God the Father, being very concerned about what the Father would have him to do or not do. Continuing with the next two verses you can see that the two Adams are opposites.

"Because the CARNAL MIND IS ENMITY AGAINST GOD: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. So then they that are in the flesh [first Adam nature] cannot please God." **Romans8:7,8**

"Enmity" in the Greek means "opposition, hatred". You can also look up **1John 1:5-7** to see that the first Adam nature is darkness and the other is light.

In the next diagram I will list examples of those with the nature of each Adam. God gives examples in many different ways. He often uses the natural visible things to explain spiritual things. Even natural heavens help to explain spiritual things.

"For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:"

Romans1:20

" The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth his handywork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night showeth knowledge. There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard." **Psalm 19:1–6**

God not only uses people but also things, places and events in the Old Testament as examples of spiritual truths. These example are shadows (types) of spiritual realities. This is emphasized in **1Corinthians 10:11**, **Colossians 2:17**, and **Hebrews 8:5** among many other verses. Understanding this concept is important to see beyond the literal, natural understanding of the carnal mind when reading the Bible, and in following these lessons. Without the mind of Christ you would miss vital truths and misinterpret much of what you read.

Here are just some samples of contrasting people of the Bible who represent the two natures. Thay are all examples for us today.



Cain	Abel
Hagar	Sarah
Ishmael	Isaac
Esau	Jacob ("Israel")
Pharoah	Moses
The 10 Spies	Caleb & Joshua
Orpah	Ruth
King Saul	King David

The Tree of the Knowledge of Good & Evil has some fruit that looks very good and some that looks very bad, but every fruit has a serpent inside. This "bad side of good" comes out of the heart sooner or later. Jesus said that there were none that were truly "good" but God, (Matthew 19;17). The only tree that bears truly good fruit is the Tree of Life, which represents Christ.

Those in the first Adam cannot change their nature. They may be able to change their behavior somewhat, but not their nature. Only God can bring us out of darkness into the light. Without God's intervention the natural man just does what comes naturally resulting in vanity. There is hope though because God takes notice of us out of love and draws us to Him.

"We love him, because he first loved us." 1John 4:19

Besides examples of spiritual truth, the Bible also has many places where there are layers of truth, "wheels within wheels". Just as there are people who contrast as being in the first Adam and in the last Adam, the deeper truth is that ALL of those found in the last Adam (Christ), were first found in the first Adam. Each person is called to strip themselves of their former nature & to put on the new nature. This is not changing bad behavior to good behavior but leaving one nature and acquiring another. Not only does this translation from one kingdom to another happen through a process, but as long as a person is in a mortal body that person is capable of shifting back and forth between the two natures. Our full salvation comes with the resurrection of our bodies.

"That ye PUT OFF concerning the former conversation THE OLD MAN, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye PUT ON THE NEW MAN, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness." Ephesians 4:22–24

In the next lesson we will start to look at that process of growing in the mind of Christ. Meanwhile, here are two examples below where each person had a change in nature. This was symbolized by a change in their name once they became a new person. "Name" in the Bible typically refers to "nature".



Jacob's nature changed dramatically once it was proven that he would not let go of God when going through his trials. His walk was never the same after that. He was given a new name to reflect a new nature.

Paul said in **1Corinthians 15:9** that he was the least of the apostles. He was from the tribe of Benjamin which was the smallest tribe. Many promises are given to the tribe of Benjamin, but most of them are hidden in types and shadows.

As for Saul he was a very religious man, but operated in the carnal mind. He knew a lot about God, but did not know God, until God brought him into the light.

God translates us from the kingdom of darkness into His Kingdom of light & life & love because of the redemptive work of His beloved son.

"[Give thanks to the Father] Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of HIS DEAR SON [Jesus]: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: WHO IS THE IMAGE OF THE INVISIBLE GOD, The firstborn of every creature [the first man to truly be in the exact image of God] :" Colossians 1:12:15



Lesson 2

The Three Steps to Resurrection



Inside see seven pages of diagrams with their supporting scriptures.

Eric J. Ellis

Bible Concepts Lesson 2 The Three Steps to Resurrection

Introduction

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Brief Review of the last lesson:

Our last lesson was on the difference between the first Adam and the last Adam, the first being natural, (also called "carnal") and the latter being spiritual. The difference is not between evil and good, but rather between a source being the knowledge of good & evil or the source being the tree of life. It is the difference between the carnal mind and the mind of Christ. It is the difference between man's way and God's way. It is the difference between the kingdom of darkness and the kingdom of light. All those who find their origin in the first Adam are not capable of understanding God unless God enlightens them.

We also saw that many people, events & objects in the Old Testament are natural examples of spiritual things, and that God brings forth the natural and then the spiritual just as a Biblical day begins with night and ends in light. God is not intent on changing evil men into good men. His purpose is for the natural man to become a spiritual man, which can only happen when they are "in Christ". The old man must die and be replaced.

Last, we were introduced to what the term "Christ" means, and when it was that Jesus walked as Christ.

In this lesson we will see that there is a progression of walking in the light until we are found in a new nature, and eventually a new body.

Beginning of Lesson 2:

How would you like to please God? He tells us in **Hebrews 11:6** that we cannot please Him without faith.

"But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."



But what is faith?...and how do we obtain it? First let us see how we get faith. The answer is found in **Romans 10:17**. *"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."*

Young's Literal Translation of this verse gives us more specific detail: "So then the faith is by a report, and the report through saying of God,..."

A report may be written or spoken, but either way it comes by hearing what God has said. In other words faith is based on a knowledge of what God speaks. It is an expression of who He is, what He likes and dislikes, His nature. A classic example of this is when God told Moses to write down the 10 commandments and read it to the people and then later the first 5 books (the Law) of the "Old Testament". This knowledge of God is the written Word of God. Eventually more was spoken to other Prophets to write down for others to read. Prophets hear God by His Spirit for God is Spirit, (John 4:24). In trying to understand the "Law" & the "Prophets" one needs more than just natural wisdom. One also needs to hear the spirit of what God is saying. This spiritual understanding comes from the mind of Christ. As we apply what we seem to understand by faith, then we grow in the mind of Christ.

Romans 8:7 tells us that our natural carnal minds are at enmity with God, so we must have our minds renewed as it tells us in **Romans 12:2**. To do this we must not be conformed to the world but leave our natural understanding and trust what God says. **Isaiah 55:8**, **9** makes it clear that the mind of Christ is very different than our natural reasoning.

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."

To have faith to trust God's ways above ours requires that we must believe that He is and that He will reward us for diligently seeking to know His ways. To know His ways is to know His nature and to know Him. **Hosea 6:6** in The Living Bible expresses His heart in this matter so well by saying...

"I don't want your sacrifices - I want your love; I don't want your offerings - I want you to know me."

We can now illustrate that faith is built on a foundation of knowing what God says and who He is.



Since our walk with God starts by reading His word and then grows by trusting His Holy Spirit to guide us into truth by faith, we can add to our illustration the two witnesses of God that help us to begin the walk from the first Adam and into the last Adam.





But there is more to add to what we have. We have found out how to obtain faith, so now let us see just what faith is by looking at **Hebrews 11:1**.

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

When we look at this verse in the Emphatic Diaglott, (which is a literal word-for-word translation from the Greek), the word "substance" is clarified as shown below.

"But faith is a basis of things hoped for, a conviction for things unseen."

The Greek word for "basis" means "under-support", like in a foundation. So now we see that not only is knowledge of the word a foundation for faith, but faith itself is a foundation to move us on to hope.



So just what is it that we hope for? The answer is in this amazing passage from **Romans 8**.

"16. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: 17. And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. 18. For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. 19. For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. 20. For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, 21. Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. 22. For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. 23. And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, THE REDEMPTION OF OUR BODY. 24. FOR WE ARE SAVED BY HOPE: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for? 25. But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it." From this passage it is clear that our hope is the resurrection of our bodies. We hope for this because it hasn't happened yet for us, but it has happened for Jesus Christ, the last Adam. As we grow in the knowledge and spirit of the word, we see that in Christ we too can have hope of a resurrected, immortal body.



The Greek word for "hope" means to anticipate with joyful expectation! And in verse 17 of this passage we find that by being identified as in Christ we are entitled to share in His glory. The word glorified here in Greek is more specific than when used elsewhere in the New Testament. Here it means, "to exult in dignity in company". In other words to be raised to a higher realm to share the same glory with the one who raised you into that realm. The context of this passage makes it clear that the glory referred to here is a resurrected body.

This means that we would become as He is. So how is He? He is resurrected! That resurrection is our hope is made clear in **1John 3** below.

"1. Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. 2. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, WE SHALL BE LIKE HIM; for we shall see him as he is. 3. And every man that hath THIS HOPE in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure."



Colossians 1, verses **26** to **28** tells us that our hope of this resurrected body depends upon the maturity of Christ coming forth in us.

"26. Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: 27. 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: 28. Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect (mature) in Christ Jesus:"

The maturity of Christ refers to the nature of Christ. Names were given in the Bible to indicate a nature, and then changed to another name to reflect a change in nature. An example of this is the name Jacob, (which means "grabber"), that was changed by God to Israel, which means "he will rule as God". In **Revelation 3:12** God promises to give a new name, His name, to those who are called "overcomers". He is not referring to the name "Jesus" or "Jehovah", Yahwey, etc., but rather to His nature, which is love.

"...God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him." 1John 4:18



As you can see, our journey as believers starts with our carnal minds trying to figure out the Bible, then progresses to understanding by the mind of Christ, which should excite us to see His life come forth in us, until as overcomers we find ourselves in Him where He draws us higher yet to be found in His life where the nature of the first Adam in us is replaced more and more with the nature of the last Adam, Jesus Christ who is in the express image of the Father.

As we grow up into the full stature of Christ, (**Ephesians 4:13**) the Law changes from an outward form of rules into an inner knowing of what pleases God and a willingness to yield to Him to have Him empower us to walk in it.

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2Corinthians 3:18 expresses this walk in the Lord so well.

"But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass (mirror) the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord."



Note in the following verses from **1Corinthians 13** the comparison of the stages of our growth from the first Adam into the last Adam. Do not "plateau" in your walk, but keep seeking more of Him. As you draw near to God, He will draw near to you.

"8. LOVE never fails. But whether there are prophecies, (works of faith in the spirit realm) they will fail; whether there are tongues, (spiritual gifts) they will cease; whether there is KNOWLEDGE, it will vanish away. 9. For we know in part and we prophesy in part (we are not complete in these realms). 10. But when that which is perfect (Christ) has come (forth in us), then that which is in part will be done away.

11. When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man (mature in Christ), I put away childish things. 12. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face (as we grow in Him we come to know Him as readily as we see ourselves in a mirror). Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known (by Him). 13. And now abide FAITH, HOPE, LOVE, these three; BUT THE GREATEST OF THESE IS LOVE.

Remember from this lesson that your reading and hearing the Bible is to equip you to move into the realm of faith, a realm of the spirit, a realm above the realm of natural understanding. The Holy Spirit working in you is to equip you for yet a higher realm of thirsting for a life where your nature is replaced (not made better) by His life. As you prefer and choose His life then a resurrected body becomes the fulfillment of that close walk with Him dwelling in you and you dwelling in Him.

The following 3 verses are great summaries of God's highest plan for man, a plan to make man just like Jesus Christ, who is the express image of the Father.

"31. Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of *Israel, and with the house of Judah:* 32. Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD: 33. But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I WILL PUT MY LAW IN THEIR INWARD PARTS, AND WRITE IT IN THEIR HEARTS; AND WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE. 34. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the L.ORD: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more." Jeremiah 31

"19. And I WILL GIVE THEM ONE HEART, AND I WILL PUT A NEW SPIRIT WITHIN YOU; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh: 20. That they may walk in my statutes, and keep mine ordinances, and do them: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God. "

Ezekiel 11

"7. For if that first covenant (the Law) had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. 8. For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: 9. Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord. 10. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I WILL PUT MY LAWS INTO THEIR MIND, AND WRITE THEM IN THEIR HEARTS: AND I WILL BE TO THEM A GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE TO ME A PEOPLE:"

Hebrews 8

Those who hope for the resurrection of their bodies in the image of Christ realize that the day will come when we will not go back and forth between two natures, but we will be like a pillar in His temple, (His habitation) that goes no more out (of Him). It will be a day when we will not only always know what His will is, but we will want to do it. We will consistently choose life...His life. We will be a like a perfect Bride, so perfect that we will be changed into a Son who is just like the Father.

So be encouraged and press on to the mark of the high calling in Christ!



Lesson 3

The Four Realms



Inside see nine pages of diagrams with their supporting scriptures.

Eric J. Ellis

Bible Concepts Lesson 3 The Four Realms

Introduction

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Brief Review of the Previous Lessons:

In Lesson One we learned of the differences between the 1st Adam & the last Adam, the difference between the natural realm verses the spiritual realm. Man in the natural realm thinks & plans apart from God. The natural, carnal mind is of the flesh nature, (not the nature of God's Spirit). This way of thinking is therefore man's way, not God's way. The wisdom of the carnal mind is foolishness to God, (**1Corinthians 3:18-20**), and is opposed to God, (**Romans 8:7**).

The red flags that display the carnal mind are the things seen in the flesh nature of men like Cain & King Saul. They embrace the "I'm a victim" mentality. They were full of themselves, full of self-pity, anger, fear, insecurity, outwardly religious, ignored God's word when it was contrary to their wisdom, and were easily offended, most of which is rooted in idolatry, (Galatians 5:19-24). This is typical of all of us until we move on in faith, then to hope (Christ) as shown in Lesson Two.

Lesson One also clarified that Jesus was not walking as the Christ/Messiah, (the prophesied Anointed One), until he had the full anointing. Anointing of what? Anointing of the FULL measure of the Holy Spirit, which came at the beginning of his 3 1/2 years of ministry.

A person is in one Adam or the other according to birth. Lesson two began to show how to die to the nature of the 1st Adam and to be born into the last Adam, which Jesus said was essential to enter the Kingdom of God. The first Adam can never enter the Kingdom of God because the first Adam is of the earth with a flesh body and therefore a flesh nature. Nicodemus could not figure out how to be born a second time because he was using his carnal (natural) understanding, (see John 3:4). Trying to understand God's Word with natural understanding is both vanity & confusion. What Nicodemus needed was spiritual understanding, the mind of Christ.



-1-

Beginning of Lesson 3:

God created three different realms, each one for a specific type of life. The three different realms are defined in **Genesis 1:6-10, 13** as shown below from Young's Literal Translation.

"6. And God saith, 'Let an expanse be in the midst of the waters, and let it be separating between waters and waters.' 7. And God maketh the expanse, and it separateth between the waters which are under the expanse, and the waters which are above the expanse: and it is so. 8. And God calleth to the expanse 'HEAVENS;' and there is an evening, and there is a morning—day second.

9. And God saith, 'Let the waters under the heavens be collected unto one place, and let the dry land be seen:' and it is so. 10 And God calleth to the dry land 'EARTH,' and to the collection of the waters He hath called 'SEAS;' and God seeth that it is good.

...13. and there is an evening, and there is a morning—day third."



These are the realm of Creation, but there is also the realm of the Creator. Let's call that the Divine realm for now. Everything else was created by God, even darkness, (Isaiah 45:7 & 54:16 & Colossians 1:16, 17 among others). Note from 1John 1:5 that God is Light and that there is no darkness in Him, but in each of the created realms there is both darkness and light with the pattern for each day beginning with the period of darkness (evening) and ending in light (morning). This is the pattern shown in Lesson One of first the natural, then the spiritual.



Each creation realm was created for forms of life that are typical to that realm. Although there are many variations of life within each realm, they are often summarized by the predominate life form for each realm as shown below, (Genesis 1:24, 25). Some are fit for consumption and some are not. The list is found in Leviticus 11. The ones that are acceptable for man to eat are called "clean", and those to be avoided for eating are called "unclean".



Notice that each realm is in an order that is beneath or above another realm or realms, with the highest order of being in God. The first Adam was given domain of these 3 realms before he fell. We have all seen that man ruling with his natural, carnal, flesh-nature wisdom has increasingly made a mess of the planet. But now the governments of man are all crumbling as Christ is establishing His Divine government on the earth from within His people.

In the natural, man can live on or in the seas in boats and submarines. Man can live on or in the earth as well, and also in the heavens. Man can move back & forth among these creation realms. But these natural realms are examples of spiritual realms. Let us begin by looking into the Bible to see what each represents, starting with the seas.

"...The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues." **Revelation 17:15**

"20. But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt. 21. There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked."

Isaiah 57

You can see from this that spiritually speaking the Sea realm represents "lost humanity". The lowest part of the earth realm is at the bottom of the sea. The sea is not only the lowest realm but it is the darkest realm, receiving light only for a very shallow distance. In the natural this is a good type of what it is in the spirit. It is the realm with no significant awareness of God.

Moving upward, Earth is the next highest realm. In the natural it is under the natural light of the sun, moon & stars. In the spiritual realm it is the realm where man was created, and it is where man rules with his natural understanding, and when there is daylight it is often darkened by clouds. Spiritually it is the realm of man's knowledge where like Nicodemus he uses his natural reasoning to try to comprehend God by reading and hearing the Law, (the Word of God).

The realm above the Earth is the Heavens. Just as it is above the earth in the natural, it also represents a higher realm spiritually. The Heavens is where a relationship with God comes into more light by understanding the Word in faith by trusting God's Holy Spirit to lead us.

The combined realms of the Heavens and the Earth represent God's family, His church. The Greek word for church is "ekklesia" which means "the called out ones, a Christian community of members on earth or saints in heaven". They are the ones called out of the restless sea of humanity to begin a journey to attain Christ…to apprehend that for which they were apprehended.

"14. For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15. Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,..."

Ephesians 3

Now let's look at the Divine realm, which is the realm of Christ. There are many verses in the New Testament (such as a good part of **Romans 8**) that reveal that we can enter into this realm of Christ now, similar to how Jesus was one with the Father. Note however that Jesus had the full measure of the Holy Spirit and at this time we only have a measure therefore ours is a more gradual transition than was his. The day will soon come when those living in Christ will receive the full measure of the Holy Spirit. I believe that will happen at the beginning of the last 3 1/2 years before they receive their resurrected bodies...but that would be a lesson all by itself.

This concept of four realms of life adds clarity to the pattern seen in our last lesson as shown by the comparison below.



4

God wants a witness of Himself to creation. He plans to do this through a people whose outward behavior reflects an inner nature that is His, (the Word & Spirit). This next scripture, (Revelation 11) talks about His two witnesses.

"3. And I will give power unto MY TWO WITNESSES, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth. 4. These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth... 6. THESE HAVE POWER TO SHUT HEAVEN, THAT IT RAIN NOT in the days of their prophecy: AND HAVE POWER OVER WATERS TO TURN THEM TO BLOOD, AND TO SMITE THE EARTH WITH ALL PLAGUES, as often as they will.."

Who is the witness that turned water into blood and brought plagues? That would be Moses. Moses is also the one through whom God brought the Law to show to His people what was pleasing to the nature of God and what was not.

And who is the witness who shut up the heavens so that it didn't rain? That would be Elijah. Elijah is also the one in the Old Testament who testified of the Spirit of God. Both brought testimony to the Lamb of God, Christ. With your carnal mind you would say that Moses & Elijah are the two witnesses of God. But with the mind of Christ you would realize that they are types of the Word & the Spirit.

Now look at this famous passage from **Matthew 17** on the Mount of Transfiguration (from the New King James Version).

"1. Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves; 2. and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light. 3. And behold, MOSES AND ELIJAH APPEARED TO THEM, TALKING WITH HIM, [their focus was on Jesus]. 4. Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, let us make here three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." 5. While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "THIS IS MY BELOVED SON, IN WHOM I AM WELL PLEASED. HEAR HIM!""

God is rebuking Peter that they are not equal, but that the Word & the Spirit point to the Son, Jesus the Christ. The purpose of the Word is to take you to the higher realm of the Spirit, and then the purpose of the Spirit is to lead you to the highest realm of God's true Son.



The Greek word for Heaven is most often plural (Heavens) in the New Testament. There is more than one Heaven. This verse shows us that Jesus Christ is above them all.

"He that descended is the same also that ASCENDED UP FAR ABOVE ALL HEAVENS, that he might fill all things." **Ephesians 4:10**

And this next verse tells us that there are three Heavens. Who do you suppose Paul saw reigning in the highest Heaven? Look up this chapter and read on to see that it is the one that he gives glory to, and that would be Jesus. After the verse below I illustrate the three Heavens as I see it. Each one is in a different realm.

"I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the THIRD HEAVEN." 2Corinthians 12:2



The Word is clear that we cannot by our works achieve a higher realm in our relationship with God. Our next diagram will show some wonderful promises of God to move us upward in His order and in His timing.

The promises below were given regarding the seed of Abraham. With our natural carnal understanding we think that they are nice metaphors to emphasize that there will be many. Yes, there will be many, but they are much more than that. They are promises to have a people raised up into Christ.

Galatians 3:29 is clear that the seed of Abraham is one seed and that seed is Christ. Verses **7 & 26** say that all who are in the Faith realm are children of Abraham, (immature). Those that are part of the seed must be found in Christ, (mature). God has promised to raise a people up into Christ, Jesus being the firstfruit. He has paved the way for a firstfruit company to follow.

You see Jesus is the Head and those found in Him are His Body. There is Christ the Head, (Jesus), and then Christ the Body. This is explained in 1 Corinthians 12.

Jesus is the first true Son. But at the resurrection will come a body of Sons raised up in Him. All creation, all three realms of it, groan waiting for this to happen, (See **Romans 8:19-23**).



These promises are found in **Genesis**, **Isaiah**, **Hosea**, **Romans** & elsewhere. Here again the natural is an example of the spiritual. Sand is washed up from the sea onto the earth. Dust is blown from the earth into the heaven. And stars are the highest points in the natural heavens. Stars are not reflective light, but rather the light shines from within and that is the goal, to be so yielded to Him that it is His life that is seen rather than our own.

Having all of this for background, particularly that the Heavens & the Earth represent the church, let us now read the first verse of the Bible and see a much deeper meaning to it.

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." Genesis 1:1

But now read it in Young's Literal Translation which gives a more accurate portrayal.

"In the beginning of God's preparing the heavens and the earth—"

This single verse is the introduction to the entire Bible. It could be a chapter in itself. It is a summary of God's plan. God, who is Love, desires to have a bride to be the object of His love, a woman who is so one with Him that she not only knows in her mind what to do to please Him, but she also desires in her heart to do his pleasure.

God is willing to lay down His life (His Son) for such a woman, but such a woman must come into the realm of perfection that is Him. And so He lays out a plan to raise up such a woman...a woman so in love with Him that she will birth a son in His exact image. When Mary, a virgin, gave birth to Jesus it was a type of a virgin church giving birth to a company of sons to be the Body of Christ, to rule and reign with Jesus the Head over all three realms of creation.

These thoughts stagger the natural mind, so what scripture do we look at to support this perfect, pure church? Start with this translation from The Living Bible.

"9. This new agreement will not be like the old one I gave to their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; they did not keep their part in that agreement, so I had to cancel it. 10. But this is the new agreement I will make with the people of Israel, says the Lord: I will write my laws in their minds so that they will know what I want them to do without my even telling them, and these laws will be in their hearts so that they will want to obey them, and I will be their God and they shall be my people."

Hebrews 8:10

This bride must be washed of her imperfections. Her wedding garment is to be without wrinkles as well. Numbers 31:23 relates an ordinance of God that things are cleansed by water and by fire. Ephesians 5:25,26 says that Jesus loved the church enough to die for her that He might wash her with the water of the Word. Then in the next verse says that His dying for her was also to present her without wrinkles...in other words that she might endure the fires of ironing out imperfections. These fires that this church is to go through is spoken of in 1Peter1:7 as well.

We have learned a principle in Lesson One that "first the natural, then the spiritual". And so the Heavens and the Earth, (which symbolize the Bride-to-be), must be cleansed first by water, (as it was in the days of Noah), and then by fire, (which is now beginning to happen). Then there will be a NEW Heavens & Earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness!



There are three levels of truth here. The truth of one level does not negate the truth of another level. First, to be understood by the natural mind, the natural heavens and earth were cleansed from the wickedness of the first Adam by a flood at the time of Noah, and then as in the days of Noah, to be cleansed again in the end times, but this time by fiery shakings.

Then to be understood by those with the mind of Christ at a deeper level, the heavens & the earth symbolize the church. The church is to be washed of her ways by the water of the Word, then with this foundation of relationship she is ready for a walk of faith trusting the Holy Spirit to lead her, even through situations that she would not otherwise endure. Here she walks with her Lord through fiery trials where her nature changes more significantly. She is now ready for union with Him.

The deepest level of truth however is that this is to happen within us individually in our personal walk with the Lord. We are to hunger and thirst for the Word and we desire to enter into the ark, which is Christ. So we start with a foundation of reading and hearing God's Word, and crying out for Him to raise us up into a realm closer to Him. As we are washed by the water of the Word we grow in faith and start a walk by the Spirit, doing things such as forgiving and showing love where we normally would not. It is more of Him working in and through us. As this walk strengthens we are then ready to be drawn up into Christ where we must pass through fiery trials to verify our true choices and love.

We now see by the mind of Christ an example of this when Elijah departed in a chariot of fire to leave the realm of the prophets, (the Heavenly Spiritual realm) He was ready to enter into God who is a consuming fire. It was safe for him to do because all of his flesh nature had already been burnt up by staying faithful through his fiery trials. He entered into a high calling, the prize that Paul pressed for. Note the carnal systems & works of men are destroyed, not the literal planet.



"When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; ...when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned;...." Isaiah 43:2



The Eight Feasts



Inside you'll see 17 pages of diagrams with their supporting scriptures.

Eric J. Ellis

Bible Concepts Lesson 4 The Eight Feasts

Introduction

These Bible studies are meant to be a simple straightforward presentation of Bible truths as a tool to help you to understand the Word, knowing that it is 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 I do not promote any particular denominational doctrine, (Mark 7:13). I am so blessed that He has enabled me to see the part that I do. I believe the Father would have me to share these delights with others who seek to know Him as well. You may notice that these lessons have a common undercurrent of encouraging you on into a deeper relationship with God.

All Bible verses are from the King James Version (KJV) unless indicated otherwise. [Bracketed words within verses are my comments inserted to add clarity].

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Brief Review of the Previous Lessons:

We learned that all those born in the first Adam have his nature, which is contrary to God. This alerts us to the need to change into the nature of Christ. We saw that God moves us up from one realm into another until we are in Christ. We cannot do this in our strength or by works, but we can respond to His love by crying out for Him to raise us up and then submitting & yielding to the process. We need to be faithful by His grace with the little we have so that He might give more light to us. We need to move in the light that we have, (getting with the program), like it's important to us.

The verse and diagram below summarize this process. You'll miss this with the carnal mind, (natural understanding), so I've given references for the spiritual meanings & intent. The process of growth starts by reading/hearing the Word, then walking in the Word by the Spirit, then having the Word internalized so that is what naturally flows out of us....His life, the last Adam.

"And there are three that bear witness [point and lead to God] in earth [which is US for we are formed from the earth], the SPIRIT, and the WATER, and the BLOOD: and these three agree in one." 1John 5:8



—1—

Beginning of Lesson 4

Part 1: The First Three Holy Convocation Feast Days

Holidays are times of assembling together to commemorate something important. The word "holiday" has its origin in the word "holyday". There are certain Holy Days assigned by God for the nation of Israel. They are also called Feast Days. These gatherings for "Feasts of the Lord" are called "convocations". There are eight of them that are more important than any others. These eight feast days are distinguished by God as being "HOLY convocations". We will learn about them because they represent things that are of great spiritual significance for us today.

These eight feast days are described in **Exodus 12**, **Leviticus 23**, and in **Numbers 28** & **29**. You may want to read all these chapters to get an overview. Each chapter provides some information that is missing in the others. I will quote the most relevant sections for you. Please bear with me while we take time to construct them accurately. This is necessary before we can clearly see the spiritual truths that they represent.

The first three holy convocations are in a cluster in the first month of the Jewish religious year, (as opposed to their civil/agricultural year) so we will begin with a diagram of these, using circles within squares to distinguish the holy convocation days but just circles for associated days.

Remember that a day in the Bible goes from the beginning of an evening to the beginning of the following evening. We use Young's Literal Translation, (YLT), in the quote below. This is because it specifies the timing correctly, which the King James Version does not.

"4. These are appointed seasons of Jehovah, HOLY CONVOCATIONS, which ye proclaim in their appointed seasons: 5. in the first month, on the fourteenth of the month, BETWEEN THE EVENINGS, [still daylight at the end of this day], IS THE PASSOVER, [the 14th], to Jehovah; 6. and on the fifteenth day of this month is the feast of unleavened things to Jehovah; seven days unleavened things ye do eat; 7. on the first day [of the seven days of Unleavened Bread] ye have a HOLY CONVOCATION, [the 15th], ye do no servile work; 8. and ye have brought near a fire-offering to Jehovah seven days; in the seventh day [of the seven days of Unleavened Bread] is [also]a HOLY CONVOCATION, [the 21st]..."



This means that the lamb is slain and the blood is applied to the doorposts in the afternoon of the 14th. The 15th day begins as the sun sets, when the lamb is then eaten along with unleavened bread. The death of the sons not covered by the blood of the Lamb occurs at midnight on the 15th and also the nation of Israel is born as they flee Egypt soon after midnight on the 15th.

Each day for seven days they are to eat an offering made by fire and to not eat any leaven. They are told what to eat and what not to eat. This reminds me of Adam & Eve, a choice is presented that will determine destiny...life or death.

It will become important for clear understanding later to take the time now to distinguish exactly what happens on each of the first two holy convocations.

Remember from Genesis 1 that a Bible day goes from sunset to sunset. This is shown in the phrase that repeats, "...and the evening [night] and the morning [daylight, both together in that order] were the ___day." This Biblical order of first darkness and then light is prophetic of the pattern as outlined in 1Corinthians 15:46 of first the natural and then the spiritual...and also of the pattern of death first and then life as with the seed in John 12:24.



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"...slaughtered it BETWEEN THE EVENINGS [during the daylight before sunset]; and they have taken of the blood, and have put [it] on the two sideposts, and on the lintel over the houses in which they eat it."

Exodus 12:6,7 YLT

"And they have eaten the flesh [of the Lamb] IN THIS NIGHT, roast with fire; with unleavened things [bread] and bitters they do eat it;"

Exodus 12:8 YLT

"And it cometh to pass, at MIDNIGHT, that Jehovah hath smitten every first-born in the land of *Egypt*, *[except those with the blood of the Lamb]*" Exodus 12:29 YLT

"Because the LORD kept vigil that NIGHT to bring them out of Egypt, on this night all the Israelites are to keep vigil to honor the LORD for the generations to come."

Exodus 12:42 NIV

The feast days are days to remember...to commemorate what originally happened on these days. So now let's examine exactly what first happened on each of the days of Unleavened Bread.



"3...they departed from Rameses...on the fifteenth day of the first month;...5. And the children of Israel removed from Rameses, and pitched in Succoth [for the night]. 6. And they departed from Succoth [at daybreak], and pitched in Etham, which is in the edge of the wilderness, [between Egypt proper & the Sinai]...7. And they removed from Etham, and turned again unto Pihahiroth,...and they pitched before Migdol. 8. And they departed from before Pihahiroth, and passed through the midst of the [Red]sea into the wilderness,..."

"5...it was told the king of Egypt that the people had fled, [were not coming back after three days, the original agreement request of Moses in **Exodus 5:3**,**4** which Pharoah had denied but later expected Moses to hold to] and the heart of Pharaoh and his servants was turned against the people; and they said, "Why have we...let Israel go from serving us?" [The first Adam (natural man) has a short memory when it comes to remembering acts of God]. 6. So...7...he took...all the chariots of *Egypt...8....and he pursued the children of Israel;...9...and overtook them camping by the sea beside* Pi Hahiroth,..." 13. And Moses said ... see the salvation of the Lord, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more ... 19...and the pillar of cloud [so it was still daylight when the cloud first moved] ...20... came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel. Thus it was a cloud and darkness to the one, and it [as a pillar of fire] gave light by night to the other, so that the one did not come near the other all that night. 21... the Lord caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea into dry land, 22. So the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea on the dry ground,...23. And the Egyptians...went after them...and when the morning appeared, the sea returned to its full depth,...So the Lord overthrew the Egyptians in the...sea...30. So the Lord saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore." Exodus 14

-4-

You may have noticed that the verses given are not precise about how long Israel was camped near Pihahiroth before Pharoah arrived with his armies. "The Jewish Timeline Encyclopedia" presents it like our diagram does, but the real proof is found in the verses below which show that they didn't stop fleeing, (as signified by still eating unleavened bread), until they were safe from their enemies. That wasn't until they were on the other side of the Red Sea on the seventh day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

"39. For bread …was made without yeast [unleavened] because the people were driven out of Egypt in such a hurry that they had no time to prepare the bread…[until after the seventh day]."

Exodus 12

6...Then on the seventh day, celebrate a feast to the LORD. 7. Eat bread without yeast during those seven days...8."On the seventh day you must explain to your children, 'I am celebrating what the LORD did for me when I left [fully escaped] Egypt [to safety on the other side of the Red Sea]."

Exodus 13

There are two other days in the first month that also relate to the time of the Passover, so I'll add them after giving the scripture reference.

"1. And Jehovah speaketh unto Moses and unto Aaron,...saying, 2. 'This month is to you THE CHIEF OF MONTHS—it is the first to you of the months of the year; 3. speak ye unto all the company of Israel, saying, In the tenth of this month—they take to them each man...a lamb for a house." **Exodus 12 YLT**

Being a new year's beginning, the first day of the month is significant, as is the 10th day when a lamb is acquired, for this new beginning is possible because of the lamb. Also, in the second year the newly-built Tabernacle would be set up in the first day of this month, (Exodus 40:17). Notice the emphasis as the most important month. The others follow because of this one.

If for a valid reason you missed your opportunity to eat the Passover Lamb then there was a provision to partake of the Lamb in the second month, (Numbers 9:6-14).



Passover Feast(s) (& less commonly referred to as the "Feast(s) of Unleavened Bread")

Part 2: The Resurrection, Wave Offering, & the 4th Holy Convocation Feast Day Before laying out the next holy convocation feast day it is very important to look at the WAVE OFFERING of the first grain of the first harvest, (which is NOT a holy convocation day). This Wave Offering is barley, (Exodus 9:31, 32), since it is only a few days since the barley harvest was destroyed in Egypt. It is the very first harvest ("FIRSTFRUITS") to be thankful for. But before we take a closer look at the Wave Offering we will look at the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Why? Because the Wave Offering is prophetic of the resurrection, as the scriptures below start to reveal.

"16...do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a RELIGIOUS FESTIVAL, a New Moon celebration or a sabbath day. 17. THESE ARE A SHADOW of the things that were to come; THE REALITY, HOWEVER, IS FOUND IN CHRIST." Colossians 2

"20. But NOW IS CHRIST RISEN FROM THE DEAD, AND BECOME THE FIRSTFRUITS of them that slept. 21. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. 22. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. 23. But every man in his own order: CHRIST THE FIRSTFRUITS; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming." **ICorinthians 15**

This diagram makes it easy to see that Jesus died on the 14th & was resurrected on the 17th. See Matthew 12:40 & Jonah 1:17. From Matthew 28:1-6 in Young's Literal Translation, (not shown here), we see that he was resurrected on the first day of the new Sabbath week, (the 17th), before daylight.



Jesus was crucified on the Passover, (the 14th), because he is our Passover Lamb. We also know that he died during the daytime. He died at the same time the lambs were being killed at the end of the day before sunset. **John 19:14**, **42** in Young's Literal Translation makes it plain that Jesus was crucified on "the preparation of the passover" meal, or in other words on the 14th when the lambs were killed, and supper was being prepared for after sunset, the beginning of the 15th.

Then we know that he was resurrected three days later (the 17th) from many verses such as **Matthew 16:21**. We also know that he was resurrected on the first day of the week in chapters such as **John 20**. Also from verse 1 of that Chapter we see that it was yet dark when it was noticed that he had risen. That means Jesus was resurrected in the first half of the 17th day.

Here is another scripture that is prophetic of the resurrection on the 17th day.

"9. There went...Noah into the ark,...as God had commanded Noah. 10. And it came to pass AFTER SEVEN DAYS, that the waters of the flood were upon the earth. 11. In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, IN THE SECOND MONTH, THE SEVENTEENTH DAY OF THE MONTH, THE SAME DAY WERE ALL THE FOUNTAINS OF THE GREAT DEEP BROKEN UP, AND THE WINDOWS OF HEAVEN WERE OPENED." Genesis 7

The second month here is the second month of the civil year, (sometimes called the agricultural year), which is in the eight month of the religious year. The religious year wasn't established until much later during the time of Moses. I'll likely give you a diagram comparing the two types of years in a future lesson, but for now realize that "eight" in the Bible always stands for "new beginning". The beginning of a new week is the "eighth day" after a period of seven days, and so would the eighth month be a type of new beginning after seven months, and the eighth year a new beginning after a period of seven years.

It is because of the resurrection of the Lamb of God that we can have a new beginning. We can be washed up out of the depths of the sea as sand to see the light upon the seashore, a much higher realm. And from the earth realm there is promise to be able to go on yet to the higher realm of the heavens! The resurrection is the day when Jesus acquired the keys to death and hell, (**Revelation 1:8**) that we might be freed. The great deep was broken up and we had a way out!

With background of the resurrection being on the 17th day, and the Wave Offering being a type of the resurrection, we will place the Wave Offering on the 17th then explain more about it.



Here is the verse that tells us that the Wave Offering is the day after a sabbath day.

"10...When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf [bundle of grain] of the FIRSTFRUITS of your harvest unto the priest: 11. And he shall WAVE THE SHEAF [Wave Offering] BEFORE THE LORD, TO BE ACCEPTED FOR YOU: ON THE MORROW AFTER THE SABBATH the priest shall wave it." Leviticus 23

This first fruit of grain for the Wave Offering of course cannot be cut on a sabbath because harvesting is work. And it cannot be cut & offered until the people of Israel enter the promised land where it is growing, (Leviticus 23:10). It is not growing in the wilderness where they are when they escaped from Egypt. Getting to the Promised Land to harvest grain is made possible because of the Passover Lamb that set them free to move on from bondage. That Lamb is prophetic of Jesus Christ, (1Corinthians 5:7), the perfect sacrifice which atoned for those in Adam. The Wave Offering is therefore prophetic of the acceptance and fruitfulness of that sacrifice as shown by His resurrection. Jesus Christ is the first fruit of the first harvest of a son in the express image of the Father as proven by the resurrection.

So the Wave Offering is done the day after a sabbath, but which sabbath? The context of **Leviticus 23** is that the sabbath could mean the 14th, 15th, or the 21st. **Leviticus 23:14** however says that they are not to eat the grain of the promised land until they perform the Wave Offering. Then **Joshua 5:10, 11** tell us that when they entered the promised land the manna ceased and they ate the grain of the land on the day after the passover, meaning the day after the passover meal, the 15th, which means it was the 16th. Obviously that year there was no weekly sabbath day (Saturday) on the 16th. It does show however that the sabbath of reference is typically the 15th.

Now that we've established that the Wave Offering is a type of the resurrection and we've seen when that was, we'll look at the next holy convocation feast day, the Feast of Weeks (**Deuteronomy 16:9,10**). This Feast is on the 50th day counting from (& including) the day of the Wave Offering of the first month. It is called the Feast of Weeks because there are seven full weeks between the eating of the Passover Lamb (on the 15th) and this Feast. Other names for it are listed below. I refer to it as the Feast of Pentecost because that is how it is referred to in the New Testament, (Acts 2:1).



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Here is the scripture reference for how the date for this holy convocation is determined.

"15. And ye shall COUNT UNTO YOU FROM THE MORROW AFTER THE SABBATH, FROM THE DAY THAT YE BROUGHT THE SHEAF OF THE WAVE OFFERING; SEVEN SABBATHS SHALL BE COMPLETE: 16. Even unto the morrow after the seventh sabbath shall ye number FIFTY DAYS; and ye shall offer a new meat offering unto the LORD. 17. Ye shall bring out of your habitations TWO WAVE LOAVES of two tenth deals: they shall be of fine flour; they shall be baken WITH LEAVEN; they are the FIRSTFRUITS [later you'll see that represents the "church"] unto the LORD...21. And ye shall proclaim on the selfsame day, that it may be an HOLY CONVOCATION unto you..."



The Wave Offering might land on the 16th or the 17th but note here that there must be SEVEN COMPLETE SABBATHS between the Passover meal (on the 15th) and the Feast of Weeks. A complete sabbath includes the six days leading up to it. In the Jewish Calendar the days of the week are not Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, etc, but rather "1st day of the sabbath (week)", "2nd day of the sabbath", "3rd day of the sabbath", etc to the 7th day of the sabbath which is the regular weekly sabbath.

Seven complete sabbaths would be seven weeks which is 49 days. This only works from the Wave Offering if the Wave Offering is on the 1st day of the sabbath/week, or in other words the 1st day of the week, as it was in the week of the resurrection.

Passover is always on the 14th day of the 1st month, and is always on the full moon, (since the Jewish calendar month is based on the lunar cycle), but the day of the week varies from year to year. If as we previously showed the regular weekly sabbath to be on the 16th, then the seven complete sabbaths would fit perfectly starting with the 17th. This time it is not a waving of one bundle of grain but includes two loaves of bread. Note that they had leaven in them. This represents many imperfect people who are growing up into perfection and maturity of the Head, Jesus Christ.

I did a "side study" and am convinced that on this day the Law (10 commandments) was given to God's people. It would take another page or so to carefully lay that word out for you, so I will resist that temptation at this time. The references however start with **Exodus 19:1**.

Also 50 days after Jesus Christ was resurrected the Holy Spirit was given to the church. So this day celebrates the giving of the Word and the Spirit, (two of the three witnesses), which are represented by the two loaves, (that is all Saul got in **1Samuel 10:3**). The leaven in Saul leavened the whole loaf and it became evident that man needed to be in a higher realm yet. A further feast beyond Pentecost would be needed.

Both loaves are wheat but there are two loaves to signify that the harvest of barley is represented in a higher way. In other words the barley harvest is past, (Law/Word), in a lower realm yet continues on as part of a higher realm.



On the first Pentecost God presented Himself in a fire from the heavens upon a mountain, apart from the people who were in a lower place below the mountain and preferred to stay there. In the "last" Pentecost God presented Himself in a fire from the heavens upon a group of 120 people who had moved into an upper place and sought a higher spiritual realm closer to God.

Just as the death of the first Passover lambs made possible the separation of a people who were then ready to receive the giving of the Word upon the earth, so too did the resurrection of the true Lamb of God make possible the giving of the Spirit of the Word upon a group of people, (and still does today). The Word & the Spirit were both given on this feast day of Pentecost. This is what the two loaves of wheat of Pentecost represent.

Now things start tying together more. Remember this from Lesson #2?



Just as knowing the letter of the Word helps us to understand God enough to then move on to walk with God in the Spirit by faith, so too does walking in the Spirit enable us to then walk with God in a higher realm. This higher realm is shown to us as a type in the next holy convocations.

Part 3: The last Four Holy Convocation Feast Days

The last four holy convocation feast days are in a cluster just as the first three were. Here is the scripture text that lays it out, followed by an illustration.

"24...In the seventh month, in the FIRST DAY of the month, shall ye have a sabbath, a MEMORIAL OF BLOWING OF TRUMPETS, AN HOLY CONVOCATION...27. Also on the TENTH DAY of this seventh month there shall *be a DAY OF ATONEMENT: IT SHALL BE AN HOLY CONVOCATION unto you;* and ye shall afflict your souls...28. And ye shall do no work in that same day: for it is a day of atonement, to make an atonement for you before the LORD your God. 29. For whatsoever soul it be that shall not be afflicted in that same day, he shall be cut off from among his people. [But weren't we already atoned for in the Passover Feast by the blood of the Lamb? I'll start explaining this in the next three lessons.] 30. And whatsoever soul it be that doeth any work in that same day, the same soul will I destroy from among his people...32. It shall be unto you a sabbath of rest, and ye shall afflict your souls:... The FIFTEENTH DAY OF THIS SEVENTH MONTH SHALL BE THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES FOR SEVEN DAYS UNTO THE LORD. 35. ON THE FIRST DAY [of these seven days starting with the 15th] SHALL BE AN HOLY CONVOCATION: ye shall do no servile work therein. 36. Seven days ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD: on the EIGHTH DAY [from the 15th, which would take us to the 22nd] SHALL BE AN HOLY CONVOCATION unto you; and ye shall offer an offering LORD, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations...39. Also in the fifteenth day of the seventh month, WHEN YE HAVE GATHERED IN THE FRUIT OF THE LAND, [this is the final ingathering of the rest of the crops, olives, grapes, figs, etc. It is a very extensive harvest compared to the firstfruits of Pentecost.], ye shall keep a feast unto the LORD seven days: on the first day shall be a sabbath, and on the eighth day shall be a sabbath...and ye shall rejoice before the LORD your God seven days...42. Ye shall dwell in BOOTHS seven days...43. That your generations may know that I made the children of Israel to dwell in booths, when I brought them out of the land of Egypt:" Leviticus 23



7th Month Feast of Tabernacles (Booths)

Part 4: Summary of the Eight Holy Convocation Feast Days

Here is an overview of all eight feasts. Notice that they are found in three groups, with the first group summarized as the first feast, Passover, since it is because of the Passover that the Feast of Unleavened Bread, (fleeing Egypt), is possible.

The last group is summarized as "Tabernacles", another name for houses, tents or booths, which is where we live & also who we are, (**2Corinthians 5:1**). This eighth feast signifies both a people dwelling in God and God dwelling in them...a people finally fully in the Divine Realm of His Life, (Him)...in other words a people mature in Christ, of full stature, perfect, and in the express image of the last Adam, the beloved Son, who is in the express image of the Father. The fourth feast in this group is the conclusion and goal of not only that group but of all eight feasts.

This diagram shows that once the blood of the Lamb is applied to the door of your "home", (Jesus Christ is then your Savior), you have seven further steps before you are fully one with Him (married). This is why **Philippians 2:12** says to work out your salvation, and **Hebrews 12:1,2** says to run your particular race, and why Paul was pressing on to something more than a life in the Word (Earth Realm) and in the Spirit (Heavenly Realm), but to be found in Christ, which he calls "the high calling".

"8...I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord:...THAT I MAY WIN CHRIST,

9. And BE FOUND IN HIM, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness...of God by faith: 10. THAT I MAY KNOW HIM, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; 11. If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead. 12. Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. 13...I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, [the first two feasts, Passover & Pentecost], and reaching forth unto those things which are before, 14. I PRESS TOWARD THE MARK FOR THE PRIZE OF THE HIGH CALLING OF GOD IN CHRIST JESUS." Philippians 3



A summary of JUST THE EIGHT HOLY CONVOCATION FEASTS of the Lord are shown below. Within these eight feasts, there are seven steps to perfection. This journey can also be described as three major feasts (steps), often referred to in the Bible prophetically as "three days".

This spacing of feasts causes them to be referred to as three feasts, and three times it is mentioned that all males MUST attend all three feasts every year, (Exodus 23:17, Exodus 34:23, and Deuteronomy 16:16). Note that in Exodus 34:23 the reference is not to males but rather to "men children". The male children are "sons". Although all males are sons, the emphasis is as sons.

"Thrice in the year shall all your MEN CHILDREN [Sons] appear before the Lord GOD, the God of Israel." Exodus 34:23

To add emphasis, it is told in **Exodus 12:19** that the soul that does not complete the first feast (of the three major feasts) correctly shall be cut off, and then in **Leviticus 23:29** that the soul that does not complete the last feast (of the three major feasts) correctly shall be cut off. Cut off from what? Cut off from coming into the realm of being a SON like Christ! You must complete the "seven steps"..."three days" growth into Christ the Head in order to become mature, into the full stature of Christ.

"TILL WE ALL COME in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, UNTO A PERFECT MAN, unto the measure of THE STATURE OF THE FULNESS OF CHRIST:" Ephesians 4:13

These three feasts "days" are the summary of our journey from realm to realm as we grow in the character and nature and mind of Christ, leaving the flesh nature/carnal mind of the first Adam behind. The first feast "day" is a type of Salvation because Christ is our Passover Lamb. The second feast "day" is a type of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the Church. The third feast "day" is a type of coming fully into Christ, (the Son of God & the Son of Man)...God dwelling in man and man dwelling in God. Jesus Christ is the first Wave Offering, the first fruit of a spiritual man. The Holy Spirit is working in the church by the Word & the Spirit to bring forth a company of firstfruit sons to follow. Those who complete the third "day" will be part of the first resurrection (Luke 20:35,36), that firstfruit company of sons mentioned in Romans 8:29,30).



Here's more food for thought along these same lines.



Note that 3500 years, is " $3\frac{1}{2}$ days" (**2Peter 3:8 & Revelation 11**). The life of one age passes as the higher life of a new age begins.

The woman ("church") fades from the scene as the manchild ("men children"/sons) are born. Prophetically this was seen as a type from Rachel's death when her last son Benjamin was born, (the younger brother of Joseph, who was the firstborn of Rachel and a type of Jesus Christ).

"For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the FIRSTBORN AMONG MANY BRETHREN, [an older brother with many younger brothers born of the same Father]." **Romans 8:29**

In this type Benjamin represents many brethren, which will be further explained in future lessons. The birth of the sons is gradual (happening now) until they take part in the 1st resurrection, when it will be sudden and apparent to all.

Some are following Him on wherever He leads, (picking up their cross & following Him), moving into and through the Tabernacles Feasts. As a virgin Bride they are seeking union with Christ until only His life is birthed from within them as sons.

Another concept seen in the feasts is that there is the beginning of a race and there is the end of a race. It can be declared who the winner is at the beginning, but the proof is found at the end. The first day of the 1st month heralds the upcoming race in that month as does the first day of the 7th month herald the upcoming race in that month by the blowing of trumpets. The pattern is shown that there are seven laps to the race. It is not by our strength, but we must be faithful (**Revelation 17:14**), and move in what we are directed by the Word and the Spirit. The victory song is sung at the end of the race.



Here are the victory songs sung at the end of each race.



So who do you suppose sings the "Song of Moses"? That would be Moses and those who applied the blood of the Lamb and finished this race. They sang it as soon as they crossed the Red Sea which was when that particular race was over, (**Exodus 15:1**, **Deuteronomy 31:22**, **30**). The song is praising God because the horse & rider are thrown into the sea. The spiritual meaning is the first Adam & beast nature upon which he rides can now be put in their place because of the blood, (life) of the Lamb. The Word then comes forth available for us so that we can overcome the horse & rider, (our first Adam beast nature), finish this race and join in the Song of Moses.

This song is sung by those who have further victory over the 1st Adam beast nature, (**Revelation 15:3**). This overcoming is done by the Holy Spirit which is available to us because Jesus as the Lamb of God ascended. The song is praising God because His nature & ways are being further revealed and available in us now by Spirit as well as by Word.





This New Song is sung by Christ the Head & by Christ the Body. In **Revelation 5:8-10** it is the four Living Creatures and the 24 Elders who sing this song. It explains here that they represent the kings & priests who reign with Christ. Those who reign with Him are also represented by the 144,000s that are with the Lamb on Mount Zion. They are the firstfruit company of Sons of God (**Revelation 14:1-5**). They are elsewhere referred to the "Overcomers", (**Revelation 2:7** to **3:21** & **21:7**), the younger brothers, (**Romans 8:29**), and the Manchild, again identified as the corporate body that reigns with Him, (**Revelation 12**).

The only ones who can sing the songs are those who finish the race. They are the only ones who know the words...what to sing about. At the beginning of a race you have some understanding of the race but at the end of the race you can add your experience...your testimony to your understanding. All who finish this race are the 3rd witness in the earth...His Life (blood) living in a people...Sons in His image.

I will show two more patterns in closing.

Future lessons will expand, clarify, and confirm some concepts presented in this lesson.



As one goes on the journey from feast to feast there is an enlargement both of harvest and of time to get to the harvest. This is shown above and also by the pattern of sevens in that:

Passover is followed by 7 DAYS of Unleavened Bread, Pentecost is 7 WEEKS from the Wave Offering Tabernacles is 7 MONTHS from the New Year.

Not everyone is given vision to run the entire race, but those who do must endure to the end. We can do this because of Christ. It is not us but Him in us, (Galatians 2:19,20). Here is Paul's testimony from the New King James Version right before his death:

"6. For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. 7. I have fought the good fight, I HAVE FINISHED THE RACE, I have kept the faith. 8. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing [in their lives and in the lives of others]."

2Timothy 4:7



Lesson 5

The Tabernacle



Inside are 16 pages of diagrams with their supporting scriptures.

Eric J. Ellis

Editorial Review by Mary Elizabeth Ellis

Bible Concepts Lesson 5 The Tabernacle

Introduction:

These Bible studies are meant to be a simple straightforward presentation of Bible truths as a tool to help you to understand the Word, knowing that it is 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 I do not promote any particular denominational doctrine, (Mark 7:13). I am so blessed that He has enabled me to see the part that I do. I believe the Father would have me to share these delights with others who seek to closely know Him as well. You may notice that these lessons have a common undercurrent of encouraging you on into a deeper relationship with God.

All Bible verses are from the King James Version (KJV) unless indicated otherwise. [Bracketed words within verses are my comments inserted to add clarity].

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Brief Review of Previous Lessons:

If you are still with me then you have already learned that there are often layers or realms of truth. A truth in one area does not negate a truth in another area. For example Noah built a boat called an ark. That is true. But on a spiritual level the ark represented Christ. Our refuge is in Christ. That is also true. On yet a higher level we understand that we experience deliverance from our first Adam nature when by faith we enter into the ark which is Christ. This is a level of union with God whereby we become one with Him, thus acquiring His nature. This is called "being found in Christ". This is called "Sonship". It is the image of the Son who is in the true image of the Father. All three are true.



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Just because you don't see a truth doesn't mean that it's not there. For example, the religious leaders rejected Jesus as the Christ because Jesus came from Galilee, (Nazareth). Being confident of their knowledge of the scriptures they knew that the Messiah would come from Bethlehem. They were using their very limited natural wisdom in the earthly realm because in pride they thought they knew it all. Having one truth they were satisfied to look no further. The prophets however also said that the Christ would be called a Nazarene, (Matthew 2:23). Because this prophecy had not been written in the scriptures at that time the religious leaders either were not aware of it or more likely rejected it. Pride thinks, "If it were important then I'd already know about it."

Nathanael however was different. When he was told by Philip to come and see the Messiah from Nazareth, he went. He searched out the matter and found it to be true, (John 1:46-49). Nathanael was hungry for truth. He knew there was more truth to be had. Jesus was from both Bethlehem & Nazareth.

We start with natural understanding of God's Word where God begins to open our eyes to truth. This lays a foundation of knowledge of the Word upon which faith can be built. This walk in faith in turn helps us to grow into spiritual understanding. The continued walk in faith builds yet another foundation by which we enter into a higher realm where our nature begins to change. The realm of the Word and then the realm of the Spirit help us to enter into the realm of Christ. Here we uncover a whole new layer of truth. These truths are the ones that Jesus wanted to explain but didn't because he knew that they had not yet received the Holy Spirit who leads us into all truth, (John 16:12,13).

Beginning of Lesson Five

Part 1: The Reason for a Tabernacle

The Tabernacle originally was a tent structure made to be a (dwelling) place for God...a place where the people could meet with Him. It was built by the Israelites in the wilderness. This was done in the first year of their separation from Egypt, (the "Exodus"). God gave detailed instructions to Moses on how it was to be built. Why? Because it was to be a pattern of the true Tabernacle (dwelling place) of God in the Divine Realm, (Acts 7:44-50, Hebrews 8:5).

Just as there are truths in different realms, there are often more than one within a realm.



What seems to be a truth in the natural realm actually may be just partial. The truth is best fully revealed in a higher realm where there is more light. These are the hidden truths in the Word that have been sealed up until the time of the end. These truths are now becoming evident by Word & Spirit to those walking in the light, (**Proverbs 4:18**). They are the "kings" who delight in searching out a matter, (**Proverbs 25:2**)...those who are hungry for more truth.

"4. But you, Daniel, keep this prophecy a SECRET; seal up the book UNTIL THE TIME OF THE END, when many will rush here and there [travel increases], ぐ [when] knowledge will increase." Daniel 12:4 NLT

It is all coming to pass now. We will look more at this first Tabernacle, the one built by Moses in the desert, but first I'll take you to the last Tabernacle mentioned in the Bible. It is the fulfillment of what the wilderness Tabernacle pointed to. We need to see the big picture first.

"1. And I saw a new heaven & a new earth: for the first heaven & the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea [realm]. 2. And I John saw the holy city, NEW JERUSALEM, [a company of people] coming down [revealed in the lower, natural earth realm] from God out of heaven, [the higher unseen spirit realm] prepared as a BRIDE [the virgin/pure church] adorned for her husband [Jesus Christ, which **Ephesians 5:22-32** confirms.]. 3. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying,... THE TABERNACLE OF GOD [where God lives] is with[within] men [a certain company of people], and he will dwell with[within] them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with [within] them, and be their God." **Revelation 21**

A literal city with buildings and roads does not come down out of the sky. God is not interested in living in a tent, temple or city. His original plan is still to make many men who will be just like Him so that He will be able to dwell in them. They will know what He wants and will want to do it, (**Hebrews 8:10** NLT). God had the Tabernacle in the wilderness built as a pattern of this company of people, (who He will dwell in). As I will point out, the Tabernacle shows how to become one of them. It is a type of Jesus Christ who is the Way to the Father, (**John 14:6**), See the same scripture below from Young's Literal Translation.

"2. and I, John, saw the holy city—NEW JERUSALEM—coming down from God out of the heaven, made ready as a BRIDE adorned for her husband; 3. and I heard a great voice out of the heaven, saying, 'Lo, THE TABERNACLE OF GOD IS WITH MEN, AND HE WILL TABERNACLE [dwell] WITH THEM, AND THEY SHALL BE HIS PEOPLES, [plural...not just Jesus the Head], AND GOD HIMSELF SHALL BE WITH THEM [the Body of Christ]—their God," **Revelation 21**

From these verses we see that the New Jerusalem is the Bride of Christ, the Virgin Church.



Now take a closer look at this city (people) called "New Jerusalem".

"HE WHO OVERCOMES, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name [nature] of My God and the name of the city of My God, the NEW JERUSALEM, which comes down out of heaven from My God. AND I WILL WRITE ON HIM MY NEW NAME." **Revelation 3:12**

Did you notice what seems like a contradiction here between this verse and the previous one, (**Revelation 21:2**)? Is the New Jerusalem now a "Him" and not a woman Bride? Also note that a NEW NAME is given to this "him". And what is this NEW name? It is something other than "New Jerusalem", which was the first name given. A new name speaks of a new identity. From this woman in heaven comes a new identity when seen upon the earth.

Bear with me. This will all pull together when we look at a couple more scriptures. In **Ezekiel 47 & 48** he is describing Jerusalem when a river of (living) water is flowing out from its temple, (God's Tabernacle). That can only happen when God is there. He is the source of living water. When this happens the city is given a NEW NAME.

"...and THE NAME OF THE CITY from that day shall be: THE LORD IS THERE." Ezekiel 48:35



Look at this next scripture. It reveals more about this bride. We are moving toward a clearer understanding of just what/who this Tabernacle of God is.

"1. Now a great sign appeared in heaven: A WOMAN CLOTHED WITH THE SUN, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars. 2. Then being with child, she cried out in labor and in pain to give birth... 4... And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born. 5. SHE BORE A MALE CHILD [SON] WHO WAS TO RULE ALL NATIONS with a rod of iron. And her Child was caught up to God and His throne [has the authority of God as soon as he is revealed]. 6. Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God..."

Revelation 12

We know that this woman is not Mary and the son is not baby Jesus because this is shown to John as things to come, (**Revelation 1:1**). *This woman is in heaven* and *is a sign*. What do these signs or symbols represent? The Sun represents Jesus, the "Sun of righteousness" from **Malachi 4:2**. *This woman is under His covering*. This woman is therefore the Bride of Christ, the Virgin Church. She is virgin because she is faithful to her husband. She does not "fornicate" with her old Adam nature. Within this church there are some people that are "overcomers". They are mentioned in each of the seven churches of the first few chapters of **Revelation**.

"And HE WHO OVERCOMES, and keeps My works until the end, TO HIM I WILL GIVE POWER OVER THE NATIONS..." Revelation 2:26 The Bride is a "her", but the male child, (Son), within her is/are the "him"...the Overcomers that will rule the nations. What else does the Word tell us about this Overcomer? This Son that comes out of the church is a Son of the Father.

" HE WHO OVERCOMES shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he SHALL BE MY SON." Revelation 21:7

This male child is Christ the Head, (the first Son), AND Christ the Body, (many more sons).



In summary we see that this *NEW JERUSALEM IS THE BRIDE OF CHRIST*. On the way from heaven to earth is a symbol of something in the heavenly realm becoming manifest or visible in the earthly realm. On the way to earth the identity changes from a pure (virgin) Bride (city..many people) to a Son (many of these same people) with the Father's name (nature). This corporate group of men is the male child (son of the Bride) mentioned in **Revelation 12**. There it is seen that the manchild becomes prominent as ruler, (immediately given authority), as the woman in heaven flees to the wilderness where God will do a deeper work in her. For now though she fades from the scene. This authority comes from the *full measure* of the Holy Spirit. It is the same authority that Jesus Christ the Head had when he started his 3 1/2 years of ministry.

Here you need both the Word & Spirit to see from this that the Bride has union with Christ before the actual marriage, (**Revelation 19**). Mary's union with the Holy Spirit before her actual marriage (with Joseph) was a shadow of this. From this becoming one with Him she brings forth a son in His image...just like Christ...just like the Father. These are the "overcomers". What happens is that the part of the corporate Bride that goes on with a deeper walk in Christ has their nature (name) changed to become a Son (in His image). This is God's work. It is not a work of the flesh.

This Sonship company is the true Tabernacle that God will dwell in, of which the wilderness Tabernacle is just a type/ shadow. A shadow points to it's source which is the source of light. The main point of the shadow is to show you where the light comes from. And how did He get to Tabernacle in them? He put His seed into a virgin. Then she birthed sons in His image.



What the virgin Bride is:



The last page introduces many questions to be addressed in future lessons. The main point however is that the Tabernacle structure was designed as a type to point us to Christ. It shows us how to come into Christ. It shows us how to become one born of God. One in whom dwells the living God fully. This would be the "Word-made-flesh". This would be the Spirit of the Father seen on earth through a Son. God would be seen as in the resurrected Jesus...the Son in the express image of the Father. God would also then be seen in many more sons to follow. This is God's plan. Every color, material, measurement, and arrangement of the Tabernacle structure point us to Jesus. Jesus is the Way. The Tabernacle is a shadow of the Way...the Way back to the Father...the Way to have the Father fully dwell in us. The Way back to the Tree of Life.

Later the tabernacle was replaced with a temple, which was destroyed then later rebuilt then later fully renovated before also being destroyed. The temples were similar to the tabernacle in basic layout. They were however larger and more elaborate. This reflected the expansion of God's Word upon the earth. The temple was fixed on Mount Zion in Jerusalem because the city was a type of the New Jerusalem. The last earthly temple was destroyed about 40 years after Jesus began his ministry. They were no longer needed. Once Jesus was resurrected they were distractions from the source of light that they had pointed to. God got rid of them.

"16. And what union can there be between God's temple and idols? For WE ARE THE TEMPLE OF THE LIVING GOD. As God said: "I WILL LIVE IN THEM AND WALK AMONG THEM [being seen by others...the Word made flesh...the heavenly seen in the earth]. I will be their God, and they will be my people. 17. Therefore, come out from among unbelievers, and separate yourselves from them, says the LORD. Don't touch their filthy things, [works of man], and I will welcome you. 18. And I will be your Father, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the LORD Almighty."

2Corinthians 6 NKJ



Spiritual Tabernacles (Ezekiel's Temple is spiritual too...to discuss another time)



Part 2: The Layout of the Tabernacle

Now you understand that the original Tabernacle structure is a prophetic type of God dwelling in a people. Keep that in mind as we move on to look at how it was built to God's specifications. There are dozens if not hundreds of concepts & patterns in the Tabernacle. In this lesson we must establish the basic layout. So for now we can only look at a few of these concepts. In future lessons however we will look at more Tabernacle concepts as they apply to those lessons.

The diagram here is the Tabernacle as seen from above looking down. It is to scale. Notice that there are three main sections. What is shown here comes mainly from **Exodus 27**. Further details are found in the rest of the book of **Exodus**.



The outer rectangle is a fence of white linen with no roof. The actual Tabernacle "house" is made up of board walls, (covered in gold), and a tent roof. It is the inner rectangle which has two compartments. One is called the "Holy Place" and the smaller one is called the "Holiest Place". The two rooms are separated by a veil.

There is only one entrance to each of the three sections. Each section must be entered from the East heading toward the West. That is how the sun travels from sunrise to sunset. This East to West orientation is symbolic of following the light to come into further light. One must keep moving to avoid darkness from overtaking them. This is also true in your personal walk with God, (John 12:35). Keep growing in the mind of Christ! The sun itself is used as a symbol of God in several places, (for example see Psalm 84:11 & Malachi 4:2).

One cannot enter one section without first going through the previous section. The entrance to the Court is commonly called the "gate". The entrance to the Holy Place is commonly called the "door". The entrance to the Holiest Place is commonly called the "veil". All three entrances are curtains. The gate is twice as wide as the other two entrances. The door to the Holy Place is the same size as the veil to the Holiest Place. This "door" and this "veil" are both the entire East side of those compartments. These two compartments together are often referred to as the "tabernacle of the tent of the congregation", the "tent of meeting", and the "tent of the testimony". This is because it is the only part of the Tabernacle that has a tent-like roof.

View the pattern below and then we will resume our talk about the three entrances.



Jesus has made a way for us to enter into all three divisions of the Tabernacle. He tells us that we must enter through the first two areas into the third in order to have His life abundant in us...in order for us to be His dwelling place. Notice the beckoning to keep drawing near.

Now we look at the colors of these three curtains.

"31. And thou shalt make a VEIL OF BLUE, AND PURPLE, AND SCARLET, AND FINE TWINED LINEN of cunning work: with cherubims shall it be made: 33...and THE VEIL [to the Holiest Place] SHALL DIVIDE UNTO YOU BETWEEN THE HOLY PLACE AND THE MOST HOLY...36. And thou shalt make an HANGING FOR THE DOOR [to the Holy Place] OF THE TENT, OF BLUE, AND PURPLE, AND SCARLET, AND FINE TWINED LINEN, wrought with needlework [of gold threads from Exodus 39:3]." Exodus 26

"16. And FOR THE GATE OF THE COURT shall be AN HANGING of twenty cubits, of BLUE, AND PURPLE, AND SCARLET, AND FINE TWINED LINEN..." Exodus 27:16

Also the linen fence and the garments of the priest had these colors in them. They all were linen. This all has spiritual meaning. The linen (white) represents a fabric of righteousness as shown in the verse below. Christ reigns in righteousness, (Isaiah 11:4,5).

"7. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife [virgin Church Bride] hath made herself ready. 8. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and WHITE: for THE FINE LINEN IS THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF SAINTS [those within this New Jerusalem Bride]." Revelation 19

Embroidery was done using gold threads. These gold threads were interwoven in all of the colors. So how is the nature of God & His standard of righteousness seen in these colors?

Scarlet is the color for sin, (Isaiah 1:18), which the priests atone for according to the Word. Blue is the color of the sky, heavens, which represents the Spirit, where the Prophet hears. Purple is the color of royalty...of kings. Purple is made by combining red (scarlet) and blue. Gold is the color for the incorruptible nature of God as gold does not rust, corrode, or tarnish. White is the color for righteousness, which is pure and clean, (from Revelation 19:8 above).



The gold threads are woven throughout all the colors.

The nature of God can be seen in each calling.

All are based on the fabric of righteousness.

When one is in Christ then he is in the image of the Father. The gold threads represent the incorruptible life of the Father, which is present in the Word and in the Spirit and in Christ. But it is only in Christ that the fullness of God can be seen.

"8. Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. 9. FOR IN HIM [CHRIST] DWELLETH ALL THE FULNESS OF THE GODHEAD BODILY. 10. And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:" Colossians 2

This means that the pattern below is also correct.



If you are still with me, then you will see the following ok. We have not really left out "purple" (King), because it is there in the combination of "scarlet" (Word), and "blue" (Spirit). I'll explain more about this later on the next page.



The white linens of the Tabernacle have the scarlet, blue, and purple colors with gold threads woven into them. We saw from **Revelation 19:7,8** that the clean, white linen represents the righteousness of the saints. The fabric upon which God's life is seen is "righteousness".

Just what is righteousness? My loose, amplified version of Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary definition is, "Knowing the right thing to do, and wanting to do it, (implying by His grace the actual doing of it)". The "right thing" of course is what God wants.

"10. But this is the new agreement [NEW COVENANT] I will make with the people of Israel, says the Lord: I will write my laws in their minds so that THEY WILL KNOW WHAT I WANT THEM TO DO without my even telling them, and these laws will be in their hearts so that THEY WILL WANT TO OBEY THEM, and I will be their God and they shall be my people [sons who are in my express image...I will dwell (tabernacle) in them]."

Hebrews 8 TLB

In summary, "righteousness" is the New Covenant. This new covenant is fulfilled in Christ, (Head and Body)...in a people who are sons that are just like the Father. Only God can do this.

Red, blue and yellow are the three primary colors. ALL other colors come from a combination of these. White is made up of all colors. All colors are hidden in white. Black is the absence of light, (color). I am showing you natural things to help point out spiritual things.

"20. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead:..."

Romans 1

Natural Illustration:



This understanding of "righteousness" will make many other verses come alive. You will find the following phrases throughout scripture:

...established in righteousness...
...city of righteousness...
...rule/reign in righteousness...
...way of righteousness...
...sceptre of righteousness...
...fruit of righteousness...
...fruit of righteousness...
And many more, such as one of my favorites:

We have seen that the colors, thread, and type of cloth used in the Tabernacle all speak of God's life in a people. This is pointed out in the clothing of the High Priest who points the way. It is seen in the entry curtains that point the way to each of the three compartments. They all point to keep moving from East to West to have more of God's life. Go from one compartment to the next! This is possible now because of Christ. God tabernacles in man when man is in Christ.

Now let's look at what's inside the Tabernacle. We will start at the gate to the Court. There are two major "appointments" in the Court that we must pass on our journey.



First we come to the Altar. Here is where animals were slain on behalf of our first Adam nature. This Altar represents the Cross where Jesus took our sin nature. Jesus is our Passover Lamb who went to the Cross (Altar) to make a way for us to be free from sin & death. The priests however must start at the Brass Laver no matter which way they go, **Exodus 40:30-32**. They have already been sanctified by the blood at the Altar. Their role is to help bring the people to God and God to the people. It is their heart's cry to have God dwell in man. We are called to be priests.

Then the priest washed at the Laver before going on. This represents being washed by the water of the Word (**Ephesians 5:26**). Both the Altar and the Laver were made of brass, (or bronze...both are copper alloys). Brass(/bronze) is a symbol of judgment.

The Court represents Salvation.

The second leg of our journey is the Holy Place. Here there are three "appointments". They are the Candlestick of seven Lamps, the Table with 12 loaves of Bread, and the Altar of Incense with an Incense Censer.



The "candelstick" is a pure gold lampstand that holds seven lamps. Gold speaks of God... the Divine realm, (Gold is mentioned as "good" in **Genesis 2:12**, and only God is "good", **Matthew 10:18**). The seven lamps are the seven lights of the seven-fold spirit of God, (**Isaiah 11:2** and **Revelation 3:1 & 4:5**). This represents the Holy Spirit, who gives insight to a seeking heart.

In the natural the bread represents the 12 tribes of Israel in two piles of six. On top of each pile is a plate of pure, (white), frankincense which is burned to remember the tribes beneath, (Leviticus 24:5-7). What does this mean?

Where else were the tribes in two groups of six? It was when they first went into the promised land. Six tribes were to stand on Mount Gerizim and six tribes were to stand on Mount Ebal, (**Deuteronomy 11:29**). The blessing was to be pronounced on Mount Gerizim. The "reviling" (from YLT) was to be pronounced on Mount Ebal. I hope to go more into that in a future lesson. For now, in the spiritual, the tribes represent the distinction between following God's Word, (Mt Gerazim tribes), and not, (Mt Ebal tribes). They get this discernment to know God and His ways by illumination of the Holy Spirit. They are enabled to make the right choices by the power of the Holy Spirit. This bread is bathed in light from the seven lamps of the candlestick.

The bread is resting on a surface of gold. This represents believers who have a foundation in God. They have a foundation of knowledge of the Word. It was at the Laver they were expected to gain a knowledge of the Word. There they washed their hands, (their works), and their feet, (their ways). But here in the Holy Place they are expected to move by faith to begin to choose their behavior. In the natural this space is confining compared to the Court, but here in the Holy Place is the light of the Lord day *and night*. When you are here the people in the Court easily misunderstand you because they cannot see what you see.

This Word of the Holy Place is spiritual bread...spiritual "manna" from Heaven. This bread is eaten by the priests. This Word is not surface Word like at the Laver. This Word is taken within to become a part of you. The Word in the Court is under the natural sun and therefore is seen with the natural mind. The Word in the Court (water of the Laver) is the letter of the Word.

But the manna (bread) in the Holy Place is not under the natural sun. It is seen only with the light of the Holy Spirit. It is the Word seen as deeper truths at a higher spiritual level. It is hidden manna to those in the Court who have not entered into this room. The Word in the Holy Place, (bread on the Table), is a spiritual Word. This hidden manna equips us to to offer ourselves in more depth and move on to the Altar of Incense.

The Holy Place represents the Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

The third "appointment" in the Holy Place is the Gold Altar, often called the Altar of Incense. Incense is subjected to fire on the altar. The fire came from the brass altar of the Court. There is a gold incense censer at the gold altar for the coals of incense. This Incense Censer is carried by the High Priest into the Holiest Place. Youngs Literal Translation in the verses below accurately identifies the incense censer , (not the gold altar), as what goes into the Holiest Place. Both Lamsa's translation from the Aramaic and the Jubilee Bible also confirm this.

"1. It had, indeed, then (even the first tabernacle) ordinances of service, also a worldly sanctuary, 2. for a tabernacle was prepared, the first, in which was both the lamp-stand, and the table, and the bread of the presence—which is called '[the] Holy [Place];' 3. and after the second vail a tabernacle that is called 'HOLY OF HOLIES,' 4. HAVING A GOLDEN CENSER, and the ARK OF THE COVENANT overlaid all round about with gold, in which is the GOLDEN POT HAVING THE MANNA, and the ROD OF AARON that budded, and the TABLES OF THE COVENANT, 5. and over it cherubim of the glory, overshadowing the mercy-seat,..." Hebrews 9

The Holiest Place has within it the Ark of the Testimony, (also called "Ark of the Covenant"). It is a wooden box overlaid with gold outside and inside. It has a solid gold lid with two solid gold Cherubim on it. One is at one end and one is at the other end. (This reminds me of the position of the two angels in the tomb of Jesus, (John 20:11).) They are facing each other. This lid is called the Mercy Seat. God appears in a cloud above the mercy seat, (Leviticus 16:2). Before the resurrection only the High Priest could enter this room. He could only enter once a year. That day was the Day of Atonement in the Feast of Tabernacles on the 10th day of the seventh month. On this day he took the Incense Censer with him when he went in. This day also heralded the beginning of the Jubilee Year when the debtors went free, (Leviticus 25:9). Here we are totally free at last of the first Adam nature, because of Jesus, our High Priest.

There are three things inside this ark shaped like a box, (**Hebrews 9:4**). In the box are the tablets of the commandments, God's Word. This box speaks of us, (we are represented by the perishable wood), but we are covered in incorruptible gold when we are in Christ. The nature of God (represented by gold) is on the inside as well as the outside. The Word of God is on the inside. He is dwelling in man. Also in the Ark is a jar of manna in a gold pot. The manna does not perish or fade. This speaks of the Word of the Spirit that never gets old and stale. And in the Ark is Aaron's rod that budded. This speaks of God's authority. It all speaks of being in Christ.





I close with a summary of general patterns below. We have only scratched the surface of the types and shadows with their many levels of truth in the Tabernacle. More of these will be unfolded in upcoming lessons.



Jesus is High Priest of all Priests, (our forerunner, **Hebrews 6:20**) and King of Kings, (**Revelation 19:16**). We are called to be kings and priests in Him, (**Revelation 1:6**), ...part of the Christ. When God says in **Exodus 25:8** to "*Make Me a sanctuary*", the deeper meaning here is "*Become a dwelling place for Me.*" Jesus has made the Way for us. He is the first man in whom the Godhead dwells fully, **Colossians 2:9**).



The Three Days Journey



Part 1: What the Three Days Journey is All About Part 2: The End of the "Church Age" Part 3: What Happens on the Third Day Part 4: The Third Day Seen as an Event (Total of 21 Pages)

Eric J. Ellis Editorial Review by Mary Elizabeth Ellis

Bible Concepts Lesson 6 The Three Days Journey

Introduction:

These Bible studies are meant to be a simple straightforward presentation of Bible truths as a tool to help you to 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 is my focus rather than a particular denominational doctrine, (Mark 7:13). I am so blessed that He has enabled me to see the part that I do. I believe the Father would have me to 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: Using Previous Lessons to Show What "The 3-Days Journey" Is All About

This lesson will tie together many patterns of the previous lessons. As we look at patterns remember to not read more into a pattern than the intent.

Also, some concepts are presented differently in different places. For example, just because a lion may represent Jesus as the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, this does not mean that a lion always represents Jesus. In a different context a lion may represent Satan, who roams as a lion seeking to devour. You need both the Word and the Spirit to discern.

Each lesson has presented a process of change from the nature of the carnal mind to the mind of Christ. Each of the last four lessons showed that we must enter through three different areas to come into the fullness of Christ. The first lesson was just a broad overview. As we move along we always look to Jesus who is the Way. Each of these three areas that we enter into is a "Day" in our journey.



Each "day" in the journey is not a 24-hour period, but rather a "step" in growth into Christ our Head. This "Day" is used as a "type" throughout the Bible. A "Day" has a distinct beginning and a distinct end. The end of one "day" ushers in the beginning of the next.

The two major keys to unlock God's plan are found clearly in the divine patterns of the Feasts, and of the Tabernacle, (**Hebrews 8:5**). That is why I did a lesson on each. His plan has always been to have man be in His image, to reproduce that image throughout the earth, and then to have them rule, (minister His life), in all three realms of creation. Jesus was the first man to come into His express image. Jesus was one with the Father. The Son is now as the Father. They both are as the sun. They have life from within and can impart that life to creation. Creation on the other hand needs life from without to be sustained.

Once Jesus became the Son in the express image of the Father, he then sent the Holy Spirit to reproduce His life in the earth in others. He is Christ the Head and is raising up many like Him to be Christ the Body. It is a process. He is the first Son. The Holy Spirit is raising up many other Sons to rule with Him. Jesus Christ is the forerunner for us, (Hebrews 6:20). He is the elder brother with many more brothers to follow, (Romans 8:29). There are three major steps, (called "Days"), in this journey to become mature in Christ. They are shown in the Tabernacle pattern below.



Now take a closer look using the following two scriptures.

"Jesus told him, "I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH, and THE LIFE. No one can come to the Father except through me..." John 14:6 NLT

18..."we who have fled to him [Jesus Christ] for refuge can have great confidence as we hold to the hope [the resurrection] that lies before us. 19. This hope is a strong and trustworthy anchor for our souls. It leads us through the curtain into God's inner sanctuary [Holiest Place]. 20. Jesus has already gone in there for us. HE HAS BECOME OUR ETERNAL HIGH PRIEST in the order of Melchizedek." Hebrews 6:18-20 NLT



East

The scripture below confirms that the life of Christ, (in us), is the goal, and that this growth in Him takes time. The three major steps in this growth process are the "three days journey". In George Lamsa's Translation you'll see the same pattern in the Feasts.

"11. And he has assigned some as apostles and some as prophets and some as evangelists and some as pastors [shepherds] and some as teachers; 12. For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying [building up] of the body of Christ, 13. Until we all become one in **faith** and in the **knowledge** of the **Son** of God, and BECOME A PERFECT MAN ACCORDING TO THE MEASURE OF THE STATURE OF THE FULNESS OF CHRIST,..." **Ephesians 4 (GLT)**



The High Priest takes the blood of the sacrifice in the Court through the Holy Place and into the Holiest Place to present to the Father. (The Father dwells in the cloud over the Mercy Seat of the Ark in the Holiest Place.) The High Priest does this to obtain forgiveness of sins for himself and for the people, (**Hebrews 9**). This sacrifice was repeated each year on the Feast of Atonement, the 10th day of the seventh month of the religious year (**Leviticus 23:27**). The Feasts were celebrated at the Tabernacle. The Tabernacle & Feast patterns reflect the same truths.

But Jesus fulfilled this earthly pattern of both in the heavens realm. The earthly pattern of the Tabernacle & their Feasts were then no longer needed. When Jesus died the veil to the Holiest Place was torn from top to bottom allowing access to the Father. We are now called to be Priests, and Kings too, (**Revelation 1:6**). Receive all of Him.

"11...his own people [religious leaders] did not receive him; 12. BUT AS MANY AS DID RECEIVE HIM TO THEM HE GAVE AUTHORITY TO BECOME SONS OF GOD—to those believing in his name,..." John 1 YLT



In the last verse Young's Literal Translation accurately translates what He gives us to become Sons of God as "authority" and not "power". Military men & machines have "power", but the Commander of them has the "authority" to tell them when & where & how to use their power. It is better to have authority than to have power.

Like "wheels within wheels" there are many levels of truth within the patterns and sections of both theTabernacle and the Feasts. Here are three levels of truth within the Feast of Tabernacles. The "Earth Realm" is the realm of natural, (carnal), reasoning. The "Heavens Realm" is the realm of spiritual understanding. The "Christ Realm" is where "only the Father could have shown that to you", (as an example see **Matthew 16:16, 17**).



Just as the entrance cloths to each area of the Tabernacle had the same three colors on the same white cloth with the same gold threads woven within, so also are the three witnesses of God present in each of these three realms, but in varying degrees. Think of the three witnesses as the Word, the Spirit, and the Christ. As you move on in your journey of growth in the Lord you don't abandon the witness of the previous "day's journey", but rather it works in your life in a higher way. You grow more and more into the mind of Christ.

For example, once you receive the Holy Spirit as an infilling, then the Word is still very much an important part of your life, but it is then seen in a new light.

This three days journey to maturity in Christ can be seen as degrees of harvesting His life into your own...apprehending that for which you were apprehended, (**Philippians 3:12**), as shown in the verse and diagram below.

"The seed that fell on good soil represents those who truly hear and understand God's word and produce a HARVEST OF THIRTY, SIXTY, or even a HUNDRED TIMES as much as had been planted!" Matthew 13:23 NLT



Now we will emphasize a distinction between the first two days in the journey and the last day, (hinted at in Lesson No. 3). It is the difference between walking with the Mother or walking with the Father. The verses here are references for the diagram that follows.

"...the Father of our Lord JESUS CHRIST, 15. OF WHOM THE WHOLE FAMILY [Bride/Church] IN HEAVEN [spiritual realm] AND EARTH [natural realm] IS NAMED,..."

Ephesians 3 KJV

"23. The son of the slave-wife was born in a human attempt to bring about the fulfillment of God's promise. But the son of the freeborn wife was born as God's own fulfillment of his promise. 24. These two women serve as an illustration of God's two covenants. The first woman, Hagar, represents Mount Sinai where people received the law [Word] that enslaved them. 25. And now Jerusalem is just like Mount Sinai in Arabia, because she and her children live in slavery to the law [Word]. 26. But the other woman, Sarah, represents the heavenly [spiritual] Jerusalem. She is the free woman, and SHE IS OUR MOTHER [who also covers the Law/Word, the Earthly Realm as well as the Spirit, the Heavenly Realm]." Galatians 4 NLT

"44. "No one can come to me unless THE FATHER who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day. 45. It is written in the Prophets [quoting **Isaiah 54:13**]: 'They will all be taught by God [the Father].' EVERYONE WHO LISTENS TO THE FATHER AND LEARNS FROM HIM COMES TO ME." **John 6 NIV**

In the present transition of the church age ending, (and the Kingdom age of sons beginning), there are a growing number of people who are hearing direct from the Father in greater measure.



Part 2: The End of the First Two Days, the "Church Age":

Below we have a "broad sweep" picture of the three days journey toward perfection in Christ. It can be seen both globally and within you as a progression of God's work to create a man as a temple to be His permanent home. This man is Jesus Christ, Head and Body. Jesus is the first Son in the express image of the Father. He is the fulfillment of the Law & the Prophets...the Word & the Spirit. He is the Father's nature seen fully in a man. His Body is the company of Kings who submit to Him as the King of Kings. They are the Sons, moving on in hope into the full measure of the Holy Spirit & Resurrection mentioned below...to have His life come forth fully in them at all costs. And what does it cost?...the cross, (Galatians 2:20).

"35. but those accounted worthy to obtain that age, and the rising again that is out of the dead, neither marry [the flesh nature and world systems built by them, including religious systems with their works], nor are they given in marriage; 36. for neither are they able to die any more [for they have already died fully to the first Adam nature]—for they are like messengers [now can minister His life fully for they are fully mature in Christ]—and THEY ARE SONS OF GOD, being sons of the rising again [resurrection]...38. and He is not a God of dead men, but of living, for all [those who] live to Him."



Note that 3500 years, is " $3\frac{1}{2}$ days" (**2Peter 3:8 & Revelation 11**). The life of one age passes (into the next) as the higher life and greater harvest of a new age begins. Each new age is dramatically different in appearance & administration from the previous age. Each new age is a major expansion of the witness of the nature (love) of God in the earth.
I'll repeat the diagram of the last page with some added info soon, but first look at some other summaries including this three days journey below that King David walked. Notice that David was anointed three times to be king. To anoint means to consecrate or sanctify. It designates one who is set apart or appointed for a particular calling, (to minister His life), such as a priest or a king. This anointing was symbolically done by putting a special oil on their garments or forehead, (**Exodus 28:41-43**). This oil could not be used for common use but only as the Lord directed. Oil is the substance (heart) of the "fruit".



Each day in the journey has a special anointing to it. We must be exercised in that anointing before we are strengthened & matured enough to move on into further anointings. This growth in Christ is not our work, but His grace through faith, (Ephesians 2:8)...His life working in and through us. Our part is to receive Him, (yield, submit, trust, hear, & obey).

The third anointing is different from the other two in that it comes at a great price. It must be bought. We are exhorted to pay the price in **Proverbs 23:23** and to not sell [trade] it once purchased. What we are buying is the truth, which is Him...His life. What we exchange is our life for His. We buy this oil to enter into the Bridegroom's chamber, (**Matthew 25:1-12**). The first two anointings are free gifts to bring us to the third day.

The next scripture and diagram show in another way that the first two days speak of the third day, which is the goal of the journey.

"2. There he [Jesus] was transfigured before them {Peter, James & John]. His face shone like the sun [the Father], and his clothes became as white as the light [clothed in the righteousness of God]. 3. Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus. 4. Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." 5. While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, 'This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!'" Matthew 17 NIV

The Transfiguration



This concept of the three days journey repeats over and over again many dozens of times in different ways in the Bible. The message is the same however. We do not possess eternal life until we cease to change. Right now we can go back & forth between the first Adam nature and the last Adam nature. The day will come for the overcomers when they will be like pillars in the temple that go no more out. Until that day we need to be diligent to make our calling and election sure.

On the next page I summarize several more patterns of this concept. I will not take the time to expound on each of the others listed there or to present the many more that are not. I have listed them to whet your appetite...to alert you to spot them in the Word.

Meanwhile, below I show how several scriptures interweave to display the same concept of the three days journey another way. This should help you to grasp a higher level of truth when you come across the words "milk", "bread" and "meat" in the Word.



Now we return to our diagram of the three ages. I will shed further light on it as the three days journey. There is a witness of God...a presence of God...an anointing of God in each "day". That is why many people refuse to leave the day that they are in. What they taste of the Lord is enough for them. The sad thing is that they also do not want others to leave where they are at.

"Woe to you scribes! for you have taken away the keys of knowledge [of the Word that faith may be built to move on into the fullness of His life]; you did not enter, and those who were entering you hindered." Luke 11:52 GLT



Now I'll simplify the diagram and focus how natural Israel fits into this pattern. This too is a teaser, for it would take an entire lesson to do it justice. For now though read **Genesis 48 & 49**. The King of a Kingdom that would never end was to come through Judah, and Jesus, (the "Anointed One"), fulfills that. Yet the birthright (which has been the line for the promised seed) was to come through Ephraim, the youngest son of Joseph, (**1Chronicles 5:1,2**).

How could that be? Are there to be two promised seeds...two Messiahs...two Anointed Ones? No! But first there is Jesus Christ the Head, and then Christ the Body is birthed, (happening now, but still hidden). Christ the Head, (from Judah), and Christ the Body, (from Joseph's son Ephraim), truly become one at the resurrection of the saints. That is when the rod of Judah, (authority in Christ the Head), & the rod of Joseph, (authority in Christ the Body as seen in his son Ephraim), become one.

When Israel split into two kingdoms after Solomon, the 10 northern tribes were called "Ephraim", because his was the predominant tribe there. It was also called "Israel". This was partly because most of Israel was there. Ephraim was known for its prophets...where the Spirit moved. Note that the name of the God of Abraham, Isaac & Jacob was also to go with Ephraim. Also, from Ephraim would come a multitude of nations tagged with the name of this God, ("Christ"..."Christians"). The Christian nations of the world can trace their origin to the 10 northern tribes of Israel.

That too would be another lesson, but there is enough archaelogical, historical, linguistic, and genetic evidence to show that to be the case. There are many good books on the subject. But enough of that all for now. This pattern is included in the next two diagrams.



Transition Between Days

One Day fades as another Day dawns



Sunset of 1st Day & Dawn of 2nd Day

Sunset of 2nd Day & Dawn of 3rd Day

Part 3: What Happens on the Third Day:

Here is the foundational concept for what happens on the third day. It is very important to enter into this relationship with the Father. That is why the Bible is loaded with dozens of examples of a major change that happens on "the third day". They are prophetic of our journey into maturity in Christ.



"40...GOD RAISED HIM [JESUS] TO LIFE ON THE THIRD DAY. Then God allowed him to appear, 41. not to the general public, but to us whom God had chosen in advance to be his witnesses." Acts 10 NLT

It is on this third day of our journey that we step past the torn veil into the Holiest Place before the throne of the Father. The resurrection of Jesus Christ, the firstfruit is paving the way for him to work in us that we might be part of Christ the Body and also come into this resurrection. That is what Hosea prophesies below.



It is on this third day that we bear the fruit of the divine nature. Then Creation may see the sons of God that they have been groaning to see, (**Romans 8:17-25**). It is on this third day that we are delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

Trees speak of men's lives, (**Deuteronomy 20:19**), and Christ, the tree of life is evident in a people when they come to abide by the living waters. These waters come from the throne of God, (**Revelation 22:2**). The throne, (place of God's authority), is found in the Holiest Place. The third creation day is prophetic of these trees of life bearing the fruit of His nature..



"11. Then God said, "Let the land produce TREES...THAT BEAR FRUIT with seed in it, according to their...kinds."...it was so. 12...God saw that it was good. 13. And there was evening, and...morning—THE THIRD DAY." Genesis 1 NIV The keys to unlock spiritual meanings of words are *always* found in the Word. It is essential to find these in order to understand higher levels of truth. That is why we look to the following verse to see that trees represent men's lives.

"When thou shalt besiege a city a long time...thou shalt not destroy the [fruit] trees thereof by forcing an axe against them: for thou mayest eat of them, and thou shalt not cut them down (for THE TREE OF THE FIELD IS MAN'S LIFE) to employ them in the siege:"

Deuteronomy 20:19 KJV

Now this opens up the understanding of verses such as the following one.

"To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; THAT THEY MIGHT BE CALLED TREES OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, THE PLANTING OF THE LORD, that he might be glorified.

Isaiah 61:3 KJV

Christ, the tree of life, is to be our source. If we abide in Christ then our lives bear the fruit of His life, (**John 15:4**). We either draw our life from one tree or the other. One tree is the tree of knowledge of good & evil, (first Adam nature). The other is the tree of life, (Christ nature). We either seek to keep our life or to lose our life and gain His. If you choose to tap into Christ, (see **Ephesians 3:17 TLB**), then you are on the three days journey. The traveling on this road does not come without a fight from the first Adam nature.

The Father wants His image multiplied in the earth...to bear the fruit of His nature... to minister His life in all realms of creation. That is His plan. That is why we must come to be found in Christ, the third day of our spiritual journey.

It is on the third day that the water of the Word is changed into the wine of His life. This is what happens when the virgin bride comes into union with the bridgegroom.



"1. And THE THIRD DAY THERE WAS A MARRIAGE in Cana of Galilee; and the mother of Jesus was there: 2. And both Jesus was called, and his disciples, to the marriage. 3. And when THEY WANTED WINE,..." John 2 KJV

Verse 11 of this chapter tells us that this is the beginning of the fruit (glory) of the Father being manifested in the son.

The wine is what comes forth from grapes, fruit of the vine. The wine comes forth in the third feast, the Feast of Tabernacles. The spiritual meaning of wine is found here:

"20. After supper he took another cup of wine and said, "This cup is the new covenant [His life in a people] between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood [life], which is poured out as a sacrifice for you." From Part 2, (page 13), we saw that the Promised Land represents the third day of the journey. It is ours...but not without a fight. It is not our flesh but Him in us that does the fighting. We hear and obey. We yield. We submit. We let go of our ways. We forsake the carnal mind and embrace the mind of Christ. We strip off our former nature and put on a new nature, (His), as we enter the Promised Land of the third day.

"22. You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; 23. to be made new in the attitude of your minds; 24. and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness." **Ephesians 4 NIV**

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DayIsraelites
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Promised Land"
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"11...command the people, saying, Prepare for yourselves provision, for WITHIN THREE DAYS [after the funeral of Moses] ye are passing over this Jordan, to go in TO POSSESS THE LAND which Jehovah...is giving to you...'" Joshua 1 YLT

As we enter into the third day we find that things are very different. Instead of hearing from the Mother Church and the church organization leaders, we start hearing directly from the Father. It is as different as it was going from the Age of Law (Word) to the Age of Grace of Truth, (Spirit)! Similar shock will arise with similar questions. What! No more animal sacrifices.....ceremonies....services?! What about our Feast Days...our programs? What about the Temple...our church buildings? What about the religious leaders with their paid positions and power? What will become of them? What about the "sheep" without their "covering"?

The leaven took over in each of the first two ages. Carnally minded men took control and built carnal religious systems. The life of God departed. They were left desolate, without their true husband. Those who supported these corrupt religious systems became married to them. They looked to the religious leaders and the religious systems and doctrines and traditions and forms rather than to the Lord.

Now at the transition to the Kingdom Age of Sons many see the systems of man crumbling, including the religious systems. They are hoping for a revival of what was in the beginning of the age. Some people want to rebuild the temple in Jerusalem. Others want the church to be like it was in the early days of the first apostles. They are looking backwards. God is moving forward doing a new thing...a much better thing. The beginning of this new age will not be like the days of the early apostles. It will be very different. Only those drawing near to the Father will be prepared to be part of the change. These are the overcomers birthed out of the womb of the mother virgin church. The virgin church is not any religious system. It is made up of saints everywhere who are virgins. They have not been impressed with religious systems. They want Him only.

Part 4: The Third Day in the Journey Seen as an Event:

The third day of the journey is sometimes prophetically described in the Bible as an "event" rather than as a "day". These events further detail what exactly happens in this third phase of the spiritual journey. I present some of these using scripture quotes. In others I just provide the references but summarize what I see in them.

One important difference between the first two days and the third is that on the third day of our journey we are hearing directly from the Father. It is so different than what we are used to! We are used to hearing the Lord through the Word or by the Spirit... typically through "the church". By the church I mean the organized system of religion... preaching, teaching, elders, 5-fold ministry, etc. It was beautiful in its time, (Eccl. 3:11)

It took Samuel awhile to catch on that the Father was trying to get his attention for a higher calling. The Father wanted to talk with Samuel directly, not through a priest.



"8. So THE LORD CALLED A THIRD TIME, and...Samuel got up and went to Eli. Then Eli realized it was the LORD who was calling the boy.
9. So he said to Samuel, "...say, 'Speak, LORD, your servant is listening." ISamuel 3 NLT

Another difference is that those who journey on to be steadfast in the "third watch" are the ones who enter into Christ. Those who are comfortable with the "mother church" do not see a need to separate to hear the Father. They miss the higher calling. They miss what they were chosen for. They don't even see the day coming. After all, the third watch is a lonely place. Today is the day of transition. It is time to wake up and pay attention.



The called and chosen are found in the first 2 feasts, but the faithful are those also endure to the end. These are given to reign. These dwell in the Father's house, (3rd feast). Those in the first 2 days are unaware of this day. *See Rev. 17:14 & Luke 12:29-45 YLT*) Where are you found at this transition of ages? We are all called to be priests and kings. As priests we want to move on into the fullness of Him, ministering at each gate as we hear from God. These places are steps in the three days of our spiritual journey. Those who are pressing into the third day are wanting to tabernacle in the Lord and to have Him dwell in them. They are wanting to enter the Holiest Place, where the Father dwells. They have this hope in them and so they purify themselves, (**1John 3:3**).



When there is a transition of rulership to the rightful king, then one part of the Priests will be found at the foundation gate, (1st feast), one part at the threshold, (2nd feast), and one part at the gate of the house of the King, (3rd feast). *See 2 Chronicles 23:4 YLT*

As we faithfully *ask* we are receiving the water of the Word. We start to see things His way and begin to abandon our ways. Thoughts, habits, and even who we spend time with begins to change. This is being a gatekeeper at the foundational level for the King's House, which house we are, (**1Corinthians 3:9**).

Then we desire more of the Lord and we *seek*. We are then soaked in the Holy Spirit. It is here that our eyes are opened to see the Word as a spiritual book. Many truths now open up to us. This washing of the Word by the Spirit brings us as gatekeepers to the threshhold of hearing the Father. But it is not until we *knock*, (and keep knocking), that this inner part of the King's House, (Christ within us) begins to open up. Here we experience the fire of God's life. People see the change in us and believe because they can see the Lord made flesh in a person.

This process...this third soaking of the Word...is also represented by Elijah's sacrifice in a high place. It results in a baptism of fire that consumes the rest of our flesh nature. It is obvious then not only to ourselves but to others that God is real. It is then that He dwells in us and walks in us and His power & love are seen in us as it was with Jesus.



Only God can consume our flesh nature and bring the change in our nature to know His will and to want to do it and to have the authority to do it. This is the fulfillment of the New Covenant. It happens on the third soaking...the third day of our journey.

The scripture reference for this is shown on the next page.

"29...they prophesied until the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, [when incense was burned before the Holiest Place]... 30. And Elijah...repaired the altar of the LORD that was broken down [that's us, a mess before coming to the Lord]. 31. And Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, unto whom the word of the LORD came, saying, Israel shall be thy name: 32. And with the stones he built an altar [made of stones that represent the Lord's people who will receive a change to a name that means "he will rule as God"],...and he made a trench about the altar, as great as would contain TWO MEASURES OF SEED [a type of the first two Feasts]. 33...and said, . Fill four barrels with water, and pour it on the...sacrifice.... 34. And he said, Do it the second time. And they did it the second time. And he said, DO IT THE THIRD TIME. AND THEY DID IT THE THIRD TIME, [that makes a total of 12 barrels of water, one for each stone]. 35. And the water ran...about the altar; and he filled the trench also with water. 36. And it came to pass at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah...came near, and said...37. Hear me, O LORD...that this people may know that thou art the LORD God... 38. Then the fire of the LORD fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench. 39. And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces: and they said, The LORD, he is the God..." 1Kings 18 KJV

God is a consuming fire, (**Hebrews 12:29**). When Elijah completed the second "day" of his journey, (a walk in the Spirit), then he ascended to God in fire, (**2Kings 2:11**). Elisha stayed with him from Gilgal to Bethel to Jericho. It was at this third stop that Elijah ascended. Elisha received a double portion of the Spirit because he was steadfast in all three legs of the journey.

It is at the end of day when incense is totally burnt before the Holiest Place and the incense censer is taken into the Holiest Place. The incense represents not only the prayers of the saints, but a total surrender of the saints to the Lord, (**Psalm 141:2**). No flesh nature is allowed into the Holiest Place. This is what it means when it says that flesh and blood cannot inherit the Kingdom of God, (**1Corinthians 15:50**). It is at this last part of the journey that there must be a purging by fire until we are one with the fire, His nature. This is shown below as a closing example to this Lesson.

Ezekiel 5 and **Zechariah 13:8,9** both speak of the THIRD PART of God's people being taken through a fire in order to be purified, (from the first Adam nature). This is so that God can inhabit them as His house to dwell in...His people. This is so that His life can be ministered to all realms of Creation. This theme echos in many scriptures, including **Daniel 12:10** and **1Peter 1:6,7**. I find the following verse to be a clear summary of them.



"Those whose names are written down to escape the destruction of Jerusalem, [church age], will be washed & rinsed of all their moral filth by the horrors & the fire, [receiving your cross]. They will be God's holy people." **Isaiah 4:2-4 TLB**



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)

Eric J. Ellis

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 seethe 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**



"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.



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*:

22 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.
15 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 harvesta time of great joy.
10 Atonement—	To remember atonement for the High Priest & the peopleby the High Priest taking blood & incense into Holiest Place.This was done toward evening once per year.
1 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.
50 th day 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.
21 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.
15 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.
14 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.



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.

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.



Pentecost

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 KIV 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!

SpiritualGod 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.NaturalImage: Complete in the state in the
 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 Himfinal separation. Natural To remember that the Lord made Israel to dwell in boothsto keep moving from Egypt, on to harvest in Promised Land. A time of final harvest, great joy, and a new beginning.
 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 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.
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 Himfinal 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 heardmove to apprehend His Life. - This final work is only for overcomersthose with ears to hear. Forget what is behind. Separate from religious works.
50 th 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 thingsour 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.



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

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"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]." Psalm 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



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 earlet 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!]..."

"Types" of the 8 Milestones: Revelation 3 Rotherman's Emphasized Bible, REB



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	And the s upon him, the spir ar
Spirit of Wisdom	the spi aı the spi
Spirit of Understanding	the spi aı
Spirit of Counsel	I ha order as fi
Spirit of Might	separated The next insight in
Spirit of Knowledge	It w we learne
(Spirit of the Fear of the Lord)	Spirits are saw this a

"And the **spirit of the LORD** shall rest upon him, the spirit of **wisdom** and **understanding**, the spirit of **counsel**

> and **might**, he 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.

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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 KIV

"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", "7oth", "7oo", "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]..." ISamuel 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**



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

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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: Rain/ The return of Jesus Christ, Head & Body Reign of -to rule on the earth with a rod of iron Christ thru thousands of resurrected saints. Here in the 7th stage of growth comes the final change into His image by resurrection...quickly noticed by the world as a mighty "cloud" in Christ. 7th Tiny cloud noticed Crying emerging from Out the sea of humanity 6th Nothing Crying noticed Out 5th Nothing Crying noticed , Out 4th Nothing Crying noticed , Out 3rd Nothing Crying noticed , Out 2nd Nothing Crying noticed , Out 1st Nothing Crying

noticed ,

Out

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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The Incorruptible Seed Within



Part 1: Two Trees in the Same Place Part 2: Two Seeds Within Us

(Total of 15 Pages)

Eric J. Ellis Editorial Review by Mary Elizabeth Ellis

Bible Concepts Lesson 8 The Incorruptible Seed Within

Introduction:

This study is a transition between the first seven studies and those that follow. It will be most helpful if you have first read & grasped the foundational concepts of the first seven studies.

I like blackberries. I like them so much that I will go into thickets to get all that I can. Most people won't join me because of the thorns. Those thorns won't keep me from gathering the sweet, juicy berries. It is the same when seeking truth. God likes to hide himself so that only those who seek will come to see more of Him. Be eager to dig for hidden nuggets of truth.

He hides His plan well while in plain sight...like baby Moses being reared in Pharoah's home...like Jesus being slain as our Passover Lamb.

"7. No, we speak of God's secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. 8. None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory." **ICorinthians 2 NIV**

Not everyone will search out a matter, (see **Proverbs 25:2 YLT**). In this lesson I mention some of my favorite authors. I have such respect for them...and many more not mentioned. They are truly those who search a matter out. They are not hemmed in or deterred by religious traditions. They have dug into the meaning of the original Aramaic, Hebrew, & Greek manuscripts. They have walked in Word & Spirit & His Life. Many hidden mysteries have been revealed to them by the Father. His Spirit has given me eyes to see and a heart to understand much of their writings. And the Father has unveiled many mysteries in the Word directly to me as well...many of which I share with you.

We are not part of a church system organized by men. We are part of the "Wire Church". We are networked by His Spirit through internet, email, phone, & mail. Sometimes we even get to see each other. What we have in common is His leading to assemble onward and upward into Christ. He gives us each a piece to share with others. We see this as a time of preparation for His new order. We have left the old church order to move on.

We do not witness to everything said by each other. But His love overrides doctrinal debates. And we are at different stages of growth. Like thorns in the bushes, some ideas are discarded. Other things are like questionable berries to be sorted through in time. We do however gather many facets of delightful truth. So realize that just because I recommend reading a certain author does not mean that I fully endorse all that they ever wrote.

But fools are quick to discard a new truth before hearing it out, (**Proverbs 18:13**). Do you hear the calling that we hear? How hungry are you?

[Bracketed words within verses are my comments inserted to add clarity. I have also CAPITALIZED some words in the verses for emphasis.] These lessons are not for sale but otherwise may be copied/distributed. They are available free for downloading (including onto mobile devices) or printing at www.bibleconcepts.com.

Part 1: Two Trees in the Same Place

"Jesus answered, "I AM the way and THE TRUTH and the [source & tree of] life..." John 14:6 NIV

To come to the highest level of truth one must know Jesus in the highest way. This will require a relationship that is by Spirit as well as by Word. Then one can enter into a walk of His Life flowing in and through them. This is the deepest love. It is the union of His life within. This is true worship. Once you reach this highest level of truth it will be His life, His nature, and His character that comes forth. How to get there? Come into the Light. See the big picture. If Jesus Christ is the Way, Truth, & Life, then there is an opposite as shown below.



The Word is a Person and a Message. The Truth is also a Person and Message. And so is the Light. There are many facets of truth. One facet does not negate another. Instead, knowing one aspect helps you to see & know others. As we walk in the Light as He is in the Light we come into maturity with Christ the Head. In so doing we come into fullness of stature with Christ the Body, (1John 1:7). God draws us as we love the truth. If we don't hunger for truth then He sends us delusion to send us into darkness, (2 Thessolonians 2:9-12). He wants relationship, not religion.

We see an important distinction in the next diagram. This is basic from the beginning. Yet this must be elaborated upon before seeing the distinction (in Part 2) between two seeds. This distinction is often blurred by traditional religious teaching. There are two main levels of truth. They are the two contrasting views of Truth. The first is the natural and the second is the spiritual. Where you are determines your relationship with Truth.

The two positions are the two trees that affect the destiny of man. From **Genesis** 2:9 & 3:3 we see that both trees are in the middle of the garden. That means that they are in the same place. We are God's garden, (**1Corinthians 3:9 TLB**). Both trees are in the center, (the heart), of each believer. Each tree bears fruit that brings forth more of its own kind.



Before we knew Jesus Christ we were dead in trespasses & sin. We only knew the way of the carnal mind. When the Father started to draw us we began to see the way of Life. We then received Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord. He is the Word. The Word is the promised incorruptible seed. Then when He sent His Spirit into our spirit His incorruptible seed was planted into our spirit. This incorruptible "seed-beginning" however must grow up until it becomes a mature incorruptible life. Growth comes by the trials & fires of this earthen vessel. The Tree of the Knowledge of Good & Evil within decreases as the Tree of Life increases.

-3-

Now take a closer look.



Kingdom of God Before Harvest (both within each believer)

"20. ...Jesus replied, "The kingdom of God does not come with your careful observation, 21. nor will people say, 'Here it is,' or 'There it is,' because THE KINGDOM [reign/life] OF GOD IS WITHIN YOU." [There is a growth process of His life coming forth from within you.]

Luke 17 NIV

"41. The Son of Man will send His messengers, and will collect out of His Kingdom [within us] every offensive thing, and whatever causes sin; and will throw them into the furnace of fire, where will be weeping and gnashing of teeth [of the flesh nature]. 42. Then the righteous shall shine out like the sun in the Kingdom of their Father..." [This process involves a separation within...a submitting to the Tares being pulled out...a yielding to the pruning...to the weeding of the garden that is you.]

4-

Matthew 13 Ferrar Fenton Translation (FFT)

This verse shows a separation. It is a separation within. It ends in the total and final annihilation of the first Adam nature. The Word comes alive in a greater harmony as His Spirit leads into greater truth. Beware that the Father is not only drawing us into greater light, but that He is also pushing others into further darkness within. There will be no lukewarmness ultimately. The light will get lighter. The dark will get darker. No gray areas.

"10...because the love of the truth they did not receive for their being saved [did not acknowledge the value of Jesus Christ enough to be thankful for Him], 11. and because of this shall God send to them a working of delusion [more of the tree that they like], for their believing the lie [preferring the wrong tree once given a choice], 12. that they may be judged—all who did not believe the truth, but were well pleased in the unrighteousness [of going their own way]." 2Thessalonians 2 YLT



Yes, God sends delusion to those who prefer darkness. His will is that we be thankful in *ALL* things, not to judge them by our standards of "good" or "evil", (**1Thessalonians 5:18**). We are also to acknowledge Him in *ALL* things, (**Proverbs 3:6**). He then leads us into the path toward life. We follow when we trust in Him...when we believe in Him. Then we go His Way. It is a walk in faith by His grace. This way often makes no sense to the natural mind.

Note from the last diagram that there are only two natures. They are the wicked and the righteous. As Abraham pointed out, there is a distinction. They are also within us.

"And Abraham ... said, Wilt thou also destroy the RIGHTEOUS with the WICKED?"

Genesis 18:23 KJV

The wicked and the righteous are contrasted throughout the Bible, starting with Cain & Abel, (**1John 3:12**). And there is no peace between them, for the wicked hates the righteous and seeks to slay him as Cain did to his brother, (**Psalm 37:32**). Why is Cain so upset? They each have a different mind-set. Cain was of the carnal mind. Abel was of the mind of Christ. The carnal mind is at enmity against God, (**Romans 8:7**). The carnal mind is the base of Satan's operations to rob, kill, & destroy. How is that so? Because Satan is given dust as his food and Adam is that dust, (see **Genesis 2:7, 3:14 & Philippians 3:19**).

Notice that Cain was religious in that he sought to please God by a sacrifice of his works. That was the "good" side of the "evil" that also resided within him. So it is the same with the systems of religion that are built by such men who know about God. They are also supported by those who look to them for their source. They approach God the wrong way... not the way of Jesus Christ. From God's perspective the Tree of the Knowledge of Evil & Good is seen as "Evil", and only the way of Christ is seen as "Good".

"22. Many will say to me ...Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? 23. And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity ["lawlessness" in some translations]."

Matthew 7 KJV



Note also that "AntiChrist" in Greek means either "Against Christ" or "In place of Christ". "Instead of Christ" is form without life. Many religious people and their church organizations are in the form of Christ but without the life of Christ. That is also what defines a dead body...form without life. They claim to know Christ...but the life, the nature, the Spirit, the fruit of Christ are not there. From such keep away. They are married to the wrong one. Don't be yoked with them. God may have led you into them for a season to learn certain things. But do not forsake the assembling with those few who are moving out from them...for the purpose of moving on to know Jesus Christ in a deeper way.

The natural man can appear to be spiritual, but not really know Jesus Christ. They have a form of godliness but deny the power [overcoming life within of Jesus Christ]. They have done many good deeds...many impressive religious works. But if these deeds are not orchestrated from the Father then they are from the wrong tree. They are imitators. They can appear very authoritative about God, but are of man. The real authority is the power of God that changes the heart. This heart change is seen in you as the fruit of His Spirit.

"22. But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23. gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!" [Such a life fulfills the law. Only the life of Jesus Christ (and those who are found in Him) fulfills the law.] Galatians 5 NLT

Below is some evidence of living in the Tree of Knowledge of Good & Evil. An early example is Cain, (**Genesis 4**). God explained to Cain that he must do the right thing to have favor with God. If he does the wrong thing then sin will increase in power over him. He is exhorted by God to subdue sin and rule over it...rule over the beast nature within. Cain chooses instead to continue going his own way. He settled the conflict another way... his way...by killing his brother. He is then given a chance to repent but does not. He will not humble himself to take accountability. This pattern repeats clearly throughout the Bible. It is classic in King Saul, (**1Samuel 14 & 22**) and then today in the religious man of **Matthew 7:22,23**. Here are some highlights of the pattern of one who prefers the Tree of Knowledge of Good & Evil. It is easy to spot a tree by its fruit.



The fruit is easy to spot, but the roots are not. They are hidden in your heart. Here are the roots. In each case the motive is love. "World" here is the Greek word for "orderly arrangement", meaning organizations & systems that develop from many people of this tree working together. They come from many individuals giving power to the beast [systems]. This includes systems of economics, religion, politics, education, military, medicine, etc. Like Cain's produce, some parts may seem appetizing, but our love is not to be focused there.



"15. Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. He who loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16. For all that is in the world is the LUST OF THE BODY, the COVETOUSNESS OF THE EYES, and the PRIDE OF MATERIAL THINGS; these things do not come from the Father but from the world. And the world passes away, and the lust thereof; but he who does the will of God abides forever."

1John 2 GLT (George Lamsa Translation)

"16. I pray that...he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit. 17. Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. YOUR ROOTS WILL GROW DOWN INTO GOD'S LOVE & keep you strong. 18. And may you have the power to understand...how wide, how long, how high, & how deep his love is. 19. May you experience THE LOVE OF CHRIST... Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life & power that comes from God."

Ephesians 3 NLT

The different roots make it apparent why the carnal mind is at enmity with the mind of Christ. The way of the wicked is upside down. They see wrong as ok and right as bad. They think bitter is sweet and sweet is bitter. They think that their friends are their enemies and that their enemies are their friends, (**Romans 1:22-32 & Proverbs 1:22-33**). They are proud of what they should be ashamed of. Their focus and priorities are backwards (**Philippians 3:19**). They live to eat instead of eating to live (**Proverbs 13:25TLB**).

That is the seed from Adam. That is why we are born dead [to God]. The branches can only be holy if the roots are holy, (**Romans 11:16**). The only tree with holy roots is the Tree of Life, Jesus Christ. We must be rooted in Him, drawing our life from Him.

"20. What sorrow for those who say that evil is good and good is evil, that dark is light and light is dark, that bitter is sweet and sweet is bitter.
21. What sorrow for those who are wise in their own eyes and think themselves so clever." Isaiah 5 NLT

"18. Stop fooling yourselves. If you count yourself above average in intelligence, as judged by this world's standards...put this all aside and be a fool rather than let it hold you back from the true wisdom from above. 19. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness to God. As it says in the book of Job, God uses man's own brilliance to trap him; he stumbles over his own "wisdom" and falls. 20. And...in...Psalms, we are told that the Lord knows full well how the human mind reasons... how foolish & futile it is. 21. So don't be proud of following the wise men of this world."

1 Corinthians 3 TLB

Two Opposite Perspectives



Part 2: Two Seeds Within Us

In this section we see that there are two seeds within us. Each is from a different tree, (source). One seed is from Adam. Because of this seed we are both mortal (in the process of dying...destined for death), and corruptible. This seed causes us to be earthly-minded (focused on ourselves and the things of the natural realm). This seed develops into a "flesh nature", which is the nature of a beast...the nature of "what's best for me?". This seed has a frame of reference of judging everything as either "good" or "evil". This seed is always listening to the lies of the serpent, who is given free reign within this carnal-mind.

The aim of this serpent is to rob, kill, & destroy. It is a very easy job as long as the serpent can keep the seed of life out of his garden. The serpent steers thoughts to cause people to use their own standard of what is "good" and what is "evil". It is then easy to create division, unforgiveness, violence, revenge, etc. He keeps their thoughts focused on vanity...on goals apart from Jesus Christ.

What are some of these thoughts? "If I just had enough money." "If I just had enough control." "If I just had a better home...better job...better health...better parents...a better spouse." "If everyone would just think like my "church" doctrine...my political party...like me." This seed is under the law of sin and death.

The only hope is to be translated from this seed into another seed. Adam & Eve were promised this other seed that would crush the head of the serpent. The Promised Seed is called "The Anointed One"..."The Messiah"..."The Christ". It is only by the Father that we can be translated from the Adamic seed, (which is under the law of sin and death), into the Christ seed, (where we are under the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus, **Romans 8:2**). We cannot decide to do this. We cannot even see this until His Spirit quickens us. Only He can open the eyes of the blind.

"12...THANKING THE FATHER. HE HAS ENABLED YOU to share in the inheritance that belongs to his people, who live in the light. 13. For HE HAS RESCUED US from the kingdom of darkness AND TRANSFERRED US into the Kingdom of his dear Son,..." **Colossians 1 NLT**

"No man can come to me [Jesus, the Promised Seed], EXCEPT THE FATHER...DRAW HIM..."



One seed is the earthen vessel. The other seed is the treasure. It is part of God's plan to have these two seeds within us. His plan is to bring forth a man in His image to multiply and fill the earth. It is through this "multiplied new creation manchild" that He will cover the earth with His glory, take dominion and set creation free. The Christ within needs conflict in order to grow...to learn discernment...to come into full maturity. This conflict within teaches us to discern "good" from "evil" from God's perspective. This conflict within is necessary for us to grow by grace through faith.

"13. For someone who lives on milk [of the Word for beginners] is still an infant [spiritually... see **1Peter 2:2**] and doesn't know how to do what is right. 14. Solid food is for those WHO ARE MATURE, WHO THROUGH TRAINING [conflict, trials, testings] have the skill to recognize the difference between right and wrong [from God's point of view]." **Hebrews 5 NLT** "...having left the word of the beginning of the Christ, unto the perfection we may advance, not again a foundation laying of reformation from dead works,...of faith on God, of the teaching of baptisms, of laying on...of hands, of rising...of the dead, and OF JUDGMENT AGE-DURING,"

Hebrews 6:1,2 YLT

I have used the New Living Translation for the first part of this scripture reference because it is so readable. I have used the Young's Literal Translation for the second part because it is more accurate than most other translations in a very noteworthy point. Notice that judgment is not for eternity but for an age...a finite period of time. That would be a rabbit trail now. But if you truly are willing to embrace the truth of the Word in the original languages, then humble yourself and cry out for a heart to understand. Warning! Your religious traditions will crumble if you come to grasp the real truth. (*There are many good Bible studies that lead you through a maze of mistranslations and contradictions on this subject. Seek an explanation of the original anointed Word. J. Preston Eby's "The Savior of the World" series is one that you can download free at www.kingdombiblestudies.org or purchase at cost at www.lulu.com. Another is Elwin Roach's "Everlasting Punishment" free to download at www.godfire.net.*)

So how and when do we receive this seed of Christ? There is much controversy on this. Things of the Spirit are not easily (ever?) grasped by the carnal mind. Here is a simple diagram of how I see it.



-mortal body (until resurrection during our Feast of Tabernacles walk) -life in earthly realm with introduction to & transition into the heavenly realm Before we discuss the diagram, let's step back & look at a bigger picture. It is not for this study to expand on the new concept here, but I have started you with a couple of references.



We are born a natural seed but we receive a spiritual seed. The natural seed gradually dies. But meanwhile it is the earthen vessel in which the spiritual seed can grow. It is the spiritual seed that comes to maturity and is resurrected. God does NOT change the seed of Adam to become a better seed! He is after a "new creation man" wherein an immortal, incorruptible Spirit man in the image of the Father can be in a spirit body of flesh and bone. (*Robert Torango does an excellent job of explaining this in his "A Time of Trumpets" series. You can download it free at www.thehouseoftheLord.com.*)

The nation of Israel is a prophetic type of our walk in Christ. Israel received the Seed (Lamb) at Passover. Next they left Egypt, their old way of life in the world. Then it was at the first Pentecost at Mt. Sinai that God made a marriage covenant with them. After a long wilderness process Israel finally entered the Promised Land. The Feast of Tabernacles was to be celebrated in the Promised Land. However they did not fulfill this type due to keeping a Passover mentality, (**Hebrews 6:1**). Thus they entered the Promised Land on Passover.

We receive the free gift of this incorruptible seed when we receive Christ as our Savior. This is the eating of all of the Passover Lamb of God. Then this seed of Christ within really grows when we receive the gift of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit...our Pentecost. It is not by might or power but by His Spirit that we then grow into Christ. Things are different in the Spirit...not understood by the natural mind. For this seed to come to full maturity it must enter into Tabernacles, (the final ingathering into Him), where it is no longer a free gift. Here we must pick up our cross & follow Him...daily. This comes at great cost to our flesh nature, (see **1Peter 4:1 in TLB or NIV**).

This new creation man is the plan of God (Ephesians 2 & 4:24 & Colossians 3:10). This new man is Jesus Christ the Head & Jesus Christ the Body. Christ the Body is referred to in the Bible many different ways...His Virgin Bride, Manchild, Sons, Younger Brothers, Overcomers, City, New Jerusalem, Temple, etc. They are being trained to rule and reign with Him...to be His government upon the earth. But this Kingdom must first be established within them. This is His work not ours...not a work of the flesh, but a work of faith by His grace. -12-

Once we grasp God's plan of the Sons, then the Bible will unfold like never before. Whole books like Job & the Song of Solomon become clear. We start to see the plan of "Sonship" from Genesis to Revelation...and then wonder how we ever missed it! We humbly thank God for giving us eyes to see, ears to hear, and a heart to understand. When we do see these things then we are hearing the Trumpet of the high calling.

The last step in the full transition into the incorruptible seed is at the resurrection of our bodies. At that point we are fully in Christ. At that point there is no more of Adam left in us. We will fully have the mind of Christ. We will always know what He wants us to do and we will always want to do it. This is the New Covenant fulfilled in a people in His image.

"But this is the new agreement I will make with the people of Israel, says the Lord: I will write my laws in their minds so that they will know what I want them to do without my even telling them, and these laws will be in their hearts so that they will want to obey them, and I will be their God and they shall be my people." Hebrews 8:10 TLB

Our last diagram is of the Two Seeds within us. The resurrection of our bodies takes place during Tabernacles. It is the full harvest...the final ingathering of the Feasts. It is fruit unto the Father that has come to full maturity.



Having an understanding of the two seeds within brings understanding to many verses, such as:

"every one [who has the new man in Christ within] who hath been begotten of God [received His incorruptible seed], sin he doth not, because his [incorruptible] seed in him doth remain, and he [that seed of Him coming forth within] is not able to sin, because of God he hath been begotten." **1John 3:9 YLT**

It was prophesied of Jesus Christ that because He would lay down His life to atone for others that He would see His children...His seed...a new generation, (depending on the translation you read). This comes from the following verse. The one after that is another that shows us that Jesus would have children.

"10. But it was the Lord's good plan to bruise him and fill him with grief. However, WHEN HIS SOUL HAS BEEN MADE AN OFFERING FOR SIN, THEN HE SHALL HAVE A MULTITUDE OF CHILDREN, many heirs. He shall live again...11. And when he sees all that is accomplished by the anguish of his soul, he shall be satisfied; and because of what he has experienced, my righteous Servant shall make many [His children...His seed] to be counted righteous before God,". Isaiah 53 TLB

"HIS SEED SHALL SERVE HIM; It shall be recounted [said] about Yahweh to the generation that is coming." Psalm 22:30 Concordant Version of the Old Testament

Jesus never married, so how did He sire these children? It was done by His Spirit coming into our spirits to conceive a new creation man within us that would grow up into His image...into the full stature of Christ. The Holy Spirit is His Spirit...the Spirit of Jesus Christ. He went to the cross, was resurrected and then ascended so that His Spirit could be sent to quicken His Life within us, (John 14).

"Now THE LORD IS THE SPIRIT, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom." 2Corinthians 3:17 NIV

The seed of Jesus Christ the Head is the 42nd generation mentioned in **Matthew 1:17**. This seed is Christ the Body. (*Bill Britton wrote an excellent study on this titled*, "The 42nd Generation". Search it out at www.billbrittonministries.com.)



So now we understand that the Adam nature within can certainly bring forth sin, but that the incorruptible Christ nature within cannot sin. This explains why there are two types of works. There are works of the flesh, (good & evil). But there are also works of righteousness. These are the works of Christ. These are the works that we are called to.

"8. For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9. Not of works [of the flesh], lest any man should boast. 10. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto [His] good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." **Ephesians 2 KJV**

Knowing about the two seeds within clarifies many other verses such as:

"Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature." **Romans 13:14 NIV**

Remember in your walk in Jesus that the plan is not to make the sinful nature better. So abandon the works of the flesh, both "evil & good". Focus instead on moving on in the Light. Seek Him. Let His Life come forth. We find that when the light within gets brighter, the darkness within fades away. Death is swallowed up of Life. Let His Light shine.

I close this lesson with the comment below. There is a clear distinction between these two natures within. As a result there is conflict within.

This conflict and the final victory is expressed so well in a recent study, "Esau Subdued". It is written by Jackie Caporaso, a wonderful friend and favorite author of ours. This 8-page study can be viewed or printed in pdf by clicking on the title above with an electronic copy of this lesson. Also you may obtain this (and her monthly studies) by contacting her at:

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This lesson has built the foundational concepts for the next lesson. I look forward to sharing it with you. Meanwhile, keep pressing on...(**Philippians 3:13**).

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