The Gracious Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ

Book Four

Gilbert Christian Assembly

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This book was originally created by the **Gilbert Christian Assembly** of Portland, Oregon from their writings starting in the early 1950s – we have been blessed by these books for over 30 years. The 4 **Gracious Gospel** books were written by Norman Wilcox, Sherwood Michael, Lulu Holmes and a few other authors.

We believe that the principal authors have passed away and that these books are in the public domain. Near the end of the **Gracious Gospel** Book Four, Sherwood Michael writes: "If any one any where has the funds and the desire to reprint and distribute any thing in any of our writings, they are absolutely free to do it as long as God gets the glory." If anyone has any other Gracious Gospel books we would be happy to publish them as well.

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The Gracious Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ

Book Four

"LOGOS" Part 2

In the words of Sherwood Michael

Precept upon precept: line upon line; Here a little; there a little. [Isaiah 28:9-13]

As taught and published by GILBERT CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY 12933 S. E. Foster Road Portland, Oregon 97236

[NOTE]

We, the **Gilbert Christian Assembly**, whose **only meeting place is in our homes**. have been wonderfully blessed and nurtured over these many years by the Lord through His LOGOS or WORD. He has 'granted unto us to believe' the **gracious gospel** of the Lord Jesus Christ, as it was first revealed and was committed unto Paul to make all men see and know the manifold wisdom of God.

This gospel must be preached unto the principalities and powers in the heavenlies as well as to those in the unseen world of Hades. **This must be done by the church, the fulness of Him that filleth all in all.** That **faith** is 'not of ourselves, lest we should boast. For we are His **workmanship**.' 'He is the author and perfecter of our faith.'

God has also supplied us with the unsolicited financial capability to send this gospel throughout the world. We do thank the ones whom the Lord has led to assist us. We are also very thankful for all the new names and addresses, and for your prayers and your letters. If the Lord is willing we will try to answer every one of them. The Lord who knows our hearts, also knows who will be able to receive this **gracious gospel** and who will reject it. We leave it in His hands. However, what things the Lord has hidden in this book for you, may be in any line on any page. Prove all things, hold fast that which is good.

G.C.A.

PREFACE

[From Book One]

This book is not a throw-away. You should read it, check it with scripture and save it for study and reference. It will stand the test. Even if you do not accept the grace message it contains, you should read it clear through and study it, for Jesus said in John 12:47-48, "If any one hears my sayings and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. He who rejects me and does not receive my sayings has a judge; the word that I have spoken will be his judge on the last day."

When the work of God is completed in each person, not one will be able to say, "Lord, if you had only let me know." For everyone will be reconciled to God and they will all know that **God in His righteousness did have a plan to save all men** (even in spite of themselves). "For every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God, the Father." [Phil. 2:10] God hath sworn to accomplish this and He said, "The words have gone out of my mouth and shall never return." [Isa. 45:23] He will never change His mind.

ABOUT THE PUBLISHERS

The whole intent and desire of the Gilbert Christian assembly in publishing these books is to fulfill our calling in Christ in the short time we have left to tarry on this earth. Whether you, as Christians, are edified enough to discipline yourselves, by the power God has given you in Christ, to sow less to your own selves and to your own flesh; and to sow more to the Spirit is not up to us. We can only witness and exhort.

Paul says, "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither he that plants nor he that watereth is anything, but only God who gives the growth." [1 Cor. 3:6-7]

The response we have received from Book One is very much appreciated. We have had many letters thanking us for the Gracious Gospel and requesting more books. Some have even felt led to send financial assistance. God looks at the heart and knows the true desires of every one of us. We have been receiving fine cooperation from Christian Assemblies of the World in compiling our mailing list.

Every one of you who are interested in spreading this Gracious Gospel just continue to send names and addresses with Zip codes and trust the Lord as to when, where, how and on whom He will choose to use His Word from these books. We can then rest assured that we have born witness to the grace, love, goodness and severity of God. We thank Him for showing us that His severity is just as necessary for the salvation of all men as is His goodness. Many professing Christians are so puffed up by their own plans and purposes for God; they do not yet believe the scriptures that God has a plan and a purpose and also an *order* for the salvation of *all men*.

GILBERT CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY 12933 S.E. Foster Road Portland, Ore. 97236

P.S. Be very careful to print all names and addresses so we can read them correctly.

INTRODUCTION TO BOOK FOUR

This book was not meant to judge nor to condemn Moses, David, nor any one else mentioned in it. God permitted it to be published for the very same purposes He permitted the writing of the Old Testament and those portions of what man calls the New Testament which cannot be built on the foundation of the gracious gospel of the <u>resurrected</u> Lord, Christ Jesus. That gospel had been kept a secret mystery, hidden through all the ages and generations. It had never been revealed to the sons of men (not even to the fathers, the prophets, nor even to the apostles of Jesus of Nazareth, according to his own word.

Book Four was published to show by the scriptures, first, that "There is none good, no, not so much as one." [Rom. 3:12] "There is none good but God." [Matt. 19:17, Mark 10:18] "No good thing dwelleth in the flesh." [Rom. 7:18] "Whatsoever is born of the flesh, is flesh." [John 3:6] "The flesh profiteth nothing." [John 6:63] Every one of God's natural creation must be born again of the Holy Spirit. God will be all and will be in all.

Secondly, Book Four shows by scripture that God was never bound by the law of Moses: But He did show grace and mercy, upon whom He would show grace and mercy; and whom He would He hardened. God was perfectly righteous in so doing; because He has a glorious Spiritual destiny, not a natural destiny, for everyone in His creation

We are to worship God, not men. In Christian Love, GILBERT CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY by S.M.

CONTENTS

Chapter		Page #	
	BOOK TITLE Note Preface (Book One) About the Publishers Introduction to Book Four Contents	iii iv v vi vii ix	
	Preface to Book Four	1	
1	God's Workmanship	4	
2	The Promised Seed	18	
3	Better Things	69	
	An Exhortation to Christians	83	
	A Summary	87	

PREFACE

(Book Four)

We offer no apologies for the contents of this book. If you find it hard to take, we assure you, it was hard to give. If the Lord leads you to painstakingly read and study it all and assimilate the truths contained in it; you will end up glorifying God much more, and yourself and all men much less.

Jesus said John the Baptist was much more than a prophet; and that NO MAN born of a woman was any greater than John the Baptist: YET the <u>least one</u> in the Kingdom of heaven, according to Matthew's account of what Jesus said, and in the Kingdom of God, according to Luke's account, is greater than John the Baptist (and therefore would be greater than Abraham, Isaac, Jacob or David; and greater than Moses, Samuel, Elijah, Isaiah, Jeremiah and every other man born of a woman who had not been born again of the Spirit.) That is what Jesus had to say.

"And without contradiction the least is always blessed of the better." [Heb. 7:7] It was impossible for fleshly Abraham to bless Spiritual Melchizedek. Abraham and David contributed to the flesh body of Jesus of Nazareth; but they could not contribute one scintilla [spark, trace] to the Spiritual body of Christ Jesus; nor to the many membered body of Christ. Every man into whom Christ, the Son of God, has come became a Christian at that instant; even if only a babe. In God's sight we have been seated together in the heavenlies, in Christ. We have been delivered from the power of darkness and He has translated us into the Kingdom of His dear Son. The least one of us, with Christ in us; is greater than the greatest old testament worthy, born of a woman: Not because our flesh is any better; but because Christ is in us and Christ was not in them. They had not been born of the Holy Spirit.

"Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we HIM no more." [2 Cor. 5:16] Study and meditate about that. You will accept it, or reject it, according to whether God (not you) has removed the veil from your eyes. "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature." [2 Cor. 5:17]

Hebrews 11 was written over 30 years after the crucifixion and

resurrection of Jesus: yet, at that time, all the people mentioned from Abel and Enoch down through the fathers and prophets (And, according to Jesus, down through John the Baptist); had not received the Spiritual promise. "God having provided some better thing for US, that they without US should not be made perfect." [Heb. 11:40] The 'US' spoken of are not Hebrews, Jews, Israelites nor Gentiles. They once were Hebrews, Jews, Israelites and Gentiles. They are now Christians, There is no national distinction between any of the members of the body of Christ. We are all the Spiritual Israel of God if so be that Christ is in us. "If any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His." Romans 8:9. (And is not as great as the very least Christian.)

"He is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; ... But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; ... whose praise is not of men but of God." [Rom. 2:28-29] Every Christian is a Spiritual Jew inwardly; whether he had been of the nation of Israel or of any Gentile nation. There is no room for any ego in a Christian concerning this matter, either. Notice how carefully Paul insists that the remnant of Israel who were not blinded, were chosen by grace, not of works, to be in His body as Christians. Romans 11:5-10. Those of Israel who were blinded did not stumble that they might fall. Their fall was to fulfil God's plan and purpose of the ages. The ones who fell were just as righteous as the ones who were elected out of them by grace: else it would not have been by grace. Works had nothing to do with who was elected and who were blinded.

Every man who has died, or ever will die, who has not been born of the Holy Spirit, from Adam in the past to the last one in the future; has entered or will enter that 'unseen' state of the dead; whether you call it Sheol, Hades, or Hell. And every last one of them must be taught Paul's gospel of grace by the Christians. The gates of Hades will not prevail against the church of the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus started that work and for those whose order has come the teaching is going on. Since the death of the apostles they have been sitting on twelve thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel in the 'unseen' (Hades). They are convicting them of their transgressions of the laws and commandments of Moses, so they will all know that not one man kept them. Then they are teaching each one, as their order arrives, the gospel of grace and reconciliation of all men, which the apostles received from Paul.

Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Aaron, Joshua, David and John the Baptist will all rejoice, (or are already rejoicing, depending on God's order); at Paul's gracious gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, as they are being perfected by the 'US' of Hebrews 11:40. Without controversy the Spiritual can never be blessed by the natural.

Paul was nothing of himself. But God said he was a chosen vessel unto God through whom He would pour out the mystery of the gospel, "Which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, ..." [Eph. 3:5] Christians, the many membered body of Christ, the church of Ephesians 1:30, and Eph. 3:10, who also are the 'US' of Hebrews 11:40, are nothing in themselves. It is God who worketh in them to fulfil His LOGOS.

"LOGOS" Part 2

Chapter One

GOD'S WORKMANSHIP

To the <u>elect</u> fragment <u>out of</u> Israel, chosen by grace; and to the fulness of the Gentiles: Romans 11:5-7 and 25.

According to scripture, These are the Hebrew 'olams' or Greek 'eons' of time during which Christ, the Son of God, the Holy Spirit, the living Word, God's Logos, which was with God in the beginning, and was God, and is still God; is going to enter your hearts, or has entered your hearts, with the circumcision, not made with hands; as an inner man, a new creation in you. No Adam man desires that new birth.

But this has happened, or will happen <u>only</u> in your own order according to God's plan of the ages, in which He hath chosen you in Him before the foundation of the world, that you should be holy and without blame before Him in love: having predestinated you unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ unto Himself, according to the good pleasure of <u>His will</u>. 1 Corinthians 15:22-23 and Ephesians 1:4-5.

"For by grace are you saved through <u>faith</u>; and that (faith) not of yourselves: It is the <u>gift</u> of God. Not of works, lest any man should boast. For you are <u>His workmanship</u>, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath <u>before ordained</u> that you should walk in them." Ephesians 2:8-10. When will this take place? It will happen in God's <u>due</u> time, but according to the gospel it will be accomplished in the eons while the rest of Israel is kept blinded by the Lord. Until the Holy Spirit does come into you, you are none of His. (Whether you are one of the <u>elect out of</u> Israel or a Gentile.) Romans 8:9.

If, or when, by grace, you have been born again of the Holy Spirit, not by works nor the will of your flesh, whether you are of the <u>elect out of</u> Israel, or a Gentile of any other nation; you are to henceforth <u>know no man</u> after the flesh. Though you have been taught about Jesus, in the flesh; and Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, David, James, Peter, John and Paul, in the flesh: Henceforth you are to

know no man after the flesh; not even Jesus. 2 Corinthians 5:16.

Jesus was sent here in the flesh to fulfill the promises to Eve, and to Abraham that their 'one seed' was to bless every family in heaven and earth by dying on the cross at the hands of Israel. "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth; (on the cross by cruel hands) [I] will draw all men unto me." John 12:32-33. By one righteous act on the cross, he tasted death for every man and sentenced every man to justification of Life. Romans 5:18. (Not by many acts; just one righteous act)

There is no other way in God's Logos that can ever by-pass that method God chose, before the world was, to **reconcile all men** unto Himself. That one righteous act of Jesus, after the flesh, was the only act that he did which was to have any effect on the Spiritual life of man. And he would not and he could not have gone through with it if God had not anointed him above all his fellows. Study his life before the crucifixion. Every other act or miracle was for the benefit of men's Adam life His death was to purchase **Spiritual life** for every man. **He was the Lamb slain for the life of the world**, including Abraham.

However, that is **Spiritual life**; and the ability to believe it is **not** in your Adam spirit. Only after that Holy Spirit has come into you, can you believe any Spiritual thing. You do not believe first and then receive the Holy Spirit. **The Holy Spirit comes into you in your** *order* and **He becomes your** *ability to believe*. If you are unable to believe the **gospel of grace and reconciliation for all men**; it is because you are still in bondage to vanity and the law of Moses. The veil is still on your heart. It is not yet your order. But **every man's order will come**.

If you are able to believe today that it took that death on the cross to justify all men from all things from which they could not be justified by the law of Moses; And if you are able to believe that Christ has entered your heart as a new creation, and is your only hope of glory: take no glory for it unto yourself. Give God the glory and the praise; for to believe that, whether you are of Israel or any other nation, you must first have been **born again of the Spirit** and are part of the many membered body of Christ. **Christ in you is made unto you** *wisdom, righteousness, sanctification* and *redemption*.

Do not boast against, nor condemn those blinded ones of Israel; but shed no tears for them either. You are not more merciful than God. God's hand is in it all. What He has in store for those blinded, scattered <u>individuals</u> is something far greater, far more glorious and far more precious than all the earthly real estate, earthly kingdom and all other vain things they are attempting to earn from God by establishing their own righteousness, which is of the flesh; or by claiming that God owes them, because they profess to be Isaac's sons, after the flesh. Nothing can surpass being one with God. Their order will come.

In God's Logos or plan of the olams, eons or time periods, (which are of differing lengths of time, from a few days to thousands of years, many overlapping) God used the people, and their natural conduct proceeding from the vanity and futility under which He, in His wisdom and righteousness, had subjected them, as Guinea pigs or examples of their **absolute need for a Savior**.

If in the eons before Christ arose, God was striving to accomplish all those things taught in our bibles, as written, censored, mistranslated and added to, by those of unconverted Israel: He was a colossal failure. God was never striving for what they were striving for. God kept His plan <u>secret</u>.

God's workmanship does not follow the dictates, desires or plans of men. He moves in mysterious ways His wonders to perform and sometimes His ways are past finding out: but His righteous end always justifies the means He uses. He rules in the affairs of men and He worketh all things after the counsel of His own will. The vanity under which He has placed His creation causes men to rebel against the gospel of grace and reconciliation for all men: but there can be no doubt as to whether vanity or the gospel wins out. Every man, living or dead, will be reconciled to God, in His order.

How could it be possible for a man, a created being, to initiate or prevent the taking place of an event that was predestinated, before ordained, foreknown and predetermined by God, the creator, before the world was? The LOGOS of God is complete. It has been complete since the beginning. There was never any revision caused by any act of the creation. In God there is no variableness nor shadow caused by turning. All things were known unto Him from the beginning of the world. Every change was part of His

LOGOS already.

But for all of you of the Gentile nations, and for all of you of Israel who were elected by grace to receive Christ in this allotment; it is necessary that you know the workmanship of God in keeping scattered Israel blinded, deaf and in a stupor while He brings the Gentiles in; that you be not carried away by the delusion God has placed the rest of Israel under. The first thing you must know is that God made the allotment: you did not, nor did Israel.

If you were God and wanted to keep a people in a self-righteous, self-serving, self-praising, selfish state of vanity for thousands of years; how would you go about it? God just whetted their vanity and let them believe they were cleaner, more righteous, and more deserving than the Gentiles, even when they grew more polluted with idol worship, more greedy and more corrupt than any nation around them.

Even more of a delusion was the way the Lord let them remember every blessing of the covenant while forgetting every curse that was also stated in the same covenant. They forgot every "IF". To this very day they are still talking about what God owes them because they are Abraham's seed. The veil still remaineth untaken away. They have never recognized the sheet that God let down to Peter, nor the gospel revealed to Paul. God is God of the Gentiles, also.

The second thing you must know is that God blinded Israel with eyes that could not see, ears that could not hear and the spirit of stupor so they could not understand. Israel did not do that to themselves. That was in the LOGOS from the beginning. Their fall brings salvation to the Gentiles. Their fall is for the enrichment of the world. Their casting away is the reconciling of the world. Their receiving into the body of Christ will be as life from the dead.

Always try to keep in mind that **the LOGOS** is **the complete word of God.** A **thousand Bibles could not contain it.** The Bible is not the LOGOS. It is not God. It contains some of the word of God. What I am writing is not God's LOGOS or word. It is about God's LOGOS. If the Christ in me has been able to insert some of His LOGOS in my writing. I know, whether you do, or not, that all the praise and glory belongs to Him. Just the errors are mine, and are forgiven. "We know nothing yet as we ought to know it;" [1 Cor. 8:2]

The Lord has shown us in His LOGOS, contained in the Bible, that no good thing dwelleth in the flesh, so no good thing can originate in the flesh. Even Jesus of Nazareth was born of the corruptible seed of Adam and Eve or the scriptures and prophecies are of no value at all. Any righteous thing Jesus did came not out of his flesh but from the Father who was in him. Jesus was a robot: a puppet of God: clay in the Potter's hands, and said so. "Not my will but thine be done."

Even that love and humility proceeded from the anointing of God, not from his flesh. Jesus was made in all points like as we were. He was subjected to the same futility we were. He said he could do <u>nothing</u> of his own self. That <u>is</u> futility. At least Jesus admitted that he was but clay. Although his Adam body, as those of Enoch and Elijah, was not permitted to see corruption; yet that Adamic body, made from the atoms and molecules of this old earth which he had received from Eve, was not that glorious body spoken of in Philippians 3:21. Jesus did die on that cross for us.

God came into the flesh body of the son of man, Jesus of Nazareth. That body was exchanged for a Spiritual body of flesh and bone which was not recognized by his closest friends nor by the disciples. Yet He was able to produce the nailprints and the wounded side for the benefit of doubters. That body he sowed is not the body He now has. If you are no longer a babe in Christ and God permits; leave behind those first teachings of the resurrection of the dead; as it says in Heb. 6:1-3. **These Adam bodies never return**; whether God dissolves them or if they rot away in corruption.

I recently heard a nationally known radio preacher tell his people that God carefully selected a line of just and holy parentage down through the ages so Jesus would be that perfect sinless seed. That preacher has been reading a different translation than any that I have seen. There was only one thing perfect about the seed line of Jesus of Nazareth. Every one in that line was a perfect example of the absolute necessity for grace. And they are a perfect example of the bestowal of God's grace. That will be proven in this book.

If you want to know why Jesus did not shun sinners, adulterers and adulteresses; all you have to do is read your Bibles about his ancestors. God created all subject to vanity; **but in His order he will deliver all from that bondage of corruption**. There was not one of

them righteous, no not so much as one. They were filthy, rebellious, greedy, unrighteous, sinful people; just like you and I: And God loved them; just like He does you and I.

Only God made any one person to differ from any other. No good thing dwelleth in any man's flesh. God <u>always</u> figured on righteousness coming to man <u>only through Christ</u>, and all the teaching of man's righteousness, man's faith, man's works from Adam to this present day, as written from Genesis 1 through Revelations 22; are written, not to show man that he can do it; but to make every man guilty before God, and **to know that man without Christ, cannot do it:** that He might have mercy upon all. AND HE SAYS SO IN YOUR BIBLES.

In God's wisdom He did not choose to make that gracious gospel known unto the sons of men through all the ages and generations until He entrusted that gospel to Paul. God, speaking through the fathers and prophets, hid a foundation stone or two all through the old testament: but He allowed them to be completely hidden and obscured and kept a mystery to the fathers and prophets and apostles, by the deluge of scriptures teaching the ministration of condemnation and death, the glory of which was to fade away. PAUL FOUND THEM. AFTER GOD GROUND HIS NOSE ON THEM.

According to scripture, during this allotment of time, God has given the rest of Israel eyes that they can not see, ears that they can not hear, and a spirit of stupor that they can not understand and be saved. But after the fulness of the Gentiles from every nation have been brought into His body; then, and then only shall Christ enter blinded and scattered Israel, remove the veil from their heart (which veil, even to this day, lies on the heart of every one who reads 'Moses', the ministry of condemnation and death, as gospel.

God will write a new covenant upon the heart of every individual whom He had blinded. It will not be the decalogue. **Jesus**, in the records of Matthew, Mark and Luke had already **dropped the keeping of the Sabbath** from the list of laws he told the rich man he should keep to inherit life eonian. And when his disciples were accused of breaking the sabbath, he said they were guiltless for "the Sabbath was made for man, man was not made for the Sabbath." [Mark 2:27]

The covenant that would be written in their hearts was that they would love the one God, their Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ and they would love their neighbors (the Gentiles) as themselves. Only a new creation, Christ in them, will do that: EVERY WEEK DAY.

They will all, according to the words of Peter in Acts 15:11, have to be saved by the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, (whose earthly body they crucified) even as the Gentile family of Cornelius. **They will have no more to do or say about the circumcision of their hearts, not made with hands, than the eight day old child of Israel had with being circumcised by hand.** It will happen in the order God had for them in His Logos.

They will not be singing the song of Moses, nor be praising the Lord for bringing them out of Egypt. God will give them a new song and they will be praising the Lord Jesus Christ for gathering them unto Himself, in accordance with the gracious gospel that God committed unto Paul for all men.

Acts 9:15, "Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel." In Paul's gospel, blinded Israel will learn that the Potter was really in control; and that the clay was just that, clay in the hands of the Potter. They will learn that all the vessels God used from Adam through Paul and down to this present day, were only flesh vessels in whom dwelt no good thing.

"All of them were as nothing: and God doeth according to His will in the army of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay His hand, or say unto Him, What doest thou?" Daniel 4:35. But that can be learned by no man until God has brought him to the place where he knows that he, himself, is nothing. They will learn that "God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself; not imputing their trespasses unto them." [2 Cor. 5:19]

From Paul's experiences and testimonies (He, as Saul, was more in love with precepts and traditions handed down by the fathers, and was more zealous in his prosecution of any transgressors of them, than any other young man of his time) Israel will be able to see themselves as they were in the flesh; and also see those precepts and traditions for what they really were supposed to teach. Which

is; Adam man needs Christ.

They, too, will see that no good thing was ever in any man's flesh. Matthew [19:17], Mark [10:18] and Luke [18:19] all record Jesus, in the flesh, as refusing to let himself be called 'good'. He said, "Why calleth thou me good? There is none good but one, that is, God." David in Psalms [14:1-3] and Paul in Romans [3:10-12] say, "There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one." All others whet man's vanity.

Israelites will no longer worship the fathers and prophets, after the flesh. They will worship God who was with those fathers and prophets. They will no longer worship the nation of Israel. They will worship the God of the whole earth who worked with Israel; but is also the God of the Gentiles, also.

When Christ comes into those of blinded Israel, in their order, all who were already elected by grace, out of Israel; together with the fulness of the Gentiles, will make up the many membered body of Christ by that time: and they will have the job of perfecting Israel as they are brought into that body. Ephesians 1:22-23. ["And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all."] Hebrews 11:39-40. ["And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect."]

With that veil removed from their hearts, they will be enabled to believe that all the old things are passed away to be remembered no more. And all things are made new in Christ. From the eighth chapter of Hebrews they will learn that if the <u>old</u> first things had been faultless, then should no place have been found for <u>new</u> second ones.

For upon the resurrection of Jesus, He is "A minister of the sanctuary of the <u>true</u> tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man." [Heb. 8:2] "But now He hath obtained a <u>more excellent ministry</u>, by how much also He is the minister of a <u>better</u> covenant, which was established on <u>better</u> promises." [Heb. 8:6]

"In that He saith, A <u>new</u> covenant, He hath made the <u>first old</u>. Now that which <u>decayeth</u> and <u>waxeth old</u> is ready to <u>vanish away</u>," [Heb. 8:13] That new covenant will not be engraven on stones nor in law books, but on the **fleshy tables of the individual minds and hearts** of those of Israel: Paul's gospel of 'Christ in them'.

Through the gospel they will learn that they have a better hope, a better and 'New Jerusalem', a better and 'Holy Zion', a better 'promised land', a better priesthood than that of Levi or Aaron, and a better sacrifice than the blood of bulls and goats. For Jesus shed his blood **once for all men, to be attested to by every man in his own order**.

Every last one of those <u>old</u> things (which have been done away in Christ) were recorded as being 'forever', 'everlasting', eternal or perpetual in the **faulty translations of the Bible into English**. God's Logos said they were to last for their '**olam**', '**eon**', or **period of time**. God did not say that they would last 'for ever'. Men said that. If God had said it; it would have come to pass. "No place should have been sought for the second."

No matter how sweet the story, nor how much people's flesh is seemingly blest by it, or how much our ego and vanity is tickled by it; **if it is a lie which glorifies the creation instead of the creator**: it engendereth to bondage and in reality, can Spiritually bless <u>no one</u>. Allegories glorifying <u>God</u> can bless.

Eventually men must know the truth before they can be set free. **God's Logos is truth. Errors in translation can never make any man free.** Neither can the correct translation of the old testament, read by any man, from Adam to the glorification of the resurrected Lord. Because the veil was never lifted before He Was glorified, Jesus told his apostles that they could not know Spiritual things until the Spirit of truth would come. SO DID PAUL.

Enoch, Noah, Abraham and Moses were just as incapable of knowing as were his apostles. Until the veil is done away in Christ; it lies on the heart of every person that reads the old testament. 2 Corinthians 3:14. And Paul immediately in the 15th verse equates that with the reading of 'Moses'. And the context of the whole chapter equates them both with being the **ministry**

of condemnation and death. When the apostles continued on, teaching circumcision and the laws of Moses and the separation between Israel and Gentiles; and were only teaching Jews: it was still the ministry of condemnation and death. The Jews they taught believed Jesus was the Messiah of Israel, <u>but</u> they were all zealous of the law of Moses. This was attested to by James in Acts 21:20, about thirty years after the resurrection of Jesus.

Although Paul had already written 1 and 2 Thessalonians, Galatians, 1 Corinthians, 1 Timothy, Titus and 2 Corinthians before this time, James asked Paul to submit to a lot of the sacrifices and purifications of the law in an attempt to deceive the Jews into believing that the things that they had heard about Paul were nothing and that Paul, himself was a keeper of the law.

However in the 25th verse James said, "As touching the Gentiles which believe, we have written and concluded that they observe no such things." [Acts 21:25] Here, about 20 years after God had let that sheet down to Peter and let him know that He had cleansed the Gentiles and made no distinction between them and Israel, the church of the apostles were still hanging on to the circumcision, law, and making a distinction between themselves and Gentile Christians. To them, the wall remained.

But this book is not written to blinded Israel, under the law. This is not their allotment of time. This is the allotment of time when God is delivering you, or has delivered you, from that power of darkness, and is going to translate you, or has translated you into the kingdom of the Son of His love. This has happened to every person in whom Christ, the Son of God, has come. That is the only thing that makes you a Christian.

If that has happened to you, or when it happens to you: you immediately become greater in the sight of God than any man born of a woman before the resurrection of Christ. Your flesh is not one whit better than it was. And it is not one whit better than theirs was. But you have been born of the Holy Spirit, or will be in this time period. God will reveal His Son in ('en', not 'eis', which means 'to') you.

Not one father, not one prophet, not one apostle ever had God's Son in them before the Lord Jesus Christ was glorified. And even

though Jesus had told them, "And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you into the eon. Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in ('en') you. I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you." [John 14:16-18]; and Jesus had said, "You must be born again." [John 3:7]: There is no evidence in scripture that any apostle or disciple of Jesus of Nazareth ever was given the revelation that a new creation in them was to be made their righteousness, or their wisdom, their sanctification, their redemption or was to be their only hope of glory. In God's wisdom, He had chosen Paul to be the first one to reveal His Son in. Paul disclosed the gospel to the apostles. James, Peter and John, who were supposed to be pillars in the apostolic church could add nothing to that gospel Paul received.

To get back to that power of darkness from which every Christian is delivered; it is necessary to remember that "There is no power but of God and the powers that be are all ordained of God" [Rom. 13:1], even that power of darkness that all men were 'subjected under' and 'locked up' in: That He might have mercy upon all. [Rom. 11:32] In God's righteous plan or Logos, He allowed His creation (including Israel, the fathers, the prophets and the apostles) to be kept in that darkness of vanity until in each of those individual's order, Christ, the Spirit of truth, the Son of God, will, or has entered their individual heart, as a new creation.

That Christ, in them, a new creation, will be their only hope of glory. He, the Spirit of Truth, (which no man has until their order arrives) will lead them into all truth. He will be the only Spiritual wisdom they have. He will be all the righteousness they will ever possess. He is made unto them sanctification and redemption. Anything that would come from their flesh would be flesh and would profit nothing.

Let me repeat once more: To all those to whom this book is addressed; This is, according to God's Logos, the period of time during which your individual order of deliverance shall or has already come. That 'olam' or 'eon' has been here for over 1900 years and is not fulfilled yet. But we do know that when Christ does enter your heart with the circumcision, not made with hands; you will only be a babe in Christ; according to the type in Israel, a babe

eight days old.

And no matter how old you may be, you will have no more to do with the timing of it than that baby of Israel which was circumcised by hand at the request of the father. As a babe you must be fed milk and not meat; for you would be unable to digest meat yet. As a child born after the glorification of the Lord, however, there is no reason for you to ever be saddled with that yoke of bondage which neither the apostles nor the fathers and prophets of Israel were ever able to bear.

Paul rebuked the Gentile Galatian Christians and called them foolish for giving in to the ones who came from the church of the apostles at Jerusalem, telling them that they must be circumcised and keep all the laws of Moses. Paul was so angered by the Christian Jews for trying to circumcise the Gentiles, he said that he wished they would mutilate or cut their own selves off. According to the law they were trying to put on the Gentiles, such a mutilated man could not enter the congregation of the Lord.

And the Epistle to the **Hebrews** was written to the Hebrew Christians of the apostolic church at Jerusalem; who, James said, believed but were all still zealous for the laws of Moses. In Hebrews they are rebuked for still being babes when they had been Christians long enough that they should be teachers. The whole epistle is concerned with persuading them of the weakness and unprofittableness of the law, the first covenant, the first promises, the first priesthood and the old testament and their first hope. And also telling them that the new ones are all better because God found fault with the first ones. **The Spiritual are always better than the earthly.**

That is what the workmanship of God is all about. A babe is born of the Spirit. It is fed milk until it can digest solid food and then it is fed meat until it comes to a full grown man, unto the fulness of the stature of Christ. They have become a member in the body of Christ and as they come to maturity, they make increase of the rest of the body by *supplying* that which each member is to supply, according to its *effectual working* in the body.

"That in the ages to come He might shew the exceeding riches of ... (Of what? Our works? Our righteousness? Never!) ... his grace

in His kindness toward us through Christ Jesus." [Eph. 2:7] In God's Logos or blueprint of the eons He has a five-fold ministry of chosen vessels that are to edify and perfect those new-born babes in Christ until 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.

It is a continuing workmanship of God and is not confined to this old life on earth. Many of the babes of years gone by are maturing now to be used as God's ministers for the edification of the babes of today and they will be the mature ones of tomorrow. As each one is born of the Holy Spirit he is part of that many membered body of Christ. No matter how slow or retarded a child one may be, He that has begun a good work in them is able to perform it.

God is a good workman and He knows at just what point in a man's growth in Christ it is best to remove him from this sphere and finish the work without the hindrance of our old natures, with the old earthly desires, families and friends. Many like the Christians spoken of in Hebrews 5:11-14, grow old without wanting to let the childish things go. Paul said in 1 Corinthians 13:11, "When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things."

Search out the scriptures to see how learned Saul of Tarsus was concerning 'all the law and the prophets'. Israel was expecting a mighty man of valor, like Abraham, David, Jehoshaphat, Jeroboam 2 or Jephthah to destroy their enemies physically. They wanted a conquering king to come as their Messiah or Saviour. Jesus did not fit that.

Saul of Tarsus was as full of zeal for Israel and the law as Moses and the prophets were. The twelve apostles of Jesus did not choose themselves for their job. **Jesus chose them**; and He told them so. Neither did Paul choose himself to be a chosen vessel of God to bear MY name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. God chose him to be a light to all the ends of the earth, and to the principalities and powers in heavenly places. No other foundation can any man lay.

A friend said, Oh! You are one of those Paulists, aren't you? No, dearly beloved, I am not a Paulist. I am a Christian. Paul is not in

me. Christ, the Spiritual Son of God, is in me. He is that God which worketh in me, both to will and to do of His good pleasure. You and I and Paul and every man born of a woman are His workmanship to fit His LOGOS. **He is the potter of us all. We are but clay.** Is that worse than being a robot or puppet?

"LOGOS" Part 2

CHAPTER 2

THE PROMISED SEED

Let us carefully examine the promises God made to Israel and mankind. The very first promise God made to the Adam creation was the promise of the **seed** that would bruise the serpent's head. That seed was Jesus and God promised that it would be through Eve. It was not promised to Adam and Eve because they were obedient and righteous: nor was it to be their offspring 'I<u>F</u>' they were obedient and righteous. It was promised to them right after they had disobeyed and transgressed.

Neither was it a payment to them because they disobeyed. God did not suddenly decide to have Jesus born through the seed line of Adam. Jesus was to be the Lamb of God that was slain in God's LOGOS before the world was. Every man and woman in that seed line was known unto God before man was created. Jesus is the sixtieth generation of the paternal side, according to Genesis & Matthew. All 59 of those men had a woman through which that seed line was born. Are Genesis and Matthew inspired?

Each one of those women, except Eve, had a mother and a father; and all but Eve and the wife of Seth, had grandparents. **They were all grandparents of Jesus.** God foreknew every one of them; and not one of them was righteous. God had placed vanity in every one of them. Vanity is unrighteousness. By using the scriptures, God can prove every one to be guilty, not for their condemnation, but that He might have mercy upon all. No, **Jesus was not the product of a righteous and holy parentage**, **after the flesh.**

We have already mentioned the disobedience of Adam and Eve. They needed **grace**. They received it when they were justified by the shed blood of Jesus. Moses is credited with writing Genesis although he was born over 2,500 years after the creation of Adam. Other students credit Samuel. But there can be no questioning the fact that the writer had written and oral material of an historical nature as well as the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. I have a copy of the **book of Enoch**. How much of it is inspired and how much is spurious, God knows. Jude quoted from it, so the disciples of Jesus

must have believed it. **Methuselah** and **Noah** also had writings. Many other books are quoted.

The mystery of Godliness and iniquity was part of the secret things that were not revealed to the sons of men until the gracious gospel was delivered to Paul by the Lord. Therefore the writer of Genesis commends Enoch for walking with God for 300 years and has God repaying him by taking him from this world without tasting death. The writer of Hebrews takes this up and says that God took him up because before the translation he had the testimony that he pleased God. Both writers omitted a vital aid: the Potter.

They do not bring out the gospel fact that *God made* Enoch differ and caused him to Walk with Him and receive instructions to carry out God's plan or LOGOS. "A man's steps are ordered of the Lord." [Psa. 37:23] (The word 'good' is an added word in that scripture, in some versions.) "It is not in man that walketh to direct his steps." [Jer. 10:23] "Those who are in the flesh cannot please God." Romans 8:8. All men, before Christ were in the flesh. If Enoch, Noah, Job, Abraham or anyone else had faith or righteousness as claimed in Genesis and Hebrews 11, it was the gift of God, not of works lest any man should boast. For they were also God's workmanship. They were pots. They were created. God was their potter. The creator can never be put in debt by His creation. "There is none good but God." [Matt. 19:17]

The next grandfather to be commended after Enoch was **Noah**. All of Noah's ancestors were dead before the flood, or, like Methuselah, died in the flood, along with all their families. Genesis 6:5-7 and 12-13, "And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was evil continually. And it repented the Lord that He had made man on the earth, and it grieved Him at His heart. And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them."

"And God looked upon the earth, and behold it was **corrupt**; for ALL flesh had corrupted His way upon the earth. And God said to Noah, The <u>end</u> of <u>all flesh</u> is come before me; for the earth is filled with **violence** through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the <u>earth</u>." The Lord has not shown me who made this error, There

are several other scriptures that say that God repented Himself that He had done something. The error could be in the handed down oral material, the handed down written material or in later translations. God has written in my heart that He never made a mistake and so He could never repent.

Since this was first written, God has backed up what He wrote on the fleshy tables of my heart by showing it to me in the scriptures. Numb. 23:19 says, "God is not a man, that He should lie; nor the son of man, that He should repent." 1 Sam. 15:29 says, "The strength of Israel will not lie nor repent: for He is not a man, that He should repent."

Again in Jer. 4:28, "Because I have spoken it, I have purposed it, and will **not repent**, neither will I turn back from it." Ezek. 24:14, "I the Lord have spoken it: it shall come to pass, and I will do it; I will not go back, **neither will I repent**." Some versions also have said God became sorry for what He was doing and relented: but all God's ways are righteous and He never was sorry nor let up short of the fulfillment of His purpose for any action He started.

Nor has He ever grieved or been surprised at any action by the clay in His hands. "Hath not the Potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honor and another unto dishonor?" [Rom. 9:21] God never made one mistake. He did, however, blind His people's eyes, deafen their ears and made them stupid of mind so they could not understand. And it says so in any version you can find.

God also permitted delusions teaching **Adamic righteousness** to be sent to them so they would continually be trying to establish their flesh righteousness and refuse to accept the free gift of righteousness from God. **He did permit many errors** to be written and taught, to puff up and strengthen man's vanity which God subjected them under.

In the translations many people are called 'just', 'righteous' and 'good'. (The Hebrew word for all three is 'tsaddiq'. Yet, other scriptures say, "There is none good. There is none righteous, no not so much as one." [Psa. 53:3, Rom. 3:10] Jesus said, "There is none good but God." [Matt. 19:17]

Gen. 6:8-9 says 'Noah found grace in the sight of God.' Then it says 'Noah was a just man, perfect in his generations.' Grace cannot be bestowed on a just, righteous or perfect man. His generations were not perfect because Adam and Eve had sinned. Noah was not perfect. He got drunk and exposed his nakedness in public. Ham looked and told others about it. Shem and Japheth covered up Noah's nakedness. Both Enoch and Noah needed grace. If they had been righteous, they needed no grace. Ham also needed grace.

Jesus was about the 60th generation from Adam if you take Genesis and Matthew's account. He was about the 76th generation if you take Luke's. In the 10 generations from Adam through Noah and his wife; it took about 1023 matings of 2046 ancestors of Jesus to produce Shem. Because of intermarriage of cousins, aunts and uncles the number would be somewhat reduced. If you take that doubling process of ancestors down to the 60th or 76th generation to produce Jesus of Nazareth; you would have a mind boggling sum.

But the exact, correct number was in the LOGOS from the beginning. The names of every one of them were there and all their days were known unto God before there ever was one of them. God knew that He was the author and perfecter of faith. God knew the **human faith** of Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Sarah or Isaac could never stand the trials necessary to complete the work God had for them.

If Abraham, in the flesh, believed what God told him in Genesis 12:2, 3 and 7; why was he so afraid Pharaoh would kill him that he deceived him into thinking Sarah was not his wife. God even knew that John was going to write in the 21st chapter [verse 8] of Revelation that "all liars were going to have their part in the lake that burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death." After being caught and rebuked why did he and Sarah again tell the same lie to Abimelech in the 20th chapter of Genesis and receive another rebuke.

If the vaunted faith of Abraham and Sarah was a product of their flesh; why did they both laugh behind God's back, so to speak, at the preposterous promise of a child being born to them in their old age. They were so full of **human doubt**, Abraham even accepted Sarah's maid, who was much younger. **Abraham still doubted** God's ability, after being told again that he was going to have a child

by Sarah and he tried to talk God into accepting Ishmael for that promised seed. **Faith** is the gift of God; and God poured out a full measure for Abraham and Sarah. They needed it to perform God's purpose. <u>But God authored it</u>.

What I am about to write, some of you may already know. Maybe I am the only one that gets help from this knowledge. It is just as hard on the flesh to stand on God given faith as it is to stand on your own. You can puff up your vanity on a **feigned faith**. It was just as hard on the flesh of **Noah** to build that ark on dry land amidst all the catcalls and heckling from that wicked generation as it would have been without God given faith. It was God given faith that enabled Abraham to offer Isaac, but it still crucified his flesh. It was as hard on the flesh of Abraham to leave his father's house and go forth into the world as if God had not given him faith. God's faith overcomes our flesh.

But let us get back to the lineage of the promised seed, after the flesh. As said before, they were **not righteous**; they were not shining examples of faith and neither were they all Israelites. All the thousands of them that were before **Abraham**, and he was about the 20th generation from Adam, were not Israelites. **Terah**, the 19th from Adam was the big daddy of them all. His four children all became grandparents of Jesus. He begat **Abraham** by one wife and **Sarah** by another. They married and became the grandparents of Jesus as you all know.

Every version of the Bible I have seen, agrees that Sarah was a daughter of Abraham's father but not of his mother. Because Moses came along and said that was an abomination to God and cut a man out of the covenant of Israel; later day Jewish historians attempted to pass Iscah, the daughter of Abraham's brother, Haran off as Sarah. They have no ground to stand on as both Sarah and Iscah are mentioned in adjoining sentences in all the old scrolls; as though they were two persons. So while Abraham did deceive **Pharaoh** and **Abimelech** at first, we can believe him when he says in Genesis 20:12, "And yet indeed she is my sister; she is the daughter of my father, but not of my mother; and she became my wife."

Isaac's human faith deserted him in the same way and fearing that God would not keep his promises made to him in Genesis 26:2-5, He **lied** to the King **Abimelech** just like his father Abraham did; only

Rebekah was in no way his sister. Are you sadistic, self-righteous lovers of torturing people in a lake of fire burning with brimstone, going to make old Isaac and Abraham take their part in the fire with all liars? But wait up: We have not come to Isaac and Rebekah, yet.

Terah also begat Nahor and Haran. Haran begat Milcah, Iscah and Lot. Abraham and Sarah begat Isaac. Uncle Nahor married niece Milcah and they begat Bethuel who begat Rebekah and Laban. Rebekah married Isaac thus making Nahor, Haran and Bethuel grandfathers of Jesus, though they were uncircumcised. Laban, that uncircumcised trickster, begat Leah. Isaac and Rebekah begat Jacob, who married Leah, thus making Laban and Jacob grandfathers of Jesus.

But don't forget **Lot** and his wife that was turned into a pillar of salt. They were **not Israelites** either. Why was she not turned into a pillar of stone? Why salt? Salt has to do with the Saviour. And because she died, her daughters made her the grandmother of our Saviour. Her **two daughters** became grandmothers of Jesus and they made Lot become a grandfather of Jesus through two seed lines: **Moab** and **Ammon**. After about 8 generations **Ruth**, **the Moabitess** was married by **Boaz**, son of Salmon and **Rahab the Canaanite harlot** who aided the spies at **Jericho**. After about 5 more generations, **Solomon** son of **David** married **Naamah an Ammonitess** and their son **Reoboam** became the first of David's seed to be **king of Judah**. Did God know Jesus' lineage?

We passed up some of the **skeletons in the closet**. In our vanity many of us have been brought up with a bountiful supply of silly superficial globs of self-righteousness. We, like blinded Israel, love to hear the **blessings**; but shun to hear the **cursings**. We have sometimes become so much better, in our own eyes than God, Himself, that we become too embarrassed and ashamed to read all of the scriptures in the Bible; because of their tendency to call a spade a spade. This has resulted in one sided pictures of the ancestors of Jesus, and of Israel, the promises and the covenants. This is what causes veteran writers to make such foolish statements as that God produced a sinless Saviour by choosing a line of just and holy ancestors. **They refuse to accept the picture of grace.**

Were Rebekah and Jacob righteous ancestors? The birthright in families of Israel carried with it a **double portion** of any inheritance.

So when **Esau** came back from hunting in the fields unsuccessfully and he was so faint he thought he was on the point to die, and **Jacob** refused him anything to eat, except at the price of his **birthright**: it was no small **swindle**. But Jacob, that just and holy grandfather of Jesus, made Esau swear away his birthright before he would give the starving man a bite to eat.

Now to add insult to injury, Esau's own mother, Rebekah, that just and holy grandmother of Jesus **evilly conspired** with Jacob to wrestle even the blessing, that belonged to Esau as the firstborn son, away from blind and aged Isaac. When Jacob protested that the trick might fail and Isaac would then curse him, Rebekah said, 'Upon me be thy curse, my son.'

It was in the Logos from the beginning that Jacob was to have the blessings and promises that had been given to Abraham and Isaac. They did not know that their evil would work out God's will. When <u>all</u> the dead, small and great, stand before God and are judged according to their works; and <u>all liars</u> are cast into the lake of fire and brimstone; will Jacob and Rebekah be eternally damned?

You know how righteously grandpa Jacob took care of Laban's stock, so Laban ended up with all the scrawny, sickly, lame, halt and blind stock and Jacob ended up with all the strong, healthy ones. You also must know how **grandmother Leah** bought another night with Jacob for a bouquet of flowers, after Jacob had deserted her and was living with **Rachel**. You know that between Leah, Rachel and their two maids, Jacob had twelve sons. **Judah** was the one God had chosen before the world was, through whom that **promised seed** was to come. That **seed promise** is not a part of Gen. 49:10.

Was he possibly to be the first of a line of righteous, holy fathers of Jesus? Not in the LOGOS of God. No. He was the first of the tribe of **Judah** who was so **greedy** for money He suggested to the rest of the brothers that they sell Joseph into bondage for money. They did and then smeared animal blood on Joseph's coat and took it to Jacob. He **lied to Jacob** and told him the animals must have torn Joseph up and eaten him. More liars for that lake of fire, O, beloved of the Lord, who glued the pages of our books together?

Or do you, like Judah, make a distinction as to who commits the sin? **Judah**, himself went out in the streets and went in unto a **harlot**

and she became pregnant with his child. Judah could find no sin in that. But when his widowed daughter-in-law was reported to him as having been a harlot and was with child: Judah immediately said, "Bring her forth and let her be burned." [Gen. 38:24] Why was she spared? Because **Tamar** proved that she was the harlot Judah had gone into. And the baby he had been so willing to burn up with her was his own. Judah's sense of justice was not blind. It made a difference to him whether it was himself or someone else that committed the sin.

That could not change God's LOGOS which was written in the beginning. Judah was still to be the grandfather of Jesus. Tamar, the harlot, was to be a **grandmother of Jesus**. The seed of the woman which was to bruise the head of the serpent was just as much the **seed of Tamar** as it was the seed of Eve or Sarah. It turned out that Tamar bore twins to Judah and one of them was **Pharez** who was also in that **seed line of Jesus**. Do you just suppose that maybe God might be trying to tell us something about **grace** with all these incidents?

Deuteronomy 23:2 says, "One **born of a harlot** shall <u>never</u> enter the assembly of the Lord. Even to the 10th generation, none of his descendants shall enter the assembly of the Lord." If you limited the 'never' to 10 generations it would still include **David**. The 8th verse tells us that if an Israelite took on an Egyptian or an Edomite, their descendants could enter the assembly in the third generation.

This brings us to **Ruth**, who only entered this world because the eldest daughter of Lot got him so drunk he did not know it was his own daughter he was lying with, and they had a child and they named him **Moab**. Ruth was born into Moab's family in the land of Moab. As you know from Peter's declaration to Cornelius in Acts 10:28, It was a transgression of the law for any Jew to keep company or come unto one of any other nation. This law was not limited to the tribe of Judah but was handed down from Moses when he told Israel not to give their sons and daughters to those of other nations. "For thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God: the Lord thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto Himself, above all people that are on the face of the earth." [Deut. 7:6] That puffs Israel's vanity much more than Amos 9:7-8 where God tells Israel they are just like Ethiopians to Him and He will destroy their kingdom off the earth.

Deuteronomy 23:3-6, "An Ammonite or Moabite shall not enter into the congregation of the Lord; even to their 10th generation shall they not enter into the congregation of the Lord for ever." This is another place using that Hebrew word 'olam' which means a time period of indeterminate length: 3 days in Jonah 2:6; from Moses until the faith of Jesus Christ came, as far as the law was concerned. In 1 Kings 9:3, the Lord said He had hallowed Solomon's temple, to put His name there for ever (olam); and His eyes and heart were to be there perpetually. That 'olam' lasted about 420 years until God had Nebuchadnezzar's men burn the temple down.

How long were the Ammonites and the Moabites to be kept out of the congregation? How long was that 'for ever' of Moses? He said it was to be more than 10 generations. For the generations that came down through **Ruth**, that would exclude the **seed line of Jesus** down through David and six more generations from entering the congregation of the Lord.

But just one minute! The sixth verse of that 23rd chapter of Deuteronomy says, "Thou shalt not seek their peace nor their prosperity all thy (Israel's) days for ever." If Israel's days were still in existence in the 'olam' or time of Jesus; no man of Israel was to seek his peace or prosperity. He was born in a line coming down through strange wives.

Can you even imagine God telling Israel of David's time, "Thou shalt not seek David's peace nor his prosperity all thy days for ever"? Or, God telling John the Baptist and the apostles and disciples of Jesus, "Thou shalt not seek the peace of Jesus, nor his prosperity all the days of their lives, because he was a descendant of **Ruth**, who was a Moabitess woman."?

The nearest kinsman in Israel who had a right to buy **Naomi's** land refused to do so because he knew he would also have to marry the Moabitess, Ruth. He knew that would **mar his own inheritance** in Israel. **Boaz also knew that; but he married Ruth anyway.** He, therefore and all his descendants, even David, Solomon and Jesus, have a **marred inheritance** in Israel, from **Tamar**, and **Ruth**, and from **Rahab**.

The next grandparent of real note after Boaz and Ruth was **David**

whom God claimed was a man after His own heart. Surely this must be the start in God's plan to have a pure seed line through which to produce a sinless Saviour. Not so, according to God's Logos; and not so, even according to our Bibles.

David could not claim ignorance of the law. He knew all about the law of Moses. He knew it said, "Thou shalt **not covet** thy neighbor's wife." [Ex. 20:17] He knew the law which we read in Leviticus 18:20, "Thou shalt **not lie carnally** with thy neighbor's wife." He knew the law said, "Thou shalt **not commit adultery**." [Ex. 20:14]

David also knew the penalty for the transgression of that law, as we read in Lev. 20:10, "And the man that committeth adultery with another man's wife, even he that committeth adultery with his neighbor's wife, the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be **put to death**." As King of Israel, he more than likely had sentenced many to death for adultery: just as Judah (who knew the precepts of Noah) was so quick to say of Tamar, who had played the harlot and was pregnant out of wedlock, "Bring her in and burn her."

But **David** and **Bathsheba** were not righteous and holy grandparents of Jesus. They were human beings **subjected by God to all the sex drives** that were a part of Adam, Eve, Judah and **you** and **me**. But David went even farther astray from the law. In order to cover up his transgression, he attempted to deceive Bathsheba's husband, **Uriah**, who was away as a soldier fighting for David and Israel.

He gave him permission to go home and spend the night with Bathsheba so when the child was born he would think he was the father. Uriah did not think that would be fair for him to be allowed to go home while his men were confined in the army barracks. Upon his refusal of David's offer, **David conspired to have him murdered**.

David was perfectly familiar with the law which said, "Thou shalt **not kill**." [Ex. 20:13] David also knew the law we read in Lev. 24:17, "And he that killeth any man shall surely be **put to death**." And Numbers 35:30, "Whoso killeth any person, the murderer shall be **put to death**." In fact, according to scripture David had many people put to death for killing someone. But when he was the guilty party, like Judah, he neither took his own life nor that of **Bathsheba**. And God, who had known all of David's days before there ever was one of them; **humbled David by the mouth of Nathan the prophet**.

Nathan put a theoretical case to David and when David said such a scoundrel should make four fold restitution and should surely be put to death; Nathan told him he was the man. While the Lord promised that the sword would never depart out of the house of David and the Lord would raise up evil against David out of his own house; and would take David's wives and give them to his neighbors to lie with before all Israel Nathan also told David, "The Lord has also put away thy sin; thou shalt not die." [2 Sam. 12:13]

Now just suppose that when Nathan had told David about that theoretical man, David had looked back to the Pentateuch and seen that **God did not destroy Cain** for murdering **Abel**; but had shown him **grace**, and had even pronounced a sevenfold curse on any one who did slay Cain. And he could have seen that when the sons of Jacob had slain every male of Hamor's City by a contemptible, deceitful trick, after making a covenant with them, and made their father Jacob to be a stink among the Canaanites: God showed them **grace** and did not require their blood to be shed for all that innocent blood they spilt. Though Genesis 9:6 quotes God as telling Noah, "Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made He man."

Yes, **David** could have looked back at the grace God had shown to his grandfather **Judah** and his grandmother **Tamar**, the harlot who conceived David's grandfather **Pharez**, out of wedlock. God had not destroyed any of them. And he could have seen God's grace that was bestowed on his grandfather **Boaz**, who married the **Moabitess**, **Ruth**, who bore him **Obed**, who begat **Jesse**, who begat **David**, himself.

And David could have said, "Nathan, God is merciful, and full of grace. Let us pray to God and ask that He forgive that man that has done this despicable thing." But David, being very zealous of the law, and perfectly satisfied with its demands that the soul that sinneth must be put to death, forgot that he, himself, had just broken four or five of the ten commandments.

He forgot about the **grace** of God that had been poured out upon his forebears, <u>contrary</u> to the precepts of Noah and the laws of Moses. Apart from that **grace** David would not have been there that day as king of Israel. In **self-righteousness** he became exceedingly

angry at Nathan's theoretical man and told Nathan, "As the Lord liveth, the man that hath done this thing shall surely die." [2 Sam. 12:5]

Then **Nathan** told him that he was that sinful man but the Lord had PUT AWAY DAVID'S SIN, and he would not die. David later described the blessedness of the man unto whom the Lord would not impute sin; and of the blessedness of the man to whom the Lord would **impute righteousness** WITHOUT WORKS.

Once more God had shown that He was never bound by any carnal commandment. The righteousness of God apart from the law had been manifested. "What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? God forbid. For He saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion." [Rom. 9:14:15] If God had paid any attention to the requirements of the law and had enforced them on their ancestors, neither David, nor Jesus, nor any other man of Israel would have remained.

Isaiah said, "Except the Lord of Sabaoth had left us a seed (by grace), we had been as Sodoma, and been made like unto Gomorrha." [Isa. 1:9, Rom 9:29] Jesus of Nazareth was produced as a result of the manifestation of the **grace of God**; in spite of the precepts of Noah and the laws of Moses, not because of them.

Do not blame Noah nor Moses. Moses said God had shown him that Israel was not going to keep the commandments and that the secret things belonged unto God, but to him it was given to teach the commandments and it was for Israel to try to keep them. God did not reveal to Moses that Israel could not keep them. He only told Moses they would not keep them.

God did reveal the truth to Joshua, but when he told Israel, they refused to believe it; and Joshua made them write it on a witness stone <u>against themselves</u>. It was never revealed to the fathers, prophets nor to the apostles that God was going to be in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses against any man in the world. When Jesus said He would draw all men unto Himself, the apostles could not understand it; and were not able to believe it because that was a Spiritual truth and they had not yet been given the Holy Spirit.

But to get back to the seed line: Why did God spare David and Bathsheba alive. For the very same reason He saved Adam and Eve when they disobeyed. God could not destroy Adam and Eve until after Seth was born. God had promised that from that union **one seed** was to come and bruise the serpent's head. God could not let all flesh be destroyed in the flood for that same reason. Neither could God require the blood of the 12 sons of Jacob because of the innocent blood of Hamor's people, which they had shed. God had extended that promise of the 'one seed' to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. In the Logos it was planned to come down through Judah.

Judah could not burn Tamar for playing the harlot in Israel, because in God's Logos she was the one to bear Judah's **seed-line** of Jesus. God in His infinite wisdom allowed the Moabitess, Ruth, to come on the scene and marry Boaz at a time when there was no one like Moses, Ezra or Nehemiah around to cut her and all her descendants off. They would have cut off Ruth and her son Obed in righteous indignation before they could pollute the 'holy seed' of Judah and Israel.

God had to preserve Ruth because that 'one seed that was to become Christ' was to be from Boaz through her. Boaz begat Obed, Obed begat Jesse and Jesse begat David. You see, God's recipe as to what ingredients were to go into the **seed line** of Jesus were different from those given by Moses. We will show you how different, as we go along. To fulfill the logos of Moses, David and Bathsheba must surely be put to death.

To fulfill the Logos of God, they could not be put to death. Bathsheba was the one God had foreordained to bear the **seed** (Greek '**sperma**') of David, from which the '**one seed**' was to come.

After God took their **illegitimate child**, Bathsheba bore David four more sons. Not one act of Shammuah, Shobab or Nathan is ever mentioned in the old testament. Nor was any prophecy ever made that one of those three sons of David and Bathsheba, would be in the **royal seed line of Jesus**. Luke does mention Nathan as begetting one of those who were progenitors of Jesus, according to his account of the <u>gene</u>alogy.

As you know the other son of David, through Bathsheba, was

Solomon. I have never seen a commentary that would deny that Jesus of Nazareth was a descendant of David, because of David's sins. I have read many commentaries that try to deprive Solomon his place in the seed line, because of his sins. Many teachers of self-righteousness welcome Luke's differences in the generations of Jesus from those of Matthew. What does God think and say about Solomon.

In direct contradistinction to the complete ignoring of the life of Nathan in the scriptures: **Solomon** and his life and activities are well covered. Over 10 years before David saw Bathsheba sunning herself, God promised Solomon to David as recorded in 2 Samuel 7:12-15. "And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom. **He shall build a house for my name**, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom for ever (olam). I will be his father, and he shall be my son. If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men: But My mercy shall not depart away from him, as I took it from Saul." God was speaking of Solomon, not Nathan.

Solomon arrives in the scriptures in 2 Sam. 12:24. Bathsheba bare David a son. "And he called his name **Solomon**: and the Lord loved him. And He sent by the hand of Nathan the prophet; and he called his name **Jedidiah** (Jah is friend), because of the Lord." Are you a bit frightened that maybe the Lord made a mistake there and misplaced His friendship?

If any of you are still sitting on the judgment seat against Solomon, take a look at 1 Chronicles 28:5-6. David said, "And of all my sons, (for God has given me many sons), He hath chosen Solomon, my son, to sit upon the throne of the kingdom of the Lord over Israel. And He (God) said unto me, Solomon, thy son, he shall build MY house and MY courts; for I (God) have chosen him to be MY son, and I (God) will be his father." Solomon was the son of David, according to the flesh seed of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob: but God had chosen him from all of David's sons to be His son, according to the Spirit. The seed line was to come down through Solomon.

There can be obedient sons and disobedient sons. A father might be proud of the actions of his son, or he might be angry with his son. A father may try to disown his son; or a son may try to disown his father: but that son was still begotten by that father, and nothing either could do can change it. **They are still father and son.**

The scriptures say that the Lord loved Solomon; that He would be his father and would not let His mercy depart from Solomon. God appeared to Solomon at least twice and counselled him. David and the prophets counselled him. God said He gave him more **earthly wisdom** than any one before him or that would be after him. Surely he must be the start of that righteous parentage to bring forth a sinless Jesus. If God had ever given any man such a capability: Solomon was that man.

But God never removed the frailty, futility, nor the vanity (which scripture tells us the Adamic creation were all subjected under by the will of God) from Solomon. Solomon knew about the law of Moses. He knew what was in that ark. He knew the story about how Uzzah tried to keep the ark from tipping over when David was having it moved to Jerusalem and how God supposedly struck him dead for touching it. That put the fear of God in David; but it did not restrain Solomon during his life Solomon was a **lover**, not a fighter.

"King Solomon **loved many strange women**, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, and Hittites; of the nations concerning which the Lord said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go in unto them, neither shall they come in unto you: for surely they will **turn your heart after their gods**: Solomon clave unto these in love.

And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart. For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the Lord his God, as was the heart of David his father. For Solomon went after **Ashtoreth** the goddess of the **Zidonians**, and after **Milcom** the abomination of the **Ammonites**.

And **Solomon did evil** in the sight of the Lord, and went not fully after the Lord, as did David his father. Then did Solomon build an high place for **Chemosh**, the abomination of **Moab**, in the hill that is before Jerusalem and for **Molech**, the abomination of **Ammon**." [1 Kings. 11:1-7]

Jeremiah (who is supposed to have been the one who wrote 1 & 2 Kings from handed down material) wrote in 1 Kings 11:9 that God was angry with Solomon and told Solomon personally that while He would not break His promise to David and take the kingdom of Israel away from the house of Judah and David during Solomon's life; He was going to take it away from his son. This could in no way effect the seed-line of Jesus whose genes were all known unto God before there ever was one of them. I will leave it up to you as to whether the Potter ever really was angry with a pot.

One of the Ammonite wives of Solomon was Naamah. It was through her that God chose to bring forth the generations of Jesus, according to Matthew. She was a descendant of Ammon. Ammon was the son of the younger daughter of Lot, who had, like her older sister, made Lot drunk and had a child by her own father. This of course, according to Moses, adds a further marring of any inheritance Jesus might have in the promised land. Unlike Paul, who could trace his own genes back to Hebrews on both sides, Jesus was only part Israelite, part Moabite, part Ammonite and later we will show that he was part Zidonian of the seed of Canaan the son of Ham cursed by Noah. Is it any wonder that when the resurrected Lord Jesus revealed to Paul that Israelites would have to be born again; that their flesh birth would profit them nothing: Paul then counted it all but dung? Paul knew these scriptures.

We have only examined a small number of those named in the Bible as being in the <u>gene</u>alogy of Jesus. If it were possible to scrutinize all the millions who were his ancestors, there is no way of telling how many of them were of forbidden nations or immoralities, according to the law of Moses; **but were foreknown and not only permitted by God to be his parentage, but were foreordained as such.**

Perhaps the Lord had better luck getting righteous ancestors for Jesus after Solomon. Not according to what God has permitted to come down to us in the scriptures. **God took the kingdom** of Israel away from the house of David during the reign of Solomon's son, **Rehoboam**. For David's sake God left **Judah a kingdom** apart from Israel. There were 19 more descendants of Solomon who sat on the throne of the kingdom of Judah, before God destroyed the independent kingdom of Judah, the city of Jerusalem, the temple of Solomon and the **earthly throne of David**.

Almost every one of them are accused in the scriptures of worshipping other gods and of doing evil in the sight of God. But God miraculously preserved that royal seed line from Abraham down through Judah, David, Solomon and **Zerubbabel** and to Jesus of Nazareth God never failed David a man in that line to the throne of God promised to Solomon. Because the split kingdoms were both descendants of Abraham, many of their kings names were the same. Both kingdoms had kings named Jehoram, Ahaziah, Joash, Jehoash, and Jehoahaz. To make it even tougher, Judah's Ahaziah was called Jehoahaz part of the time and Azariah at other times. Both Jehorams were called Joram some times. Between 2 Kings 14:2 and 14:16 Israel's and Judah's kings Joash are switched back and forth to Jehoash many times. Later another of the kings of Judah was called Azariah, nine times and Uzziah, 23 times. In 2 Kings 15 alone, Azariah is used 7 times and Uzziah is used 4 times for the same king. The three sons of Iosiah who became kings, all had more than one name.

As this chapter is about the <u>gene</u>rations of that 'one seed' of Abraham; I will only take up those rulers of Israel who are mentioned in scripture as being part of the <u>gene</u>alogy of Jesus because of intermarriage with the <u>royal seed line of David</u> in the kingdom of Judah. However, this naturally did make every one of their ancestors a pro<u>gen</u>itor of Jesus, just as much as Adam and Eve, Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah, Judah and Tamar, Boaz and Ruth, or David and Bathsheba, **after the flesh**.

Jehoshaphat, the fourth king of Judah, made an alliance with Ahab the wicked king of Israel. He also arranged for the marriage of his own son, Jehoram, to Athalia who was the daughter of king Ahab and queen Jezebel. King Jehoshaphat had other sons beside Jehoram, but when Jehoram became king of Judah with Jezebel's daughter as his queen, he immediately killed all his brothers so they could never rise up and take the throne of David from him or his children. 2 Chron. 21:1-4.

According to 2 Kings 8:18-19 (by Jeremiah) and 2 Chronicles 21:6-7 (by Ezra), ["And he] Jehoram walked in the ways of the kings of Israel, like as did the house of Ahab: for he had the daughter of Ahab to wife: and he wrought that which was evil in the eyes of the Lord. Yet the Lord would not destroy Judah for David His servant's

sake, as He promised him to give him alway a light, and to his children."

That light was to be that 'one seed' who was to come unto his own and his own would receive him not. Notice that word 'alway'. The word in the original Hebrew text was <u>not</u> that word 'olam' (which means a period of time with an **indefinite length** of very few to very many days; and was translated into such words as 'ever', 'forever', 'eternal', 'everlasting' and 'forevermore' incorrectly).

The Hebrew words used were 'kol hayyamim'; which means for 'all the days'. The Greek Septuagint used the words 'paoas tas hemerai' which also translates 'all the days'. These are the same words used when the Lord told Jeroboam, through the prophet Ahijah, that David would have a light alway (kol hayyamim) That prophecy was in 1 Kings 11:36. Those same words were used in 2 Chronicles by Ezra but the translators used the word 'forever' which is alright in this place.

The house of Judah or the house of David, as Ezra calls it in Chronicles, could not be destroyed because the promise of God to David that the 'one seed' was to come from him, according to the flesh, was irrevocable. There never was any IF in the promise of the seed-line to Adam and Eve; to Abraham and Sarah, to Judah and Tamar or to David and Bathsheba.

In the promises in 2 Samuel where God promised David that from his issue a descendant would build God a house; God also promised to **build David a house** and establish that house and a kingdom and a throne. This was a **Spiritual promise** for the future as you can tell by the amazement with which David received it in 2 Samuel 7:19. "And this was yet a small thing in thy sight, O Lord God; but thou hast spoken also of thy servant's house for a great while to come. And is this the manner of man, O Lord God?" It was to be **Spiritual**.

Remember that it was after the sins of Jehoram that Kings and Chronicles mention that it did not cause God to destroy the house of Judah or David. Jehoram is in Solomon's line, not Nathan's. But let us look and see just how close God came to having all that royal seed line of David destroyed.

Jehoram had killed all his own brothers» (2 Chronicles 21:4). God then caused Jehoram to die by a **terrible disease**; but not before he and **Athaliah** (the daughter of **Jezebel**) had children: for God must preserve that **seed line**. However, God did stir up and send the **Arabians** and **Philistines** to kill all the children of Jehoram and Athaliah <u>except</u> **Jehoahaz**, their youngest son, who is called **Ahaziah** from that time on. All this can be found in 2 Chronicles 21.

And **Ahaziah**, the son of Jehoram and Athaliah and the grandson of Ahab and Jezebel began to reign over Judah, on the throne of David when he was forty two years old. His wife was **Zibiah** of Beersheba and all their children were in the royal seedline of David. When the Arabs and Philistines slew the brothers of Ahaziah, they did not slay their sons; so these sons were also of David's royal seed.

Over in the kingdom of Israel, **Jezebel's** cup of iniquity had become quite full. The Lord appointed **Jehu** to destroy her and all her seed in Israel. He did not go over into Judah and destroy Athaliah, Ahaziah and his sons, nor the sons of Ahaziah's brothers. But 2 Chronicles 22:7 tells us that the destruction of Ahaziah was of God. It was not long before Ahaziah, with the princes of Judah and the sons of his brothers which were all ministering to Ahaziah, went over into the kingdom of Israel to consort with their relatives of the house of Ahab. Jehu caught them there and killed them all. In the account by Ezra in 2 Chronicles 22:9 it says that this left the house of Ahaziah without power to keep the kingdom of Judah.

That is hardly an inspired statement from God. All the royal seed of Ahaziah were back home in Judah; alive and well, as yet. God had not failed David. However, when **Athaliah**, the daughter of **Jezebel**, learned that her son **Ahaziah** was dead; she arose and destroyed all the **seed royal of the house of Judah**. At least she attempted to do that even though they were **her own grandchildren**, **the sons of Ahaziah**. 2 Chronicles 22:10.

Remember what the scripture said when Jehoram had sinned so terribly? God did not destroy the house of Judah because of a promise He had made to David. If **Athaliah** had destroyed all the **seed royal of the house of Judah** as that 10th verse said, God's word would not be true. 2 Chronicles 22 goes on to explain that Ahaziah's sister, the wife of Jehoiada the priest; stole **Joash**, **the baby son of Ahaziah**, from among the kings sons that were being

slain, and hid him for six years in the house of God, so **Athaliah** slew him not.

Athaliah took the rulership over the kingdom of Judah and sat on the throne of David for more than six years. It is evident that she was a woman (Heb. 'ishshah'): not a man (Heb. 'ish'). It is evident that she was not a seed of Judah or of David. This of course does absolute violence to the beautiful but unscriptural teaching that God promised David an unbroken continuity of men sitting on the throne of Israel or Judah.

When David was about to die, this is what he told Solomon the Lord had promised him. "Keep the charge of the Lord thy God, to walk in His statutes, and His commandments, and His judgments, and His testimonies, as it is written in the law of Moses, that thou mayest prosper in all that thou doest, and whithersoever thou turnest thyself: That the Lord may continue His word which He spake concerning me, saying, IF thy children take heed to their way, to walk before me in truth with all their heart and with all their soul, there shall not fail thee (said He) a **man** (Heb. 'ish') on the throne of Israel." [1 Kings 2:3-4]

As you know, that was **not a gracious promise** from God. That was a **wage that; must be earned** by keeping the law of Moses and by works of righteousness which God knew not one seed of David would be capable of until Christ came. And He said, "My kingdom is not of this world." [John 18:36]

Solomon assured a <u>breach</u> in the covenant to the house of David, whereby a man (ish) out of the loins of David was to sit on the throne of <u>Israel</u>, when he worshipped other gods and built altars to them. **Athalia, a woman of the seed of Ham, broke the continuity of a man out of the seed of David sitting on the throne of David when she ruled <u>Judah</u> for over six years from the throne of David.**

If God had promised a continuity of men of David's seed sitting on the throne without any 'IF'; God would have kept it without any breach. However, God had made some gracious promises to David. God had promised David that his house was going to remain beyond the customs of men. God had promised David that the 'one seed' who was to become The King of Glory would come through his seed. God never failed David a man (ish) in the seed line to

that throne. If God had made it possible for any one of them to be righteous before Jesus came; they could have claimed the whole kingdom over Israel. None were righteous, no, not one.

God preserved Joash, grandson of Athaliah, Ahab and Jezebel, Zidon, Canaan and Ham on one side but of Jehoram, Solomon, David, Judah and Abraham on the other. He was also called Jehoash. When he was seven years old, he was brought out of hiding by Jehoiada the priest and was set on the throne of Judah. Athaliah was killed.

Was **Joash** a righteous grandfather of Jesus? Jehoiada, the priest who had preserved his life was later stoned to death at the order of Joash. He also slew Jehoiada's sons, so he was no righteous contributor to a sinless Savior.

This would not be an adequate picture of the **wickedness of the seed line** if we left out grandfather **Manasseh**. He did evil in the sight of the Lord by building altars to **Baal** and to the hosts of heaven, even in the temple of the Lord, built by Solomon, which God said He had hallowed for an 'Olam'.

"Moreover **Manasseh** shed innocent blood very much, till he had filled Jerusalem from one end to another; beside his sin wherewith he made Judah to sin, in doing that which was evil in the sight of the Lord." [2 Kings 21:16] He is the one tradition blames for sawing **Isaiah** in two.

If sinless men come from righteous fathers: something must have gone wrong with **Manasseh**. His father, King **Hezekiah**, was the **most righteous king Judah or Israel** ever had. He had broken down all the high places, and broke all the images, and cut down the groves. He even broke in pieces the brazen serpent which Moses had made because the people were beginning to worship it instead of the Lord God.

Yet **Manasseh** was the **most evil of all the kings** and it was his sins that caused the cup to overflow and started the end of the kingdom of Judah. **His son** followed in his footsteps and did evil in the sight of the Lord. However his grandson, **Josiah**, followed more in the footsteps of king Hezekiah and the same glowing praises were given him in the scriptures as were told of Hezekiah.

When a **book of the law** was accidently found in the temple; young king **Josiah** set about to clean up both Judah and Israel. In so doing he fulfilled the prophecy made to king **Jeroboam** of Israel over three hundred years before Josiah was born. Josiah knew from what was read to him from that book of the law that Judah was done for. Also he had sent his priests, scribes and servants to the prophetess, **Huldah**, and she had sent him word that "Thus saith the Lord, Behold, I will bring evil upon this place, and upon the inhabitants thereof, even all the curses that are written in the book which they have read before the king of Judah." [2 Chr. 34:24] But He promised that He would gather Josiah unto his fathers and not witness all the evil God was going to bring on Judah and its inhabitants. Josiah went out to fight the enemy and was killed.

Josiah had four sons of the **royal seed of David**. Three of them became kings on the throne of David. The first to become king was **Shallum**, also called **Jehoahaz**. He reigned three months and God sent **Pharaoh-ne-choh** who took him captive into Egypt and according to Jeremiah God said he would never return.

Pharaoh-ne-choh took **Eliakim** another son of Josiah and changed his name to **Jehoiakim** and set him on David's throne over Judah. During the reign of Josiah, God had already announced what He would do to Judah. 2 Kings 23:26-27, "Notwithstanding the Lord turned not from the fierceness of His great wrath, wherewith His anger was kindled against **Judah**, because of all the provocations that Manasseh had provoked Him withal."

"And the Lord said, I will **remove Judah** out of my sight, as I have **removed Israel**, and will **cast off** this city Jerusalem which I have chosen, and the house of which I said, My name shall be there."

Those of you who know the scriptures will recognize the foregoing as the covenant that God made to Solomon which has come down to us as so many other ones as being forever and perpetually. Of course they were based on the proposition: If David's children all kept the laws, commandments, ordinances, and statutes of Moses and IF none of David's **royal seed** worshipped any other God. I will take that up later.

Again in 2 Kings 24:2-4 it says of **Jehoiakim** "And the Lord sent

against him bands of the **Chaldees**, and bands of the **Syrians**, and bands of the Moabites, and bands of the children of Ammon, and sent them **against Judah to destroy it**, according to the word of the Lord, which He spake by His servants the prophets. Surely at the commandment of the <u>Lord</u> came this upon Judah, to remove them out of his sight, for the sins of Manasseh, according to all that he did; and also for the innocent blood that he shed: for he filled Jerusalem with innocent blood; which the <u>Lord would not pardon</u>." God pardoned **Manasseh**, but destroyed **Judah**.

In Jer. 22:19 God said of **Jehoiakim**, "He shall be buried with the burial of an ass, drawn and cast forth beyond the gates of Jerusalem." In Jer. 36:30-31 it says, "Therefore thus saith the Lord of Jehoiakim king of Judah; **He shall have none to sit on the throne of David** [This is an error in our copies of scripture – see below]: and his dead body shall be cast out in the day to the heat, and in the night to the frost. And I will punish him and his <u>seed</u> and his servants for their iniquity; and I will bring upon them, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and upon the men of Judah, all the evil that I have pronounced against them; but they hearkened not."

Notice that it says that **Jehoiakim** was to have none to sit on the throne of David. At this point in the recording of the **seed line** of Jesus; several errors have been allowed to creep into the scriptures that have come down to our time. **Jeremiah** was alive and he was God's resident prophet at that time in Jerusalem. In his record in 2 Kings 24:6 & 8, he says, "So **Jehoiakim** slept with his fathers: and **Jehoiachin** his son reigned in his stead." "Jehoiachin was eighteen years old when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem three months." If God had told Jeremiah that Jehoiakim would have none to sit on the throne of David; he would have had none. Jehoiachin would not have reigned one minute on that throne. There are no errors in God's LOGOS which was in the beginning with God and was God. In Him there is no variance nor shadow caused by turning.

2 Chronicles 36:8-9, supposedly written by Ezra, backs up 2 Kings 24:6-8, supposedly written by Jeremiah who was there as prophet at the time, in stating that **Jehoiakim** had a son **Jehoiachin** who reigned in his stead when he died. He is recognized as king of Judah in 2 Kings 24:12, and 25:27: also in Esther 2:6, Jeremiah 29:2, and 52:31: also in Ezekiel 1:2. He is also listed in the **royal seed line of the generations of Jesus** in 1 Chronicles 3:16-17 and in Matthew

1:11-12.

With all those scriptures agreeing that Jehoiakim's son Jehoiachin (also called Coniah and Jeconiah) did sit on the throne of David, we must conclude that our versions of Jeremiah 36:30 is incorrect in saying that Jehoiakim would have no seed to sit on the throne of David. Therefore that portion of your Bible cannot be the LOGOS or word of God. I do not believe Jeremiah was the guilty one in making that erroneous statement. I do know that if God had said it: it would have come to pass. That is the difference between what God has said, and what man says God has said.

Another **little error** in the Bible record of the seed line of Christ is in 2 Chronicles 36:9, where it says **Jehoiachin** was only 8 years old when he began to reign. The books of Chronicles were written 150 to 200 years after it was recorded in 2 Kings that he was 18 years old. The figure 18 is probably correct as 2 Kings 24:15 tells us that he had wives who were taken captive with him. Also 2 Kings 24:9 says, "And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, according to all that his father had done." It is not likely that a lad of eight would have rated such a character description.

When king Jehoiachin, or Jeconiah, was taken captive to Babylon with his mother, and his wives; Nebuchadnezzar took another son of Josiah, whose name was Mattanniah and changed his name to Zedekiah and made him king in place of Jehoiachin, according to 2 Kings 24:17. And in Jeremiah 37:1 it says that king Zedekiah the son of Josiah reigned instead of Coniah (Jeconiah or Jehoiachin) the son of Jehoiakim, whom Nebuchadnezzar made king in the land of Judah.

However, 1 Chronicles 3:16 says, "The sons of Jehoiakim: Jeconiah his son, Zedekiah his son." While in 2 Chronicles 36:10 it says, "... Nebuchadnezzar brought Jeconiah to Babylon, and made Zedekiah his brother king over Judah and Jerusalem." If the Zedekiah was Jeconiah's brother; he would have been a second seed of Jehhoiakim to set on the throne of David and ruler over Judah and Jerusalem.

King Zedekiah refused to obey the Lord and lead Judah into captivity to Babylon, even after the Lord let down the two baskets of figs, one full of good figs and the other full of vile figs that could not

be eaten. Jeremiah 24 [verse 5] tells us, "... Like the good figs, so will I acknowledge them that are carried away captive of Judah, whom I have sent out of this place into the land of the **Chaldeans** for their good." That would include Jeconiah.

"And as the evil figs, which cannot be eaten, they are so evil; surely thus saith the Lord, So will I give Zedekiah the king of Judah, and his princes, and the residue of Jerusalem, that remain in the land, and them that dwell in Egypt: And I will deliver them to be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth for their hurt, to be a reproach and a proverb, a taunt and a curse, in all places whither I shall drive them. And I will send the sword, the famine, and the pestilence among them, till they be consumed from the land that I gave unto them and to their fathers." [Jer. 24:8-10] Which basket included the king's daughters? There were many, then, even as now, who loved Israel, Judah, Jerusalem, the temple, the traditions, and even the law (for what they could use it for in lip service), more than they loved God. So with King Zedekiah, they disobeyed God, abused Jeremiah, and fought against Nebuchadnezzar. Zedekiah was captured and all his sons were put to death in front of his eyes and then they blinded him and took him captive to Babylon where he died. He was the last king out of the loins of Judah to sit on the throne of David and rule the people of Judah.

As God had prophesied through Jeremiah 7:1-16 and 26:6, "Then will I make this house like **Shiloh**, and will make this city a curse to all the nations of the earth." **Shiloh** had come again. **Shiloh in scripture was a place where God scattered and chastised His own people.** No place in scripture is it used to signify the Savior. That was a Jewish fable that received it's start in the twelfth century A.D. from a family of Jewish scholars and teachers. God never used the Savior as a curse. Every family on earth will be blessed by that one seed of Abraham, Judah, and David.

Ezekiel 21:25-27, in speaking of the coming of the king of Babylon to Jerusalem to take the kingdom from Judah, says to Zedekiah, "And thou, profane wicked prince of Israel, whose day is come, when iniquity shall have an end, Thus saith the Lord God; Remove the diadem, and take off the crown: this shall not be the same: exalt him that is low, and abase him that is high. I will overturn, overturn, overturn it: and it shall be no more, until He come whose right it is; and I will give it Him." You know that is none other than the Lord

Jesus Christ.

No matter what our present versions of the scriptures tell us that Isaiah, Jeremiah or Ezekiel, or anyone else say God promised to Judah and David; the fact remains that only two men of the seed of Judah were ever permitted by the grace of God to sit on the throne as king over the kingdom of Israel.

God never did suggest that Israel would be better off if they had a king to rule over them. In their vanity they demanded that God set a king over them like the Gentiles had. God told them that no good would come from it; but they insisted. God did not give them a king of the seed of Judah but He anointed Saul the son of Kish of the tribe of Benjamin to be king over Israel.

It was over 700 years after the mistranslated and misinterpreted prophecy of Jacob that Judah was to have the scepter over his brothers for a time; before David of the seed of Judah became king over Israel and the twelve tribes were gathered to Judah. The scepter of Judah reigned over the kingdom of Israel for eighty years during the reigns of **David** and **Solomon**. God then took that scepter over Israel away from the house of Judah and of David. It was a judgment against the house of Judah, not Israel.

God then made the same covenant with Jeroboam that He had made with David and Solomon. And Jeroboam has the exact same rights to any future reign over earthly Israel as either David or Solomon does: and that is absolutely **no right at all**. The great big two letter word '**IF**' was included in that promise of the rulership over Israel, that was in the promises God made to David and Solomon. **Jeroboam failed to keep that covenant just as Solomon did**.

The kingdom of Israel did not keep the laws, statutes, ordinances and commandments and so when God knew their cup was full, He destroyed that kingdom and scattered its people all over the world, as He had prophesied. That was a judgment against Israel, not a blessing. They became a proverb and byword, a hissing and a curse among all people as God had said. They were not a blessing to any nation unto which God drove them. God has never permitted another earthly king to rule over the twelve tribes of Israel unto this day.

As we have already told you, God did save an earthly king line and throne of David which ruled over Judah and Benjamin with only the six year breach made when **Athaliah**, the daughter of **JEZEBEL** ruled on the throne of David. We also brought you to the **destruction of the kingdom of Judah**, **the temple of Solomon** (which God had supposedly hallowed for ever and in which He supposedly had placed His name perpetually); and the burning of the supposedly eternal city of Jerusalem; and the **taking of the people of Judah under captivity for 70 years in Babylon**.

Now do not be like so many who accuse God of going to sleep at the potter's wheel and permitting the pots to take over the factory. All these things were of God and were in His word from the beginning. The failure of the many seeds of David to retain the earthly kingdom of Israel or Judah because they were dependent upon their keeping the law and upon their having no strange gods: could have no effect upon that gracious promise which God had made to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and David that the 'one seed' that was to become the Saviour of all men and would bless every family on earth, would come from their line of genes. His kingdom is not of this world. It is a Spiritual kingdom.

This brings us back to the **seed line** and we run into some more contradictory scriptures as they are handed down to us. We left king **Jehoiachin** a prisoner of Nebuchadnezzar in Babylon. He was the 18 year old king who was also called Jeconiah and Coniah. In Jeremiah 22:30 some versions say, "... Write [ye] this man 'childless', (some versions say 'an outcast'), a man that shall not prosper in his days: for no man of his seed shall prosper, sitting on the throne of David, and ruling any more in Judah." Both 1 Chronicles 3:16-17 and Matthew 1:12 tell us that Jeconiah had a son named **Salathiel** (also called **Shealtiel**) while captive, who was in the genealogy of Zerubbabel and Jesus.

As you should know by now; **Chronicles were written long after Kings** and Jeremiah. Most of Chronicles was either copied from Kings or from the same records used by the writer of Kings. Also two or three times it talks about "the word of the Lord, by the mouth of Jeremiah the prophet". [2 Chr. 36:21-22] We can be almost certain that **Ezra**, the supposed author of Chronicles, had Kings and Jeremiah's writings before him.

If he had the slightest inkling that God had told Jeremiah to write Jeconiah barren or childless; neither Ezra nor Matthew would have written that he had children. Also if God had said he would be childless, he would not have had a child. The next thing in that prophecy was that He would not prosper 'in his days'.

And still in 2 Kings 25:27-30, the new king of Babylon let **Jeconiah out of prison**, lifted him up and set his throne above the thrones of all the kings that were with him in Babylon. He changed his prison garments and let him eat with the king all the days of his life. And he was given a continual allowance from the king until he died. He definitely did prosper in his days. Know this! If God had said that he would not prosper in his days; Jeconiah would not have prospered. As Romans 3:4 says, "Let God be true, but every man a liar."

The next part of the prophecy about Coniah, who is presumed to be Jeconiah and Jehoiachin, says, "For no man of his seed shall prosper sitting on the throne of David and ruling any more in Judah." We do know that God had removed the throne of David from the kingdoms of Israel and Judah before Salathiel was born, so he never had any chance to prosper while sitting on the throne of David and ruling in Judah.

But Salathiel's son, or grandson, Zerubbabel, (who was also called Sheshbazzar four times by Ezra) the prince of Judah, was set up by king Cyrus of Persia to be governor of Judah and was given all the treasures that had been taken to Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar. He was permitted to take every one who was willing, out of Babylon and back to Judah. The seventy years of captivity pronounced against the people of Judah were completed but they were never restored to an independent kingdom.

They have been subjects of the Egyptians, the Syrians, Assyrians, Persians, Medes, Greeks, Macedonians, Romans and Turks. Not being a student of history, I can not say if there were any others. At this day they are still attempting to regain all the promised land and save themselves by the strength of their own arm and self righteousness, while still rejecting their Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

But **Zerubbabel**, prince of Judah, of the **seed line of David through**

Solomon, according to scripture, along with **Joshua**, also known as **Jeshua**, who was given the righteousness of God that he might be the earthly type of the Lord Jesus and was crowned **The BRANCH** to fulfill certain prophecies, **rebuilt the temple**, the **tabernacle** of David that was fallen down and closed up the breaches thereof, and raised up the ruins and built it as in the days of old. This fulfilled the prophecy in Amos 9:11

While this rebuilt tabernacle stood, many of the scattered people of Israel returned to their cities and went up to worship at Jerusalem with Judah and Benjamin; returning two to a family and one to a city as it had been prophesied. **Ezra** and **Nehemiah** record all the Judaized servants, singers, porters of the **gentile families of Nethinims** who had been accepted by David. And all of them called by the name of the Lord were accepted at that time, as it said in Amos 9:12. Restricted of course to the court of the Gentiles. Also while that temple still stood, John Hyrcanus conquered Edom and Judaized them in 130 B.C. The **Herods** who were made kings over **Judah** by the **Romans** were **Jews of the seed of Esau**. The remnant of Edom had been possessed as prophesied in Amos 9:12. But let us get back to **Zerubbabel**, the link between David, Solomon, Jeconiah and Jesus.

Just as the promise that in Abraham every family on earth was to be blessed, could only be fulfilled by that 'one seed' which became Christ; and just as the sure mercies of David could be brought about by none but that 'one seed'; and the promise to Solomon of the Sonship and that he would sit on the throne of the Lord, bespoke of that 'one seed' which was to be of his issue: so also the prophesies to Zerubbabel in Haggai 2:20-23 and in Zechariah 4:6-10, were not carried out by Zerubbabel himself, but were to be fulfilled by his 'one seed' who was made both Lord and Christ at the resurrection.

Do you think Abraham, Isaac and Jacob get more pleasure in the heavenlies over the accomplishments of their many seeds after the flesh; or of that 'one seed' who became the Saviour of all men through whom every nation and family on earth will be blessed? Do you think David today would be glorying more over the building material he furnished by works, to help Solomon build an earthly temple (which temple God later had burned to the ground); or over the fact that God, by grace, let him furnish some of the building blocks for the real temple of the Lord, the body of his 'one seed'

Jesus?

Which do you think are more important; that Solomon was permitted to sit on the earthly throne of David over Israel: or as prophesied in 1 Chronicles 28:5-6 that Solomon was chosen to sit on the throne of the kingdom of the Lord over Israel? The latter must be fulfilled by his 'one seed' Jesus. And just as sure as God promised that to David: God must provide, assure, insure, secure and protect an unbroken seed (sperm) line from Solomon down to Jesus.

There must **no breach occur** like **Onan** the son of Judah made by spilling his seed on the ground rather than raise up seed to his dead brother. That breach was made up by Tamar playing the harlot and having children by Judah. It was the preserving of that seed line that caused the prophets to say each time there was a judgment or disaster to fall on Israel or Judah, that a remnant would be saved. That is why the child **Joash** was saved.

Both **Solomon** and **Zerubbabel** built **earthly temples** for the Lord and both were used in **building the temple which was the body of Jesus**. Which of those **three temples** was the most important? That third temple, Jesus, was destroyed by crucifixion by the men of Israel, according to Peter: but God raised it up again in three days just as Jesus had prophesied.

John saw **no temple in the new Jerusalem** that came down from heaven, "For **the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple** of it." [Rev. 21:22] But the resurrected Lord Jesus Christ, in a personal appearance to Paul, **revealed that the many membered body of Christ, composed of the fulness of the Gentiles and the remnant of Israel, elected by grace out of Israel; with Jesus as their head, are the temple of God.** We are His building and in Him we are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit. Only in that Spiritual temple can it be truthfully said that His name shall be there 'perpetually' (kol hayyamim – **all the days**).

But let us get back to that **seed line**. What happened to **Zerubbabel**. When **Ezra** and **Nehemiah** meticulously went through the records to purify the seed of Judah, did they discover that Zerubbabel was the descendant of at least **two Canaanite harlots**, at least one **Moabitess**, one **Ammonitess** and at least one adulteress and adulterer, and from the **daughter of Jezebel**; all of which would

exclude him from Israel and the congregation of the Lord forever?

Were they able to cut off the **seed line** that God promised to Adam and Eve; Abraham and Sarah; Judah; David; Solomon; and Zerubbabel? No. Not as long as God is the potter and rules in the affairs of men. To entertain any such thought, one must question the integrity of Almighty God. While they had been promised that the **Messiah** was to come from their **seed**; that is all they furnished: iust one sex act was all God left for them to contribute. And not one of them could take any more credit, any more glory, or any more pride in being in that seed line than Tamar, who played the harlot with Judah; or Lot; or Lot's wife; Lot's daughters; their children by Lot (their own father) Moab and Ammon; or Rahab, the Canaanitess harlot of Jericho, who aided the spies of Joshua, and later was married by Salmon of the seed line and bore him Boaz; or Ruth the Moabitess who married Boaz and bore him Obed the father of Jesse: or Bathsheba, who committed adultery with David: or Naamah the Ammonitess, Solomon's wife through whom came Rehoboam and all the royal seed line of David: or wicked king Ahab of Israel and his **Canaanite wife lezebel** or their daughter Athalia who married Judah's king Jehoram and bore him Ahaziah. the father of loash, the lad who was saved by the Lord through Jehoiada, when all the others of the royal seed line of David had been destroyed; or even Manasseh, who supposedly sawed Isaiah in two and was pardoned though the kingdom was lost.

Though not one of them met the standard set up by the law to become an Israelite, or if they were Israelites, to remain an Israelite, because of transgressions that were to cut them off from Israel, according to the law; yet every one of them contributed just as much to the genealogy of that 'one seed' as did Abraham. They all supplied genes.

The children of Israel have no more right to glory in the birth of Jesus than do the Moabites, Ammonites, or the Canaanites; and perhaps in the vast multitudes of those who made up the family tree of Jesus, there might even have been an Ethiopian or two from the family of Cush. After all, Moses, the darling of all Israel, married an Ethiopian woman of the family of Cush the first born son of Ham, after being married to Zipporah, a Midianitess. Even Moses failed to refrain from taking wives from forbidden nations, when love was involved. Yet God is recorded as rewarding Phinehas

with an 'everlasting' priesthood because he drove a javelin through the bellies of **Zimri** a son of Israel and **Cozbi** a daughter of Midian when they were caught together. Still when Aaron and Miriam spoke against Moses for marrying the Ethiopian, God made **Miriam leprous**, white as snow, and ejected her from the camp for seven days.

Nor do we know that none of the families of **Ham's** son **Mizraim** (**Egyptians**), or of **Phut** (**Libyans**); neither can we be sure that none of the grandparents of Jesus were from the family of Noah's son **Japheth**. We do know by scripture that from Adam to Joseph, or from Eve to Mary; there was **not one righteous**, **no, not so much as one; because God did not make one righteous, without Christ.**

Those blind worshippers of Moses, still foolish enough to put themselves under the curse of the law; just put their heads in the sand and fail to recognize that both Aaron and Moses were destroyed off the face of the earth by God because after slaughtering so many of Israel for their transgressions, they also transgressed against the law they put themselves under. So what did Ezra and Nehemiah proceed to do when they arrived on the scene after Zerubbabel had rebuilt the tabernacle of David that had fallen down?

There were many other transgressions besides being a harlot, an adulteress or a murderer that would cut one off from being an Israelite or covenant child. Under the law even being a descendant of one of them or of a mixed marriage with any one of Moab, Ammon or Canaan was enough to cut one off. A register was kept of each family of Israel. The land was divided out to them and was their inheritance to be passed down to them from generation to generation. Certain things marred these inheritances and certain things cut off these inheritances and barred people from the congregation of Israel.

In Ezra 2 (written about 900 years after Salmon married Rahab, the Canaanitish harlot of Jericho: about 850 years after Boaz married Ruth, the Moabitess: about 550 years after Solomon married Naamah, the Ammonitess) those of Judah, together with those of the other ten tribes who had gathered unto Judah, who returned from captivity in Babylon with Zerubbabel and Joshua (son of Josedech who had been made the Righteous Branch) were

all checked against that registry to return them to their proper inheritance.

652 of them, plus 3 families of the priests could no longer show their father's house or their **seed**, that they were of Israel. For one or more reasons their names had been expunged from those records. This is repeated in Nehemiah 7, though he only uses the figure 642 plus the three families of priests who were rejected. Did that put a stop to the children of Israel marrying the Rahabs, Ruths Naamahs or other forbidden people? **Not so you could notice it.**

After a disruption of several years of negotiating with the kings of Persia who followed Cyrus; Ezra and Nehemiah returned to start again the rebuilding of Jerusalem and Judah. In Ezra 9:1-2 it says, "The people of Israel, and the priests, and the Levites have not separated themselves from the people of the lands, doing according to their abominations, even of the Canaanites, Hittites, Perizzites, Jebusites, Ammonites, Moabites, Egyptians and Amorites. For they have taken of their daughters for themselves, and for their sons: so that the 'holy seed' have mingled themselves with the people of those lands: yea, the hand of the princes and the rulers have been chief in this trespass." When Ezra heard that he pulled out the hair of his own head. And Ezra prostrated himself before the Lord.

In Ezra's confession of Israel's transgression in Ezra 9:10-12, he says, "And now, O our God, what shall we say after this? For we have forsaken thy commandments, which thou hast commanded by thy servants the prophets, saying, 'Give not your daughters unto their sons, neither take their daughters unto your sons, nor seek their peace or their wealth for ever: that ye may be strong, and eat the good of the land, and leave it for an inheritance to your children for ever.'" Notice that those blessings, including the inheritance, was dependent upon their obedience; and they were not obedient.

One of the leaders confessed that they had taken unto themselves strange wives of the land and said in Ezra 10:3, "Now therefore let us make a covenant with our God to put away all the wives, and them that are born of them, according to the counsel of my lord, and of those that tremble at the commandment of our God; and let it be done according to the law." If Joshua, son of Nun, had been there he would have said, "Write that on a stone as witness against yourselves; because you cannot serve the Lord and keep his

commandments." All the seed of Judah would have been destroyed according to the law. Once more they were putting themselves under the curse. That was their covenant, not God's.

They called for all to gather at Jerusalem and Ezra 10:8 says, "And whosoever would not come within three days, according to the counsel of the princes and the elders, <u>ALL</u> his substance should be forfeited, and himself separated from the congregation." If this happened, such a family would be removed from the register. Their inheritance would be forfeited.

Ezra 10:10-11 says, "And Ezra the priest stood up, and said unto them, Ye have transgressed, and have taken strange wives, to increase the trespass of Israel. Now therefore make confession unto the Lord God of your fathers, and do His pleasure: and separate yourselves from the people of the land, and from the strange wives." Ezra and certain of the chief fathers examined the cases and almost 100, including many priests and Levites, were found to have taken foreign wives and some of them had children by them. They all gave their hands that they would put them away.

Nehemiah 13:1 says, "On that day they read in the book of Moses in the audience of the people; and therein was found written that the Ammonite and the Moabite should not come into the congregation of God for ever."

When they heard this law, they separated from Israel all the mixed multitude. It does not say whether they took a javelin and ran it through all those women and children, as Phineas did in Moses time, but however they disposed of them would not be pretty. By so doing and paying a fine of a ram from their flock, they thought to save the property rights in the promised land. Unlike **Boaz**, who **gladly accepted the marring of his inheritance in Israel to marry the Moabitess Ruth** and was rewarded by becoming the grandfather of David, Solomon, Zerubbabel and **Jesus**, through that marriage.

Did you ever read that Boaz ever put away Ruth, and her child Obed? Or that Solomon ever put away Naamah, and her child Rehoboam? In Nehemiah 13:23 &25, we read, "In those days also I saw Jews that had married wives of Ashdod, and of Ammon, and of Moab;" ... "And I contended with them, and cursed them, and

smote certain of them, and plucked off their hair (At least Ezra had only plucked out his own hair.) saying, Ye shall not give your daughters unto their sons, nor take their daughters unto your sons, or for your selves."

There can be no question about it; If Boaz had married Ruth, or if Solomon had married Naamah in the time of Ezra and Nehemiah; Ruth, Naamah and all their children would have been separated from the congregation of Israel and put away. According to Moses the 'olam' of exclusion of children of mixed marriages with descendants of Moab and Ammon was to last 'all the days' (kol hay yamin) of Israel.

Why was the **seed line of Jesus** overlooked in all the **purges** of the register of the 'holy seed' down through the generations of Israel? Did Moses fail to make God acquainted with all the curses in the law, when he was giving all the advise to God on how He should run His creation? Or did God just ignore him? How did Zerubbabel and his seed escape the prying eyes of those looking for an excuse to devour the property of those that forfeited it?

There is absolutely no condemnation intended in this article that the Lord did not heap upon Israel and Judah ten times over in the scriptures. God preserved that seed line of Jesus, not according to the law of Moses or the righteousness of Israel, Judah or any of his ancestors. God preserved that seedline from Abraham to Jesus in spite of the law and the unrighteousness of Israel, Judah and all of his ancestors.

That seed line comes down in scripture from Zerubbabel to Joseph, the husband of Mary. It does not come down to Mary, either in the account given by Matthew, or in that given by Luke. There is no place in scripture that states that Mary was of the tribe of Judah or of the house of David. It does say in the scriptures that her cousin Elizabeth, mother of John the Baptist, was a daughter of Aaron. And John's father, Zacharias, was a temple priest of the order of Aaron, of the tribe of Levi.

There are innumerable places in scripture saying that Jesus was the son of David, or the **seed of David**. Luke 1:27 says Mary was a virgin espoused to a man named Joseph, of the house of David. The angel **Gabriel** told her she was to bring forth a son who was to be called

the Son of the Highest, and God would give unto him the throne of his father David; who would rule over the house of Jacob to the ages; and of his kingdom there will be no end. Luke 2:4 tells us that **Joseph** was of the house and family of David.

Matthew definitely included Solomon, Jeconiah, Zerubbabel and Joseph in the genealogy or generations of Jesus. If Matthew 1 is not a truthful genealogy of Jesus, the last part of Samuel, all of 1st and 2nd Kings, all of 1st and 2nd Chronicles, much of Isaiah and several of the minor prophets, and all the book of Jeremiah, with all the records of how God preserved that **royal seed line of Jesus**, were written for nothing.

Admittedly, the book of Matthew as we have it in our present day Bibles, **leaves out 4 generations** of that line who were mentioned in Kings, Chronicles and Jeremiah. But that does not mean that Matthew left them out. (There is no version of the New Testament based on any manuscript or text written any earlier than the fourth century A.D. This we will cover in the chapter on the compiling of the canon of our Bibles and who did it.)

But whether you add the names of those four or leave them out, there is still **no way to arrive at three sets of fourteen**, as our versions have Matthew saying in verse 17. Many early Bible scholars upon running into this, decided that Matthew had not left the four out but that **some later over zealous scribe**, **desiring to purify the Holy seed of Judah**, **left out the three generations who were the nearest children and grandchildren of Athalia**, **the daughter of Jezebel and also Jehoiakim**, **because of God's supposed curse against him**. They accuse this writer of adding verse 17 as a gloss to cover their omission without realizing it only included 41 generations. Some other versions restored the name of Jehoiakim to bring the number to the necessary 42 to make Matthew 1:17 correct. This was soon dropped because it added the name to a group that already had 14, and it still left the last group short of 14.

Matthew was not an ignorant and unlearned man as was said of James, Peter and John. He was educated and could read. There is no reason to assume that he had not read Kings, Chronicles and Jeremiah. Neither should it be assumed that he would strain at listing the three generations of Jesus who came through Athaliah. The only four women that are recorded as having been used in his

genealogy of Jesus as we have it were two harlots, one Moabitess, and one adulteress.

Let us examine the genealogy of Jesus as our versions of Matthew's account give it. They say Joram begat Uzziah. That is not true, and Matthew would have known it. That of coarse leaves out Ahaziah (also called Jehoahaz once and Azariah once) who was mentioned 16 times in 2 Kings; once in 1 Chronicles and 9 times in 2 Chronicles. He was the 5th king of the kingdom of Judah to sit on the throne of David.

Also left out was Ahaziah's son **Joash** (also called Jehoash) sixth king of Judah. He was mentioned 17 times in 2 Kings; once in 1 Chronicles and 7 times in 2 Chronicles. He was the only one, according to Kings and Chronicles, of all the **royal seed** of David who was preserved by God at one point in the chronology of scripture.

King **Jehoram** had killed all his own brothers; for which God caused the Arabs to kill all of Jehoram's sons except Ahaziah. God then had **Jehu** kill all of the sons of Jehoram's brothers along with Ahaziah, after Ahazia had begotten sons of his own. **Athaliah** then destroyed all the royal seed of the house of Judah, according to 2 Kings 11:1 and 2 Chronicles 22:10. But God saved one of her grandsons, **Joash**, by the hands of **Jehosheba**, the daughter of king Jehoram and the wife of Jehoiada the priest. So what Jehoram, the Arabs, Jehu and Athaliah were not permitted by God to accomplish: Matthew (or more likely some later scribe) attempted to do with the pen. Is the pen mightier than God and the sword?

Also left out was the son of Joash, **Amaziah**, 7th king of Judah, who was mentioned 15 times in 2 Kings; once in 1 Chronicles and 19 times in 2 Chronicles. Our versions of Matthew 1:11 say, Josias begat Jechonia and his brethren, about the time they were carried away to Babylon. **That is not true** and Matthew would have known it. I am confident Matthew did not say that.

Matthew quoted far too many scriptures not to have known about all the scriptures that said that **Josiah** had four sons, Shallum, who was also called **Jehoahaz**, who reigned three months over Judah; **Eliakim**, who was also called **Jehoiakim**, who reigned for 11 years over Judah; and **Zedekiah**, who also reigned 11 years over Judah

before the destruction of Jerusalem; and Johanan. Matthew would also have known that Jehoiakim begat Jeconiah, who also was called Jehoiachin and Coniah, and was taken captive to Babylon after he had been made king of Judah upon the death of his father Jehoiakim, who is not mentioned in our versions of Matthew.

Let us study the scriptures. Matthew traces the genesis, the genealogy, the generation, the genetic line of Jesus from Abraham. When our versions prophesy of seed, descendants, sons or kings coming from the bowels or loins of the early fathers: it is referring to the physical, natural, fleshly, Adamic reproductive fluid called semen or sperm which comes from the male genetal [genital] organs, not from the bowels or loins. The Hebrew word used for it was 'gera': the Greek word was 'sperma'. The English word for 'sperma' is 'sperm'. It is never produced by a woman. That is why the scriptures give us only the male line from Adam to Jesus. The sperm of every male in the genealogy of Jesus was born by or of a woman.

Eve was the mother of us all, according to the <u>flesh</u>. Paul told the Gentile Galatians, who were Christians that they were the children of the freewoman Sarah, who was an allegory of the **New Jerusalem from above, who is the mother of us all (spiritually).** That has nothing to do with natural sperm, lineage or descent.

The birth of Jesus of Nazareth, who was the promised **Messiah** of Israel and was to become the **Saviour**, The Lord and The Christ by dying and being resurrected for all men, in order to fulfill the multitudinous promises in the scriptures that he was to be of the **sperm** of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Judah and David; could not be accomplished in Mary without the insemination of the male sperm from the generations from Adam on down, And if the genealogy according to Matthew is the truth: it had to come down through Solomon, Jeconiah Zerubbabel and Joseph. Do not become alarmed. I believe the scriptures that say she was a virgin. I believe the scriptures that say she never had known a man sexually. I believe Joseph when he said he never went in unto her. But I also believe all the scriptures which say that he was of the sperm of Abraham and David and I also believe the genealogy given by Matthew is true.

But I also believe what John the Baptist said to the Pharisees and Sadducees in Matthew 3:9 and in Luke 3:8. "Think not to say within

yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham." Does man know something today that was unknown to God at the time of the conception of Jesus? Not according to that statement.

At this present day man not only has the necessary knowledge to freeze man's sperm for as long as he wants and then use it to artificially inseminate women who desire to have children but have sterile husbands or who are single and want children without the bother of sex or marrying. Over one million people living in America today were born by this process. The commercial sperm bank is part of a growing, thriving, multi-million dollar industry in this country and in the rest of the world. There are more than a dozen sperm banks in this country alone and one company supplies almost half a hundred doctors, scattered around the U.S.

It would have been no great thing for God to have preserved some semen or sperm direct from Abraham and to have inseminated the womb of Mary as He hovered over her body. But as He had made some promises to Isaac, Jacob, Judah, David, Solomon, and Zerubbabel: He gathered that seed farther down the line. Being God, He never lied nor repented of those promises and He never changed His plan nor His Logos because of the transgressions of any of His creatures. "This thing is of Me" [1 Kings 12:24], He said once: but really all things are of God. "He worketh all things after the counsel of His own will." [Eph. 1:11]

Where then do Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba, Naamah and Athaliah enter into the genealogy of Jesus? Every woman in that lineage of Jesus furnished an 'ovum' which contributed cells and genes to the physical, Adamic body of Jesus; just as every male did through his sperm. Cells and genes of male and female determine the hereditary character of progeny.

What was Joseph and Mary's standing under that ministry of condemnation and death? According to the law of Moses, when Joseph found Mary to be with child; and Joseph was sure he had nothing to do with it: he was supposed to deliver her over to the elders of her village and they were supposed to stone her to death at the gate or on the steps of her parents home; to put away evil from Israel.

Joseph was aware of that law but rather than expose her to open shame and death, he decided to put her away privately as unclean; using as a pretext the law given in Deut. 24:1. An angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph and told him that the **insemination had been carried out by the Holy Spirit**. Joseph obeyed the angel and disobeyed the law of Moses and did not put her away or turn her in. **He covered up for Mary and protected her from the requirements of the law. He let the child be born. In this he transgressed the law.**

But, again <u>under the law of Moses</u>, if any daughter of Israel had a fatherless child, that child was <u>never</u> to be allowed to enter into the congregation of the Lord. And if he were ever to have any children, they were never to enter the house of the Lord, not even to the 10th generation. Deut. 23:2. But was Jesus a fatherless child?

Luke 3:23 says, "Jesus himself began to be about 30 years of age, being (as was supposed) the son of Joseph." Other versions say, 'being (as was allowed) a son of Joseph'; or, 'being (as it was being thought) a son of Joseph'; or, 'being (as to the law) a son of Joseph'. One version says 'supposedly' but gives the literal reading in the margin as 'as it was being thought'.

Only this admittedly wrong translation casts any doubt in that verse that Jesus was the son of Joseph. The other versions all affirm that Jesus was (as it was supposed that he was) the son of Joseph. You cannot leave the word 'as' (Greek 'hōs') out of that scripture There is a lot of difference in 'being (as was supposed) a son of Joseph': and 'being (supposedly) the son of Joseph'.

I am (as our neighbors of the past supposed) a son of Jesse Michael, son of Elijah Michael. If some one changed that statement to read that I am supposedly a son of Jesse Michael, it would leave some doubts as to who my father really was. Luke did not say that Jesus was supposedly the son of Joseph. He said Jesus was the son of Joseph, as was supposed.

Luke was an intelligent, educated man as you can tell from his books of Luke and Acts. He knew how to spell Mary. Yet, in the versions we have he did not say that Jesus was the son of Joseph through Mary, daughter of Heli of Matthat etc. back to Nathan, of David etc. back through Adam to God. Neither did he say that Joseph

was the son of Heli in the Greek text. He never used the words 'the son' in the rest of the 3rd chapter after saying that Jesus was the son of Joseph. I personally believe that Heli might well have been the father of Mary, and her lineage may have even come down through Nathan, but no such lineage is contained in the scriptures outside of Luke and he did not mention Mary in it.

But women were never given much recognition before Paul acknowledges them as equal members in the body of Christ in Galatians 3:28. "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ (by the Holy Spirit) have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus."

If Jesus was not the son of Joseph, according to the flesh; he was not the son of man as the scriptures so often call him. Under the law of Moses, he would have been a fatherless, bastard child who transgressed the law every time he entered the temple: which he often did. Though God carried it out by an angel, He did not fail in His promises to Abraham, Judah, Jesse, David, Solomon, and Zerubbabel.

Jesus of Nazareth was of the seed (sperm) of man, born of a virgin to alert Israel that this was the promised Branch which was to grow out of the rod which came forth out of the stem of Jesse. In the new testament scriptures Joseph is recognized as the 'goneus' begetter or parent of Jesus in Luke 2:27 and 2:41. In other scriptures Joseph is called the father of Jesus. God formed the spirit of man within Jesus the same as He does for every man as it is written in Zech. 12:1.

But God also came into the flesh of Jesus in the person of His Son, the Logos, the living Word. Jesus was anointed, or Christed, above all his fellows. That was to enable him to die. He did not want to suffer and die. He cried out for deliverance from having to drink that cup. Nothing that he had received from Adam, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob or David could bring him into submission. That Christing, that anointing of God within him caused that submission.

He had not yet been glorified with God's own self; with the glory he had enjoyed with God before the world was. John 17:5. Just as that anointing of the Holy Spirit had caused the fathers and prophets of old to speak the will of God; so the Spirit moved in and out of Jesus, leading him and guiding him in what he was to say

and do. In Matt. 3:16, Mark 1:10, Luke 3:22 and in John 1:32 it is recorded that John the Baptist saw the Holy Spirit descend on Jesus of Nazareth like a dove, upon being baptized. This was when he was about thirty years old and had not selected his apostles or started his ministry yet.

Later in his earthly ministry to Israel, he spoke of the Spirit and John 7:39 says, 'for the Holy Spirit was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.' Again in John 16:12-15 it says, "I have many things to say unto you, but ye can not bear them now. Howbeit when he the **Spirit of truth**, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself, but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shew it unto you." Notice that third party involved between Jesus and the apostles to lead them into all truth! More on this in the chapter on the calling of Paul.

Remember it was the Son of God who spoke through Jesus of Nazareth, the son of man, the son of Abraham and the son of David. And when Jesus commended his spirit into the hands of God, and his Adamic body died on that cross every human atom, molecule, every cell and every gene received from his ancestors died there and upon being laid in that tomb were dissolved by God without leaving any corruption. The body in which He came forth was not the body that had been sown. God did not die. The seed of Abraham died, and it was according to the 'predeterminate counsel and foreknowledge of God.' [Acts 2:23]

Jesus was born again, not of the seed of man, nor of a woman; but of God and became the firstborn from the dead, the first fruits of them that slept. He preceded Enoch, Elijah, Moses and David and every other Adam man. After being called up from the unseen by Saul, Samuel went back into the unseen and said Saul and his sons would join him there. After being transfigured on the mount with Jesus, Elijah and Moses returned to the unseen state of the dead awaiting the resurrection of Jesus and their own order to be made alive in Him.

Nothing any one could do or say in the flesh could add even one particle of righteousness to either Jesus of Nazareth, nor to Jesus the

Christ. **Both were the workmanship of God.** While Jesus was in the flesh he was the anointed one of God, Upon His resurrection, He became both Lord and Christ. **He, Himself, became the anointing one.**

But let us look at the death of that 'one seed' of Abraham, according to the flesh: for that is all that died on the cross. Although Jesus performed many wondrous miracles on the flesh of children of men; God's real purpose in bringing him into this earth as a man; was to perform one righteous act which would redound to the Spiritual benefit of every man, every family and every nation. He was to shed his blood for the justification and redemption of all mankind. That was the greatest and most important act ever performed by any man born of a woman.

The signal to Jesus that the time had arrived to die for all men is recorded in John 12, when some **Gentile Greeks** (**Hellens**) came to Philip desiring to see Jesus. These must be distinguished from the **Grecian Jews** (**Hellenists**) who are mentioned several places in the New Testament. About 300 years before Jesus was born, Alexander had conquered almost all the world around them. The Greek language was adopted and used almost universally, with the exception of some of the Hebrews around Jerusalem. Those Jews born away from Jerusalem who adopted Greek customs were called 'Hellenists' in our Bibles.

When the word was passed from Philip to the apostles and then to Jesus that Gentile Greeks desired to see Him; Jesus knew it was time to drop His ministry which had been for the lost sheep of the house of Israel only; and tell the world that He was going to be put to death and would draw ALL men unto Himself.

"Jesus answered them saying, The hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit." [John 12:23] "Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father save me from this hour; but for this cause (to die) came I unto this hour." [John 12:27] "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw ALL men unto Me." [John 12:32]

He did not say, If an evangelist lifted Him up. He did not say, If some repentant sinner lifted Him up. But "This He said, signifying what

death He was to die." [John 12:33] Why do you suppose that about 9 out of 10 preachers who quote John 12:32; refuse to quote that simple 33rd verse? You can even hear it said that if you do not send them money so they can lift Christ up before the world, God will not be able to reach all men and some will be lost.

While still others add, "You must lift Him up and exalt Him or He will not draw you unto Himself." No evangelist or preacher can lift Jesus up and cause Him to draw anyone to Himself. No penitent sinner can lift Him up and cause Him to draw them unto Himself. "The goodness of God leads men to repentance." [Rom. 2:4] Jesus has already drawn a man unto Himself before he ever repents.

Jesus was never lifted up from the earth by loving, worshipping hands. He died the death He signified. According to Peter in Acts 2:22-23; 2:36; 3:13-15; and 4:10: Jesus was lifted up on the cross and died at the cruel hands of the children of Israel. The Judaised Christian sunday school lessons try to place the blame on the cruel Romans and Pilate, but Christ has preserved the truth of the matter even in the worst versions of the Bible.

In Luke 13:26-30, Jesus said, "Then shall ye begin to say, We have eaten and drunk in thy presence, and thou hast taught in our streets. But He shall say, I tell you, I know you not whence ye are; depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity. There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when ye shall see Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets, in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrust out.

And they (Gentiles) shall come from the east, and from the west, and from the north, and from the south, and shall sit down in the kingdom of God. And, behold, there are last which shall be first, and there are first which shall be last."

In Luke 13:33-35, Jesus said, "I must walk today, and tomorrow, and the day following: for it cannot be that a prophet perish out of Jerusalem. O Jerusalem, Jerusalem. which killeth the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate: and verily I say unto you, Ye shall not see me, until the time come when ye shall say, Blessed is He that cometh in the name

of the Lord."

Just consider that for a minute or two; or even a year or two would not hurt, if it takes that long for it to sink in. Jesus is saying that he must walk three days to get to Jerusalem to be killed there by God's own chosen people, Israel. "For it cannot be that a prophet perish out of Jerusalem." [Luke 13:33] If what Jesus said is true, Jerusalem is that bloody city spoken of by the prophets: not Rome.

Jerusalem is 'that great city, which is Spiritually called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified' as it says in Rev. 11:8: not Rome.

Judas did not make his deal with Romans; nor did he take a band of Roman soldiers with him to catch Jesus in the garden where He went to pray. Judas made his bargain with the **chief priests** of Israel and John 18:3 says, "Judas then, received a band of men and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, who went thither with lanterns and torches and weapons."

Jesus was bound and taken to the palace of the high priest who made the decision that he must die. They turned him over to **Pilate** who examined him and **scourged him** but could find no guilt in him. Pilate defended him as guiltless and innocent; yet the people of Israel demanded that he be crucified. So Pilate "... took water and washed his hands before the <u>multitude</u>, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye to it.

Then answered all the people, and said, His blood be on us, and on our children." Matthew 27:24-25. In John 19:12-16 it says, that Pilate sought to release him but the Jews cried out against him, "Away with him, Away with him, crucify him. Pilate said unto them, Shall I crucify your King? The chief priests answered, We have no king but Caesar. Then delivered he him unto them to be crucified." Luke 23:23 & 25 also tells us that Pilate repeatedly found Jesus innocent and wanted to let him go; but they insisted that he be crucified. After the third attempt of Pilate to free Jesus "[And] they were instant with loud voices, requiring that he might be crucified. And the voices of them and the chief priests prevailed." "And he delivered Jesus to their will." And with the help of Roman soldiers, Israel crucified their Messiah, exactly in conformity with the LOGOS of God: and they agreed that his blood should be on their heads and upon the heads

of the children of Israel.

Please keep in mind that this chapter is about the 'one seed' which was born of a woman, and was of the sperm of Abraham, David and Joseph, according to the genealogies of both Matthew and Luke; and whose life ended on the cross of Calvary. It is not about God who came into the flesh of that 'one seed' in the Spiritual manifestation of His Son, who was 'without father or mother, nor beginning of days nor ending of life'. [Heb. 7:3]

Scripture tells us that Abraham could not bless Melchisedech but Melchisedech blessed Abraham. "Without contradiction the less is always blessed of the better." [Heb. 7:7] Melchisedech did not pay tithes to Levi; Levi paid tithes in Abraham to Melchisedech. Any Spiritual man is greater than any flesh type. Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Jacob, David, Joseph, Mary and even Jesus of Nazareth could add no Spiritual value to the Holy Spirit. They were all moved and spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit, as an inner man, had not yet been given to them.

Jesus soundly rebuked the scribes and the Pharisees because they did not properly teach the children of Israel to honour their parents, according to the flesh, as the law required. Yet Jesus denied that any Spiritual value could be forthcoming from his own flesh genealogy nor from that of any one else "What is born of the flesh profits nothing. [~ John 6:63] Ye must be born again." [John 3:7] During his life on earth, that 'one seed', of his own self, did nothing and said nothing of any Spiritual value, Even his death was **not his own will**. Do not stone me for my boldness. Those are the words of Jesus in John 5:19 & 30. Also, "God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself." [2 Cor. 5:19]

We must be aware that **Mary** was not the mother of God, nor of the Son of God (for the Son of God was without father or mother). But she was the mother of him who would be called the 'Son of God'. Jesus was circumcised the 8th day and after Mary's days of purification were completed according to the law of Moses, Luke says his parents took him to Jerusalem and into the temple. They also went up every year at the feast of the passover.

On the trip when he was 12 years old, the parents started out for home without noticing that he was not with them. Upon going back

to Jerusalem they found Jesus 3 days later, in the temple, sitting in the midst of the masters discussing the scriptures. "And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? Behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing. And he said unto them, ... Knew ye not that I must be among My Father's?" [KJV: And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?"] [Luke 2:48-49] This was the Son of God speaking in Jesus of Nazareth. But he went home with his parents.

When Jesus was about 30 years old he chose his apostles and started his ministry to Israel. He was a minister of the circumcision and continued the ministry of condemnation and death and all the teachings of Moses and the Old Testament. In Matthew, Mark and Luke it is recorded that while Jesus was teaching a multitude, his mother and brothers tried to get to talk to him. Jesus said, "Who is my mother or my brethren? And he looked about on them which sat about him and said, Behold my mother and my brethren. For whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is my brother, and my sister, and mother." Once more this was the Son of God speaking through him. They had not received the Holy Spirit as yet, so none present could know that they must later be born of the Spirit to be His kin.

In Luke 11:27-28 a woman lifted up her voice and said unto Jesus, "Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts at which you nursed. But Jesus answered, On the contrary, blessed are those who hear the word of God, and observe it." All of the things he taught were truths. But they were not the whole truth. In those three incidents He never told them that they were incapable of doing and observing the will of God with their old man.

What He did say about his parents and brothers, according to the flesh; should have been a denial to what the woman said, as well as to everyone else who is engaged in **Mary worship** or who places any Spiritual value on the **seed line** of Jesus of Nazareth, from Eve to Mary. And also to all who are still putting any value on their own lineage from Abraham, Isaac, Jacob or David, after the flesh. A good potter does not praise a white pot for being white; if he made it of white clay. Nor does he get angry with a black pot for being black; if he had made it out of black clay. Neither does God. "We are His workmanship." [Eph. 2:10]

In Matthew 10:34-37, Jesus said, "Think not that I am come to send peace on earth; I came not to send peace, **but a sword**. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man's foes shall be they of his own household. He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me." **No one was ever worthy.**

In all the foregoing scriptures Jesus was not trying to be disrespectful to his father, mother, sisters or brothers, after the flesh. He was just pointing out **the absolute Spiritual worthlessness of the flesh lineage**, when compared to **God's Spiritual family**. What is born of the flesh is flesh and profiteth nothing. Ye must be born of the Spirit. Remember Jesus said, "On the contrary"

This is similar to a statement of Paul that he counted all his untarnished lineage in Israel as a Hebrew of Hebrews and blameless as to the law, just so much dung. Paul wanted "to [And] be found <code>in</code> (Greek 'en') Him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of (Greek 'ek' not 'en') Christ, the righteousness which is of (ek) God by faith: ..." (of Christ, remember)." [Phil. 3:9] "And that not of ourselves, it is the gift of God." [Eph. 2:8]

No being created by God will ever come to the fulness of the stature of Christ until God has brought him to the place that he knows that he could not engender his own faith in ('en') God. And God will not be all and in all until every created being does know that. Neither the human faith of Abraham nor his human seed, Jesus of Nazareth, could profit anything Spiritually. Study the words of Jesus of Nazareth, Was he telling the truth when he confessed, "Of mine own self I can do nothing"? [John 5:30]

God was not disappointed by that incapability of the 'one human seed' of Abraham and David. He was not even disappointed in the terrible transgressions of the 'many seeds' of Abraham. He prophesied it all through scripture. Jesus said he did not come to bring peace, but a sword. God expected no Spiritual improvement in Judah or Israel from the life of that 'one seed' of Abraham on this earth; and there was none. With cruel hands they crucified their

Messiah. And that one act fulfilled the whole purpose for which that 'one seed' was propagated, preserved and was nurtured. The only Spiritual value of his life was his death at the hands of Israel.

By that one act God let Israel **prove to all men** that '**no good thing dwelleth in the flesh**' [Rom. 7:18] of Adam man. They proved for every man whose eyes God has opened that even a people who were selected by God to be favored, pampered, protected and forgiven numerous times would still become so greedy, so stubborn, so wicked and so vicious that they would destroy God Himself if that were possible.

But do not gloat against Israel, ye Gentiles; for if your nation had been chosen for this place: the results would have been the same. The result would have been no different if God had chosen Cain, Ham, Lot, Ishmael or Esau. The flesh profiteth nothing.

When the Lord Jesus Christ revealed all this to Paul, he said, "Henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more." [2 Cor. 5:16] If we are to forget about Christ after the flesh are we still to remember Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and David or Moses, Elijah, James, Peter, John or Paul. after the flesh?

If you could take all the events of the old testament, and all the events of that 'one seed', according to the flesh, as they are recorded in Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, and leave Jesus of Nazareth dead, there would have been no Spiritual profit.

Paul says in 1 Corinthians 15:13-17, "But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: and if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that He raised up Christ: whom He raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not. For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain, you are yet in your sins."

The death of that 'one seed' paid the price for the justification and the redemption of every one who had ever lived, was living and for all who will ever live. The justification was instantaneous and the redemption price was paid by that shed blood; but each one was sealed unto the day of redemption that would arrive in God's order

for him. If He had not risen, even those who had died in Christ are all perished. Man can only be saved because He arose from the dead. "For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by His life" [Rom. 5:10]

The blessing of every family and of every nation was made possible by the death of that 'one seed' which was promised to Abraham. Israel is included in those nations; but the first shall be last and the last first. Israel added nothing Spiritual to the plan of God; except as an example of the unrighteousness of man and the absolute necessity for Christ to be a new creation in every man in his order.

Jesus was only the seed of Israel, according to the flesh. Therefore it makes absolutely no difference who was in that seed line. The only importance in whether the seed of Solomon and Joseph was used lies in the question of God's integrity and whether Matthew and Jeremiah and Ezra were inspired by God in what they wrote.

Different commentators have given their own opinion that Matthew gave the king line and Luke gave the priestly line. Such opinions are based on the false opinion that David's son Nathan was a priest. **That is not so.** The Nathan who was David's priest was before David met Bathsheba the mother of Nathan and Solomon. Also Matthew says **that is the genealogy, generation, genesis, or lineage of Jesus Christ**: which it is not if Joseph and Solomon and all the kings are left out.

If you have followed this chapter through your Bibles you will know that God did not have to select righteous ancestors from which to produce a sinless Saviour. You should also know that there is none good, no, not one. There is none righteous, no, not so much as one. There is none that seeketh after God. You should know that He has always been a God of grace to anyone who did not put themselves under the curse of the law and who ascribed "HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD" [Zec. 14:20] and not to themselves.

Just as in due time, when all hope was gone, Israel had to accept **Jepthah**, the **son of a harlot**, whom they had rejected and cut off from Israel; to save them and be their leader so also in due time, in God's order, they will be brought low again and **Jesus**, **the son of harlots**, adulterers, adulteresses, Moabites, Ammonites, and

Canaanites will enter their hearts and cause them to abhor their filthy 'holiness' and ascribe all holiness unto the Lord and thank Him for His grace.

The preceding article is not what I intended to write about in this book. Suffice it to say that I was convinced (against my will) that the information it includes is necessary to be brought out in the scriptures and be preserved in Christian minds as a witness for the future; before men tampering with the scriptures remove those things from the Bible. It was not written as a condemnation of the ancestors of Jesus.

God did not make them perfect. He did not keep them from their transgressions. But He did bestow His **grace** upon them, time and time again, in direct contradiction to the precepts of Noah and the laws of Moses which they could not keep. That is the whole lesson God wants Christians to learn from the 'law and the prophets'. If that chapter helps any one to see that the teaching of self-righteousness and flesh works by Moses and the old testament prophets did not add one iota, jot nor tittle to even one man's Spiritual stature; because **God had never planned it to**: it was not written in vain. We gladly leave that with God.

God not only foresaw Israel's failure to keep the law: He prophesied it. God not only prophesied it: He created man subject to vanity and weakness to insure it. He also sent the evil spirits to work on that weakness: BUT He also furnished the Lamb to atone for every transgression before it happened.

"LOGOS" Part 2

CHAPTER THREE

BETTER THINGS

I have meditated, studied and fretted with the Lord for more than two years over why, or if, some of the things in this book had to be published. They had to be published because **we are being faced** with more and more teachers who are teaching only those things fashionable and pleasing to men and women. They are very careful to say nothing that might rock any boats, or might detract from the adulation and worship of themselves.

Galatians 1:10 says, "If I yet pleased men, I should not be a servant of Christ." The things in this book are not written to please any man, woman or organization. They are written to remind people that it is not the vim, vigor or vitality of the speaker, Nor is it the fancy feathers and finery they wear; Neither is it the cute, slick way they belittle and attack those things which are currently fashionable to attack: But, what is the man teaching? What is he saying?

We are to prove all things and hold fast that which is good. Are they so, or not? The Lord, at various times, has led me to drive hundreds of miles just to hear a few sermons from some one God was using at the time as a vessel through which to pour His word. But I care nothing for the 'charisma' of any man.

I will be 70 years old on my next birthday and for over 65 of them I have been under the teaching of the grace and reconciliation gospel of the resurrected Lord Jesus Christ. During that time I have seen God raise up many pastors, teachers and evangelists around the world to teach His **grace** and **mercy** for the perfection of the saints. Although God called them from nowhere when they were nothing, as soon as their fame began to grow, their vanity, under which they were subjected by God, also began to grow.

As their popularity grew their personality began to show and glow; and as the people fawned upon them and lavished praise and flattery upon them, it became easier to convince themselves that God must have called them because He saw something good in them. At this point the word began to suffer. The Word was shaped

and subverted to please the adoring congregations. Sackcloth became unthinkable.

An adulterous mixture of Moses and Christ law and grace; and works and faith; began to emerge. The gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ teaches that it is just as much adultery and fornication to mess around with the law after being married to Christ, as it is for a man or woman to mess around with a former mate after being married to another. You have been delivered from your first love (the law) and you are to remain dead to that law. Romans 7.

A bible is soon to be published with all the records of sin and sex removed so the people will be more comfortable when it is read to their children in the Sunday schools and when it is read to themselves in the churches. Do you think the professing Christian world will not buy it? I assure you they will welcome it with open arms.

Once this bible is accepted it will be even easier for preachers to teach self-righteousness and say like one veteran has recently published: 'God made Jesus a sinless saviour by choosing righteous fathers and mothers for him' To this day people have been building temples to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Judah, David, James, Peter, John and Paul. God, Himself, had to stop James, Peter and John from building three sacred booths to Moses, Elijah and to Jesus of Nazareth.

There is not one professing Christian in a hundred who are aware that the scriptures teach that **God destroyed Moses and Aaron off the face of the earth because they sinned** in making themselves out as being more righteous than the rest of sinful, rebellious Israel in the wilderness. Because Israel was thirsty and must have water to stay alive; God, who loves all men, told Moses and Aaron to freely and graciously give them water out of the rock.

Moses and Aaron rebuked the people for their rebelliousness, and, by not letting them know that God was freely giving them the water of natural life, in spite of their sins; **Moses and Aaron failed to sanctify God to the people** but glorified themselves.

According to Numbers 20:12, this is what the Lord said. "And the Lord spake unto Moses and Aaron, Because ye believed me not, to

sanctify Me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore ye shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them," They said, "Must <u>WE</u> fetch you water?"

God was not judging the children of Israel at this time. **He was judging Moses and Aaron.** Aaron was taken and his priestly robes were removed and given to another; and his life was taken from him by God while he was in full health and strength. **Moses never confessed nor repented** up to the time of his death and when they arrived at the borders of the promised land he was still complaining that God was angry with him on account of the rebellion of Israel. Deut. 1:37; 3:26; and 4:21.

In Deut. 3:23-27 Moses pleaded for God to let him go over into the promised land; but God said to him, "Enough! Speak to me no more of this matter. Go up to the top of **Pisgah** and lift up your eyes to the west and north and south and east, and see it with your eyes, for you shall not cross over this Jordan."

When it had come time for the people to go on into the promised land; God again told Moses why he was not permitted to go in. In Numbers 27:12-14 it says, "And the Lord said unto Moses, Get thee up into this mount **Abarim**, and see the land which I give unto the children of Israel. And when thou hast seen it, thou also shalt be gathered unto thy people, as Aaron thy brother was gathered. For <u>ye</u> rebelled against my commandment in the wilderness of Zin during the strife of the congregation, to sanctify Me at the waters before their eyes."

This is recorded again in Deuteronomy 32:49-52 thusly, "Because ye trespassed against Me in the midst of the children of Israel at the waters of Meribah, in the wilderness of Zin; because ye sanctified me not in the midst of the people of Israel." And Moses died and was buried at the hands of the Lord when he was 120 years old and while his eyes were still undimmed and his strength was yet unabated. Deut. 34:4-7. Aaron and Moses both died in their sins. If there is no hope for the sinner beyond the grave, why was Moses chosen as one to be in the preview of the kingdom shown to James, Peter and John?

Moses and Aaron were justified by the blood shed on that cross by Jesus just as were Adam, Cain, Enoch, Noah, Job, Abraham,

Isaac, Jacob, David, James, Peter, John, Paul, and every Canaanite, Moabite, Ammonite, and every other Gentile and Israelite who ever lived. Every one of them will be saved by grace as the life of Christ comes into them in their order which was known unto God before the world was. Jesus will be seen with them also.

The Lord Jesus Christ is the Rock from which flows that Spiritual life-giving water freely to all men in spite of their sinful Adamic nature. Take heed that you do not fail to sanctify God as holy toward all men. Do not tempt God by putting a yoke upon men that God never equipped man to bear. If Moses, Aaron, Peter and the apostles, and the fathers of Israel were unable to bear that burden, how think you that any Adamic man could bear it?

A new creation, Christ in them, is man's only hope of glory. He is the way, the truth and the life. There is no other way, He is the only door. Anyone trying to get in any other way is a thief and a robber. Any and all other ways taught are antichrist. The Greek word 'anti' means 'a substitute for'; or 'in place of'; or 'instead of'. It was translated 15 times as simply 'for'; as in 'an eye for an eye'; 'tooth for tooth'; 'evil for evil', and 'His life a ransom for many'. The antichrist spirit is a deceptive spirit; one that seems good to the flesh; but is evil because it is trying to replace Christ.

If you consider that you were born of the seed of Isaac, according to the flesh, and you are expecting some Spiritual profit from that: Israel has become an **antichrist in you**. Jesus plainly told Israel that whatsoever was born of the flesh was flesh and would profit them nothing. And they **must be born again of the Spirit to receive anything Spiritual**.

Paul counted it all dung and a loss to have been circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews, and blameless concerning any righteousness that is in the law. He was, however, so in love with Israel and so steeped in the traditions of the fathers that he tried over and over to perchance save some of Israel out of the order God had revealed to him. On each occasion they rejected the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, as 1 Peter 2:8 says they were destined or appointed to do. Then Paul would turn to the Gentiles, whose order God had shown him was at hand.

Even worse than substituting genealogy from Isaac in place of **Christ in you as the hope of glory**; is the prevalent misuse of the **law**. **Therein lies the greatest manifestation of the** *antichrist spirit* **today. Nothing is used more often as a substitute for Christ.** Nothing in the scriptures is more misunderstood: and no teaching is more seductive to the flesh. It fertilizes the vanity of man.

The law is used exclusively to establish man's own self-righteousness, and it declares, "This do, and ye shall live." [~Deut. 8:1] It denies any need that a Saviour must be sent by the grace of God. Law is a complete denial [of] that because "There is none righteous, no, not so much as one." [Rom. 3:10]; "Christ, of God, is made unto us righteousness." [1 Cor. 1:30]

The end result of the law for every man is the curse and death; because, "Cursed is everyone that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them." [Gal. 3:10] And, "The soul that sinneth, must surely die." [Eze. 18:4] And, "All have sinned." [Rom. 3:23] And, "The wages of sin is death; BUT the GIFT of God is 'age lasting' [aionian] life, through Jesus Christ our Lord." [Rom. 6:23] He paid those wages for us.

When Jesus died on that cross for every man; He became the end of the law for righteousness. In becoming a curse for us and dying for us; every last jot and tittle of the law was fulfilled. To substitute it again in place of Christ is antichrist. The old commandment has been disannuled, for the weakness and unprofitableness thereof. For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did.' [Heb. 7:18-19 – "For there is verily a disannulling of the commandment going before for the weakness and unprofitableness thereof. For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God."]

Christ in us is our <u>better</u> hope of glory. His is a <u>better</u> priesthood than the Levitical one; and "Jesus was made a surety of a <u>better</u> testament." [Heb. 7:22] He said, "All the law and the prophets were until John the Baptist." [Luke 16:16] What was Jesus speaking of, when He said 'all the law'? He was speaking of the first great division of the old testament scriptures.

'All the law' included all the teaching of Moses in the first five books of the old testament. It is known as the **Pentateuch**. In the scriptures

it is referred to as 'the book of the **law**'; 'the book of Moses'; and some times as simply 'Moses'.

'The prophets' were the rest of the old testament scriptures. This second division of the scriptures was also sub-divided into the 'Major Prophets', 'Minor Prophets', 'Psalms', and 'The Writings'. 'The Prophets' contained the teachings of the commandments, statutes, ordinances, precepts and laws of Moses handed down to the generations of Israel after the death of Moses.

When Jesus said that all the law and the prophets were until John; and when He said He came not to destroy the law and the prophets, but to fulfil them: He was speaking of all of the old testament scriptures. In God's LOGOS, He had always planned to have the Lamb of God become a curse for every man ("For cursed be every man who hangeth on a tree" [Gal. 3:13]).

Galatians 3:17 tells us that the law was given 430 years after the promises were given to Abraham and his **seed** (**Jesus**). "He saith not, And to seeds, as of many: but as of **one**, And to thy **seed**, which is **Christ**." [Gal. 3:16] Galatians 3:19 also tells us that the law was only added "... till the **seed** [should] come to whom the promise was made; ..." And, "The law is not of faith." [Gal. 3:12]

When blinded Israel takes that promise away from **Christ** and claims that they, the many seeds of Abraham are going to bless the nations: **they become antichrists**. As Paul has said in Romans 11:28, "As concerning the gospel, they are <u>enemies</u>." (Until God takes the veil from their eyes.)

Galatians 4:24 tells us that the covenant from Mt. Sinai engendereth to bondage and in Galatians 5:1-4 we are told, "Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ has made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage. Behold I Paul say unto you, that if ye be circumcised, Christ shall profit you nothing. For I testify again to every man being circumcised, that he is debtor to do the whole law. Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace." They are antichrists.

In the one case, the many seeds of Israel are substituting themselves for that 'one seed' which is Christ. In the other case they are

substituting the law for their justification in place of Christ on the cross. **Antichrist**.

In 'all the law and the prophets' every covenant with Israel only, was based on the quality of their self-righteousness and flesh works, without Christ. They all promised physical, finite, earthly, soulish wages to Israelites which God would be indebted to pay them according to their works. Those wages were to be paid in two very, very different currencies. **Blessings**, if they would keep <u>all</u> of the commandments, laws, statutes, ordinances, and precepts of Moses: and **cursings**, if they <u>failed</u> to keep <u>any</u> of the things in that old covenant. **The 'law' was directed to the flesh only.**

If you have studied the scriptures, you know they <u>all failed</u>. If the blessings were the word of God: the curses were the word of God, also. 'All the law and the prophets' ended with a curse. Most of you know that **Malachi** was the last old testament prophets. If you ask most bible students what the last prophecy in Malachi was; they will say, just as the apostles did, God promised to send Elijah and he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children and the hearts of the children to the fathers. But that is not the end of Malachi. Malachi goes on to say, "Less I smite the land with a ban of utter destruction." [Mal. 4:6]

Jesus told the apostles that Elijah had already come and the fathers of Israel had done to him as they would. Scripture tells us that they perceived that Jesus spoke of John the Baptist. He was unable to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children or the hearts of the children to the fathers; thus leaving only the curse to be collected by Israel; if Malachi is the word of God and if the word of God is to be believed. The ban of utter destruction came under the rule of the Roman Emperors Vespasian and his son Titus.

The **Christian Jews** had already been dispersed by blinded Israel with men like Saul of Tarsus pursuing them with orders to stone any one to death that named the name of Jesus. The apostles themselves, except for James the brother of John, were only saved by the intervention of **Gamaliel**. Jesus had already told the leaders of Israel that **the Kingdom of God was taken away from Israel** and would be given to a nation that would bring forth the fruits thereof.

Only a Spiritual nation could bring forth the fruits of the Kingdom

of God. Who are the people of this new Spiritual Kingdom? They are the Christians who make up the many membered body of Christ. They are God's Spiritual Israel no matter what their original race, color, sex or creed. They have been delivered from the domain of darkness and have been translated into the Kingdom of Christ Jesus the Lord.

Romans, Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, Thessalonians, were all epistles written by Paul to Gentiles and to the elect remnant <u>taken out</u> of Israel by grace. Timothy's father was a Gentile. **Titus** and also **Philemon** were **Gentiles**. **They are all One in Christ**.

God showed Peter that **He no longer put any difference between Gentiles and Israel after Israel had crucified Jesus**; and Peter broke the law by going in unto Gentiles and eating with them. Peter later became afraid of those who came from the church of the Apostles still teaching that they must be circumcised and keep all the laws of Moses. He separated himself from the Gentiles, causing the other **Christian Jews** to do likewise, even drawing **Barnabas**, (who, with Paul, had been separated by God unto the reconciliation gospel) to fall from his calling. Paul rebuked Peter to the face.

In Christ all are one. There is no difference. The law was given by Moses: Grace and truth came by the Lord Jesus Christ. The law could make nothing perfect: The bringing in of a better hope did. A Christian is a fool to bring himself under the law again. He loses his liberty and becomes under bondage to the curse again; from which Christ set him free. The gracious gospel is a better one.

God will never restore these old natural bodies. He is going to clothe us in new glorious Spiritual bodies like unto His own. They will be <u>better</u> bodies. God is never going to restore His Kingdom as an earthly kingdom of Israel apart from Gentiles. Jesus is King over His Spiritual Israel. His Kingdom is not of this world. It is a much better kingdom.

God is never going to rebuild the earthly tabernacle of David nor the earthly temple of Solomon again in this world. Zerubbabel and the man named in Zech. 3:1-8 and 6:11-15 as being the earthly type of the Righteous Branch, Joshua son of Josedech, already rebuilt them in the reign of Cyrus king of Persia – "That the word by the

mouth of Jeremiah might be <u>fulfilled</u>." [2 Chr. 36:22] And the word at the mouth of Jeremiah was fulfilled.

But just as the promises to David and to Solomon, concerning the earthly kingdom of Israel and the first earthly temple, contained big **self-righteous 'IFs'**; so also there were self-righteous requirements for the rebuilt earthly temple in Zech. 3:7 and 6:15; 'IF YE', and 'IF THOU'. **Nothing based on the righteousness of man can survive.**

According to the predeterminate counsel and foreknowledge of God, Israel failed and the earthly temple was destroyed once more. The Lord Jesus Christ and His many membered body are the temple of God now. That is a much better habitation for God in the Spirit. What possible need could there be for an earthly temple for God to dwell in?

God will never again rebuild earthly Jerusalem as the religious center in Judaea for the twelve tribes of Israel to be regathered around. The prophecies of Amos, Joel, Hosea, Micah, Isaiah, Zephaniah, Jeremiah, Habakkuk, Ezekiel and Daniel all exhorted and prophesied to the kingdom of Israel or to Judah, or to both; warning them of the scattering of the people and the destruction of their kingdoms. They prophesied of the saving of a remnant and the regathering of a few of the kingdom of Israel to the cities of Samaria, and the return of the captivity of Judah after 70 years in Babylon; and the rebuilding of Jerusalem.

Those prophecies were fulfilled under Ezra and Nehemiah. The permanence of the city and the safety and prosperity of the people was to be dependent upon their keeping of the renewed vows of self-righteousness they made to God. It was Israel that made those vows; and it was Israel that again broke all those covenants, just as they were appointed to do. This time however they crucified their own Messiah and rejected the teaching that He had been made both Lord and Christ at the resurrection.

Peter said, "The stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, and a stone of stumbling, and a **rock of offence**, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed." [2 Pet. 2:7-8] **And Jerusalem was destroyed again along with the earthly temple.**

According to John in Rev. 11:8, **earthly Jerusalem is Spiritually called Sodom and Egypt**. She is in bondage with her children to the old covenant from **Mount Sinai**. As long as God leaves them in that antichrist position of attempting to be justified by the works of the law instead of by that one righteous act on the cross, Christ can profit them nothing. And they cannot inherit with the Christians. During this olam or aion they are **enemies of the gospel of Christ**.

Hear what Jesus said to those of earthly Jerusalem in Luke 13:33-35, just before He was crucified. "I must walk today, and tomorrow, and the day following: for it cannot be that a prophet perish out of Jerusalem. O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killeth the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings, and **ye would not!** Behold your house is left unto you desolate: and verily I say unto you, Ye shall not see me, <u>until</u> the time come when ye shall say, Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord."

And in Matthew 24:2, when the disciples tried to show Him the buildings of the temple, Jesus said, "See ye not all these things? I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down." Jesus gave no indication that it ever would be rebuilt. It has been replaced by the Spiritual Body of Christ.

As I brought out in my last book, the placing of the books of Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, 1 Chronicles, 2 Chronicles and 2 Kings, which contain the accounts of the fulfilling of the prophecies, in front of the books containing those prophecies, is very confusing. Sheep are very easily led to be expecting prophecies to be fulfilled in the future which have been fulfilled in the past.

Imagine my surprise, upon purchasing a very old Hebrew Bible, to find out that the **last four books in it were Ezra, Nehemiah, I Chronicles and 2 Chronicles**. I do not know when, nor who switched those books around in present day Bibles; but God knows who, and why.

Many people are expecting the temple shown to Ezekiel to be built in the future because all the accounts of the rebuilding of the one by Joshua and Zerubbabel is in the Bible way ahead of Ezekiel. **Ezekiel** was in captivity at Babylon and prophesied before Zerubbabel and Joshua were commissioned by God to rebuild the temple. They undoubtedly had been made aware of the plans and measurements Ezekiel received. Even as Ezra and Nehemiah had the measurements for rebuilding Jerusalem.

No matter how flowery the prophecies of Ezekiel are written, the instructions for the temple contain a definite dating that it was to be built **during the 'olam' of the old covenant** before the priesthood was taken from Levi and the order of Aaron and was given to **Jesus** of the tribe of Judah, and **after the order of Melchisedech**. The instructions go into detail about how to build the altars on which to put the sin offerings and the burnt offerings and the place to sprinkle the blood of bulls and goats. Another place that dates it in the past is Ezekiel 44:9, "Thus saith the Lord God; No stranger, uncircumcised in the heart, nor uncircumcised in flesh, shall enter into my sanctuary, of any stranger that is among the children of Israel"

It is no wonder that Nehemiah threw **Tobiah** the Ammonite and all his belongings out when he found that the priest in charge of the house of God had built a large chamber in the temple for an Ammonite to live in. You can see from those incidents that those prophecies would have to be fulfilled before the shed blood of Jesus broke down the middle wall of partition between Israel and Gentile.

"Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:

But now **in Christ Jesus** ye who were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. For He is our peace, who hath broken down the **middle wall of partition** between us; having abolished in His flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make <u>in Himself</u> of twain one new man, so making peace; And that He might **reconcile both** unto God <u>in one body</u> by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: And came and preached peace to you who were afar off, and to them that were nigh.

For through Him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father. Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner stone; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an Holy Temple in the Lord: In whom YE (uncircumcised Gentiles) also are builded together for an habitation of God in the Spirit." [Eph. 2:11-22]

Now what man among you is going to say that God, who has accepted uncircumcised Gentiles into the **Spiritual Holy Temple of His own body**, is still going to build the earthly, physical temple shown to Ezekiel and bar all uncircumcised Gentiles? And who will read Psalms 40:6 and Hebrews 10:4-10, and still claim that the word by the mouth of Jeremiah in Jer. 33 was not fulfilled in the time of Zerubbabel, Joshua (the Righteous Branch), Ezra and Nehemiah? Examine that 18th verse. "Neither shall the Levites want a man before me to offer burnt offerings, and to kindle meat offerings, and to do sacrifice continually."

Now look at Hebrews 10:4-10, "For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins. Wherefore when He cometh into the world, He saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me: In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure. Then said I, Lo, I come to do THY will, O God (in the volume of the book it is written of Me)."

"Above when He said, Sacrifice and burnt offerings and offerings for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein: which are offered by the law: Then said He, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that He may establish the second. By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Christ once for all."

By a close study of the law and the prophets, a man with Christ in him can see how that scripture makes outdated many of the prophecies blinded Israel are still looking forward to. Notice! "He taketh away the first, that He may establish the second." That was not some new idea God dreamed up on the spur of the moment. It was already written in the role of the book of Psalms. [Ps. 40:6-8]

And in many other places in the old testament God said **He never** asked for sacrifices and burnt offerings but that they should love **Him.** How long will men refuse to recognize that a change was made (in full accordance with God's Logos, or plan of the ages) when Jesus was put to death?

How long will some love the old earthly temple, earthly Jerusalem, earthly Israel and earthly promises; more than they love God and the poor and the sinners who are their neighbors? How long, O Lord? How long?

That is not up to man. That decision was never made by you, nor by me, nor by any other man for themselves. God made that decision, as to the time, for every man, before the foundation of the world. God is administering His LOGOS: He is not changing it. The change in man requires a new creation in man, which man cannot create.

If **Christ** is **in you**, He will put a love and a desire for the grace and reconciliation message of the <u>resurrected</u> Lord Jesus Christ which God first entrusted to Paul for every man in his own order. If, in God's plan, you are part of Israel blinded by God at this time; you cannot find any fault with the old teachings of works and self-righteousness by Moses in 'the law and the prophets': though in the new testament God found much fault with them. There is no condemnation because of this: because, as God said when Israel separated themselves from Judah, "This is of ME." [1 Kings 12:24]

It will be a glorious day when their order comes for Christ to enter their individual hearts with the circumcision not made by hands and they will accept **the imputed righteousness of Christ in place of their own**.

The old ministration of condemnation hath no glory at all by reason of the exceeding glory of the ministration of the grace of God. In every thing and in every way the new Spiritual things we have in Christ are better that the old earthly ones. Every version of the Bible, yours or mine, will disclose that fact. Many commentaries on the scriptures bend over backward giving credit to Israel for protecting the old testament scriptures no matter how they exposed the transgressions of Israel.

We have nothing to compare their accuracy against, except the

Spirit of Christ within us. If the many versions with their differences and contradictions and additions were stripped down to the bare words that the authors were moved by the Holy Spirit to say; there may have been much less condemnation, and much more **grace** taught, than what has trickled down to us.

The marvelous **grace** that was shown to the ancestors of Jesus, contrary to the law, would surely seem to bear that out. Also the removal of Aaron and Moses for condemning Israel instead of disclosing the graciousness that God had told them to do, implies that Moses and Aaron sinned against something God had disclosed to them previously. **All of God's judgements are righteous.**

AN EXHORTATION TO CHRISTIANS

Dearly beloved members of the body of Christ:

This exhortation is not going to win me any brownie points nor cause me to win any popularity contest. But I must give it out or else saddle some other brother with the thankless task. When I ask, Why me? All I have to do is to read the mass of adulterous mixtures sent out by those trying to stay married to Moses and the law, while claiming to be married to Christ and professing to believe in grace. I do not see anyone else crazy enough to say what must be said.

That is not patting myself on the back, either; as the Lord knows my flesh does not enjoy the task and I have been dragging my feet. Beware of the leaven of the scribes and Pharisees. All they taught was **self-righteousness** and the law of Moses. They themselves did not keep it; but neither did any one else. But they like Moses and Aaron, knew they did not keep it and still rebuked and stoned others to death for their transgressions. Saul of Tarsus was another perfect example of this, before the Lord took hold of him for His work. So are blinded Israel.

Do not become unequally yoked with unbelievers. Blinded Israel are unbelievers. Face it. They are enemies of the Gospel of Christ. They are scattered all over the earth; for their hurt not for their good, God said. The scriptures do not say they are scattered for the good of the nations they are scattered in. It says they are to be a hissing and a curse and a proverb until their order.

When the new Pharaoh, who knew not Joseph, took over in Egypt and began to oppress Israel; if it were today, would you be on the side of Pharaoh or of Israel in resisting the oppression? Under the old Pharaoh, Israel was pampered and favoured because of Joseph. They waxed fat among the hunger and starvation of Egyptians in their own land.

Israel became greedy and oppressive and they turned from God and worshipped all the gods and idols of Egypt. They would have been content to remain there forever. But God had promised a different land to Abraham for Israel. So for the purpose of driving Israel out, God raised up another Pharaoh, who knew not Joseph. He began to listen to the cry of his people against Israel and their honeymoon

was over.

God intended to get Israel back home; so He had Pharaoh make things so tough that Israel would be willing to go. Then by mighty works He made Egypt and Pharaoh ready to let them go. If Pharaoh had not oppressed them they would have rotted in Egypt. If God had not continued to harden Pharaoh's heart, he would have let up on Israel and they would have stayed there. Would you have sided with Israel? Or would you have helped God harden Pharaoh's heart?

In my last couple of years of exile in the wilderness and desert of the old testament; I found an ever recurring pattern. Every time God gave Israel rest and peace, they immediately lapsed into greed and began to oppress their own widows and orphans, poor and aged and also the strangers (Gentiles) among them. They knew this was wrong so in their shame, like Adam and Eve they tried to hide from God by worshipping other gods and idols.

This inevitably would lead to chastisement from God. Almost every prophet warned, exhorted and rebuked them for their treatment of widows, orphans, the aged, the poor and the strangers among them. There transgressions would increase and they would turn to other gods and idols.

After a particularly lurid period where the king [Ahab] and queen [Jezebel] of Israel stole a man's property in 1 Kings 19:15-17, God told Elijah to anoint Hazael king of Syria, Jehu king of Israel and Elisha to be prophet in his place. And whoever in Israel escaped the sword of Hazael, Jehu would slay; and whoever escaped the sword of Jehu, Elisha would slay. God only left for Himself 7000 men out of all Israel.

In 2 Kings 8:12 &13, **Elisha** notified Hazael that he was to be king over Syria and told him what he would do to the children of Israel. "Their strongholds wilt thou set on fire, and their young men wilt thou slay with the sword, and wilt dash their children, and rip up their women with child." Would you be on the side of God, Elijah, Jehu, Elisha and Hazael if that were today? Or would you have fought on the side of Israel?

Would you have fought on the side of God and **Shalmaneser** king of Syria, when God cast the kingdom of Israel out of His sight? Or

would you be helping Israel against God? Would you have been in the basket of good figs or the basket of figs so rotten they could not be eaten in the time when God turned the kingdom of Judah over to **Nebuchadnezzer**? King **Zedekiah** and all that fought to save the temple and Jerusalem from being burned were killed; while all that went into captivity peaceably survived and those alive after the seventy years 'olam' were allowed to return to Judah and Samaria and rebuild the temple and the city of Jerusalem. King Nebuchadnezzer was on the Lord's side.

Do you know of one place in scripture that God failed to fight for Israel when they were walking upright? Do you know of any time they needed help from other nations when they were doing God's will? Was anyone ever able to do severe damage to the children of Israel while they were pleasing God?

At this present time there is a tremendous effort being made on television and radio to unequally yoke believing Christians with unbelieving Israel. After a nation wide showing of the terrible atrocities performed by **Hitler** and the **Nazi** extremists in 'The **Holocaust**', many supposedly Christian churches donned yellow stars of David and held joint meetings of mourning for the dead victims of that atrocity. I will take a back seat to no one in my deep detesting of Nazism. But what stress and strain could have been put on a great Christian nation like Germany was and is that would **cause them to blindly follow such a man to those depths of depravity?** This present professing Christian nation of ours are no better man for man than Germany was.

Most of the scriptures where Israel was under God's judgements, people were told not to sorrow nor grieve for them. But when Elisha had to tell Hazael what he was to do to the children of Israel, tears filled his eyes and he did weep. But once more I say, Beware of the leaven of the circumcision. Do not become unequally yoked with unbelievers. They are enemies of the cross and of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

God has removed all enmity between Jew and Gentile that was contained in ordinances. In the fulness of time He will remove the enmity out of the Jew and the Gentile. We are so thankful that God has revealed to us that there is no other way that will make peace. Every Gentile that ever fought an Israelite; and every Israelite that

ever fought a Gentile; and every one who has fought among their own brothers were all justified by that one righteous act on the cross and only await the order of God to be saved by the life of Christ in them.

Beloved, my heart's desire is to live out the rest of my life this side of the cross and resurrection. I have put in quite some time on the **construction and selection of the canon of the scriptures**. If the Lord permits, I will publish it later. We have had a tremendous demand from Africa for the Gracious Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

We are completely out of book two and only have a few of books one and three left; so we may have to do a reprinting and mailing before any new book comes out. If any one any where has the funds and the desire to reprint and distribute any thing in any of our writings, they are absolutely free to do it as long as God gets the glory. We will close this book now before we exceed the mailing weight.

Chapter two which we never intended to print and this last chapter which was a surprise to me; have taken up so much space; we have not covered some of the things we did intend to write on. Pray for us and write to us. We will answer when we can. If you send us any addresses please try to make them clear and unmistakable.

With all Christian love we remain Yours in Christ Sherwood Michael for Gilbert Christian Assembly

A SUMMARY

We do believe the word of God; not of the letters of men, but of the Spirit: "For the letter killeth, but the Spirit giveth Life." [2 Cor. 3:6] Nothing in 'all the law and the prophets' could give life, but the bringing in of a better hope did. Only Christ in you as a new creation can give life. "He is our life." [Col. 3:4]

We believe in God as the creator of all things in the heavens and the earth and also in the Spiritual realms. We believe in His complete control and absolute sovereignty over all created beings from the beginning. We also believe that all things were known unto Him from the beginning; and that every act of God is always righteous.

From the beginning, He was and always will be a God of all grace. He purposed to be all in all of His creation; but every man in his own foreordained and previously marked out order. If you have any doctrine, or if you hear or read any doctrine that indicates that God will fail to be 'all in all'; that doctrine is deficient.

And any doctrine that does not recognize that there were secret things, hidden wisdom, and mysteries that were never made known to the sons of men through all the ages and generations until they were revealed to Paul, not by the 'law and the prophets', nor by the apostles, nor by any other man; but by revelation from the **resurrected Lord Jesus Christ Himself**; that doctrine is not according to truth.

And no doctrine is of God that does not include, "Having made known to <u>us</u> the <u>secret</u> of His will, according to His own <u>benevolent design</u>, which <u>He previously purposed</u> in Himself: that in the fulness of the ages He might **gather together in one all things in Christ**, both which are in heaven and which are on earth, even in Him." [Eph. 1:9-10]

We believe that neither circumcision (in the flesh), nor uncircumcision availeth anything; but **a new creation** is necessary in us. For as Paul told the Philippians who had been Gentiles, "For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the Spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh." [Phil. 3:3] 'In the flesh dwelleth no good thing' [Rom. 7:18]

"And such trust have we through Christ to Godward: Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God; who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the Spirit; for the letter (of the new testament) killeth, but the spirit giveth life." [2 Cor. 3:4-6] The law was given an enclosure of time. Grace was not. It is wrong to teach that this age of grace will soon end and God will try law again. In our redeemed bodies we will be righteous; but in all the ages to come we will be teaching the grace of God to others.

With Christian love from all at G.C.A.