

WHAT WE BELIEVE

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Scripture is from New King James Version unless otherwise noted.

The LORD chose Israel - twelve tribes descended from Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. They were not better, or more righteous than any other people. The LORD just chose them for His purpose, which was the revelation of His Law and His plan. To Israel He gave the Law, the Covenants, and the Promises. He spoke the Covenant of Ten Commandments from Mt. Sinai, and then wrote them on tablets of stone. He commanded the system of animal sacrifices, and the Feasts of the LORD, which are a revelation of His plan for the reconciliation of man to God. He inspired historians, prophets and poets to write down His words. Then in “the fullness of time” He came as an Israelite - a Jewish Man - a descendant of King David. He was the anointed King of Israel, but like David He must wait to be crowned.

In the history of Israel - the nation - we see the history of the war between Christ and Satan for the hearts of men. Christ connecting with a few individuals. Satan deceived most - leading them to rebellion and destruction. We see the great powers of earth - Babylon of the last days for instance - portrayed as a nation who conquered and almost destroyed Judea. We read of the tests and trials through which the “people of the LORD” passed, and we recognize our own temptations. We connect with them and with God. We “see” our own journey to the “promised land” as we read the Word preserved for us.

Paul wrote, “and thus all Israel will be saved” (*Rom. 11:26*). He was not referring to biological descendants of Jacob, for he also wrote, “They are not all Israel who are of (descended from) Israel” (*Rom. 9:6*). Israel now includes ALL who love the LORD, and are faithful to His covenant. The uncircumcised (in flesh) are being circumcised in heart by Christ, and they have been “grafted in” to the Israel of God. How many understand that ONLY Israel will be saved? The Kingdom of God will be Israel - and Messiah will be her King. Israel will “inherit the land” (earth). The Holy City New Jerusalem has twelve gates. Above each gate is the name of a tribe. There is no 13th gate named for “Gentiles.” To be admitted into The City, one MUST BE an Israelite.

Please see the study titled “[Israel - The People of God](#)”.

Satan has created an “us vs them” - Jews vs Christians mentality. This anti-Semitism has blinded Christians to the truth concerning the Israel of God and the truth of His Covenant. With this in mind - let’s review the doctrines of our faith - keeping in mind the central place of Israel in the revelation of God.

1. **The Bible is the inspired word of God. It is the only standard of doctrine.** All prophets, all preachers, all those who work miracles, are to be examined and their doctrines compared with the Bible. Those teachings which do not agree with the standard must be discarded (*Isaiah 8:20, 2Peter 1:20-21*). This written “Word of God” was preserved for us thru Israel.

The truth is promised to all who seek God in sincerity of heart (*James. 1:5, John 8:32, John 7:17, Jeremiah 29:13, Jeremiah 33:3*). **Each individual must study the Scriptures for himself** and should never simply take another’s word for what is truth, no matter how religious or knowledgeable he/she appears to be (*Acts 17:11, John 16:13*).

2. **There is one Supreme Being called “God our Father.”** Jesus called His Father “the only true God” (*John 17:3*). Paul said, “There is One God - the Father, of Whom are all things” (*1Corinthians 8:6*), “one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all” (*Ephesians 4:6*).

The whole family in heaven and earth is named after the Father (*Ephesians 3:14-15*). He is the ultimate Creator - the source of all life (*1Corinthians 8:6, Hebrews 1:2, John 1:3, Ephesians 3:9, John 1:10, Colossians 1:16, Revelation 4:9-11*). The will of the Father was presented by Christ as supreme (*Matthew 6:10, Matthew 7:21, Matthew 12:50, Matthew 26:42, John 4:34, John 5:30, John 6:38-39*).

For greater study on this topic, see [“The Trinity Questioned.”](#)

3. **God the Father and His Son, are two distinct divine beings** (*Rev. 5:13, Lk 22:42*). **Christ was literally begotten from God** (*John 17:8, John 5:18*). He is NOT a created being. He is divine because He “came forth from” almighty God in “the express image” of His divine Father (*2 John 1:3, Hebrews 1:3*). An image is a copy of the original - as Jesus was an exact copy of His Divine Father. He was begotten, or came forth from the Father, BEFORE anything was created (*John 16:27, John 17:8, Proverbs 8:22-30, Colossians 1:15, John 17:1-5, 1John 4:9, 1John 4:14, John 3:16*). He is therefore called LORD, and is to be worshiped (*Philippians 2:9-11*).

NOTE: Proverbs Chapter 8 is a parody on “wisdom.” This is Christ speaking.

Paul says that Christ *is* wisdom from God (*1Corinthians 1:24,30*).

The Father and the Son were equal in the same sense that an earthly son may be equal to his father (*Philippians 2:5-6*) yet the Father is, and always will be “head of Christ” (*1Corinthians 15:24-28, 1Corinthians 11:3, John 14:28*). The Father is the God of Christ (*Revelation 3:12, John 20:17, Romans 15:6, 1Corinthians 11:3, 2Corinthians 1:3, 2Corinthians 11:31, Ephesians 1:3, Ephesians 1:17, Revelation 1:6*). “The kingdom of Heaven” was called by Christ, “my Father’s kingdom” (*Matthew 13:43, 1 Corinthians 15:24-28, Matthew 26:29, Matthew 6:13, Luke 22:29*). [See the study at this site: **“The Trinity Questioned.”**]

4. **The Holy Spirit is “the Spirit of the Father and the Son.” It is NOT a third divine being.** The Spirit Comforter is the presence and power of the Son, now glorified and empowered by His Father (*Ti. 3:6, Act. 2:33, Gal. 4:6, Eph. 3:14-18, Ro. 8:10-11, 1Cor. 15:45*)
5. **The Father, through His Son created all things** (*1Corinthians 8:6, Revelation 4:9-11, Ephesians 3:14-15, Ephesians 3:9, Hebrews 1:1-3, John 1:3, John 1:10, Colossians 1:12-16*).

THE REBELLION

6. **Lucifer was created by the Son of God - who created all things according to the will of His Father.** He is a mighty spirit being, who was once called “the anointed cherub who covers” (*2Cor. 11:14*). He held a position very close to God in Heaven (*Ezek 28:11-19, Isa. 14:12*). He rebelled against the Father, taking one third of the angels with him (*Rev. 12:7-9*). He became “Satan” - “the adversary,” and he has been at war with the government of God. He has claimed this earth for his empire because of the sin of Adam (*Job 1:6-11, Zech. Chapter 3*). Human beings are trapped between warring super spirit beings.

Satan’s greatest deception is to lead us to believe that God is like himself, a manipulative, selfish, score-keeping, despot. Only evidence could answer Satan's charges against the character and government of God. That evidence is the 6000 year history of this world, and the life and death of Jesus Christ (*Matt. Chapter 4, Like Chapter 4, Matt. 25:41, Luke 8:12, Acts 10 38, Eph. 6:11, Heb. 2:14, Jam. 4:7, 1Pet. 5:8, 1Jn. 3:8, 1Chron. 21:1*).

7. **Intelligent beings were made for the indwelling of the Creator** (*John 17:20-23*). On the first day of their existence, Adam and Eve were thus indwelt and experienced a oneness with God. Satan and his angels had long ago resisted the Spirit of God, until they were no longer indwelt. Satan deceived Eve, the first woman, into open rebellion against God’s expressed will. Adam could not bear to lose Eve, and he chose to share the fate of his wife (*Genesis Chapter 3, Rom. 8:22*).

God has promised to restore the indwelling, but He will not overpower our will (*Jer. 31:31, Ezek. 36:24-28*). He will not stay where He is not welcome. Adam and Eve, with all of their descendants, lost the indwelling Spirit. Death was - and will be - the sure result. **Mankind was alienated from God.** The earth was in quarantine, and a night of gloom settled down upon every plant and creature. Because man had been given the dominion of the earth with its plants and animals, the whole earth would suffer from this loss of the Spirit (*Genesis Chapter 3*).

THE RECONCILIATION

8. **“We are reconciled to the Father, through the Son** (*Rom. 5:10, Colossians 1:19-20, 2Corinthians 5:18-19, Ephesians 1:1-12*). When mankind was separated from the Father, Christ became the only connection between Heaven and earth (*1 Tim. 2:5*). He would try to bring about a reconciliation.

The work of reconciliation began long before the incarnation. **The Son of God, as Mediator, stood in the place of His Father, to our lost world.** The Son of God is called The Word because - as the Messenger of the Covenant, He communicated the will of His Father to men. He took His Father’s name. As Yahweh of the Old Testament, He spoke and then wrote the Ten Commandments. He appeared to Moses, to Daniel, and to many other patriarchs and prophets, giving a revelation of the plan of God and of things to come. He taught. He comforted. He guided. He empowered. Then “in the fulness of time” He came as a man (*Heb. 10:50*).

See the study at this web site: [“Dominion Lost - The Mediator.”](#)

The human race was given probation, based upon what God had promised to do through His son.

The Son of God came to the world to reveal the true character of His Father, so that men might come to worship Him, “in spirit and in truth” (with complete trust and love). Men are reconciled to God through the revelation of Him, which was given in the life and death of His Son (*John 1:18, John 14:8-9, 2Corinthians 5:18, John 5:43, John 17:1-5*). Christ was the vehicle through Whom the Father could pour out His love upon the lost world (*John 3:16*).

9. **Before Christ came to this earth as a man, He surrendered His divine power. He must live, and pass every test as a man among men.** He came “in the flesh.” He incarnated with our nature (*Acts 8:3, Philippians 2:5-8, Hebrews 2:17, Galatians 4:4-5, Romans 8:3-4*). He became totally dependent upon His heavenly Father (*John 5:19, John 6:57, John 19:11*). The miracles which Christ performed while He lived on earth, were done through Him by the power of God His Father (*Acts 2:22, John 14:10, John 5:26, John 5:30, John 17:7*).

See the study: “[The Test - Why did Jesus have to die?](#)”

The Father gave His Spirit without measure to His Son (*John 3:34*). “It pleased the Father that in Him all fullness should dwell” (*Colossians 1:19, Acts 10:38*). It was this complete indwelling of the Spirit of God, which enabled Christ to live without sin (*Hebrews 9:14*). He referred to His own body as the Temple of God (*John 1:16-21*). After His death on the cross, He was raised to life by His Father (*Galatians 1:1, 1Peter 1:3, Ephesians 1:17-20*).

Christ came to earth as the representative of His Father. His every act was directed by the Father. His teaching came from the Father, not from Himself (*John 14:10, John 15:15, John 7:16, John 8:28, John 10:18, John 10:32, John 12:49*). Though entitled to worship because He was THE only begotten Son of God, as a man He pointed men to His Father, telling all men to worship Him (*Heb. 1:6, Jn. 4:21-24*).

10. At the cross of Calvary, God the Father withdrew from His Son. Jesus suffered the full wrath of God (*Romans 8:32, Luke 15:34*). He was treated by God, as unrepentant sinners will finally be treated (*Matthew 27:46, Romans 8:32, Isaiah 53:10*). This separation from His Father broke His heart. Even so, Christ remained “obedient unto death” (*Philippians 2:8*).

Jesus passed every test which Satan could invent. He never failed to offer complete obedience and worship to God His Father, therefore Satan can point to no fault in Christ as a basis for a claim against Him. Because He remained faithful, the Heavenly Court may justly give to the Son, dominion of earth and therefore of all mankind (*Daniel 7:14*). This is why “the Father has committed all judgment to the Son” (*John 5:22*).

See the study at the website: “[The Test - Why did Jesus have to die?](#)”

11. **Human nature without the indwelling of the divine nature is carnal (self-serving).** Only God is love. The carnal mind cannot comprehend unselfish love, much less keep the Law of God (*Romans 8:7-8*).

12. **Only when the omnipresent Father dwells in us through His divine Son, can we then live the law of God** (*Titus 3:4-6, Acts 2:33*). **This is the salvation experience** (*Ephesians 4:6, Ezekiel 36:26, Philippians 2:13, Romans 8:8-11, Ephesians 3:14-18, John 17:21-26, Titus 3:4-6, Luke 11:13, Philippians 2:13, Hebrews 13:20-21*).

The Holy Spirit is the vital presence of the Father, which is poured out to us through His Son. We experience this Spirit as the presence of His Son. The restoration of the Spirit IS the covenant of grace (*Ezekiel 36:26, Psalm 51:11-12*). **We are saved by grace (the work of God in the heart) through faith (worshipful belief) in Christ** (*Ephesians 2:5,8*). It is Christ Himself, who baptizes us with His Holy Spirit (*Matthew 3:11, Luke 3:16, John 20:21-22*). The Father dwells in Christ, and Christ dwells in us (*John 17:23, Galatians 4:6, Philippians 1:19, Colossians 1:27*).

Christ died for two reasons:

1. To unmask the great deceiver, so that created beings would turn away from Him (*2Thes. 2:3, Heb. 2:14*), and
2. So that we may be restored to oneness with God, through the indwelling of His Spirit (*1John 4:12-13*). Forgiveness is not merely a legal transaction. Forgiveness is healing. **Only God** can forgive sins, because only God can heal the damage done by Satan and sin (*Mark 2:3-12*).

The "new birth" is a miracle of God, a change of heart, and a reconciliation with God (*John 3:3-7*). Man, of himself, has no desire to come to God. We are drawn to Him as we are made aware of His great love for us, love so great that He gave His only Son to become a man, and then to die a cruel death (*John 3:16, John 6:44, John 12:32*).

Because Jesus was tempted just as we are, He is able to help us overcome if we depend upon Him, just as He overcame by depending upon His Father (*Hebrews 2:18, Hebrews 4:15*).

13. **Confession, repentance, and turning from sin, do not cause any change in God's attitude towards us, for God has always loved us.** Confession and repentance are the result of a change in our attitude toward God (*John 16:26, John 3:16*). We are not lost because we have sinned, for "all have sinned" (*Romans 3:23*). We are lost if we will not come to the Father through Jesus Christ and be healed (*John 5:40*).

NOTE: "All have sinned," would include Mary the mother of Jesus, for He took the likeness of "sinful flesh" not sinless flesh, and He inherited His human nature from Mary (*Romans 8:3-4*). He was the promised "seed of the woman" (*Gen 3:15, John 3:17-19*). Mary herself said, "and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior" (*Luke 1:47*). If she was sinless, she had no need of a Savior.

14. **God has promised that He will "cleanse us from all unrighteousness"** (*1John 1:5*). When we first give our hearts to God this cleansing is only legal - forensic, but as we grow in Christ He will bring about a complete cleansing of the heart and the life. We will be set free from the power of sin. We will no longer be slaves of Satan, or slaves of our own selfish desires. "To them gave He power to become the sons of God" (*John 1:12*). "What He has promised He is able to perform." "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (*1John 1:9, Romans 4:21, Jude 24; Luke 1:37; Philippians 4:13; James 1:4*). Christ said "without me you can do nothing," but "with God all things are possible" (*John 15:58*). God is "able to keep us from falling" in this evil world, even while we yet possess fallen, weak, human nature, but the process by which we come to this perfect faith takes a lifetime (*Jude 1:24*).

“Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. **I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them**” (Ezekiel 36:26-27). **THIS IS THE NEW COVENANT PROMISE.**

Notice the context of the passage just cited from Ezekiel 36 - *also that of Deuteronomy 30:6, Ezekiel 11:19, Jeremiah 32:38-40 and Hebrews 10:16.* **The final perfect healing and reconciliation will not be fully accomplished until after Jesus returns, and His kingdom has been restored.** “For I will take you from among the nations, gather you out of all countries, and bring you into your own land. THEN . . .” (Ezekiel 36:24). While we yet possess these bodies of flesh with all their cravings and weaknesses, we cannot experience the perfect healing and oneness with God. It remains to be accomplished. When Jesus returns we will be “changed in a moment” and will receive new “spiritual bodies” (1Cor. 15:52, 1Cor. 15:44).

Remember that every promise given to Israel also belongs to every person who comes to faith in Christ (Galatians 3:29, Ephesians 2:12-13). They are “grafted in” to Israel through Messiah. They are legally adopted by the Father. They become Israelites - by faith. [See the study “Israel” - The People of God.”]

We only begin the process here. The damage of sin goes so deep, that it will take many years in a safe and loving environment before every trace of defensive and selfish thinking is erased. But God has promised - and His word cannot fail (Galatians 5:5).

DOMINION LOST

15. **Man was given dominion (rulership) of the earth, under Christ, under God the Father** (Gen. 1:26-27, 1Corinthians 11:3). Satan stole that dominion through deception (1 Timothy 2:14).
16. **Jesus the Christ, the Son of the Father became a human being.** He was incarnated in a body of mortal flesh. As a human being He obeyed God’s will, even to the agonizing death of the cross. He never rebelled against the will of His Father (Phil. 2:8). Because of this perfect obedience Christ can now petition the throne of God and ask His Father to forgive and bless His fellow human beings.

Satan cannot point to any rebellion in Christ to justify a claim to dominion over Him. He cannot claim that Christ was ever one of his subjects. Christ lived in a world dominated by Satan but never yielded in the slightest degree to the will of Satan.

Legally the Father may give to His Son dominion of the earth and everything on it - the dominion which Adam lost. Satan has no grounds upon which to base any objection (John 3:35, Matthew 28:18, Daniel 7:13-14, John 17:2).

With the dominion of earth and its citizens, “the Father has committed all judgment to the Son” (John 5:22). **Christ will rule - therefore Christ will judge.** Having shared our experience of weakness, of dependence, of submission, He is fit for this role.

See the study at this web site: “[Dominion Lost - The Test - Why did Christ have to die?](#)”

17. **“There is only one mediator between God and man - the man Christ Jesus”** (1Timothy 2:5). Christ is the only one who represents us before God’s throne in heaven today (1Timothy 2:5, Matthew 10:32, Romans 8:34, 1John 2:1, Hebrews 7:25, Hebrews 4:14-16, Hebrews 6:19-20, Hebrews 8:6). We receive forgiveness from God the Father through Christ His Son. **No saint, not even Mary the mother of Christ, intercedes for us in Heaven.**

THE LAW OF GOD

18. **Faith which does not result in changed behavior, is not true faith but a dead counterfeit** (James 2:17,26).
19. The law of unselfish love is as old as God Himself. This law is a revelation of God’s own character. It was immortalized in stone and will stand forever. **The Ten Commandments are the standard for all people through all time** (James 2:10-12; Exodus 20:3-17; Malachi 3:6; Matthew 5:17 & 18; 1John 3:4; Romans 7:12; Luke 16:17).

Though the Sinai Covenant ended with the death of the betrothed “husband” of Israel, she is now “betrothed to another, even to Him who was raised from the dead” (Rom. 7:4, II Cor. 11:2).

The Sinai Covenant was written in stone. The New Covenant is written on the heart.

See the [Law and Covenant Series - Two Covenants](#).

20. **The 7th-day Sabbath (Saturday) of the fourth commandment is a gift of God to man.** The LORD has used the dimension of time to draw us into a closer relationship with Himself. Christ, as Creator is “Lord also of the Sabbath” (Matthew 12:8). The Sabbath was instituted at the end of the creation week, before the fall of man, long before Israel existed (Genesis 2:2-3). The commandment points back to the six literal days of creation and forward to life in the earth made new where “all flesh” will come up to worship Him “from one Sabbath to another” (Exodus 20:11-12, Isaiah 66:22-23). It is a symbol of our belief in Christ's power to create in us new life. It is the symbol of “rest” from our own efforts to save ourselves thru works. The Sabbath is God’s chosen sign of His everlasting covenant (Ezekiel 20:12, 20; Exodus 31:13).

See the study at this web site: [“Lord of the Sabbath.”](#)

THE PLAN FORETOLD

21. **The system of animal sacrifices was instituted by the LORD Himself at the gate of Eden. It was an acted prophecy of The Lamb of God, who would one day be offered for the sins of the world.**

This prophecy was later expanded in the commands given to Israel. Christ our Great High Priest was portrayed in the Aaronic priesthood. (John 1:29, 36) (Heb. 2:17, Heb. 3:1, Heb. 4:14, The Book of Hebrews). When the risen Christ ascended and became our High Priest in Heaven, the earthly Aaronic priesthood was rendered obsolete (Heb. 7:11, 12, 18, 19).

Because the True Lamb has been revealed, the prophetic symbol is no longer needed. This is why we no longer sacrifice lambs (*Hebrews 9:13,14; Matthew 27:51; Ephesians 2:15; Colossians 2:14-17; Hebrews 9:13,14*). Jesus did not tell us to kill a lamb in remembrance of Him. The LORD did not even desire the sacrifice of animals (*Psa. 40:6*). He wanted true heart obedience. Jesus Christ offered up true heart obedience - perfect obedience. He offered Himself "once for all" - for all people thru all time (*Heb. 7:27*).

The old remedy for violation of Covenant was to bring an animal to sacrifice as a sin offering. The new remedy is to claim the blood of Christ (*Rev. 1:5, 1Jn. 1:9, Jn 14:13, Jn 15:16, Jn 16:23, Rev. 3:5*).

See the [Law and Covenant Series](#).

The "Feasts of the LORD" were an acted prophecy. They symbolized the greatest events in the plan of redemption. Christ Himself was the true **Passover Lamb** (*1Corinthians 5:7, John 1:29*). The "**Feast of First Fruits**" symbolized His victorious ascension with the "first fruits" of His labor. On that morning, "many saints" were resurrected by Christ, after He was raised from the dead by His Father (*Matthew 27:51-53*). These He presented as the Spring Harvest. On **Pentecost**, our LORD was glorified and empowered by His Father. He poured out His spirit upon the waiting disciples, who were empowered and energized (*Acts chapter 2, Exo. 19:1, Leviticus 23:5, 15-16*).

We believe that the prophecy of the Fall festivals will be fulfilled at the very end of this age. These festivals tell of a final warning that God's judgment is at hand (the **Feast of Trumpets**), of a Day when God's own are counted and those who have persistently and knowingly rebelled against Him are "cut off" (**The Day of Atonement**). On that Day, Satan the "scape-goat" will be banished to "the uninhabited place." The last trumpet - the **Jubilee** trumpet - will sound, proclaiming liberty (resurrection) for all the Israelite slaves of sin and death. Then will come the celebration of the harvest - the **Feast of Ingathering** (*Leviticus Chapter 23, Revelation 14:2, Leviticus Chapter 16, Revelation 20:2, Leviticus 25:8-15*).

We at Prophecy Viewpoint, commemorate the Feasts of the LORD. We bake unleavened bread and remember the LORD's death at a Passover Sedar. We thank the LORD for His Spirit on Pentecost. We fast and examine our lives in the light of God's law, on Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement). And we hold a Thanksgiving type celebration during Sakkot, if possible traveling to spend time with others of the household of God during this harvest festival - the Feast of Tabernacles. We do not advocate a legalistic keeping of the Festivals. We say only that we remember them, and continue to teach the prophecies which they portrayed. **Were a third Temple to be erected on the Mount in Jerusalem, (this side of the Second Coming) we would NOT advocate a journey to that Temple for the Feasts.** The LORD is not there. He said, "Your house is left unto you desolate" (*Matt. 23:38*). We would NOT advocate a return to the sacrifice of animals.

We do believe that another Temple will be restored on the Mount at Jerusalem, but AntiChrist will stand in that place. It will be part of the grand scheme of the Evil One to deceive the very elect of God. [See the study at the website: "[Masterpiece of Deception.](#)"]

22. **After His ascension to the Father's right hand, Christ became our High Priest in Heaven** (*Hebrews 4:14-15*). The Sanctuary built in the wilderness (later the Temple in Jerusalem) was a copy (a representation) of Heaven (*Hebrews 8:2, 5; Hebrews 9:8-9, 11, 23-24*). **Christ's work of atonement (at-one-ment) - the complete reconciliation of man to God - was not completed at Calvary.** At Calvary He was the Lamb who shed His blood. After He ascended to Heaven, He became our High Priest to minister His blood in our behalf. This is the message of the Book of Hebrews.

Christ won the right to represent us before His Father's throne. When we pray to the Father in the name of Jesus, He mediates for us - offering up our prayers to His Father (*Heb. 7:25*). He adds the incense of His own righteousness. In the ancient type, the sinner was not forgiven when the lamb was sacrificed. The sinner received "atonement" (meaning covering) only after some of the blood from the lamb was taken into the Sanctuary, or when some of the meat from the sin offering was eaten by the priest, who then entered the Sanctuary tent (*Leviticus 4:6, 25*). Just so - Jesus must present His blood for each of us, as we pray for forgiveness and healing from sin.

23. Each time an Israelite brought a sin-offering sacrifice, his sin was "covered" - his probation extended (*Psa.32:1, Lev.6:7*). The record of that sin was transferred to the Sanctuary. Every morning and evening the priest would offer a lamb for sins committed in ignorance. Yet, even then, if the sinner failed to humble himself with fasting and prayer on the Day of Atonement, he would be cut off from the people of God, no matter how many lambs he had sacrificed or how many times he had sought forgiveness prior to that day (*Leviticus 23:28-29*). A human being may be "right" with God at one point, only to "fall away," returning to sin. He may resist some new light or some new conviction. There are many reasons why **we do not believe in the doctrine of "once saved - always saved."**

[See the study at this web site: "[Once Saved Always Saved - Is this the security of the Believer?](#)"]

THE DESTINY OF MAN

24. **Only God has immortality** (*I Timothy 6:16*). Immortality is a gift of God, received only through Jesus (*John 3:16*). Everlasting life is always presented in Scripture as the reward of the redeemed.

The "first death" (the first type of death) is only physical, and is temporary. The dead are in an unconscious state (*Romans 6:23, Ecclesiastes 9:5, John 11:11-14, John 5:28-29, Daniel 12:2, Job 14:12*). God retains a "memory" of each person, from which He will resurrect each one.

[See the study at this web site: "[Where are the Dead?](#)"]

25. **Jesus will return at the end of this age. His coming will be visible, literal, and personal** (*Mat. 16:27, 25:31, Mark 8:38, Mat. 24:27-31, Mark 13:26, Luke 21:27, 1Corinthians 15:52, 1Thess 4:16, 2Thess. 2:8, Revelation 1:7*). The "dead in Christ" will be raised and the righteous living will be translated without experiencing death. All of the redeemed - resurrected and translated - will receive new "spiritual" bodies. (*Luke 9:26, Matthew 24:27-30, Revelation 1:7 1Thessalonians 4:16-17, Revelation 6:14-17*).

[See the study at this website: "[The Second Coming.](#)"]

26. **Jesus Christ will judge the living and those resurrected on the day that he returns.** Some will rise to “everlasting life” (the Israel of God) and others will be left in “everlasting condemnation” (*Daniel 12:2*). Every person who entered into covenant and remained faithful to that covenant, will receive life. Every person who knowingly forsook covenant will be condemned. Every person who knowingly rejected the LORD will face judgment. Those condemned will then be left to die as the earth is consumed by the last plagues and finally burned up (*2 Peter 3:10*). Those judged and condemned on that day, will NEVER rise again.

[See the study at the website: “[Judgment Day](#)”.]

27. **The “rest of the dead” - those who lived and died without knowledge of the LORD, will not be resurrected at the Second Coming. They will sleep on in death thru the 7th millennium** (*Rev. 20:5*). There are many reasons why one might live and die in ignorance of God. Millions died as children. Many suffered mental handicap or disability, others simply lived at a time or in a place where the God of the Bible was not known. **These will be resurrected to continue their lives during the 8th millennium.** Then they will be taught the truths of God, and will be invited to enter into covenant with God thru Christ. Many will accept this invitation and will become citizens of the “Household of God.” This is the great prophecy of The 8th Day!

Our God is merciful and is not willing that any be lost (*2 Peter 3:9*). We believe that He will afford every human being the opportunity to know Him. For those who did not know of Him during the first age, the opportunity will come during The 8th Day.

[See “[The 8th Day - An Introduction](#)” and “[The 8th Day - My Journey](#)”, and “[The 8th Day.](#)”]

28. **The Israel of God now includes all who have entered into covenant with God thru Christ.** We who were once “foreigners” and “aliens from the commonwealth of Israel” have now “become fellow citizens of the household of God” (*Romans 11:25, Ephesians 2:12-15*). We become adopted children of Abraham - by faith, and “heirs according to the promise” (*Galatians 3:29*). Wild branches (Gentile believers) have been grafted into the olive tree (Israel), while most (not all) of the natural branches (native Israelites) have been broken off (*Jeremiah 11:16, Romans 11:17-25*).

There are many who believe that only those who are Jews by race can be considered “Israelites.” We do NOT agree with this view. In Christ, “the wall of separation is broken down” (*Ephesians 2:14-15*). Those things which separated Jew and Gentile have been “abolished” in Christ (*Ephesians 2:14-15*). The borders of Israel have been enlarged.

[See the study at this web site: “[Israel : The Man - The Nation - The People of God.](#)”]

29. **We do NOT believe that the redeemed will be living on the earth during the 7th millennium.** Everything necessary to support human life will be consumed by the 7 last plagues. “The earth and the works therein will be burned up” (*2Peter 3:10*). The surface of the earth will be completely destroyed - with no life remaining - “without form and void” (*Jer. 4:23, Lev. 25:2-7*). The earth will then rest for 1000 years. Desolation is rest (*II Chron. 36:21*). Jeremiah was told, that for as long as the land lay desolate - it kept Sabbath. Satan will be bound for this 1000 years - to the uninhabited place - most likely the desolate earth. (*Jeremiah 4:23-30, Revelation 20:1-6, 1Corinthians 6:2-3, Jude 6, Isaiah 24:21-23*). [See the study at this web site: “[Millennium.](#)”]

30. **The Israel of God will spend the 7th millennium in the Father's house** (*John 14:2*). They will prepare to be **"priests of God and of Christ"** (*Rev. 20:6*) to rule with Him during the **8th millennium**. They will come to understand fully the justice, mercy, and love of God. They will prepare to govern "the nations" who will be resurrected as "the rest of the dead" after 1000 years have passed.

In the ancient type, those chosen for the priesthood, did not begin to serve as priests until the 8th day (*Lev. 8:33-35*). **"With the LORD a thousand years is as a day, and a day is as a thousand years"** (*2 Peter 3:8*). Just so - **the Israel of God, will not begin their service as priests on the earth until the 8th millennium.**

[See the study at this web site: "[A Kingdom of Priests.](#)"]

From Mt. Sinai, the LORD said to Israel, "You will be a kingdom of priests" (*Exo. 19:6*). Peter wrote, "You are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood" (*1Pet. 2:5*). John the Revelator wrote concerning those of the first resurrection, "They will be priests of God and of Christ" (*Rev. 20:6*). Christ will finally have His "kingdom of priests" - Israel redeemed!

31. **Christ, with His "kingdom of priests" will return to the earth at the end of the 7th millennium** (*Exo 19:6; 1 Peter 2:5,9*). The earth will once again respond to the touch of man. They will rebuild the ruins and restore the destructions of many generations (*Isaiah 61:4*). They will build Ezekiel's Temple, and as the life-giving river flows out from under the wall, the earth will come back to life (*Ezek. 47, Jude 14-15, Zechariah 14:4-5, Revelation 21:2*). The "rest of the dead" will be raised to life (*Revelation 20:4-5, John 5:28-29*).

Christ will rule from Mt Zion, and the truth will be taught through His priesthood (*Isa. 2, Isa. 61:4-9*). The last resurrection is for all of those who did not knowingly reject the Lord during their lifetime.

Each person given citizenship in the kingdom of God must be tested. The true heart motives must be revealed. The multitudes who are raised last (after the 7th millennium) will be tested as Satan "will be released" to "deceive the nations" (*Rev. 20:7*). Many will come to choose Christ as Savior and King. These will be invited to "enter the kingdom" (*Matt. 25:34*).

[See the study at the website: "[The 8th Day.](#)"]

32. During the 8th millennium **Satan will be released to deceive the nations**, leading them to believe that they can overthrow the rulership of Christ. They will follow a Chief named Gog of Magog - a great army - to take the City of Jerusalem and the rulership of earth. **This will be the great Gog-Magog battle**. God will defend His City. The army of the rebellious will be arrested in their attack and devoured by fire which will come down from Heaven (*Rev. 20:7-9, Ezekiel Chapters 38 and 39*).

[See the study at the website: "[Gog and Magog.](#)"]

33. After the final Gog-Magog battle, all selfish, immoral, violent and rebellious human beings will be dead. (Some died at the Second Coming judgment. Others at the Gog-Magog battle.) **The book of Revelation presents one final judgment.** “The dead” will be judged “according to their works” (*Revelation 20:11-15*).

Christ will preside over this final judgment, and the Father will execute sentence (*Rev. 20:11*). **Those to be judged ARE DEAD.** They are portrayed “standing before God” only in the sense of the record of their “works.” The question to be answered: Should any one of these people ever again be raised to carry on his or her life? The answer will be, “No!”

We believe that God our Father will NOT carry out the sentence of eternal death until that sentence is seconded by the “peers” of the condemned. He has the power, but will not use it until redeemed humanity is in agreement. Hence the “record books.” God needs no record books - He knows each heart. But the redeemed must judge for themselves that the LORD has been just concerning each case.

Until their “second death” in the “lake of fire” God retains the essence of each person - His “memory” of them. To Him they are not yet dead - because He can raise them to life at any time (*Luke 20:38*). God says that He “will blot out any memory of those who rebel against Him” (*Exo. 32:33, Isa. 26:14, Psa.109:14-15, Deut. 29:20*). After this essential essence (spirit/soul) is destroyed in the special “lake of fire” - nothing remains. **These people can never be raised to life again. Because all of “the dead” are destroyed in the lake of fire, the abode of the dead (also called Hades) is also destroyed** (*Rev. 20:10, 14*). Evil is no more (*Matthew 25:41, 1 Corinthians 15:2*).

34. **The condemned will NOT suffer unending conscious torment.** Our Heavenly Father is just and merciful. He will not torture any created being without end. **They will cease to exist.** Like rabid dogs - they will mercifully be put out of their misery. **Satan and his angels are also thrown into this lake of fire, to be consumed and destroyed** (*Mat. 25:41, Rev. 20:10*).

[See the study at the website: “[Hell - What it’s not.](#)”]

[See the study at the website: “[Final Judgment - Lake of Fire.](#)”]

35. **God Himself is the fire which is eternal.** His presence is light and joy to those who love Him, but a consuming fire to those whose hearts are full of hate and rebellion (*Deuteronomy 4:24, Hebrews 12:29, Isaiah 43:2, Isaiah 33:10-16, Exo 24:17, Deut 4:24, Heb. 12:29*). This fire is everlasting because God is everlasting The righteous will “walk through the fire” while the wicked will be consumed (*Isa. 43:14-15*).

36. **We believe that one’s name is entered into the Book of Life, when he or she enters into covenant with God through Christ** (*Lk. 10:20, Phil. 4:3, Mal. 3:16, Rev. 3:5, Rev. 13:8, Rev. 20:12&15, Rev. 21:27, Exo. 32:32*). Those who enter into covenant with the LORD become Israelites. If one forsakes the covenant without repentance, his/her name will be blotted out of The Book. The names of those who persistently refuse covenant are never entered into The Book. Every one whose name is NOT found written in the Book of Life, will be thrown into the lake of fire (*Rev. 20:15*).

Anciently, on Yom Kippur (The Day of Atonement) any Israelite who failed to fast and humble himself before the LORD was “cut off from the people” (*Lev. 23:26-32*). His name would then be “blotted out” of the Book of Life. (Anciently, the names of such persons - believed to be cursed of God - were blotted out of the genealogical record of Israel.)

We believe that the prophecy of Yom Kippur will be fulfilled when Christ returns. On that day He will judge. He will blot out the names of those who have persisted in rebellion against the covenant. Those who have persistently refused to enter into covenant with the LORD will lose any further opportunity to “enter in” as did those who lived at the time of Noah’s flood (*Mat. 24:37, Lk. 17:26*). They will die in the plagues and their bodies will be burned up with the earth. They will never be raised to live again.

[See the study at the website: “[Judgment Day.](#)”]

NOTE: The names of those who choose Christ as King during the 8th millennium - those who enter into covenant with God thru Him - will also be written into The Lamb’s Book of Life.

37. **The earth - restored and made new again, will be the home of the redeemed for all eternity** (*Psalm 115:16, Romans 4:13, Acts 7:5, Galatians 3:29, Proverbs 11:31, Ezekiel 37:12-14, 2Peter 3:12-13, Matthew 5:5, Psalm 37:10-11, Revelation 21:1-5, Isaiah 65:17, Isaiah 66:22-24*).

[See the study at the website: “[Reconciled at Last.](#)”]

THE CHURCH

38. What is the church? Which is the true church? (See #36.)

The word “church” in the Apostolic Writings (NT) is #1577 - ekklesia.
Meaning: Essentially it is “the assembly,” or “the congregation.”

The apostle Paul wrote, “all Israel will be saved” (*Romans 11:26*). How can this be, when we know that those who died in rebellion during the wilderness experience of Israel will not enter His rest? (*Hebrews 4:5*). The answer lies in another statement of Paul, “They are not all Israel, who are of (descended from) Israel (Jacob)” (*Romans 9:6*). **Race alone does not make one a faithful servant of God - a true Israelite.**

So today, there are many who join a church, are baptized, making vows because they believe this will give them entry into the kingdom - when their heart is not truly given to God. (They are really just buying “fire” insurance.) These people are not true followers of Christ. They are hangers-on, Christians in name only. Just as there was a visible, physical nation of Israel, so there is a visible church in the world. The true Israel consisted of those who maintained an obedient heart relationship with God. Just so with the “church”. **The true church of God consists of those individuals who have a heartfelt relationship with the LORD - no matter which church roster contains their names.** They may not espouse every true doctrine, as God sees it, but their hearts belong to Him and that is what counts.

39. The Bible, in both the Old and New Testaments, teaches church (congregational) organization. Each member of the body is called upon to exercise his special gifts for the benefit of all.

Through His Son, the Father has given special gifts to men, for the blessing of His people (*Ephesians 4:7-8*). During the Old Testament period, “the Spirit of the Lord” came “upon” or “filled” certain individuals giving them extraordinary power to lead Israel to victory over her enemies, wisdom to judge, to teach, (*Jude. 3:10; 6:34; 11:29; 1Samuel 13-14*) or to prophesy (*Ezekiel 11:5, Numbers 11:17, 25,25; 2Samuel 23:2; Numbers 24:5*). For the building of the Sanctuary, God gave special gifts of artistic ability (*Exodus 28:3; 31:3; 35:30-35*). After Christ ascended to Heaven and poured out His Spirit (*Acts 2:33, Titus 3:6*), individuals were once again given special gifts, for building up the church of God.

“Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. And there are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons. . . . But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He [God] wills”

(*1Corinthians 12:4-11 NAS*). [Also see: *James 1:17-18; Romans 8:32; Ephesians 5:20; Hebrews 2:4.*]

Some of these gifts are listed in *1Corinthians 12:4-31*:

1. The Spirit of wisdom
2. The word of knowledge
3. Faith
4. Gifts of healing
5. Working of miracles
6. Prophecy
7. Discerning of spirits
8. Different kinds of tongues (languages)
9. Interpretation of tongues

God appointed the members of the body (Church) to different roles:

1. Apostles
2. Prophets
3. Teachers
4. Workers of miracles
5. Healers
6. Helpers
7. Those who administer government
8. Interpreters (for those who speak another language)

The point Paul makes in *1Corinthians 12*, is that **not everyone receives the same gift or gifts.**

God is the one who decides how the gifts will be distributed, so do not complain about which gift/s you have received. All members work together to strengthen the church, winning souls to Christ. Paul does make one exception. He says, “Desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy” (*1Corinthians 14:1*).

At the website there is an audio teaching on “[The Role of Women](#)” in the congregation.

40. “**Spiritual gifts**” must be distinguished from **spiritual “fruits.”** **Every believer will bring forth “the fruits of the Spirit”** (more and more as he/she grows). These fruits are “love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control” (*Galatians 5:22*).

THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

41. **Prayer, and Bible study, are the pillars of personal growth for the Christian.** Prayer may be formal, with a congregation but should most often be informal, between one soul and his/her God. Prayer should be constant and conversational - talking to God as to a very loving father (*Galatians 4:6, Matthew 6:6-13, 32*). Christ gave us a model prayer, but it is not necessary to repeat that one prayer over and over (*Matthew 6:7*). Each child of God should pray from his heart in many different ways to express praises, to give thanks, to confess sin, to obtain forgiveness and to ask for His blessing. We are to pray to the Father, in the name of His Son (*John 15:16, 16:23*). When we pray, "in Jesus name" we are expressing faith in Jesus Christ as Intercessor, Advocate, and High Priest before God's throne. It is because of His perfect righteousness and His perfect death, that our prayers may be heard.
42. Fellowship together with those who also believe, for the purpose of worship, study, and mutual encouragement is of great value in the Christian life (*Hebrews 10:25*). As members of the Body of Christ - the Church, we are to love each other and care for each other as brothers and sisters.
43. **Baptism (The word means "immersion.") is the symbol given by Christ to represent our death to sin and our resurrection to a new life.** In baptism, we are buried with Christ, and as He was raised from the dead, so we are raised to a new life (*Romans 6:4*). Baptism represents birth. It is the means by which we are adopted into the family of God.

Only those capable of making a free will choice can enter into the experience of baptism
(*Matthew 3:13-17; Mark 1:1-9; Acts 2:38, 41-47; Acts 8:35-38; Acts 16:32,33; Acts 22:16; Romans 6:1-11; Galatians 3:27; Colossians 3:1-3*).

Peter said "repent and be baptized." Infants cannot repent, or receive His word, or believe with all their hearts. Infant baptism is based upon a belief in something call "original sin." (The expression is not in the Bible.) This doctrine says that because Adam sinned, he passed this sin on to his descendants. We do not agree. We believe that we inherit a carnal (selfish) nature, but not the sin (guilt) itself.

44. **The Passover meal was instituted by Christ, through Moses. This symbolic meal pointed forward to Christ the Lamb who was sacrificed for us.** The unleavened bread and the wine are emblems of the His broken body and His shed blood. Christ bade His disciples remember Him by partaking of this memorial meal. At His final Passover, Jesus washed the feet of His disciples. Following His example, we will humble ourselves in service to others, even to those who "betray us" (*1Corinthians 11:23-29, John 13:1-17*).

We recommend the book: "The Feasts of the Lord" by Kevin Howard and Marvin Rosenthal. There is also an audio teaching on the "[Passover](#)".

45. All that we have is a gift from God. In token of this, we return to God His own (*Leviticus 27:30-32, Malachi 3:8-11*). **The tithe (meaning 10th) was brought to the priests - who were to teach the Law. During the New Covenant age, the tithe is used to support those who teach the Word of God.** During the Old Testament period, 1/3rd of the tithe was used to help the poor. We do likewise. In addition to our tithe, as we are blessed of God, we are to give thank offerings (*Matthew 23:23*).

46. **The Christian will practice modesty, humility, and thrift in lifestyle, dress, and deportment** (*1 Timothy 2:9-10, Matthew 24:37-44, James 1:27*).
47. **Believing his body to be a temple for God's indwelling, the Christian will embrace a healthful lifestyle** (*Proverbs 23:29-32, 1 Corinthians 3:16-17, Deuteronomy. 14:3-20, Isaiah 66:15-17*).

The dietary laws given in the Old Testament concerning clean and unclean animals (those fit for food and those unfit) were given for health reasons and are still valid today (*Leviticus Chapter 11*). We do not eat scavengers, carnivores or bottom feeders.

The prohibition against eating or drinking blood is repeated many times (*Acts 15:19-20,29; Genesis 9:4, Leviticus 17:12*). [**We do not share the view that blood transfusions for the saving of life are a violation of the dietary laws - given for health.**]

48. **Marriage between one man and one woman is ordained of God** (*Genesis 2:24, Matthew 19:6*). As Christ has one "wife" - redeemed Israel (*Ephesians 5:23, Revelation 21:9*), so a man is to have only one wife. The sexual union within marriage is something to be enjoyed and treasured (*Proverbs 5:18,19; Hebrews 13:4*).

Divorce - "except for the cause of fornication" - was condemned by Christ (*Matt. 5:32; Matt. 19:9*). Some believe that remarriage was allowed by Paul, for those believers who had been deserted by unbelieving spouses (*1 Cor. 7:15*).

Our belief is that physical or serious psychological abuse constitutes a violation of the marriage covenant. We believe that in such circumstances, the victim of abuse may separate from his/her abuser without fault before God.

49. **Fornication is condemned in the New Testament.** (The word "fornication" means "unlawful sex." The only "law" available to the Israel of Paul's day was the Old Testament.)

The term fornication included:

1. sex outside of marriage (*Lev. 22:13-29*)
2. adultery - sex with the spouse of another
(*1 Corinthians 6:9, 13, 18; Gal 5:19; 1 Thessalonians 4:3; Exodus 20:14, Lev. 20:10*)
3. incest (*Leviticus 18*)
4. homosexuality (*Leviticus 18:22; Leviticus 20:13; 1 Corinthians 6:9; Romans 1:26-28*)
5. bestiality (*Leviticus 18:23*)
6. cross-dressing (*Deuteronomy 22:5*)
7. sex during menstruation (*Leviticus 20:18, 18:19, 29*)

To this I would add pornography, because Jesus said that if a man looked upon a woman to lust after her, he had committed adultery with her in his heart (*Matthew 5:28*).

THE GOSPEL COMMISSION

50. **Each person is held accountable only for the truth which has been revealed to him.** Only Christ will judge the heart. Only God knows what truth He has brought to the awareness, what truth has been received, and what truth has been rejected. The saved of God will come from every “nation, kindred, tongue and people.” They will be those who have responded to the light which they received (*James 4:17, John 9:41, Hosea 4:6, Acts 17:30, Proverbs 28:9*).

While it is true that every person is convicted by the Spirit of Christ - his conscience receiving or rejecting this conviction, it is the great love of God which draws men to render true worship and service. We are reconciled to the Father - not the Father to us. The Father has always loved us. We love Him because he first loved us. This love was fully revealed in the gift of His Son. **The story of Jesus should be told to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people just as our Lord commanded** (*Matthew 28:19-20*).

What is the gospel?? “Gospel” is a Greek word meaning “good news.” So we might rightly ask, “What is this good news?”

Is THE good news, that Christ has died to save men from death? Well - yes. But if we are going to live for eternity with a Dictator called God, in a place where we will be miserable, then eternal life really isn't good news. Is it?

Maybe the good news is that Heaven will be wonderful, and the new earth just as blessed. But what is it, or Who is it, that will make our eternal home a place where we will be happy? Is it not God Himself? He is the one Who will provide this home for the saved. So we've come back again to the character of God Himself.

We believe the “good news” is that God is exactly as Jesus portrayed Him - our loving Father. He is the most wonderful, most glorious, most loving Being we could ever imagine, and more.

**THE GOOD NEWS:
GOD REALLY IS - LOVE.**

*Shalom and Blessings
Prophecy Viewpoint*

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