October 2026

THE VOICE of ELIJAH

Restoring the hearts of the fathers to the children

The Heretics Motto: "Make It Say What You Want"

As our heretic is so fond of his pruning-knife, I do not wonder when syllables are expunged by his hand, seeing that entire pages are usually the matter on which he practises his effacing process. The apostle declares that to himself, "less than the least of all saints, was the grace given" of enlightening all men as to "what was the fellowship of the mystery, which during the ages had been hid in God, who created all things." The heretic erased the preposition in, and made the clause run thus: ("what is the fellowship of the mystery) which hath for ages been hidden from the God who created all things."

The falsification, however, is flagrantly absurd. For the apostle goes on to infer (from his own statement): "in order that unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might become known through the church the manifold wisdom of God." Whose principalities and powers does he mean? If the Creator's, how does it come to pass that such a God as He could have meant His wisdom to be displayed to the principalities and powers, but not to Himself? For surely no principalities could possibly have understood anything without their sovereign Lord. Or if (the apostle) did not mention God in this passage, on the ground that He (as their chief) is Himself reckoned among these (principalities), then he would have plainly said that the mystery had been hidden from the principalities and powers of Him who had created all things, including Him amongst them.

But if he states that it was hidden from them, he must needs be understood as having meant that it was manifest to Him. From God, therefore, the mystery was not hidden; but it was hidden in God, the Creator of all things, from His principalities and powers. For "who hath known the mind of the Lord, or who hath been His counsellor?" Caught in this trap, the heretic probably changed the passage, with the view of saying that his god wished to make known to his principalities and powers the fellowship of his own mystery, of which God, who created all things, had been ignorant. But what was the use of his obtruding this ignorance of the Creator, who was a stranger to the superior god, and far enough removed from him, when even his own servants had known nothing about him? To the Creator, however, the future was

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A Note From the Editor

The back issues of ***The Voice of Elijah***® newsletter contain a treasure trove of information. Since we've gone digital and have discontinued printing hard copies altogether, the hard copies of the back issues will not be reprinted once the shelves here have been emptied. If you are interested in hard copies of some or all of the back issues, they are listed on the website at *voiceofelijah.org*.

And, by the way, Harper's Standardized Study Bible, New Testament (both the First Printing and Red Letter Edition) is also available at *voiceofelijah.org*. If you prefer the printed copies, I encourage you to consider obtaining them sooner rather than later. There are no plans to reprint once the current inventory is depleted.

Here is just a taste of the contents from the newsletters, ***Updates***, and books that remain on the shelves at the home office, for now.

As a matter of fact, rather than chafing under God's constraints, those who understand God's purpose in testing them will readily respond to it appropriately. Unfortunately, there will always be those fools around us who choose to deny the fact that God would test anyone before He accepts them into His eternal Kingdom. The "easy-believism" types abhor that idea because, if it were true, it would require diligence on their part. They deny it to their peril. Scripture plainly tells us:

The refining pot is for silver and the furnace for gold,
But the LORD tests hearts.
(Proverbs 17:3) —NASB

"Quail Is Fools' Food," **The Voice of Elijah® Update**, *March 1993, p. 9*

Consider the logic: If actions always stem from belief, how can anyone "do the will of My Father" if they don't choose to believe The Teaching of Jesus Christ *when they have the opportunity to hear it? Sadly enough, they can't. If you believe a lie, you'll come up short at the End. A word to the wise is sufficient: You'd better pay attention.*
"Watching Ducks Sashaying 'Round the CornerStone," **The Voice of Elijah®**, *April 1993, p. 26*

If you are a member of Israel—the Body of Jesus Christ—you have certain obligations God expects you to fulfill. You have obligations toward God and obligations toward your brothers and sisters in Christ. You had best not fail to live up to those obligations.
"Where's Your Treasure?" **The Voice of Elijah® Update**, *June 1993, p. 22*

God's only interest is knowledge for the sake of righteousness and holiness. In other words, where one has knowledge of the Truth, God expects action. He expects us to live in accordance with our knowledge.
"Legitimate Authority Means *Nothing to a Rebel,"* **The Voice of Elijah® Update**, *May 1994, p. 5*

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The Term *Mystery* Normally Indicates Something Is Not Understood

Sixty years ago, the *Living* Word of God called an eighteen-year-old country bumpkin who grew up on a farm in the Oklahoma Panhandle to do precisely what that fellow is currently doing. I have described some of the things you might want to know about his calling in a book titled *God Called; I Answered.* That young fellow has spent the intervening years since the day he was called trying to determine for what, for when, and for whom God called him. The first two of those three categories have now settled into an absolute certainty in his mind, but only you can answer whether you are a member of the third. So let's get started; I wouldn't want to waste your time, or mine, if you are not one of those "for whom" God called me.

Over the past thirty-seven years, I have been explaining various things into which I firmly believe God has granted me insight for the benefit of those who *choose* to believe what I believe. You may or may not be one of those who accept my beliefs in that regard—or any of the other things I have explained over that span of time—as true. That is precisely as God designed it: Everyone must ultimately answer for their own beliefs, not the beliefs of others. And nobody has the right to dictate to you or anyone else what they should or should not believe. It is, to my mind at least, your "inalienable right" to believe whatever you *choose* to believe. But that's just my opinion, which doesn't count for all that much. The Communists, the Muslims, and every other religious cult like them, appear to have a decidedly different opinion.

Since God called me for this particular time, place, and purpose, I am going to explain a few salient features of the things that I believe so you can quickly determine whether you are or are not one of those "for whom" God called me. If you aren't, it certainly will not offend me, I already know that most folks today will ignorantly consider what I teach to be "cultic," nevermind the fact that I do not assemble people to harangue them into some sort of "do this, but don't do that" idiocy. I merely present the things I firmly believe for their consideration, just like every other person who writes or records the things that they firmly believe are God's honest Truth. It's your *choice* as to whether or not you believe that what I believe is true. As the old saying goes, it's no skin off my teeth what you *choose* to believe.

In this article, I am going to give you my understanding of what the Apostle Paul *meant* by what he wrote in the first few chapters of his first letter to the local church in Corinth. Along with that, I will also tell you *why* he wrote *what* he wrote. Whether or not you understand what I explain here may well depend on your knowledge of things I have written in the pages of this newsletter over the past thirty-seven years. Then again, according to Paul, your lack of understanding could just as well depend on whether or not you have ever been born again. Since your understanding of my explanation may depend on whether or not you have insight into the *significance* of what I tell you, I will try to provide that as well.

Just remember what I have told you about my insight into the message of the Scriptures over the past three decades: *Meaning* has to do with an understanding of *what* has been said/written, *significance* has to do with *why* it has been said/written. If you do not have access to either one of those things, you won't understand what is said. The downside of that is, if I give you both at the same time, you will have no excuse for not believing it.

Text: 1 Corinthians 1

1*(1) [Paul]—*

(a) [an Apostle] [of The Anointed One], [Jesus],
(b) [One Who Was Invited] [by] [God's] [Will]—
[and] [our] [Brother] [Sosthenes],

2***(2) [To The] [Summoned Assembly] [of The]***
[{*Living*} God] [that] [is] [in] [Corinth]—

(a) [those who have been made holy] [by] [The Anointed One], [Jesus];
(b) [{the} Holy Ones] {who have been} [invited] [together with] [everyone] [in] [every] [Place] [who] [makes an appeal to]* [The] [Name] *[of] [our] [Master], [Jesus], [The Anointed One]—
[their {Master}] [and] [ours].

3*(3) [Favor] [and] [Peace] [to you] [from]*

(a) [God], [our] [Father], [and]
(b) [His Majesty], [Jesus], [The Anointed One].

4*(1)* ***[I [always] give thanks] [to] [my] [God] [for] [you],***

(a) [for] [The] [Favor] [of The] [{*Living*} God] [that] [was given] [to you] [in] [The Anointed One], [Jesus],
5***(b) [because] [in] [Him] [you were made wealthy] [in] [every way]—***

(i) [by] [every] [Word] [and]
(ii) [by {your} Knowledge of the [whole] Truth],

6(a) *[just as] [The] [Testimony] [of The] [Anointed One] [has been confirmed] [by] [you],*
7(b) *[with the result that] [you] [do [not] come up short]—[not [in] any] [Gift]—[while eagerly looking forward to] [The] [Revelation] [of] [our] [Master], [Jesus], [The Anointed One],* 8*[the One Who] [will [also] confirm that [you] are] [above reproach] [until] [The Consummation] [on] [The] [Day] [of] [our] [Master], [Jesus], [The Anointed One].*

9*(2) [The] [{*Living*} God]—[by] [Whom] [you were invited] [into] [Commonality] [with] [His] [Son], [our] [Master], [Jesus], [The Anointed One]—{is} [trustworthy].* 10***[So then] [I am appealing to] [you], [Brothers], [through]* [The] [Name] *[of] [our] [Master], [Jesus], [The Anointed One], [so that]:***

(a) [you would [all] say] [the [same] thing]; [and]
(b) [there would [not] be] [Schisms] [among] [you]; [but]
(c) [you would be] [made ready]

(i) [with] [The] [same] [Mind] [and]
(ii) [with] [The] [same] [Opinion].

11*(3) [For] [with regard to] [you], [it has been made obvious] [to me], [my] [Brothers], [by] [those who are] [from Chloe], [that] [there are] [Points of Contention] [among] [you].* 12***[But] [I say] [This] [because] [each one] [of you] [is saying]:***

(a) "[I] [am] [actually] [Paul's {disciple}]," [then]
(b) "[I {am}] [Apollos' {disciple}]," [then]
(c) "[I {am}] [Cephas' {disciple}]," [then]
(d) "[I {am}] [The Anointed One's {disciple}]."

13*(4) [Has [The] [Anointed One] been divided]?*

(a) [Paul] [was [not] crucified] [for [your] sake], {was he}?
(b) [Or] [were you baptized] [into] [The] [Name] *[of Paul]?*

14*(1) [I give thanks] [to The] [{*Living*} God] [that] [I did [not] baptize {any}] [of you] [except] [Crispus] [and] [Gaius],* 15*[so that] [no] [one] [could say] [that] [you were baptized] [into] [my] [Name].*
16*(2) [But then] [I did baptize]* [The] [House] *[of Stephanas] [also]. [{As for} The Rest], [if] [I baptized] [anyone] [else], [I am [not] aware of {it}].*

17*(a) [For] [The Anointed One] [did [not] send] [me] [to baptize], [but] [to proclaim the good news of* **the fulfillment of the promise***]—[not] [through] [{the} Wisdom] [of a Word]—[so that] [The] [Cross] [of The] [Anointed One] [would [not] be empty].*
18***(b) [For] [The] [Word] [that is] [about The] [Cross] [is],***

(i) [on the one hand], [Stupidity] [to those who] [are being done away with]; [but

(ii) on the other hand], [it is] [God's] [Supernatural Power] [to us]—[those who] [are being saved].

19*(c) [For] [it has been written]:*

(i) "[I will do away with] [The] [Wisdom] [of those who are] [wise],
(ii) [And] [I will disregard] [The] [Insight] [of those who are] [intelligent]."

20(a) ***[Where] {is} [{the} One Who Is Wise]?***
(b) ***[Where] {is} [{the} Scribe]?***
(c) ***[Where] {is} [{the} Debater] [of] [This] [Current Age]?***
(d) ***[Has [The] [{Living} God] [not] shown [The] [Wisdom] [of The] [World] to be stupid]?***

21*(d) [For] [in] [The] [Wisdom] [of The] [{Living} God], [since]*

(i) [The] [World] [has [not] come to know] [The] [{Living} God] [through] [its] [Wisdom],
(ii) [The] [{Living} God] [was delighted] [to save] [those who] [believe God's promise] ***[through] [The] [Stupidity] [of our] [Preaching];*** *22[and] [since]*
(iii) [Jews] [request] [Signs], [and]
(iv) [Greeks] [seek] [Wisdom], 23[then] [we] [preach] [The Anointed One] [crucified],

(a) *[a Deadfall Trap] [to Jews] [on the one hand],*
(b) *[but [Stupidity] [to Gentiles] on the other].*
24(c) *[But] [to Those] [Who Have Been Invited], [both] [Jews] [and] [Greeks], [to them] [The Anointed One] {is} [God's] [Supernatural Power] [and] [God's] [Wisdom]; 25[because]*

(i) *[the] [stupidest {notion}] [The] [{Living} God has] [is] [wiser than] [that] [of Men], [and]*
(ii) *[The] [weakest {member}] [The] [{Living} God has] {is} [mightier than] [that] [of Men].*

26(e) [For] [look at] [The] [Invitation] [you have], [Brothers], [because] [with respect to] [Flesh]

(i) [not] [Many] {are} [wise],
(ii) [not] [Many] {are} [able],
(iii) [not] [Many] {are} [well-born]. 27[But]

(a) *[The] [{Living} God] [has chosen] [the] [stupidest {notions}] [of The] [World], [so that] [He could embarrass] [those who are] [wise]; [and]*
(b) *[The] [{Living} God] [has chosen] [the] [weakest {members}] [of The] [World], [so that] [He could embarrass] [those that are] [mighty]; 28[and]*
(c) *[The] [{Living} God] [has chosen] [the] [lowborn] [of The] [World] [and] [those that] [are viewed with contempt]—[those that] [are [not] {anything}]—*

(i) *[so that] [He could abrogate] [those that] [are {something}],*
29(ii) *[so that] [no] [Flesh] [could boast about] [anything] [in the presence of] [The] [{Living} God].*

30(f) [And so] [in] [The Anointed One], [Jesus], [you] [are] [part] [of Him] [Who] [has become] [to us]

(i) [Wisdom] [from] [God]—[as well as]
(ii) [a Declaration of Not Guilty] [and]
(iii) [The Process of Being Made Holy] [and]
(iv) [Emancipation]—31[so that], [just as] [it has been written]:

"[Let [the one who] [boasts], boast] [about] [His Majesty]."
(1 Corinthians 1:1–31) —HSSB

Commentary: 1 Corinthians 1

Paul makes reference to the first thing he understands about "*The Way*" that Moses and all the other Prophets of Israel "plugged up" (Dan. 8:26, 12:4, 9) in the text of the Old Testament when he addresses the members of the local church in Corinth as "those who have been made holy":

(2) [To The] [Summoned Assembly] [of The] [{Living} God] [that] [is] [in] [Corinth]—

> ***(a) [those who have been made holy] [by] [The Anointed One], [Jesus];***
> ***(b) [{the} Holy Ones] {who have been} [invited] [together with] [everyone] [in] [every] [Place] [who] [makes an appeal to]* [The] [Name] *[of] [our] [Master], [Jesus], [The Anointed One]— [their {Master}] [and] [ours].***

(1 Corinthians 1:2) —HSSB

What Paul understood regarding holiness is this: It can only be derived by contact with the *Living* Word of God or contact with something that has been made holy by some sort of contact with the *Living* Word of God—that is, contact with something that has been placed "under the ban." What that *means* regarding any specific item varies in accordance with the nature of the item that resides "under the ban." Achan, son of Carmi, learned that the hard way when he voluntarily placed himself "under the ban" by taking "some of the things that were under the ban" (Josh. 7:1).

I am now going to speak in terms of the *parabolic imagery* of the Passover Parable, so bear with me a bit while I explain what only those who truly believe can "see" with the "eyes of your heart" (Eph. 1:18). For that reason, if you can't understand and/or can't accept the things I explain, you may want to seriously consider the fact that it is most likely because you have not been "born again" (John 3:1–21). So here goes:

1. The Prophets Jeremiah and Ezekiel say precisely the same thing regarding the Old Covenant: Since the sons of Israel have repeatedly broken the terms of God's covenant, God is going to do away with that covenant, invoke the curses stipulated under the terms of that covenant, and ratify a New Covenant with them. But that New Covenant will not be ratified with *Corporate* Israel; it will instead be ratified with the individual members of *Corporate* Israel, and God will place His Spirit "within" each member with whom He ratifies that New Covenant, rather than "in your midst" as He did at Mount Sinai when He ratified the first Old Covenant with all of them.

2. When John the Baptist came preaching the New Covenant, he baptized everyone who accepted the terms of that New Covenant to signify that they had—like *Corporate* Israel long before—passed through "the sea" and entered the wilderness—the *parabolic* Realm of the Dead—where they are tested.

3. Of all the Jews that John the Baptist baptized in the River Jordan, Jesus alone proved qualified to ***receive*** the Spirit of God (Matt. 3:16). So as soon as He came up out of the water, that Spirit drove Him into the wilderness to be tested (Matt. 4:1–11).

4. When Jesus was baptized He fell "under the ban," not only because of His contact with the Spirit of God, but also because God had already "cut off" every other Jew "from" *Corporate* Israel (Matt. 3:7–10). That made Him the sole remaining Member ("*Remnant*") of *Corporate* Israel—the Son of God (Matt. 3:17). As a result, He immediately fell "under the ban," consigned to death by the curses of the Old Covenant (Gal. 3:13–14). His only hope of redemption lay in fulfilling the terms of the New Covenant, which He did up to the time of His death.

5. On the night He was taken prisoner, Jesus made a covenant with His twelve disciples during the Last Supper (Matt. 26:26–27; John 13:1–17:26). He did that in His role as *Corporate* Israel, under the terms of the Old Covenant—before He died—specifically stating that future generations could be joined to Him under the curse of that same covenant. That detail is of utmost importance in that it explains the *parabolic imagery* Paul had in mind when he refers to the True Believer dying with Christ (Rom. 6; Col. 2:20), but it also explains why the observance of the various *parabolic pantomimes* of the Old Covenant no longer apply to those who have "died" with Christ. It is because the demands of that covenant were met when Christ died under the curses of that covenant.

6. Jesus Christ was crucified to meet the requirements of the Old Covenant, but He was resurrected under the terms of the New Covenant. Therefore, everyone joined to Christ "died" (*parabolically*) with Christ on the cross; and they met the conditions to ***inherit what was promised*** when He was resurrected (Col. 3:1). ***What was promised*** is creation in the image and likeness of God, but one can only attain that by being molded into the same Spirit (think: mind-set) that

God is. Therefore, everyone who has willingly joined themselves to Christ under the terms of the Old Covenant has become a Child of God and a "joint ***heir***" with Christ (Rom. 8:14–17). As a result, God has placed His Spirit "within" them as a down payment of their ultimate ***inheritance*** (Eph. 1:11–14) to provide a "witness" as to "*The Way*" God thinks. For that reason everyone who continues to conform to the image (think: mind-set) of the Spirit of Christ (Rom. 8:29) will be "transformed by the renewing of your mind" (Rom. 12:2).

7. Every True Believer who ***receives*** the Spirit of Christ immediately falls "under the ban" simply because that Spirit is holy. But falling "under the ban" is not inherently good or bad, it simply indicates the thing placed "under the ban"—whether voluntarily or involuntarily—belongs to God. The circumstances by which one has come to be "under the ban" determines whether it is a good thing or a bad thing—for them. Those who misappropriate something that belongs to God—such as the Truth that He is—will eventually come to regret it; those who come to Him on His terms fall under His protection.

Paul knew the members of the church at Corinth had been "made holy" by their contact with the Spirit of Christ because he and others were ***handing down*** the Truth of the "Spirit" that Moses and the other Prophets intentionally hid in the things they wrote. He reveals that when he says Believers have been given a "knowledge of the whole Truth." He also says their contact with that Truth had not only made them holy, it had also made them extremely wealthy:

4*(1) [I [always] give thanks] [to] [my] [God] [for] [you],*

(a) [for] [The] [Favor] [of The] [{Living} *God] [that] [was given] [to you] [in] [The Anointed One], [Jesus],*
5***(b) [because] [in] [Him] [you were made wealthy] [in] [every way]—***

(i) [by] [every] [Word] [and]
(ii) [by {***your***} ***Knowledge of the [whole] Truth].***
(1 Corinthians 1:4–5) —HSSB

To understand what Paul says next, it is important that you keep in mind the fact that he and the other Apostles were all teaching the same body of Truth at that point in time. Granted, there were "false apostles" (2 Cor. 11:13–15) who were doing their best to infiltrate the local churches and contaminate the Truth, but they had not yet gained the upper hand, as they would a century later. Paul's main concern lay in the fact that some members of the Corinthian church were engaging in a mindless "peeing contest" that threatened to tear the Church apart from within:

[So then] [I am appealing to] [you], [Brothers], [through] **[The] [Name]** ***[of] [our] [Master], [Jesus], [The Anointed One], [so that]:***

(a) [you would [all] say] [the [same] thing]; [and]
(b) [there would [not] be] [Schisms] [among] [you]; [but]
(c) [you would be] [made ready]

(i) [with] [The] [same] [Mind] [and]
(ii) [with] [The] [same] [Opinion].
(1 Corinthians 1:10) —HSSB

Paul goes on to describe what was happening at that time when he says the following:

11*(3) [For] [with regard to] [you], [it has been made obvious] [to me], [my] [Brothers], [by] [those who are] [from Chloe], [that] [there are] [Points of Contention] [among] [you].* 12*[But]* ***[I say] [This] [because] [each one] [of you] [is saying]:***

(a) "[I] [am] [actually] [Paul's {***disciple***}***]," [then]***
(b) "[I {***am***}***] [Apollos'*** {***disciple***}***]," [then]***
(c) "[I {***am***}***] [Cephas'*** {***disciple***}***]," [then]***
(d) "[I {***am***}***] [The Anointed One's*** {***disciple***}***]."***
(1 Corinthians 1:11–12) —HSSB

The problem with the stupidity encapsulated in the mind-set of those who were engaging in such behavior has to do with the fact that, just like a lot of ignorant folks today, they did not even understand what they had heard. That is, they could not see *the Apostles that Paul mentions* ***were all explaining the very same thing*** *to dullards who were totally incapable of understanding*. That is nothing strange; it is still happening today; so if you can't wrap your head around the things I have been explaining and see how they agree

with what is found in the New Testament, you may want to consider the fact that you may not have been "born again." Paul goes on to make that same point:

> 18***(b) [For] [The] [Word] [that is] [about The] [Cross] [is],***
>
> ***(i) [on the one hand], [Stupidity] [to those who] [are being done away with]; [but (ii) on the other hand], [it is] [God's] [Supernatural Power] [to us]—[those who] [are being saved].***
>
> 19*(c) [For] [it has been written]:*
>
> *(i) "[I WILL DO AWAY WITH] [THE] [WISDOM] [OF THOSE WHO ARE] [WISE],*
> *(ii) [AND] [I WILL DISREGARD] [THE] [INSIGHT] [OF THOSE WHO ARE] [INTELLIGENT]."*
>
> 20(a) *[Where] {is} [{the} One Who Is Wise]?*
> (b) *[Where] {is} [{the} Scribe]?*
> (c) *[Where] {is} [{the} Debater] [of] [This] [Current Age]?*
> (d) *[Has [The] [{*Living*} God] [not] shown [The] [Wisdom] [of The] [World] to be stupid]?*
>
> 21*(d) [For] [in] [The] [Wisdom] [of The] [{*Living*} God], [since]*
>
> *(i) [The] [World] [has [not] come to know] [The] [{*Living*} God] [through] [its] [Wisdom],*
> *(ii) [The] [{*Living*} God] [was delighted] [to save] [those who]* **[believe God's promise]** *[through] [The] [Stupidity] [of our] [Preaching].*
>
> *(1 Corinthians 1:18–21) —HSSB*

Let me give you a real-world example of the idiocy Paul is describing. You are undoubtedly aware that—according to "the wisdom of the world"—we are all Children of God, created in the image and likeness of God, and God loves us all so very, very much that He would never, ever consign any of us to an eternity of suffering in Hell "*The Way*" all those dastardly, dimwitted, and decidedly dumb religious folks claimed He would over the entirety of the previous nineteen centuries. The problem with the "conventional wisdom" of the world lies in the fact that it is nothing more than a primary tenet of "The Lie" that the Liar Satan has used to "lead the entire civilized world astray" (Rev. 12:9).

If you have been reading what I have written over the past thirty-seven years, you should already know the reason why Jesus Christ was crucified. That is what Paul calls "the Word that is about the cross," and it can be found in summary form in the very first chapter of the Bible (Gen 1:26–27). So if you don't know what I am *talking about*, you obviously have some catching up to do. Let me give you a heads-up to get you started:

> 27*(1)* ***[So then] [the One Who] [searches] [our] [Hearts] [is aware of] [what [The] [Mind-set] [of His] [Spirit] is]****, [because] [He files petitions] [in agreement with] [God] [for the sake] [of Holy Ones].*
>
> 28*(a) [So then] [we are aware] [that] [He works [everything] together] [for] [good] [for those who] [love] [The] [{*Living*} God]—[those who] [are] [invited] [in accordance with] [{His} Plan].*
> 29*[Because]:*
>
> *(i)* ***[He knew beforehand] [and] [decided beforehand on] [those who] {would be} [in conformity with] [The] [Image] [of] [His] [Son], [so] [that] [He] [would be] [a Firstborn] [among] [many] [Brothers]****;* 30*[and then] (ii) [He [also] invited] [These Individuals] [whom] [He decided on beforehand]; [and] (iii) [He [also] acquitted] [These Individuals] [whom] [He invited]; [and then] (iv) [He [also] glorified] [These Individuals] [whom] [He acquitted].*
>
> *(Romans 8:27–30) —HSSB*

Did that help? No? Well, maybe you just need a little more information as to Who Jesus Christ became after the Crucifixion, just to help you see through Satan's lie:

> 15(ii) *[Who] [is] [an Image] [of The] [{*Living*} God]—[Who is] [invisible]—* ***[a Firstborn] [of [all] Creation]****;*
>
> 16*(vi) [because]:*

(a) *[Every Last Thing] [in] [The] [Heavens] [and] [on] [The] [Earth] [was created] [by] [Him]—[the] [visible] [and] [the] [invisible]—[whether] [Thrones] [or] [Lordships] [or] [Rulers] [or] [Authorities];*
(b) *[Every Last Thing] [was created] [through] [Him] [and] [for] [Him];* [17]*[and]*
(c) *[He] [is] [before] [everything], [and]*
(d) *[Every Last Thing] [stands together] [in] [Him];* [18]*[and]*
(e) *[Who]*

(i) *[is] [Himself]* ***[The Beginning], [{the} Firstborn] [from] [The] [Dead]****,*
(ii) *[is] [The] [Head] [of His] [Body]—[The] [Summoned Assembly]—[so that] [He] [may become] [One Who has first place] [in] [everything];*

[19]*(vii) [because] [all] [The] [Fullness {of God}] [was delighted]:*

(a) *[to dwell] [in] [Him].*
(Colossians 1:15–19) —HSSB

I trust that helped you see the Truth regarding "the Word that is about the cross." I'll include this next one just to make sure I'm not to blame for your lack of ability to see the Truth in Genesis 1:26–27, where the simpletons who are enamored with "the wisdom of the world" are too stupid to see the Truth. Take a look:

[5]*(3) [For] [to which one] [of The] [Messengers] [did He say] [at any time]:*

"[YOU] [ARE] [MY] [SON]!
[I] [ENGENDERED] [YOU] [TODAY]"?

[And] [again]:

"[I] [WILL BECOME] [HIS] [FATHER],
[AND] [HE] [WILL BECOME] [MY] [SON]"?

[6]*(4)* ***[But] [when] [He brings] [The] [Firstborn] [into] [The] [Civilized World] [again]****, [He says]:*

"[AND] [ALL] [GOD'S] [MESSENGERS]
[MUST PAY HOMAGE] [TO HIM]!"

[7]*(5) [So] [on the one hand], [with regard to] [The] [Messengers], [He says]:*

"{This is} [THE ONE WHO] [MAKES]
[HIS] [MESSENGERS] [SPIRITS]
[AND] [HIS] [PRIESTLY MINISTERS]
[A FLAME] [OF FIRE]."

[8]*(6) [But on the other hand], [with regard to] [The] [Son], {He says}:*

"[YOUR] [THRONE], [O] [GOD], {will endure}
[INTO] [THE] [AGE] [OF THE] [AGE TO COME],
[AND] [THE] [STAFF] [OF UPRIGHTNESS] {will be}
[THE] [STAFF] [OF] [YOUR] [KINGDOM].
[9]*[YOU LOVED] [A DECLARATION OF NOT GUILTY]*
[AND] [HATED] [LAWLESSNESS];
*[FOR] [THIS REASON] [THE] [{*Living*} GOD]—*
[YOUR] [GOD]—[HAS ANOINTED] [YOU]
[WITH AN OLIVE OIL] [OF EXTREME JOY]
[GREATER THAN] [YOUR] [PARTNERS]."
(Hebrews 1:5–9) —HSSB

Isn't it amazing how a simple word like *again* can wield so much power in the right context? Who'da thunk it? And all those "wise" scholars teaching "the wisdom of the world" have no idea Paul is referring to both Genesis 1:26–27 and what Nathan says in 2 Samuel 7. It's almost like God planned it that "Way." At least Paul seems to think so from what he says next.

Text: 1 Corinthians 2

[1]*(1) [When {I} came] [to] [you], [Brothers],*

(a) ***[I also] [did [not] come] [proclaiming]*** **[The] [Mystery]** ***[of The] [{*****Living*****} God] [to you] [with] [Superiority] [of Word] [or] [Wisdom].*** **[2]***[For] [I decided] [not] [to know] [anything] [among] [you] [except] [Jesus], [The Anointed One]—[and] [This Individual] [crucified].*
[3]*(b) [I also] [came] [to] [you]*

(i) [with] [an Infirmity] [and]
(ii) [with] [Fear] [and]
(iii) [with] [a lot of] [Trembling].

[4]*(2) [So] [my] [Word] [and] [my] [Preaching] {were}*

(a) [not] [with] [persuasive] [Words] [of Wisdom],
(b) [but] [with] [a Demonstration] [of {the} Spirit]
[and] [Supernatural Power], [5][so that] [your] **[Belief in God's Promise]** *[would [not] be] [{based}*

(i) on] [Men's] [Wisdom],
(ii) [but only] [on] [God's] [Supernatural Power].

[6](3) [Now]

(a) [we do speak] [a Wisdom] [among] [those who are] [complete], [yet] [not] [{the} Wisdom]

(i) [of] [This] [Current Age] [nor]
(ii) [of The] [Rulers] [of] [This] [Current Age],
[who] [are going to be abrogated]; [7][but]

(b) ***[we speak] [God's] [Wisdom], [which] [had been tucked away] [in]***

(i) [a* Mystery*] [that] [The] [{*Living*} God] [decided on beforehand]—[before] [The] [Past Ages]—[as] [our] [Glory];
[8](ii) [{a* mystery*} that] [none] [of The] [Rulers] [of] [This] [Current Age] [has known]; [for] [they [would] [not] have crucified] [The] [Master] [of our] [Glory] [if] [they had known {it}]. [9][But]
(iii) {a* mystery*} [just as] [it has been written]:

"[WHAT] [EYE] [HAS [NEVER] SEEN]
[AND] [EAR] [HAS [NEVER] HEARD]
[AND] [WHAT HAS [NEVER] COME UP] [ON]
[A MAN'S] [HEART]
*{Is} [WHAT] [THE] [{*Living*} GOD] [HAS PREPARED] [FOR THOSE WHO] [LOVE] [HIM]."*

[10](4) ***[Yet] [The] [{*Living*} God] [has revealed {those things}] [to us] [via] [The] [Spirit];***

*(a) [for] [The] [Spirit] [searches] [everything], [even] [The] [Depths] [of The] [{*Living*} God].*
[11](b) [For] [who] [among Men] [is aware of] [the {thoughts}] [of The] [Man] [except] [The] [Spirit] [of The] [Man] [that is] [in] [him]? ***[So] [also] [nobody] [knows] [the {thoughts}] [of The] [{*Living*} God] [except] [The] [Spirit] [of The] [{*Living*} God].***

[12](i) [So] [we] [did [not] receive***] [The] [Spirit] [of The] [World], [but] [The] [Spirit] [that is] [from] [The] [{*Living*} God], [so that] [we would be aware of] [the things that] [have been granted to [us] as a favor] [by] [The] [{*Living*} God], [13][which things] [we [also]*** talk about***]—[not] [in] [Words] [taught] [by human] [Wisdom], [but only] [in {words}] [taught] [by {the} Spirit], [{words} that compare [Spiritual Things] to] [Spiritual Things].***
[14](ii) [But] [a [soulish] Man] [does [not] accept] [the things] [of The] [Spirit] [of The] [{*Living*} God], [for] [it is] [Stupidity] [to him], [so] [he is [not] able] [to know] [that] [he is being interrogated] [spiritually].
[15](iii) [But] [the] [spiritual {Man}] [examines] [Every Last Thing], [yet] [He] [is [not] going to be interrogated] [by {anybody}].

[16](c) [For] [WHO] [HAS KNOWN] [HIS MAJESTY'S] [MIND]? {Who is} [THE ONE WHO] [WILL PUT IT ALL TOGETHER FOR] [HIM]? [But then] [we] [have] [{the} Mind] [of The Anointed One].
(1 Corinthians 2:1–16) —HSSB

Commentary: 1 Corinthians 2

I am not going to parse what Paul says in 1 Corinthians 2 and explain it word for word. If you have the Spirit of God within you and you have read what I have written and recorded over the past three decades, you already know what he is *talking about*. The Truth that the Prophets "plugged up" beneath the Seven Seals they placed on the Hebrew Scriptures have hidden what Paul calls a *mystery* that we do not even have the ability to understand.

But the Truth is, in the Seven Sealed Messages that only the Spirit of the *Living* God can fully understand, True Believers will, here at the End of this Age, find the information they need to come to a complete understanding of "*The Way*" God thinks. It all came to them wrapped up neat and tidy in the Spirit they ***received*** when they accepted the terms of the New Covenant they ratified with Christ at the Last Supper. If you don't understand how that is, you obviously have not yet learned to think *parabolically* in terms of the *parabolic imagery* of the Passover Parable. Therefore, you need to consider what Paul says next.

Text: 1 Corinthians 3

[1]*(1) [So, [Brothers],*

(a) I] [can] [not] [speak] [to you]

(i) [as] [to {those who are} spiritual],
(ii) [but only]

(a) *[as] [to {those who are} made of flesh]—*
(b) *[as] [to {those who are} Toddlers] [in] [The Anointed One].*

[2]*(b) [I have given [you] [Milk] to drink], [not] [Food];*

(i) [for]

(a) *[you were [not yet] able] {to understand spiritual things}; [but]*
(b) *[you [still] can] [not {understand spiritual things}, even] [now],*

[3]*(ii) [for] [you are] [still] [fleshly].*
(iii) [For] [where] [Jealousy] [and] [Contentiousness] {are} [among] [you], [are you] [not] [fleshly] [and] [walking] [in agreement with] [Mankind]?
[4]*(iv) [For] [when] [someone] [actually] [says],*

(a) *"[I] [am] [Paul's {disciple}]," [and then] [another] {says},*
(b) *"[I {am}] [Apollos' {disciple}]," [are you] [not] {acting like other} [Men]?*

[5]***(2) [Therefore], {I ask you},***

(a) "[What] [is] [Apollos]?" [But then],
(b) "[What] [is] [Paul]?" {They are} [Servants] [via] [whom] [you believed God's promise***], [and] [as much {understanding of it} as] [His Majesty] [has given] [to each one {of His servants}].***

[6](i) [I] [planted {the* Seed*}];
(ii) [Apollos] [gave {it} a drink], [but]
(iii) [The] [{*Living*} God] [was {the* Seed*} growing {in you}]. [7][So then] [neither] [is] [the one who] [plants {the* Seed*}] [anything] [nor] [the one who] [gives {it} a drink], [but] [The] [{*Living*} God] [Who is {the* Seed*} growing {in you}] {is everything}.

[8](1) [Now] [the one who] [plants {the* Seed*}] [and] [the one who] [gives {it} a drink] [are] [One], [but] [each one] [will receive] [his] [own] [Wage] [in accordance with] [his] [own] [Labor]. [9][For]

(a) [we are] [God's] [Co-workers];
(b) [you are] [God's] [Cultivation], [God's] [Building].

[10](2) *[In accordance with] [The] [Favor] [of The] [{*Living*} God] [that] [was given] [to me],* ***[I put [a Foundation] down] [like] [a [wise] Architect], [but] [another] [is building on {it}]****. [But] [each one] [must watch out for] [how] [he builds on {that foundation}].*
[11]*[For] [nobody] [can] [put down] [a Foundation] [other] [than] [the One that] [is being laid], [which] [is] [Jesus], [The Anointed One].* [12]*[So]*

(a) [if] [anyone] [builds] [on] [The] [Foundation] {with something of}

(i) [Gold],
(ii) [Silver],
(iii) [valuable] [Stones],
(iv) [Wood],
(v) [Grass], {or}
(vi) [Straw], [13]*[The] [Work] [of each one] [will become] [well-known]; [for]*

(a) ***[The] [Day {of the Lord}] [will make {it} obvious], [because]***
(b) ***[it is going to be revealed] [by] [a Fire]****, [and]*
(c) *[The] [Fire] [itself] [will prove] [what kind of] [Work] [each one's {work}] [is].*

[14]*(b) [If] [anyone's] [Work]—[what] [he has built on {the foundation}]—[remains], [he will receive] [a Wage].*
[15]*(c) [If] [anyone's] [Work] [is burned up],*

(i) [he will suffer the loss of {his wage}]; [but]
(ii) [he] [will be saved], [yet] [in the same way]—[as if it were] [through] [Fire].

16*(1) [Are you [not] aware] [that]*

(a) ***you are] [God's] [Sanctuary], [and]***
(b) ***[The] [Spirit] [of The] [***{**Living**} ***God] [is residing] [among] [you]****?*

17*(2) [If] [anyone] [beguiles] [The] [Sanctuary] [of The] [*{Living} *God], [The] [*{Living} *God] [will beguile] [This Individual]; [for] [The] [Sanctuary] [of The] [*{Living} *God], [which] [you] [are], [is] [holy].*

18*(a)* ***[Let [no one] dupe] [himself]. [If] [anyone] [among] [you] [assumes] [that {he} is] [wise] [in] [This] [Current Age], [let him become] [stupid], [so that] [he may become] [wise].***

19*(i) [For] [The] [Wisdom] [of] [This] [World] [is] [Stupidity] [to] [The] [*{Living} *God].*
(ii) [For] [it has been written]:

(a) *"{He is} [THE ONE WHO] [CATCHES] [THE] [WISE] [WITH] [THEIR] [DISHONESTY]."* 20*[And] [again]:*
(b) *"[HIS MAJESTY] [KNOWS] [THE] [SPECULATIONS] [of those who are] [wise]—[THAT] [THEY ARE] [FUTILE]."*

21*(b) [So then], [let [no one] boast] [about] {their relationship to} [Men]; [for]*

(i) [everything] [is] [yours],

22(a) *[whether] [Paul]*
(b) *[or] [Apollos]*
(c) *[or] [Cephas]*
(d) *[or] [The World]*
(e) *[or] [Life]*
(f) *[or] [Death]*
(g) *[or] [what currently is]*
(h) *[or] [what is going to come].*

(ii) [Everything] {is} [yours], 23*[but]*

(a) *[you] [belong to The Anointed One], [and then]*
(b) *[The Anointed One] [belongs to God].*
(1 Corinthians 3:1–23) —HSSB

Commentary: 1 Corinthians 3

After reminding the Corinthian Believers that the Spirit of Christ within them is what enables them to understand the Truth and appreciate the astounding value of their ability to understand it, Paul lashes out at them because they are still floundering around, wrestling with their stupid fleshly ego when they should be moving on to be molded into the mind-set that God desires—a mind-set based on selfless love, compassion, and an honest concern for others. So he shames them by appealing to them on the basis of two of the *parabolic images* in the first of the Seven Sealed Messages found in the writings of Moses and the Prophets:

5*(2) [Therefore], {I ask you},*

(a) "[What] [is] [Apollos]?" [But then],
(b) "[What] [is] [Paul]?" {They are} [Servants] [via] [whom] [you **believed God's promise***], [and] [as much {understanding of it} as] [His Majesty] [has given] [to each one {of His servants}].*

6(i) [I] [planted {the* Seed*};
(ii) [Apollos] [gave {it} a drink], [but]
(iii) [The] [{**Living**} ***God] [was {the* Seed*}***
growing {in you}]. 7[So then] [neither] [is] [the one who] [plants {the* Seed*}] [anything] [nor] [the one who] [gives {it} a drink], [but] [The] [{**Living**} ***God] [Who is {the* Seed*}* ***growing {in you}] {is everything}.***

8(1) [Now] [the one who] [plants {the* Seed*}] [and] [the one who] [gives {it} a drink] [are] [One], [but] [each one] [will receive] [his] [own] [Wage] [in accordance with] [his] [own] [Labor]. 9[For]

(a) [we are] [God's] [Co-workers];
(b) [you are] [God's] [Cultivation], [God's] [Building].
(1 Corinthians 3:5–9) —HSSB

Do you understand the point I am making? Paul is referring back to 2 Samuel 7 to remind the dimwitted folks in Corinth that what they have been taught is based on the first two of the three Hebrew idioms Nathan used to tell David what God planned to do in

order to "make The (Descendants of) Adam" in His very Own image and likeness (Gen. 1:26–27). Just in case some of you can't remember what I have taught you about those idioms, here they are as a reminder:

"build a house"
"raise up a seed"
"make a name"

I am not going to ring the changes on things I have explained over the years; I am merely going to tell you that if you don't understand what Paul is *talking about* in the chapter currently in focus, you had best get started finding out, because the clock is winding down and time is running out. That is, this "Age" is rapidly drawing to a close and the seventh "day" of Creation is about to begin just as Peter reminded us it will when he, like Paul, used the first two of those same three Hebrew idioms to say the following:

[22](4) *[After purifying] [your] [Souls] [through] [your] [Willingness to Attentively Listen and Comply] [with The] [Truth] [about] [Brotherly Love] [without hypocrisy], [you must love] [one another] [fervently] [out] [of a [clean] Heart],* [23]*[engendered again],*

(a) [not] [from] [a [perishable] Seed-grain],
(b) [but] [from an imperishable {one}]—
(c) [via] [God's] [Word], [which

(i) is living] [and]
(ii) [is going to continue on], [24]*[because]:*

"[All] [Flesh] {is} [like] [Grass],
[And] [all] [its] [Glory] {is} [like]
[a Flower] [of Grass].
[The] [Grass] [has shriveled up],
[And] [The] [Flower]
[has fallen away from {it}],
[25]*[But] [The] [Statement Made]*
[by His Majesty]
[Is going to continue on]
[into] [The] [Age to Come]."

(5) [But then], [This {statement}] [is] [The] [Statement] [that] [was proclaimed [to] [you] as the good news of **the fulfillment of the promise***].*

[1](1) *[Therefore], [after setting aside]:*

(a) [all] [Awfulness] [and]
(b) [all] [Chicanery] [and]
(c) [Hypocrisy] [and]
(d) [Envy] [and]
(e) [all] [Disparaging Statements], [2]*[yearn for] [The] [logical], [unadulterated] [Milk] {of the Truth}*

(i) [like] [newborn] [Babies],
(ii) [so that] [you may be made to grow] [into] [Salvation] [by] [it]—
[3]*(iii) [if] [you have tasted] [that] [His Majesty] {is} [really good].*

[4](2) *[To] [Whom], [after approaching] [as to a [living] Stone]—[{a Stone} Who,*

(a) [on the one hand], has been completely rejected] [by] [Men], [but
(b) on the other hand], {is} [a Chosen One] [held in honor] [by] [God]—[5]*[you [yourselves] are [also],*

(i) [like] [living] [Stones],
(ii) being built]

(a) *[by] [Jesus], [The Anointed One],*
(b) *[as a [spiritual] House],*
(c) *[into] [A [holy] Cadre of Priests],*
(d) *[to take up] [spiritual] [Sacrifices] [very acceptable] [to The] [{*Living*} God].*
[6]*[Because] [He has encompassed {this truth}] [in] [a Scripture]:*

"[Guess what!] [I am going to put
[a [chosen] Stone] down] [in] [Zion]—
[A Cornerstone] {that is}
[held in honor]—
[And] [the one who] **[believes God's promise]** *[regarding] [Him]*
[Will [definitely not] be embarrassed]."

[7](3) *[Therefore], [The] [Honor] {is} [for you] [who]* **[believe God's promise]***; [but] [for those who refuse to believe {it}]:*

"[A Stone] [that] [those who] [are building]
[completely rejected]?

[THIS {Stone}] [HAS BEEN TURNED] [INTO]
[{the} HEAD] [OF A CORNER],"

8*[even],*

"[A STONE] [OF SOMETHING
THAT CAUSES STUMBLING]
[AND] [{the} ROCK] [OF A DEADFALL TRAP]."

(4) [Those who] [stumble over] [The] [Word] {are} [those who are not persuaded by **God's promise***]—[for] [which] [they have [also] been put down].* 9*[But] [you] {are}:*

(a) [A [CHOSEN] KINDRED],
(b) [A [royal] CADRE OF PRIESTS],
(c) [A [HOLY] NATION],
(d) [A PEOPLE] [FOR] [ACQUISITION], [so that] [you may forthrightly proclaim] [The] [Virtuous Characteristics] [of the One Who] [invited] [you] [out] [of Nether Darkness] [into] [His] [amazing] [Light]—
10*(e) [those who were] [at one time] [NOT] [A PEOPLE], [but] {are} [now] [GOD'S] [PEOPLE];*
(f) [those who] [HAD [NOT] BEEN SHOWN MERCY], [but] {are} [now] [THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN SHOWN MERCY].
(1 Peter 1:22–2:10) —HSSB

If you can't see that Peter is speaking in terms of the *parabolic imagery* related to the two Hebrew idioms "raise up a seed" and "build a house," I pity you. Without insight into what the Prophets revealed using those two idioms, you will be consigned to exist forever in total darkness (think: ignorance) without any knowledge at all as to why you were even created. And all I have been called to do is show you passages in the Scriptures where Jesus, the Prophets, and the Apostles are speaking in terms of the *parabolic imagery* that stands behind the Hebrew idioms in the Seven Sealed Messages of the Prophets. As an example of what I *mean*, the following is a parable that Jesus told His disciples. It mocks those who have no insight at all into what the Prophets did by speaking in terms of the *parabolic imagery* that stands behind the Hebrew idiom "build a house":

21*"[Not] [everyone] [who] [says], '[Your Majesty]! [Your Majesty]!' [to Me] [will come in] [to] [The] [Kingdom] [of The] [Heavens], [but only] [the one who] [acts in accordance with] [The] [Will] [of] [My] [Father], [Who is] [in] [The] [Heavens].* 22*[Many] [will say] [to Me] [on] [That] [Day], '[Your Majesty]! [Your Majesty]! [Did we [not] prophesy] [in] [Your] [Name] [and] [cast out] [Demons] [in] [Your] [Name] [and] [do] [a lot of] [Supernaturally Powerful Things] [in] [Your] [Name]?'* 23*[And] [then] [I will acknowledge the truth about] [them], [that] '[I [never] knew] [you]! [YOU [WHO] [ARE COMMITTING] [THE] [LAWLESS DEED], DEPART] [FROM] [ME]!'*

24*[Therefore], [anyone] [who] [hears] [These], [My] [Words], [and] [acts in accordance with] [them] [will be like] [a [sensible] Man] [who] [built] [his] [House] [on] [The] [Rock].* 25*[And] [The] [Rain] [came down], [and] [The] [Rivers] [came up], [and] [The] [Winds] [blew]. [Then] [they prostrated themselves] [in] [That] [House], [and] [it did [not] fall], [for] [it had been founded] [on] [The] [Rock].* 26*[And] [anyone] [who] [hears] [These], [My] [Words], [and] [does [not] act in accordance with] [them], [will be like] [a [stupid] Man] [who] [built] [his] [House] [on] [The] [Sand].* 27*[And] [The] [Rain] [came down], [and] [The] [Rivers] [came up], [and] [The] [Winds] [blew]. [Then] [they stumbled] [in] [That] [House], [and] [it fell], [and] [its] [Fall] [was] [tremendous]."*
(Matthew 7:21–27) —HSSB

On another occasion, Jesus told a parable based on the Hebrew idiom "raise up a seed" to describe how God was going to "build a house" and "make a name" for Himself:

1*[On] [That] [very] [Day], [after [Jesus] came out] [of The] [House], [He was sitting] [by] [The] [Sea];* 2*[and] [huge] [Crowds] [were gathered] [before] [Him]. [So then], [after getting in] [to] [a Boat], [He] [was sitting {in it}]; [and] [The] [whole] [Crowd] [was standing] [on] [The] [Shore].* 3*[And] [He spoke] [Many Things] [to them] [in] [Comparisons], [saying]: "[Guess what!] [The one who] [sows] [went out] [to] [sow];* 4*[and] [while] [he] [was sowing], [some] [fell] [by]* [The] [Way]*; [and] [when [The] [Winged Creatures] came], [they devoured] [them].* 5*[But] [Others] [fell] [on] [The] [Rocky Places], [where] [it did [not] have] [a lot of] [Soil]; [and] [it emerged] [straight off], [because of] [it] [not] [having] [a Depth] [of Soil].* 6*[So], [after [{the} Sun] rose], [it was scorched]; [and] [because of] [it] [not] [having] [a Root], [it shriveled up].* 7*[But] [Others] [fell] [among] [The] [Thorns], [and] [The] [Thorns] [came up] [and] [choked [them] out].* 8*[But] [Others] [fell] [on] [The] [Soil] [that was] [exceptionally*

good]; [and] [it was making] [Fruit]: [One], [One Hundred], [another] [Sixty], [another] [Thirty]. 9*[Let [the one who] [has] [Ears] hear]."*

10*[And] [when [The] [Disciples] approached], [they said] [to Him], "[Why] [are You speaking] [to them] [in] [Comparisons]?"*

11*[So], [in response], [He] [told] [them] [that] "[it has been given] [to you] [to know]* **[The] [Mysteries]** ***[of The] [Kingdom] [of The] [Heavens], [but] [it has [not] been given] [to Those Individuals].*** **12*[For] [to him] [who] [has], [it will be given], [and] [he will have an excess]; [but] [from] [him] [who] [does [not] have], [even] [what] [he has] [will be taken away].*** **13*[For] [This Reason] [I speak] [to them] [in] [Comparisons], [because] [those who are looking at*** {**the mysteries**}***] [are [not] looking at*** {**the mysteries**}***]; [and] [those who are hearing*** {**the mysteries**}***] [are [not] hearing*** {**the mysteries**}***], [neither] [do they comprehend*** {**the mysteries**}***].*** **14*[And] [the full measure of [The] [Prophecy] [of Isaiah] is going to be completely filled] [by them], [the*** {***prophecy***} ***that] [says]:***

'[YOU WILL HEAR {the mysteries}***]***
[WITH {***your***} ***EAR],***
[AND] [YOU WILL [DEFINITELY NOT]
COMPREHEND {the mysteries}***];***
[AND] [YOU [WHO ARE LOOKING AT {the mysteries}***]***
WILL LOOK AT {the mysteries}***],***
[AND] [YOU WILL [DEFINITELY NOT]
SEE {the mysteries}***];***
15*[FOR] [THE] [HEART] [OF] [THIS] [PEOPLE]*
[HAS BECOME FAT],
[AND] [THEY HEAR {the mysteries}***]***
[WITH THEIR] [EARS] [WITH DISGUST],
[AND] [THEY HAVE CLOSED] [THEIR] [EYES],
[LEST PERHAPS] [THEY MIGHT SEE {the mysteries}***]***
[WITH THEIR] [EYES]
[AND] [HEAR {the mysteries}***]***
[WITH THEIR] [EARS]
[AND] [COMPREHEND {the mysteries}***]***
[WITH THEIR] [HEART] [AND] [TURN BACK],
[SO] [I COULD HEAL] [THEM].'

16*[But] [your] [Eyes] [are fortunate], [because] [they are looking at* {the mysteries}*]; [and] [your] [Ears], [because] [they are hearing* {the mysteries}*].* 17*[For] [without doubt], [I tell] [you] [that] [a lot of] [Prophets] [and] [Those Who Were Blameless] [desired] [to see] [the things that [you are looking] at], [and] [they did [not] see* {*them*}*], [and] [to hear] [the things that] [you are hearing], [and] [they did [not] hear* {*them*}*].* 18*[Therefore], [you] [must listen to] [The] [Comparison] [of the One Who] [sowed]:*

19*[When [anyone] hears] [The] [Word] [of The] [Kingdom] [and] [does [not] comprehend* {*it*}*], [The] [One Who Is Nasty] [comes] [and] [snatches up] [the one that] [has been sown] [in] [his] [Heart]. [This Individual] [is] [the one who] [was sown] [by]* [The] [Way].

20*[But] [the one who] [was sown] [on] [The] [Rocky Places]? [This Individual] [is] [the one who] [hears] [The] [Word] [and] [accepts] [it] [straightaway] [with] [Joy];* 21*[but then] [he does [not] have] [a Root] [in] [himself], [but] [is] [transitory]. [So], [when [Turmoil] [or] [Persecution] occurs] [because of] [The] [Word], [he is offended] [straightaway].*

22*[But] [the one who] [was sown] [into] [The] [Thorns]? [This Individual] [is] [the one who] [hears] [The] [Word], [and] [Concern about] [The] [Current Age]—[as well as] [The] [Deceitfulness] [of its] [Wealth]—[crowd out] [The] [Word], [and] [it becomes] [unproductive].*

23*[But] [the one who] [was sown] [on] [The] [exceptionally good] [Soil]? [This Individual] [is] [the one who] [hears] [The] [Word] [and] [comprehends* {*it*}*]; [the one who], [without question], [bears [and] [produces] fruit]—[One], [One Hundred], [another] [Sixty], [another] [Thirty]."*
(Matthew 13:1–23) —HSSB

In that passage, Jesus plainly says the Truth that Moses and the Prophets hid are "*the mysteries*." He is referring to the same thing that Paul calls "*The Mystery*" in his first letter to the Corinthian Believers:

6*(3) [Now]*

(a) [we do speak] [a Wisdom] [among] [those who are] [complete], [yet] [not] [{*the*} *Wisdom]*

(i) [of] [This] [Current Age] [nor]
(ii) [of The] [Rulers] [of] [This] [Current Age],
[who] [are going to be abrogated]; 7*[but]*

(b) ***[we speak] [God's] [Wisdom], [which] [had been tucked away] [in]***

(i) [a* Mystery*] [that] [The] [{*Living*} God] [decided on beforehand]—[before] [The] [Past Ages]—[as] [our] [Glory];
[8](ii) [{a* mystery*} that] [none] [of The] [Rulers] [of] [This] [Current Age] [has known]; [for] [they [would] [not] have crucified] [The] [Master] [of our] [Glory] [if] [they had known {it}]. [9][But]
(iii) {a* mystery*} [just as] [it has been written]:

"[WHAT] [EYE] [HAS [NEVER] SEEN]
[AND] [EAR] [HAS [NEVER] HEARD]
[AND] [WHAT HAS [NEVER] COME UP] [ON]
[A MAN'S] [HEART]
*{IS} [WHAT] [THE] [{*Living*} GOD] [HAS*
PREPARED] [FOR THOSE WHO] [LOVE] [HIM]."

*[10](4) [Yet] [The] [{*Living*} God] [has revealed {those things}] [to us] [via] [The] [Spirit].*
(1 Corinthians 2:6–10a) —HSSB

Don't be stupid; Paul is *talking about* the fact that the members of the church in Corinth, which he founded, had been given insight into the Truth that lies hidden in the words of Moses and all the other Prophets of Israel. That much should be obvious—even to a moron. But what is not so obvious is the fact that he has summarized that "*mystery*" this "Way":

[16](1) [Are you [not] aware] [that]

(a) [you are] [God's] [Sanctuary], [and]
*(b) [The] [Spirit] [of The] [{*Living*} God]*
[is residing] [among] [you]?

*[17](2) [If] [anyone] [beguiles] [The] [Sanctuary] [of The] [{*Living*} God], [The] [{*Living*} God] [will beguile] [This Individual]; [for] [The] [Sanctuary] [of The] [{*Living*} God], [which] [you] [are], [is] [holy].*

[18](a) [Let [no one] dupe] [himself]. [If] [anyone] [among] [you] [assumes] [that {he} is] [wise] [in] [This] [Current Age], [let him become] [stupid], [so that] [he may become] [wise].

*[19](i) [For] [The] [Wisdom] [of] [This] [World] [is] [Stupidity] [to] [The] [{*Living*} God].*

(ii) [For] [it has been written]:

(a) *"{He is} [THE ONE WHO] [CATCHES] [THE] [WISE] [WITH] [THEIR] [DISHONESTY]." [20][And] [again]:*
(b) *"[HIS MAJESTY] [KNOWS] [THE] [SPECULATIONS] [of those who are] [wise]—[THAT] [THEY ARE] [FUTILE]."*

[21](b) [So then], [let [no one] boast] [about] {their relationship to} [Men]; [for]

(i) [everything] [is] [yours],

[22](a) *[whether] [Paul]*
(b) *[or] [Apollos]*
(c) *[or] [Cephas]*
(d) *[or] [The World]*
(e) *[or] [Life]*
(f) *[or] [Death]*
(g) *[or] [what currently is]*
(h) *[or] [what is going to come].*

(ii) [Everything] {is} [yours], [23][but]

(a) *[you] [belong to The Anointed One], [and then]*
(b) *[The Anointed One] [belongs to God].*
(1 Corinthians 3:16–23) —HSSB

If you are not yet able to "see" what "*The Mystery*" involves, let me show you another place where Paul summarizes it somewhat the same way:

[25](3) [You] [Men] [must love] [your] [Women], [just as] [The] [Anointed One] [also] [loved] [The] [Summoned Assembly] [and] [handed [Himself] over] [for [Her] sake]:

[26](a) [so that] [He could make [Her] holy], [after cleansing {Her}] [in The] [Bath] [of The] [Water] [in] [a Statement {He} Made];
[27](b) [so that] [He] [could present] [The] [glorious] [Summoned Assembly] [to Himself], [not] [having] [a Stain] [or] [Wrinkle] [or] [any] [of The Things] [like these]; [but only]
(c) [so that] [She would be] [holy] [and] [unblemished].
[28][So]

(4) [you] [Men] [also] [have an obligation] [to love] [your] [own] [Women] [as] [your] [own] [Bodies]. [The one who] [loves] [his] [own] [Woman] [loves] [himself]; [29]*[for] [nobody] [has [at any time] hated] [his] [own] [Flesh], [but] [he nurtures] [and] [cherishes] [it]—[just as] [The] [Anointed One] [also] {nurtures and cherishes} [The] [Summoned Assembly],* [30]*[because] [we are] [Members] [of] [His] [Body].* [31]*[For] [This Reason] [a Man] [will leave behind] [his] [Father] [and] [his] [Mother] [and] [be united] [with] [his] [Woman], [and] [The] [Two] [will become] [one] [Flesh].* [32]***[This]* [Mystery] *[is] [tremendous], [but] [I] [am* talking*]* [about] *[The Anointed One] [and] [about] [The] [Summoned Assembly].*** [33]*[But] [each] [and every] [One] [of you] [must [also] love] [his] [own] [Woman] [in the same way] [as] [himself]; [but] [The] [Woman], [so that] [she fears] [her] [Man].*
(Ephesians 5:25–33) —HSSB

If you still haven't identified the conundrum—what Jesus and Paul refer to as a "*mystery*"—let me point it out for you. It is the enigma wrapped up all neat and tidy in the trinitarian God of the New Testament. That is, how can one Person be more than one Person? If you think you have the answer to that question, you are undoubtedly very stupid. The Truth lies in a couple of very stark statements the Apostle Paul makes that most folks pass over without a second thought:

[1]*(1) [Paul],*

(a) [God's] [Slave], [and then]
(b) [an Apostle] [of Jesus], [The Anointed One], [in accordance with]

(i) [{my} **Belief in God's Promise***] [concerning God's] [Chosen Ones] [and]*
(ii) [{my} Full Knowledge of the Truth] [concerning {the} Truth], [which is]

(a) *[in accordance with] [Godliness]*
[2](b) *[with] [a Hope] [of [eternal] Life], [which] [The] [{*Living*} God]—**[Who does not lie]—*** **[promised]** *[before] [eternal] [Spans of Time].* [3]*[But] [in [our own] Times], [He has made [His] [Word]—[with [which] [I] was entrusted]—well-known]*

(i) *[by] [{my} Preaching]*
(ii) *[in accordance with] [a Directive] [from The] [{*Living*} God], [our] [Savior].*
(Titus 1:1–3) —HSSB

Paul states the same thing in a slightly different way in a letter to Timothy:

[11]*(4) [The] [Word] {is} [believable]; [for]:*

(a) [If] [we have died together with {Him}], [we will live together with {Him}] [also];
[12]*(b) [If] [we continue on under harsh circumstances], [we will [also] be kings together with {Him}];*
(c) [If] [we deny {the Word}], [That Individual [will deny] [us] also];
[13]*(d)* ***[If] [we refuse to*** believe God's promise***], [That Individual] [is going to continue on]*** [believing God's promise]***; [for] [He can] [not] [deny] [Himself].***
(2 Timothy 2:11–13) —HSSB

So let's think about this: God cannot lie, but what about creating Children in His very Own image and likeness? To do that, He would be required to make them eternal, just like Him—no beginning, no end. The evidence appears to indicate that is precisely what He did when He resurrected Jesus Christ, **His Firstborn**:

"[I] [am] [The] [A] [and] [The] [Z]—[The] [Beginning] [and] [The] [Consummation]."
(Revelation 21:6b) —HSSB

"[I] {am} [the] [A] [and] [the] [Z], [The] [First] [and] [The] [Last], [The] [Beginning] [and] [The] [Consummation]."
(Revelation 22:13) —HSSB

If you were watching closely, you may have already seen "*The Mystery*." If not, let me point it out:

"The Amen, the faithful and true Witness, ***the Beginning of the creation of God****, says this."*
(Revelation 3:14b) —NASB

Two questions: If your "god" is not able to create himself, what else is he incapable of? And if He is capable of such an incomprehensible thing, who's to say He didn't? Maybe it's just that you can't comprehend it. ■

The Voice of Elijah® *publishes articles based on the findings of The Elijah Project, a private research group headed by Larry D. Harper. In this column we seek answers to general-interest questions concerning the findings, purpose, and philosophy of this project.*

Editor: Over the past few years, it seems you have, more often than not, chosen not to respond to readers' questions. Is what seems to be what actually is? If so, why is that the case?

Elijah: The Truth is, a lot of questions you receive come from people who have not read what I have already written; or, if they have, did not understand what I said. Some of the questions from your readers are not even questions; their primary purpose is to "show what they know" by disagreeing with something I wrote. But the mind-set reflected in the vast majority fall into the category that Jesus had in mind when He said this:

> *1At that time, Jesus spoke to the crowds and to His disciples, 2saying: "The scribes and the Pharisees have sat down on the seat of Moses. 3Therefore, act in accordance with—and keep watch over everything—as much as it may be that they have told you; but do not act in accordance with their works, for they say {things} and do not act in accordance with {what they say}.*
>
> *4So then they bind up oppressive and difficult to carry loads and place {them} on the shoulders of men, but they are not willing to move them with their finger. 5So then they do all their works in order to make sure men get a good look at {them}; for they make their phylacteries wide and make the hems {of their garments} high. 6So then they are fond of the first place at the dinner meals and the first seats in the synagogues 7and the greetings in the public squares and to be called 'Rabbi' by men.*
>
> *8But you should not be called 'Rabbi'; for your Teacher is One, but you are all brothers. 9And you should not call {anyone} your father on the Earth, for One is your Father—the heavenly One. 10You should not even be called 'leaders,' because your Leader is One—the Anointed One. 11So the most important of you will be your servant. 12And then whoever elevates himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be elevated.*
>
> *13But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees—hypocrites—because you lock up the kingdom of the heavens in front of men. For you are not going to come in, neither do you let those who are coming in, come in. 14*(Not in the best manuscripts.)
>
> *15Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees—hypocrites—because you travel around the sea and the dried-up {area} to make one proselyte; and when he becomes {one}, you make him twice as much a son of the trash pit as you.*
>
> *16Woe to you, blind guides, who say: 'Whoever it might be who swears an oath by the sanctuary, it is nothing. But whoever it might be who swears an oath by the gold of the sanctuary, he is obligated.' 17{You are} stupid and blind! For which one is more important, the gold or the sanctuary that made the gold holy?*
>
> *18Then {you say}, 'Whoever it might be who swears an oath by the sacrificial altar, it is nothing; but whoever it might be who swears an oath by the offering that is on top of it, he is obligated.' 19{You are} blind! For which one is more important, the offering or the sacrificial altar that makes the offering holy? 20Therefore:*
>
> *(1) the one who swears an oath by the sacrificial altar, swears an oath by it and by everything that is on it; 21and*
> *(2) the one who swears an oath by the sanctuary, swears an oath by it and by the One Who dwells in it; 22and*
> *(3) the one who swears an oath by Heaven, swears an oath by the throne of the* {Living} *God, and by the One Who is sitting on it.*
>
> *23Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees—hypocrites—because you give a tenth of your mint and dill and cumin, yet you let go of the more impressive {parts} of the law—sentencing and mercy and* **belief in God's promise**. *But one has to do these things and not let go of those*

things. [24]***{You are} blind guides who filter out the gnat and then swallow up the camel!"***
(Matthew 23:1–24) —HSSB

Focus intently on that last remark, which Jesus made midway through His vitriolic tirade. He is not done with the point He is making; but before I explain that, I want to tell you a modern-day parable to illustrate the point I am making. So here goes:

There was a young fella who lived in a small town on the western outskirts of a designated wilderness area filled with swamps, snakes, and thickets denser than the tule fog that sometimes creeps into California's Central Valley during fall and winter. Unfortunately, this boy was an egotistical, contentious know-it-all, the sort of individual who loved his own thoughts and ideas so much he couldn't listen to anyone for more than a few seconds before interjecting with a question based on his own totally uninformed opinion.

After a while, some of the more unsavory townsfolk got fed up with this fellow's incessant interruptions and contradictory postulations; and they decided to teach him a lesson. They kidnapped him, blindfolded him, put him in the trunk of a car, and dumped him out right in front of the cabin of an old man who lived on the far side of the wilderness. They were certain his pugnacious penchant for preposterous posers would quite possibly prevent him from perceiving that all he had to do to get back to town was get on a road that went straight east through the wilderness. They were right.

As soon as the old man got up the next morning, the know-it-all went to work on him, doing his best to prove his intellectual prowess. He began by asking the old man "*The Way*" back to town. The old man responded with a very simple set of directions, "Just go down to the end of the driveway, turn right, and go straight east, all '*The Way*' to town. You have to stop at six stop signs along '*The Way*,' and the surface of '*The Road*' changes after each stop sign, so there are seven different types of road surfaces along '*The Way*.' Don't let that confuse you; just keep going straight, 'walking in *The Way*.'"

Now, the old man's driveway had a fairly sharp curve about halfway down that prevented anyone at the house from seeing "*The Road*." That was all the know-it-all needed to start asking questions and making assertions about things completely unrelated to anything he had just been told. He started with questions about the surface of the driveway and what he would see on both sides of it after he got past the curve. Then he continued with all sorts of questions about the things he had heard the old man say were along "*The Way*" through the wilderness. After a bit, the old man saw through his pretense, turned around, went back into his cabin, and left the boy to his own devices—standing around outside, stubbornly unwilling to act on what had been clearly explained to him.

The point of that pathetically pitiful parable is exactly the same as what Jesus says in Matthew 23 when He continues lashing out at the ridiculous nonsense proffered by the scribes and Pharisees:

[25]*"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees—hypocrites—because* ***you cleanse what is on the outside of the cup and the fish sauce dish, but on the inside they are full of an illegal confiscation of private property and a lack of self-control.*** [26]***{You are} a blind Pharisee! Cleanse the inside of the cup first, so that the outside of it may also be clean.***

[27]*Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees—hypocrites—because you are like whitewashed sepulchers that, on the one hand, appear to be beautiful on the outside; but on the other hand, are full of {the} bones of those who are dead and all uncleanness on the inside.* [28]*So also, on the one hand, you appear on the outside to men to be those who are blameless; but on the other hand, you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness on the inside.*

[29]*Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees—hypocrites—because you build the sepulchers of the Prophets and put together the tombs of those who were blameless;* [30]*and you say, 'If we had been {alive} in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partners with them in the blood of the Prophets.'* [31]*So then you provide testimony against yourselves—that you are sons of those who murdered the Prophets.* [32]*And you have completely filled up the measure of your fathers.*

[33]*{You are} snakes! Descendants of vipers! How could you flee from the sentence of the trash pit?* [34]*Guess what! For this reason I am going to send Prophets and those who are wise and scribes to you. You will kill and crucify some of them, and you will scourge some of them in your synagogues, and you will persecute {them} from city to city,* [35]*so that all {the} blameless blood poured out on the Earth comes upon you—from the blood of Abel, who was blameless, up to the blood of Zechariah, son of*

Berechiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the sacrificial altar. [36]Without doubt I tell you, all these things will come upon this generation."
(Matthew 23:25–36) —HSSB

If you can't "see" the point that Jesus is making with regard to each of us as nothing more than a fragile earthenware "container" of various thoughts, ideas, and concepts, I pity you. You should read what Paul says about that in Romans 9 and 2 Corinthians 4; otherwise, you will go on being focused on filtering out "gnats" and swallowing "camels." That is, you will never once realize the Truth regarding various small details (think: "gnats") has no real value; but your lack of the Truth concealed in the Seven Sealed Messages the Prophets hid in their writings is rock-solid evidence you have somehow "swallowed" a lie (think: "camel") that prevents you from taking on the mind-set God demands.

Editor: At the risk of doing the very thing you have described, here is a question a reader sent in that may fall in that same category:

Can Larry set the record straight about Moses' speech issue. A particular scholar says the following about this issue, can you correct any errors or lies for me in this short answer that this scholar provides if there is any:

"Moses told God that he was 'slow of speech, and of a slow tongue' (Exodus 4:10). Some have thought this indicates he halted in his words, or that he stuttered. But this is not the case. Stephen said that Moses 'was mighty in words' (Acts 7:22). Still, he was 'slow of tongue.' This simply means it was a struggle for Moses to speak the Hebrew language in a fluent way. Recall that he was reared as a young man in the royal family of Egypt and his native language would have been Egyptian (Exodus 2:5–10). He no doubt spoke with a heavy Egyptian accent. The reason that Moses was given a brother Aaron to be his spokesman at the very beginning of his teaching is because Aaron had been reared in Israelite society and spoke Hebrew with fluency (Exodus 4:13–16). But once Moses was proved to be a true prophet of God in the eyes of the Israelites, Moses did not have to use his brother again. They accepted Moses, Egyptian accent and all."

Did Moses have an impediment of speech?

Elijah: That is a perfect example of what I am *talking about*. Does it really matter whether Moses stuttered or just couldn't speak Hebrew? Not in any universe I know of. But your reader is not to be faulted for asking. They were sucked into it by a dimwitted "scholar" who aspired to "show what he knows" about an esoteric topic that has no value at all. The Truth is, the fellow has merely done his best to "filter out" a "gnat" so that Satan can keep on keeping unsuspecting folks from seeing the *parabolic pantomime* I explained in Chapter 6 of *The Mystery of Scripture, Volume 1*—the one in which Aaron spoke as the Prophet of Moses.

Now that you have introduced the topic of "gnats" that make no contribution at all to an accurate understanding of the Truth that Moses and the Prophets understood regarding God's plan and purpose for mankind, let me show you some of the other "gnats" that folks have either asked me to "filter out" for them or have egotistically volunteered to do so for me over the past few years:

Question: *"Did Eve know she wasn't like God before she ate the apple?"*

Answer: The text doesn't say, because it doesn't matter. It does implicitly say Adam and Eve were not "like God" before they sinned:

[Then [His Majesty], [God], said]: "[Guess what!]
[The Adam] [has become] [like one] [of Us]*,*
[knowing] [good] [and bad]."
(Genesis 3:22a) —my interim translation

Question: *"In 1 Kings 10:14, the scripture states that King Solomon received 666 talents of gold annually. Given the fixation on this number in popular culture and pop-Xtianity, why do you think this other sole reference to the 'number of a man' that is of the beast in the scripture is overlooked? Do you think it is related to the dispensationalist deception? What could you say are the implications of this scripture in light of the Revelation prophecy?"*

Answer: I firmly believe anyone who has "seen" the *parabolic imagery* in the Seven Sealed Messages and understands the Truth that is stated *idiomatically* in terms of the corresponding Hebrew idioms will also be able to "see" how "gnats" like this one pale in comparison.

Question: *"Why would Christ Jesus put the source of His authority on the baptism of John the Baptist and not on the cross or Him being the son of God. Please someone answer me."*

Answer: The "authority" that Christ ***received*** to do what He did came from the Spirit He ***received*** at His Baptism, when He *parabolically* became the Firstborn Son of God—that is, *Corporate* Israel. Anyone who understands what I have written over the past thirty-seven years can readily "see" how the *parabolic imagery* explains that. I have no idea what other "authority" is being postulated here.

Question: *"Did the serpent who deceived Eve have legs that were removed by God as punishment and, as a result, was made to crawl?"*

Answer: Moses was an educated Egyptian; God called him to *restore* the Truth that remained in the Book of the Dead by explaining the *parabolic imagery* of the Passover Parable to the sons of Israel as "*The Way*."

Question: *"Larry, I know we won't really know the name of the antichrist until he defeats three of the horns and sits in the temple, but the subject of his name comes up once in a while, so I do some wondering and thinking. As I understand it, that's not really bad unless I believe I know with certainty what his name will be. Then I could be misled if I think I already know when I don't. So I'm not saying 'I know,' but this appears to be the most interesting idea I've come across. The Jews won't pronounce the name of God, but only say 'Hashem' or 'Adonai.' It is 'Hashem' that is interesting. In Hebrew it is spelled hei, aleph, shin, mem. The numbers of these letters according to the Hebrew counting system are 5, 1, 60, and 600 respectively. The mark is to be received in the right hand or the forehead. Devout Hassidic Jews wear tefillin or phylacteries on their arm, the back of the hand, or their forehead, which they base on the Old Testament commands in Exodus 13:9, 16 and Deuteronomy 4:4–9.*

Hashem means 'the name,' and the mark of the beast is to be on the right hand or the forehead, and it is to be 'the name' of the beast or the number of his name. Could the mark be the wearing of tefillin, containing the appropriate letters, showing devotion to Hashem? Could it be that everybody will be counting the letters of the antichrist's name and miss it because it isn't 'his' name, but that he is 'the name?' Maybe? Yeah, I know it is speculation. But so far it is my favorite speculation. Not knowing whether you (or anyone else for that matter) had thought of this one, I just had to share it. So, I ask, does the Greek in Revelation 13 leave room for this possibility?"

Answer: Paul's admonitions to Timothy regarding the coherency of "*The Mystery*" that is explained *parabolically* in the Hebrew idioms and *parabolic imagery* of the Seven Sealed Messages is the best response I can give. "*The* only *Way*" to be what God demands of His Children is to avoid not only the "camels," but also the "gnats":

(5) [Teach] [These Things] [and] [encourage {those who believe them}].
[3](1) [If] [anyone] [teaches something different] [and] [does [not] approach {you}] [with

(a) [sound] Words]—[Those] [of] [our] [Master], [Jesus], [The Anointed One]—[and]
(b) [a Teaching*] [that is] [in accordance with] [Godliness], [4][he is enshrouded in a fog],*

(i) [one who is [not] cognizant of {anything}], [but]
(ii) [one who has a disease] [with regard to] [Discussions] [and] [Arguments about the Meaning *of Words], [from] [which] [come]:*

(a) *[Envy],*
(b) *[Contentiousness],*
(c) *[False Religious Claims],*
(d) *[nasty] [Conjectures], {and}*
[5](e) *[Useless Studies] [of Men]*

(i) *[whose [Mind] has become unfit for use] [and]*
(ii) *[who have been deprived] [of The] [Truth],*
(iii) *[who presume] [Godliness] [is] [a Means of Gain].*
(1 Timothy 6:2b–5) —HSSB

[11](4) [The] [Word] {is} [believable]; [for]:

(a) [If] [we have died together with {Him}], [we will live together with {Him}] [also];
[12](b) [If] [we continue on under harsh circumstances], [we will [also] be kings together with {Him}];

(c) [If] [we deny {the Word}], [That Individual [will deny] [us] also];
13(d) [If] [we refuse to **believe God's promise***], [That Individual] [is going to continue on]* **[believing God's promise]***; [for] [He can] [not] [deny] [Himself].*

*14(1) [Remind {those you teach} of] [These Things]—[while providing convincing testimony] [in the presence of] [The] [{*Living*} God]—[so that {they} do [not] argue about the* meaning *of words]:*

(a) [regarding] [nothing] [useful],
(b) [with] [{the} Overthrowing] [of those who] [are listening].
(2 Timothy 2:11–14) —HSSB

Question: *"Was the flood of Noah a global flood?"*

Answer: It can't be known, and it only matters to those who have been dragged into a useless discussion perpetrated by ignorant "scholars" who seek to point out all the "errors" in the biblical text because they don't understand the *significance* of Genesis 4–10.

Question: *"Is hell eternal? As in an ever-burning place where people are tormented for ever and ever without end? I picked this from: 'WE BELIEVE two eternal destinies exist, and all men shall go to one or the other—those who demonstrate belief in the Living Word of God revealed in the Scriptures shall go to Heaven; those who do not shall go to Hell.' From my understanding of Sodom and Gomorrah, which is a parabolic pantomime as stated in Jude 1:7, so will the eternity of hell be. Jude 1:7 says: 'Just as Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding cities, which likewise indulged in sexual immorality and pursued unnatural desire, serve as an example by undergoing a punishment of eternal fire.'*

As in, hell is likened to what happened in Sodom and Gomorrah, the eternal judgment that happened then, points to the eternal judgment of hell fire. Question: Did Sodom and Gomorrah receive eternal judgment? Yes. Is Sodom and Gomorrah currently burning? No, and therefore not eternally burning. Similarly: Will hell be eternal judgment? Yes. Will hell be eternally burning? No. By eternal judgment, I understand it to mean finality of the judgment. As in, sin will eternally, forever be done away with. Forever/eternally destroyed. I'd love to hear from you concerning this. What did the Apostolic Church believe concerning eternal judgment, eternal destruction of sin, and an eternally burning hell?"

Answer: I may be wrong, but this would seem to be yet another case covered by Paul's admonition:

(5) [Teach] [These Things] [and] [encourage {those who believe them}].
3(1) [If] [anyone] [teaches something different] [and] [does [not] approach {you}] [with

(a) [sound] Words]—[Those] [of] [our] [Master], [Jesus], [The Anointed One]—[and]
(b) [a Teaching*] [that is] [in accordance with] [Godliness], 4[he is enshrouded in a fog],*

(i) [one who is [not] cognizant of {anything}], [but]
(ii) [one who has a disease] [with regard to] [Discussions] [and] [Arguments about the Meaning *of Words].*
(1 Timothy 6:2b–4a) —HSSB

Question: *"I am writing to you because I have found some seeming contradiction between something you have said and what the Early Church seemed to teach on the same subject. That is the subject of repentance. You have said that, or something to the effect that, only unbelievers need to repent and that believers don't need to repent. However, Hermes Shepherd of Hermes, Book 2 (Command 12) and Tertullian (On Repentance, Chapters 7–12) taught a second repentance for those who have sinned after the first. Neither one promoted it believing that one shouldn't sin after the first repentance but they both said that God in his mercy has provided a second repentance but after that no more. I would like you to please clarify why your beliefs seem to conflict with their belief-ism in that regard.*

I was also wondering what your thoughts are on what Tertullian said about delaying baptism to certain people. I don't remember which chapter it is in but it's toward the end of On Baptism. He says that baptism should be delayed to little children and unmarried people.

I was hoping you would write either an article or a booklet or a short book giving the full teaching on the laying on of the hands."

Answer: It is impossible for me (or for anyone else, for that matter) to explain what I *meant* by what I wrote without something concrete to respond to. I can't tell you how many times a reader has asked me to respond to a misstatement of something I wrote. I can't tell if that is the case here, but I will say this, the verb *repent* is something those in the Church use to describe what I

define as "apologize." That may explain the issue, because I take repentance to be the apology that results in the new birth. After that, any apology falls under the conditions described by John:

> [5]*(1) Now this is the message that we*
>
> *(a) have heard from Him and*
> *(b) are divulging to you: that "the* {living} *God is Light, and there is not any darkness at all in Him!"*
>
> [6]*(i) If we say that we have commonality with Him yet walk in the nether darkness, we are lying and are not acting in accordance with the truth.* [7]*But (ii) if we are walking in* The Light *as He is in* The Light,
>
> (a) *we have commonality with one another; and*
> (b) *the blood of Jesus—His Son—cleanses us of every sin.*
>
> [8]*(iii) If we say that we do not have* {*any*} *sin,*
>
> (a) *we are leading ourselves astray; and*
> (b) *the truth is not in us.*
>
> [9]***(iv) If we acknowledge our sins, it is believable and right that He would***
>
> **(a)** ***forgive us our sins and***
> **(b)** ***cleanse us of all injustice.***
>
> [10]*(v) If we say that we have not sinned,*
>
> (a) *we make Him out to be a liar; and*
> (b) *His word is not in us!*
> *(1 John 1:5–10) —HSSB*

Editor: One of our subscribers submitted a question he would like answered. He states:

> *"I have been devouring the newsletters and books. I am only up to the 2011 newsletters. I have read* Not All Israel Is Israel, The Way, The Truth, The Life, and The Mystery of Scripture. *It is just so much material to digest. Recently I have been listening to* The Inheritance of the Believer, Vol.1 *tapes and I have a question, if this is the appropriate forum. In* The Inheritance of the Believer *tapes, Larry states that Adam lived billions of years. This thoroughly confused me, and I am trying to ascertain where Larry gets this. I am trying to throw away all preconceived notions and beliefs to be open to the truth I believe Larry is giving. This statement seems to conflict with the years for Adam given in Genesis 5:3–5, but I am sure this has something to do with a parabolic pantomime."*

Elijah: The Truth is, the statement I made has to do with perspective. From our perspective (outside the fifth dimension), Adam "lived" from the third "day" of Creation until he sinned on the sixth "day" and then began to die ("age"). From God's perspective (inside the fifth dimension, where there is no time), Adam existed in "the garden" from "the time" of his creation until "the time" of his explusion from "the garden." Don't try to wrap your mind around that, much less explain it; we don't have the ability to comprehend it.

Editor: This next question comes from a person who, having just read* The Way, The Truth, The Life*, came to believe that God is outside of time. She says,

> *"However, when you mentioned that God is outside of His Creation that also made sense. How is God Omnipresent?—(I had thought that He is present in every particle of Creation.)"*

She also says,

> *"I am so excited about reading* God Called; I Answered *next and your complete body of work in time."*

Elijah: This question is one that plumbs the entire depth of "the deep" that is mentioned in the first two verses of The Book of the Dead that we call "the Bible." The problem is, it is impossible to understand the observable universe if you ignore the two verses after those two; therefore, I will show you all four:

> [1]*[In {the} Beginning], [God] [created] [The Sea of Waters] [and] [The Earth].* [2]*[Now The Earth] [was] [a Wasteland], [and Emptiness] [and Darkness] {were} [over] [{the} Surface of] [The Deep]. [But {the} Spirit Wind] [of God] [was hovering] [over] [{the} Surface of] [The Waters].*

[3]***[Then [God] said], "[Let there be] [Light]." [And there was] [Light].*** [4]*[Then [God] saw]* [The Light]—*[that] [it was good]—[and [God]* made a distinction*]* [between] [The Light] *[and] [The Darkness].*
(Genesis 1:1–4) —my interim translation

First, I need to make sure you understand how this Creation came to be what it is today:

[Then [God] said], "[Let there be] [Light]."
(Genesis 1:3a) —my interim translation

Now take a look at how Moses conveys the information in the following four verses, just to make sure you comprehend what he says actually happened:

*[Then [God] said], "**[Let [The Waters] [beneath] [The Sea of Waters] be gathered]** [to] [one] [Place] [and let [The Dry Ground] appear]." [And it was] [so].*
(Genesis 1:9) —my interim translation

*[Then [God] said], "**[Let [The Earth] sprout] [{the} Green Grass] [of Vegetation]** [sowing] [Seed]; [fruit] [Trees] [making] [Fruit] [in accordance with its Kind], [in] [which is] [its Seed], [on] [The Earth]." [And it was] [so].*
(Genesis 1:11) —my interim translation

[Then [God] said], "[Let [The Waters] abundantly reproduce] [an Abundantly Reproducing Thing]—[a [living] Soul]—*[and let [Things That Fly] fly] [over] [The Earth], [on] [{the} Surface of] [{the} Expanse] [of The Sea of Waters]."*
(Genesis 1:20) —my interim translation

[Then [God] said], "[Let [The Earth] send out] [a [living] Soul] *[in accordance with its Kind]—[{the} Beasts] [and Crawling Things] [and Animals of] [{the} Earth] [in accordance with its Kind]." [And it was] [so].*
(Genesis 1:24) —my interim translation

Did you see it? Pay attention! God spoke to the waters twice, and He spoke to the Earth twice. Those two parts of Creation had already been created before He said this:

"[Let there be] [Light]."
(Genesis 1:3b) —my interim translation

That should tell you that, whatever light is, it is not a part of the original Creation. But wait! There's more to this story; so take a look at what Moses says God did on the fourth "day":

[14]***[Then [God] said], "[Let there be] [Luminaries] [in {the} Expanse] [of The Sea of Waters]*** *[to* make a distinction*]* [between] *[The Day] [and] [The Night], [and let them be] [for Signs] [and for Appointed Times] [and for Days] [and Years],* [15]*[and let them be] [for Luminaries] [in {the} Expanse] [of The Sea of Waters] [to shed light] [on] [The Earth]." [And it was] [so].*
(Genesis 1:14–15) —my interim translation

Did you see it? Pay attention! When God said, "Let there be," He was not speaking to the waters or to the Earth, telling them what to do. It sounds to me like Moses is saying the things having to do with light are somehow something God did completely apart from His original Creation. And that is precisely the case; light is not a part of the physical universe, but in some very weird way that theoretical physicists do not yet understand, light is—in all its various forms—actually all, or nearly all, that exists. In other words, in what Peter says in the following passage, he may be explaining things that "scholars" do not yet understand:

[1]*(1) Beloved brothers, I am already writing this second letter to you, by which I am {trying to} wake up your unalloyed understanding {of the truth} with a reminder* [2]*so that {you} would recall:*

(a) the statements that were made beforehand by the holy Prophets; and
(b) the commandment of your Master and Savior, {that was spoken} via your Apostles, [3]*knowing this, first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with mockery—those who are*

(i) walking in accordance with their own selfish desires [4]*and*
(ii) saying: "Where is **the promise** *of His coming? For ever since the fathers fell fast asleep—since the beginning of creation—everything continues to be the same."*

[5]*(2) For wanting this to be {true}, it has escaped their notice that*

(a) {the} heavens were from long ago and
(b) {the} Earth stood up together with {them}

(i) out of water and
(ii) through water
(iii) by the word of the {living} *God, [6]by which the world at that time, which was flooded by water, was done away with.*
(2 Peter 3:1–6) —HSSB

Some may think Peter is referring to the Flood described in Genesis 6–7. He isn't. The Truth is just as he says, "it has escaped their notice that" he is *talking about* what happened in Genesis 1:3 when God said:

"[Let there be] [Light]."
(Genesis 1:3b) —my interim translation

Believe it or not, that is precisely the time when the following events happened:

(a) {The} heavens were from long ago and
(b) {the} Earth stood up together with {them}

(i) out of water and
(ii) through water
(iii) by the word of the {living} *God, [6]by which the world at that time, which was flooded by water, was done away with.*
(2 Peter 3:5b–6) —HSSB

How the *Living* Word of God did what He did at that time is not anything we can fully understand. My point is, "*The Light*" with which God infused His previous Creation is still right here with us today, serving as the fifth dimension of this Creation—not only as the dimension in which the *Living* Word of God resides, but also as the realm of all other thoughts, ideas, and all the other concepts that are the hallmark of life in this dark, dank, despicable dungeon to which delusional dimwits are so dearly devoted. If only they knew "the winds"—both good and evil—code the photons that deliver data to the neural receptors in their nervous systems, they might think differently. No matter. Some will, and God will have thereby attained what He has always sought from this Creation—Children who have *freely chosen* to be transformed into the image and likeness of the *Living* Word of God. If you don't believe that, it is only because you have *chosen* to disagree with the God Who is a *Living* Word. Don't worry, the Truth will eventually "dawn" on you, just as Isaiah, Malachi, and the Apostle Paul said it would. I'll start with Isaiah, then show you what Malachi said, and conclude with Paul:

[14][Therefore], [listen to] [The Word] [of His Majesty],
[You [Scoffing] Mortal Men],
[Who have control over] [This] [People]
[Who] {is} [in Jerusalem],
[15][Because] [you have said]:

"[We have cut] [a Legal Agreement] [with] [Mot].
[And [we have acted in accordance with] [a Vision]
with] [The Sea of El].
[When] [an [overflowing] Breaker] [passes over],
[it will [not] come to us],
[Because] [we have turned [a Lie] into] [our Shelter]
[And [we have hidden ourselves] in a Falsehood]!"
[16][Therefore], [this is what] [My Master], [His Majesty],
[has said]:
"[Guess what! I am] [going to lay] [a Stone] [in Zion]—
[a [tested] Stone]!
[A [precious] Corner] [of a [solidly founded] Foundation]!
[The one who believes] [will [not] make {it} move quickly].
[17][I will turn] [a Decision Based on the Truth]
[into a Line],
[And a Declaration of Not Guilty] [into a Level].
[Then Hail] [will sweep away] [{the} Shelter] [of a Lie],
[And Waters] [will overflow] [a Hiding Place].
[18][Then [Your Legal Agreement] [with] [Mot]
will be covered up],
[And Your Vision] [with] [The Sea of El]
[will [not] stand].
[When] [an [overflowing] Breaker] [passes over],
[Then you will become] [What Is Trampled] [by Him].
[19][Whenever] [He passes over], [He will take] [you].
[He will pass over] [each and every Morning],
[During {the} Day] [and during {the} Night],
[To provide an understanding of] [a Message]
{that is} [nothing but] [Sheer Terror]!"
[20](1) [Because] [The Sleeping Mat] [is too short]
[to stretch oneself out],
[And [He bound up] The Weaving]
[when He wrapped it up]!
[21](2) [Because] [His Majesty] [will arise]
[like Mount] [Perazim],

[He will be disturbed] [like a Valley] [in Gibeon]!
[To make] [What He Is Making]!
([What He Is Making] {is} [strange]!)
[To do] [His Physical Labor]!
([His Physical Labor] {is} [foreign]!)
22*[So now], [do [not] scoff],*
[Lest] [your Shackles] [be made stronger],
[Because] [I have heard] [from] [My Master],
[His [Supreme] Majesty].
[A Complete End] [has also been decreed]
[over] [The [entire] Earth]!
(Isaiah 28:14–22) —my interim translation

1*"[Because] [guess what!] [The Day] [is coming], [burning] [like an Oven]; [and all] [who are arrogant] [and all] [who are doing] [Something That Incurs Guilt] [will be] [Stubble]. [And [The Day] [that is coming] will set [them] afire]," [says] [His [Supreme] Majesty], "[so that] [it does [not] leave] [Root] [nor Limb] [for them]. 2[But [for you] [who fear] [My Name], [{the} Sun] [{of} a Declaration of Not Guilty] will rise] [with Healing] [in Her Wings]; [and you will go out] [and jump around] [like Calves] [{from} a Stall]. 3[And you will tread on [Those Who Are Guilty] like grapes] [because] [they will be] [Ashes] [under] [{the} Soles of] [your Feet] [on {the} Day] [that] [I] [am making]," [says] [His [Supreme] Majesty].*

4*"**[You must remember]*** **[The Teaching of]** ***[My Slave]*** **[Moses]—*[{the} Statutes] [and Decisions Based on the Truth] [for] [all] [Israel] [that] [I commanded] [him] [in Horeb].***

5*[Guess what!] [I] [am going to send] [The Prophet] [Elijah] [to you] [before] [The [great] [and fearsome] Day] [{of} His Majesty] [comes]. 6[And he will* restore*] [{the} Heart] [{of} Fathers] [to] [Sons] [and {the} Heart] [{of} Sons] [to] [their Fathers], [so that I do [not] come] [and viciously attack] [The Earth] [{as} Someone Under the Ban]."*
(Malachi 4:1–6) —my interim translation

I am not so naïve as to believe all that many will ever believe the Truth God called me to provide to "The Many," but I am absolutely certain those who don't believe will end up with the short end of the stick:

5*(2) You must have this mind-set in you, which {was} also in the Anointed One, Jesus,*

6*(a) Who, while existing in God's form,*
(i) did not deem the {state of} being equivalent to God to be something to be seized; 7but
(ii) emptied Himself. After receiving a slave's form, after coming in men's likeness, and after being found to be like a man in outward appearance,
8*(iii) humbled Himself, being compliant up to the time of death—but a death on a cross.*

9*(b) Wherefore, the* {living} *God also*

(i) elevated Him to the highest rank and
(ii) granted Him as a favor The Name *that is greater than every name,* 10*so that at* The Name *of Jesus*

(a) *EVERY KNEE—*

(i) *of {beings} in Heaven and*
(ii) *of {beings} on Earth and*
(iii) *of {beings} in the nether world—*
WOULD BEND, 11*and*

(b) *every tongue would admit the truth: that His Majesty {is} Jesus, the Anointed One, to {the} glory of God, {our} Father.*
(Philippians 2:5–11) —HSSB

If you put that together with what John says about the *Living* Word of God, the Truth may "dawn" on you. It has to do with God's final Creation—His Children:

1*In the beginning, there was the Word; and the Word was with the* {living} *God, and the Word was God.* 2*This Individual was with the* {living} *God in the beginning.* 3*Everything has come into being via Him, and not even one thing that has come into being has come into being apart from Him.* 4*Life was in Him, and His life was* The Light *of men.* 5*So* The Light *appears in the darkness, yet the darkness has never grasped it. …*

9The Light *was the real {Light}, the One Who provides light for every man who comes into the world.* 10*He was in the world, and the world came into being via Him, yet the world did not know Him.* 11*He came to His Own, and His Own did not take Him to themselves.* 12*So then, to as many as accepted Him, to them—to those who* **believe God's promise** *about His Name—He gave authority to become God's children.*
(John 1:1–5, 9–12) —HSSB ■

The Forecast

The Voice of Elijah® *includes this column to show you how some of the underlying* parabolic images *of the Gospel message of the Old Testament speak to the times in which we find ourselves. There are a variety of weather images to be found in the parables of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Most are associated in some way with the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.*

The Doomsday Clock is a symbolic "clock" that represents how close we are to some fool pressing a button to initiate a nuclear holocaust that sends the entire world up in flames. They started that "clock" "ticking" nearly eighty years ago, way back in 1947, and set it to seven minutes to midnight. More recently, on January 27, 2026, the monitors of that clock set it to eighty-five seconds to midnight. By their reckoning, that's the closest the world has ever been to tripping the light fantastic into the "Mutually Assured Destruction" they have sought to avoid, but won't for much longer.

Over the years, the Doomsday Clock has been set back to as much as seventeen minutes to midnight. That was in 1991, right after the Soviet Union was disbanded. But since that time, it has been steadily getting closer and closer to midnight. Unfortunately, the folks who keep track of such things have no idea how closely that clock imagery correlates to the *parabolic imagery* in a parable that Jesus told:

> *45"**So then who is the trustworthy and sensible slave whom the master appointed over his household slaves to give them something to eat on time**? 46That slave whom his master finds so doing when {he} comes back is fortunate. 47Without doubt, I tell you that he will appoint him over all his possessions. 48But if that awful slave says in his heart, 'My master is taking his time,' 49and begins to hit his fellow slaves and then eat and drink with those who are intoxicated, 50the master of that slave will come on a day on which he is not expecting {him} and at an hour that he does not know, 51and he will cut him in two, and he will put his part down with the hypocrites. The weeping and the gritting of the teeth will be there.*
>
> *1At that time, the kingdom of the heavens will be like ten virgins who, after taking their lanterns, came out to a meeting with the bridegroom. 2But five of them were stupid, and five sensible; 3for when those who were stupid took their lanterns, they did not take olive oil with them. 4But those who were sensible took olive oil in flasks along with their lanterns. 5But then, when the bridegroom took his time, they all nodded off and were sleeping. 6And then, in the middle of {the} night, there was yelling: 'Guess what! The bridegroom! Come out to a meeting with him!'*
>
> *7At that time, all those virgins got up and they put their lanterns together. 8And then those who were stupid told those who were sensible, 'Give us some of your olive oil, because our lanterns are being extinguished!'*
>
> *9But those who were sensible responded, saying, 'No, lest perhaps there might not be enough for us and you; go instead to those who are selling and buy {some} for yourselves!'*
>
> *10**But while they were going away to buy {olive oil}, the bridegroom came back; and those who were ready came into the wedding feast with him**, and the door was locked. 11But then later, the rest of the virgins also came, saying, 'Your Majesty! Your Majesty! Open for us!'*
>
> *12But in response, he said, 'Without doubt I tell you, I do not know you!' 13Therefore, stay awake, because you are not aware of the day or the hour!"*
> *(Matthew 24:45–25:13) —HSSB*

Did you see how that entire passage is *talking about* the return of a "bridegroom" and the preparation of a "wedding feast" prepared by a "trustworthy and sensible slave whom the master appointed over his household slaves"? If not, you should have. What Jesus has in mind is precisely the same event He describes in a parable He told on another occasion:

> *1Then in response, Jesus spoke to them again in comparisons, saying: 2"**The kingdom of the heavens is like a man—a king—who made a wedding feast for his son.** 3And he sent his slaves to summon those who had been invited to **the wedding feast**, and they did not want to come. 4He again sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: "Guess what! I have prepared my **breakfast**—my bulls and fatlings that have been sacrificed—and everything {is} ready! Come on into **the wedding feast**!"'*

5But those who neglected {the invitation} went away—one to his own field, another on to his trade. 6But the rest of {them}, after grabbing hold of his slaves, insulted and killed {them}.

*7Then the king became angry and, after sending his troops, did away with those murderers and set their city on fire. 8At that time, he tells his slaves: 'On the one hand, **the wedding celebration** is ready; but on the other hand, those who were invited were not worthy. 9Therefore, go on over to the intersections of the ways and invite as many as it may be that you find to **the wedding feast**.' 10And after those slaves went out into the ways, they gathered everyone that they found, both nasty and good; and **the wedding celebration** was filled full of those who were lying back and relaxing.*

*11But then, when the king came in to get a good look at those who were lying back and relaxing, he saw a man there who had not slipped on clothing for **a wedding celebration**. 12So he says to him, 'Buddy, how could you, one who does not have clothing for **a wedding celebration**, come in here?' And then he was speechless.*

13Then the king told his servants: 'After binding him hand and foot, throw him out into the nether darkness that is farther outside! The weeping and the gritting of the teeth will be there.' 14For many are going to be invited, but just a few {are going to be} chosen."
(Matthew 22:1–14) —HSSB

Before I get into this too deeply, I need to tell you I have translated one Greek term as both "wedding feast" and "wedding celebration" in that passage. That is not a mistake, it is a deliberate distinction. "Wedding feast" is the best *meaning* I could assign to the plural form of the noun, and "wedding celebration" is the best I could determine would fit the *meaning* of the singular form. Just keep in mind the fact that both refer to the same overall event. And now that I have gotten that one small detail out of the way, let me show you a few other statements Jesus made regarding that event. The entirety of the following may not appear to be related to the "wedding feast" that Jesus mentions, but it is. He's just giving advice to everyone who can see how it applies when the time comes:

16And then He stated a comparison to them, saying: "The countryside of some wealthy man produced very well. 17And he was speculating to himself, saying: 'What should I do? Because I do not have anywhere I can gather up my fruits.' 18Then he said, 'This is what I will do: I will take down my storehouses and build tremendous ones, and I will gather up all my wheat and good things there. 19Then I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have a lot of good things laid up for a lot of years; rest, eat, drink, celebrate."' 20But the {living} *God told him: 'Fool! This night they are going to request that your soul be returned by you. So then who will have what you have prepared?' 21The one who stores up for himself and is not wealthy in God {is} like this."*

22And then He said to His disciples: "For this reason I tell you, do not be concerned about your soul—what you should eat—or your body—what you should slip on. 23For your soul is more than what you eat; and your body, more than your clothing.

24Take a close look at the ravens, because those who do not have a storeroom or a storehouse do not sow, neither do they reap, yet the {living} *God provides food for them. How much more than the winged creatures do you matter? 25So then which one of you who is concerned about {such things} can add a half meter onto his stature? 26Therefore, if you cannot even do the least, why are you concerned about the rest?*

27Take a close look at how the lilies grow: it does not labor; neither does it spin. But I tell you, not even Solomon, in all his glory, wrapped {anything} around himself like one of these. 28So then, if the {living} *God clothes the grass like this, which is in a field today and is thrown onto burning embers tomorrow, how much more {will He attire} you? You little believers!*

29So you must not seek what you should eat and what you should drink, and you must not be anxious. 30For the nations of the world diligently seek all these things, so your Father is aware that you need these things. 31But seek His kingdom, and these things will be added to you. 32Do not be afraid, you small little flock, because your Father was delighted to give you the kingdom. 33Sell your possessions and give a contribution to the less fortunate; make pouches for yourselves that do not grow old—an unfailing treasure in the heavens, where a thief does not draw near; neither does a moth make {it} unfit for use. 34For wherever your treasure is, your heart will be there also.

35Your loins must be girded about and your lamps burning, 36so you {are} just like men who are waiting for their master when he sets off on his journey from the wedding feast, so that when {he} comes back and knocks, they may open for him straight off. 37Those slaves whose master finds staying awake

when {he} comes back are fortunate. Without doubt, I tell you that he will gird himself and make them recline and, while passing by, serve them. 38Even if he should come back in the second—even if in the third—guard watch and find {them} like this, those individuals are fortunate. 39So then you do know this: that if the owner of the house had been aware of which hour the thief was going to come, he would not have let a wall of his house be dug through. 40So you must be ready, because the Son of The Man is going to come back at an hour that you do not assume."

41*So then Peter said, "Your Majesty, are You saying this comparison about us or about everyone else?"*

42*And His Majesty said: "So then who is the trustworthy manager who is sensible, whom His Majesty will appoint over his retinue, to give {them} their measured allowance of wheat on time? 43That slave whom his master, after coming back, finds doing so is fortunate. 44I tell you truly that he will appoint him over all his possessions. 45But if that slave should say in his heart, 'My master is taking his time coming back,' and begin to hit the slave girls and the boys—as well as to eat and drink and become intoxicated—46the master of that slave will come on a day on which he is not expecting {him} and at an hour that he does not know, and he will cut him in two and put his part down with those who do not* **believe God's promise**.

47*So then that slave who knew the will of his master will also be punched many times, having not prepared or acted in accordance with his will. 48But then the one who did not know, but having done {things} worthy of lashes, will be punched just a few times. So then anyone to whom a lot was given, a lot will be sought from him; and they will request a lot more of him to whom they committed a lot.*

49*I have come to cast fire onto the Earth, so what would I want if it had already been ignited? 50So then I have to be baptized with a baptism, and how restrained I am going to be until it has been completed! 51Do you assume that I have come to give {you} peace on the Earth? Absolutely not, I tell you, but rather division; 52for from now on there will be five in one house who have been divided up—three against two, and two against three. 53They will be divided up, father against son and son against father, mother against her daughter and daughter against her mother, mother-in-law against the bride and bride against her mother-in-law."*
(Luke 12:16–53) —HSSB

The short version is, the passages I've shown you here present a mental "roadmap" for those who face the final test of God's People here at the End of the Age:

1*(1) After these things, I heard {something} like {the} loud sound of a huge crowd in Heaven,*

(a) saying: "Praise His Majesty!

(i) The salvation and
(ii) the glory and
(iii) the supernatural power belong to our God:

2(a) *BECAUSE HIS SENTENCES {are} TRUE AND RIGHT;*
(b) *because*

(i) *He has judged the prostitute—the great one, the one who was beguiling the Earth with her sexual promiscuity; and*
(ii) *HE HAS TAKEN VENGEANCE FOR THE BLOOD OF HIS SLAVES AT HER HAND!"*

3*(b) And a second time they said,*

(i) "Praise His Majesty!" and,
(ii) ***"HER SMOKE IS GOING TO GO UP INTO THE AGES OF THE AGES TO COME!"***

4*(c) Then the elders—the twenty-four—and the four living creatures*

(i) fell down and
(ii) paid homage to the {living} *God—the One Who is sitting on the throne—saying, "Without doubt! Praise His Majesty!"*

5*(d) Then a voice came out of the throne, saying, "You—all His slaves, even those who are afraid of Him, the little ones and the older {ones}—must praise our God!"*

6*(2) Then I heard {something} like {the} sound of a huge crowd,*

(a) even like {the} sound of many waters,
(b) even like {the} sound of a mighty rolling thunder, saying:

(i) "Praise His Majesty! Because His Majesty, our God, the Almighty, is King!
7(ii) Let's rejoice and
(iii) be extremely joyful and
(iv) give Him the glory because

(a) ***the wedding celebration of the Little Lamb has come and***
(b) ***His woman has prepared herself!***"

8(3) Then {authority} was given to her, so that she could wrap herself in {something} made of splendid, clean, fine linen; for the thing made of fine linen is the legal requirements of the holy ones!
*9(4) Then he tells me, "Write: '**Those who have been invited to the dinner meal of the wedding celebration of the Little Lamb are fortunate!**'"*
(5) Then he tells me, "These are the true words of the {living} *God!"*
(Revelation 19:1–9) —HSSB

One might be tempted to assume the *parabolic imagery* related to both the "wedding feast" and the "wedding celebration" has to do with the hereafter; and in a "Way" it does, since it continues on even after the seventh "day" of Creation begins. But anyone with half a brain should be able to see from what Jesus says in Matthew 24–25 that He is saying someone will come along to prepare "food" for the "wedding feast" shortly before He returns. That agrees with what John says in Revelation 12 about the purpose of the final 1260 days of this Age:

5(3) Then {the woman} gave birth to a Son, a Male Who is going to shepherd all the Gentiles with an iron staff; and

(a) her Child was snatched up

(i) to the {living} *God and*
(ii) to His throne. 6And

(b) the woman fled into the desert where she has a place that has been prepared there by the* {living} *God, so that He may provide her food there one thousand two hundred sixty days.

7(4) Then there was war in Heaven—Michael and his messengers waging war with the sea serpent. And

(a) the sea serpent and his messengers waged war, 8and

(i) they did not have the ability {to win};
(ii) neither was a place found for them in Heaven any longer.

9(b) So the sea serpent—

(i) the great one,
(ii) the snake,
(iii) the ancient one,
(iv) the one that is called

(a) *"False Accuser" and*
(b) *"Satan,"*

(v) ***the one who is going to lead the entire civilized world astray****—was thrown down.*

(c) He was thrown down to the Earth, and
(d) his messengers were thrown down with him.
(Revelation 12:5–9) —HSSB

Taking the foregoing into account, it appears that the archangel Michael has finally stood up and, as the saying goes, "all Hell is about to break out" here on Planet Earth:

*1"**At [that] Time], [Michael], [The [great] Commanding Officer] [who stands] [over] [{the} Sons of] [Your People], [will stand up]; [and there will be] [a Time] [of Distress] [that] [has [not] been] [since there was] [a Gentile People] [until] [that] [Time].** [And at [that] Time], [Your People]—[everyone] [who is found] [written] [in {the} Scroll]—[will escape]. 2[Then many] [of those who are sleeping] [{in the} [dusty] Ground] [will wake up]. [These]? [To an [eternally burning] Life]! [But these]? [To {the} Disgrace] [of an [eternally burning] Repulsion]. 3**[And those who have insight] [will—[like {the} Brightness] [of The Expanse]—enlighten {others}], [and those who declare [The Many] not guilty]—[like {the} Stars]—[for a Burning Eternity] [and Forever].** 4[But You], [Daniel], [must plug up] [The Words] [and seal up] [The Scroll] [until] [an [End] Time]. [Many] [will go out looking {for the Truth}], [so [The Knowledge {of the Truth}] will increase]."*
(Daniel 12:1–4) —my interim translation ■

Continued from inside front cover

Satan has always played the terminology game, trapping people into believing a lie based on a vague understanding of the Scriptures and an imprecise definition of terms. The "once saved, always saved" doctrine is a distortion based on the fact that the new birth is a once-for-all-time experience. However, the new birth is just that—an experience. Salvation is a process. Actually, "saved" does not even accurately convey the meaning *of the original Hebrew and Greek terms. "Delivered" is a better translation. If a person has been born again, at that point in time they have been "delivered" from Satan's delusion. We say they have been "saved."*
"Questions & Answers," **The Voice of Elijah®**, *January 1995, p. 18*

The only thing that merits anyone anything with God is a knowledge of the Truth.
"Irenæus, Hippolytus, and Now, Justin Martyr," **The Voice of Elijah® Update**, *August 1996, p. 1*

Faith (belief) must always have a content, and everybody acts in accordance with what they believe. Therefore, if the content of your faith—that is, what you believe*—is true, and you honestly believe it, you cannot help but do the works that God expects. Those works don't gain you anything, they just prevent you from losing what you gained by faith.*
"A Quick Look Back Just to See What Lies Ahead," **The Voice of Elijah®**, *January 2003, p. 9*

If you were not aware that some who once had the Truth of the Gospel in their possession will fall far short of what God requires at the End of the Age, perhaps you should take another look at the warning Jesus issued in regard to the "harvest" which will occur at the Second Coming: (Luke 19:11–27).
"Glory Be! What's That I See?" **The Voice of Elijah®**, *October 2003, pp. 4–5*

God's will for the True Believer begins the second he believes the Gospel message and repents. At that moment, the Living *Word of God that Jesus Christ is takes up residence within him as a "Spirit." His only goal in life from that moment on* is supposed to be *protecting and nurturing that* Living *Word until his* physical *body dies. God has* **promised** *that, if the Believer does that, the* Living *Word of God he has protected and nurtured will resurrect his* physical *body as a* parabolic *"member" of "*The Man*" Jesus Christ, "the man" that God is currently* creating *in His Own image and likeness. The Apostle Paul explains those things this way: Romans 8:11–23.*
"Questions & Answers," **The Voice of Elijah®**, *April 2005, p. 22*

The more fantastic the fabricated fantasies you foolishly choose *to believe, the more tightly those lies will hold you fast.*
"Symmetry Demanded the 'Turning of the Year,'" **The Voice of Elijah® Update**, *June 2023, p. 11*

{But if you are a True Believer,} what He expects of you is {that you be willing} to "walk" in a narrowly defined path, which is The Way of Moses, The Teaching of Moses, *and the path that the Church left some eighteen hundred years ago. If that sounds phenomenal to you, hey, it sounds phenomenal to me, too! But if it's true, there are a whole lot of people out there who have got a* big *surprise coming, down the road just a bit.*
Larry Dee Harper, The Way, The Truth, The Life, *pp. 139–140*

Although much of The Law of Moses *is* parabolic pantomime, *the Ten Commandments are different. They provide an absolute standard by which we will be judged.*
Larry Dee Harper, The Way, The Truth, The Life, *p. 193, fn. 2*

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In Him,

Marcia Harper

Continued from front cover

well known. Then why was not that also known to Him, which had to be revealed beneath His heaven, and on His earth? From this, therefore, there arises a confirmation of what we have already laid down. For since the Creator was sure to know, some time or other, that hidden mystery of the superior god, even on the supposition that the true reading was (as Marcion has it)—"hidden from the God who created all things"—he ought then to have expressed the conclusion thus: "in order that the manifold wisdom of God might be made known to Him, and then to the principalities and powers of God, whosoever He might be, with whom the Creator was destined to share their knowledge."

So palpable is the erasure in this passage, when thus read, consistently with its own true bearing. I, on my part, now wish to engage with you in a discussion on the allegorical expressions of the apostle. What figures of speech could the novel god have found in the prophets (fit for himself)? "He led captivity captive," says the apostle. With what arms? In what conflicts? From the devastation of what country? From the overthrow of what city? What women, what children, what princes did the Conqueror throw into chains? For when by David Christ is sung as "girded with His sword upon His thigh," or by Isaiah as "taking away the spoils of Samaria and the power of Damascus," you make Him out to be really and truly a warrior confest to the eye.

Learn then now, that His is a spiritual armour and warfare, since you have already discovered that the captivity is spiritual, in order that you may further learn that this also belongs to Him, even because the apostle derived the mention of the captivity from the same prophets as suggested to him his precepts likewise: "Putting away lying," (says he,) "speak every man truth with his neighbour;" and again, using the very words in which the Psalm expresses his meaning, (he says,) "Be ye angry, and sin not;" "Let not the sun go down upon your wrath." "Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness;" for (in the Psalm it is written,) "With the holy man thou shalt be holy, and with the perverse thou shalt be perverse;" and, "Thou shalt put away evil from among you."

Tertullian, "Against Marcion," Book 5, Chap. xviii, in Roberts and Donaldson (Eds.), *The Ante-Nicene Fathers* (1885), Vol. 3, pp. 467–468.

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