



THE VOICE of ELIJAH

Restoring the hearts of the fathers to the children

The Agents of Satan Always Judge God by the Law

God, then, is good. And the Lord speaks many a time and oft before He proceeds to act. "For my arrows," He says, "will make an end of them; they shall be consumed with hunger, and be eaten by birds; and there shall be incurable tetanic incurvature. I will send the teeth of wild beasts upon them, with the rage of serpents creeping on the earth. Without, the sword shall make them childless; and out of their chambers shall be fear." For the Divine Being is not angry in the way that some think; but often restrains, and always exhorts humanity, and shows what ought to be done.

And this is a good device, to terrify lest we sin. "For the fear of the Lord drives away sins, and he that is without fear cannot be justified," says the Scripture. And God does not inflict punishment from wrath, but for the ends of justice; since it is not expedient that justice should be neglected on our account. Each one of us, who sins, with his own free-will chooses punishment, and the blame lies with him who chooses. God is without blame. "But if our unrighteousness commend the righteousness of God, what shall we say? Is God unrighteous, who taketh vengeance? God forbid."

He says, therefore, threatening, "I will sharpen my sword, and my hand shall lay hold on judgment; and I will render justice to mine enemies, and requite those who hate me. I will make mine arrows drunk with blood, and my sword shall devour flesh from the blood of the wounded." It is clear, then, that those who are not at enmity with the truth, and do not hate the Word, will not hate their own salvation, but will escape the punishment of enmity. "The crown of wisdom," then as the book of Wisdom says, "is the fear of the Lord." Very clearly, therefore, by the prophet Amos has the Lord unfolded His method of dealing, saying, "I have overthrown you, as God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah; and ye shall be as a brand plucked from the fire: and yet ye have not returned unto me, saith the Lord."

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A Note From the Editor

Many folks have questions they would like to see answered in *The Voice of Elijah*®, and many send them to us. We get the good, the bad, and everything in between. Here's a sample:

First and foremost Thank you! I have been devouring the information as fast as I can. I have known for a long time that God gives us freedom from sin through Jesus not freedom to sin. I was born again ... in 1993. It was an awe-some and powerful experience. Shortly after I joined a church hoping to be fed and trained up, what I got was a lot of doing and not much being. I quickly fell under bondage of performance and no longer felt the freedom that I had gained. ... I was pretty much a mess and lost. I had become a legalist of the first order myself. ... As far as I was from Jesus at the time, I started asking for truth, just truth. A month or two ago I found your website. I started reading I could feel the truth cleansing me. I had to come to Jesus and fully apologize for the wretch of a man that I was. I am so grateful for your ministry. Please thank Mr. Harper for diligently following his calling. The free information on the website has kept me glued to my computer. I have reached the end of what is available for free and would like your advice on moving forward. You have a couple of packages online but I am very interested in the mystery of scripture and all the old testament studies. Can you give me guidance on what I should purchase? I also would like to become a supporter.

My response:

Thank you for contacting Voice of Elijah regarding your path to the Truth and your desire to learn more. It is always encouraging when our outreach efforts and prayers bear fruit! Voice of Elijah exists to provide the Truth of the Scriptures to Believers regarding Early Church beliefs. When people have a reaction to that Truth such as you have had, one needs no convincing from me that you've come to the right place for the "food" you've been longing for.

*I'll pass along your appreciation to Mr. Harper regarding his dedication to his calling. He has been contributing articles to **The Voice of Elijah**® newsletter every quarter since the premier issue in October 1990, while also writing articles for **The Voice of Elijah**® Update (published eight times annually), publishing books, and audio recordings at the same time. His calling is his life, and Believers have much to be thankful for in that regard!*

How you move forward is really your call. Since the Truth is one cohesive whole, where you begin is really up to you. All threads will eventually tie into the big picture. Some people prefer to lay the groundwork for themselves chronologically (starting with the books/newsletters written first and reading up to the current publications). Others prefer to read the books first, then dive into the newsletters. I do suggest, if you are interested in the back issues of the newsletters, that you read those chronologically. Many times Mr. Harper relies

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on one's knowledge of previously published material for the reader to grasp what he brings up in subsequent material.

Although financial contributions are always needed, "support" comes in various forms. Many support our mission by distributing Free Offer booklets. Don't be shy; request as many copies as you can distribute. Nothing would please us more than to see the U.S. Postal Service vehicle filled to the brim with the boxes we send to the volunteers! Here is another letter we received:

A dear friend of mine gave me all of your free booklets and all of your books written thus far (December 2012). I almost "dumped" you because of your nasty name calling in those booklets, but I could not stop reading. When I started to read "Not All Israel ..." I became mute and listened to all you said. In no time, I turned into a sponge. Since Dec. last year, I've spent hours a day studying. I'm glad I did. You are truly a Teacher. And so far (with just 1 book to go) I have found Truth and Wisdom in your words.

I have one complaint about you. Where are all the books you promised you would write? Are you finished with some of them? I GOT to have them. ... Thanks again and again and again.

You will find a stark difference between this subscriber's reaction to Larry's "nasty name calling" and the one in the letter quoted in the "Questions & Answers" column on page 25. Here is Larry's own explanation as to why he writes so sarcastically:

Over the years, I have been doing my best to help you "see" the sharp distinction God makes between the Blessed and the Cursed. I have done that by calling the Cursed every demeaning name I could come up with. Now I have even resorted to calling them "penguins" so that you can "see" they blindly follow each other around, spouting off about things they heard someone else say without ever once checking to make sure those things are true.

(The Voice of Elijah®, January 2009, p. 5)

I must admit, the "complaint" about the books Larry has promised to write tickled me. I don't believe I'd be out of line in responding, so I'll jump right in. I have had the privilege of observing the progress of Larry's calling from the early 1980s, through the opening of the seven seals, the steady stream of publications, the growing subscriber/contributor base—all in real time. So my response to the "complaint" is this: All will be available according to the Lord's timetable. There have been times when I have seen Larry struggle to complete a project when, in retrospect, it became clear to him that the timing just wasn't right. When the time is right, he completes things with relative ease.

Case in point #1: Harper's Standardized Study Bible. My earliest recollection of Larry working on his translation project was way back in 1981—back before the technology he needed even existed. At that point in time, PCs and electronic databases were new to the market and "what you see is what you get" had not even been conceived. Today, with the tools he has available (and an 80- to 90-hour workweek), he is making tremendous strides towards completing that project. The task is monumental even now, but it was impossible when he started.

Case in point #2: *God Called; I Answered*. Larry's "autobiography" has been on the back burner for more than twenty years. But he now feels the time has arrived for him to explain "The Way" God has dealt with him over the past fifty-three years. He spent quite a bit of time working on that project over the three months prior to beginning to write the articles for this newsletter. Between that project, writing articles for *The Voice of Elijah®* and *The Voice of Elijah® Update*, and working on his translation of the Scriptures, he easily fills up the eighty to ninety hours in his workweek. That doesn't leave much time for him to do much of anything else, which is why I say "his calling is his life." So please be patient. He is doing his dead-level best to juggle several projects and make progress in several directions at the same time for the eventual benefit of the Elect.

In Him,

Marcia Woody

Beware of Sad-Sack Sea Serpents and Poisonous Grapes

In the January 2012 issue of this newsletter, I began giving you my standardized translation of the Book of Revelation along with my comments on the text. I will continue that in this issue, but first I want to review what I have already stated in regard to the meaning and significance of the things John wrote.

Revelation 1

I began by telling you the things that John saw and heard can only be understood in terms of *parabolic imagery*. That is, one must learn to think *parabolically* in terms of the *parabolic imagery* of *The Teaching of Moses* rather than *literally*, as most people tend to do. I said this:

In the first chapter of the Book of Revelation, John is focused on first explaining the purpose of the things that he saw in a vision and then defining a few of the parabolic images he is going to mention later on in the book. So I will briefly explain what you need to know about those two things and then move on.

*("What's So Special About the Number Seven?" **The Voice of Elijah**®, January 2012, p. 3)*

The first *parabolic image* I pointed to is the one in which the "Spirit" of the Living Word of God is "The Light" of "The Glory" of God:

A parabolic image you need to "keep" in mind when you read the Book of Revelation is the one in which Jesus Christ is the Living Word of God. That Living Word is a "fire" that exists in the fifth dimension of this Creation as parabolic Light. But that parabolic Light

has also been hidden in the Hebrew Scriptures as a dead written Word that comes to life as a "burning" spoken Word in the one who understands and believes the meaning and significance of the seven sealed messages the Prophets hid in the Hebrew Scriptures.

*("What's So Special About the Number Seven?" **The Voice of Elijah**®, January 2012, p. 3)*

I went on to explain how the *parabolic image* of "The Glory" of the Living Word of God relates to the *parabolic image* in which the heavenly beings who "carry" the Living Word of God are depicted as "stars":

I assume you are aware that the sun is nothing but a star. Like all the other stars in the universe, it "sheds" its small share of "The literal Light" that fills the universe. That's why the seven messengers of the Lord are parabolically depicted as "stars." Those seven messengers have been appointed to "carry" the seven sealed messages that make up "The Glory" of "The parabolic Light" of the Living Word of God. "The Glory" they "carry" is the same image and likeness of the Living Word of God that all True Believers will "carry" after they are resurrected in the image and likeness of Jesus Christ.

*("What's So Special About the Number Seven?" **The Voice of Elijah**®, January 2012, pp. 4-5)*

I then reminded you once again that you must keep in mind the fact that everything John tells us relates *parabolically* to the *parabolic image* of "The Glory" of God in some way:

Don't misunderstand what I am saying: Those who love the Truth of the Living Word of God are going to live forever in the "fire" of the Truth that provides "The

parabolic Light” of “The Glory” of that Living Word. John tells us seven messengers have been appointed to “carry” that Living Word. In that, they are parabolically LIKE stars. But that is just the beginning of the parabolic imagery related to the seven messages those messengers have been appointed to “carry.” John also tells us the seven churches are seven “lampstands” that have been appointed to “shed” “The parabolic Light” of “The Glory” of the Living Word of God on the Earth.

(“What’s So Special About the Number Seven?” **The Voice of Elijah**®, January 2012, p. 5)

After pointing out the fact that an accurate understanding of the parabolic imagery in which seven local churches are depicted as seven parabolic “lampstands” from which seven parabolic “lamps” give “light” must be based on an understanding of the parabolic pantomime of the priesthood in which a literal lampstand stood in the Tabernacle, I told you this:

To understand the parabolic significance of the lampstand in the Tabernacle, you need to know that each of the seven lamps on the lampstand represents one of the seven “sealed” messages the Prophets hid in the Hebrew Scriptures. So the essential bit of insight you need to take away from the first chapter of the Book of Revelation is this: “The parabolic Light” emitted by the seven parabolic “lamps” on the parabolic “lampstands” of the seven churches was “The parabolic Light” in the seven sealed messages of The Apostolic Teaching. That same information was “carried” by the seven messengers who are parabolically depicted as “stars” that emit “The parabolic Light” of the Living Word of God.

But get this: The seven churches (**ekklesias**) are parabolically depicted as seven “lampstands” because each of them was a separate and distinct repository of the Church’s insight into the seven sealed messages in The Apostolic Teaching that the Apostles **handed down** to the Church. The point is, the mission of each local church was to be parabolically LIKE a **menorah**, “shedding” “The parabolic Light” of the Living Word of God on the inhabitants of Planet Earth. Keep that in mind when you read Jesus’ warning that He might move a “lampstand” out of its place. He eventually did exactly what He warned them He might do.

(“What’s So Special About the Number Seven?” **The Voice of Elijah**®, January 2012, p. 6)

Revelation 2

In Chapter 2, I went on to explain the significance of the warning that Jesus issued to the seven churches. I told you it relates to the fact that the leaders of the local churches were supposed to excommunicate Pretenders in order to protect *The Apostolic Teaching*:

As you read the text of this chapter and the next, you need to “keep” in mind the fact that the Church that exists today is a far cry from the Church the Living Word of God intended it to be. Take the practice of excommunication, for example. The Truth is, the Apostles established local churches (**ekklesias**) that were supposed to govern themselves and maintain the holiness of the Corporate Body of Jesus Christ by “cutting off” anyone who proved to be a source of contamination to The Apostolic Teaching. That is, each local congregation was considered to be “one” Person—just like Corporate Israel in the Old Testament—Who would be contaminated by the sins of the individual members. Therefore, the leaders of the local churches were supposed to use excommunication to preserve the holiness of the Corporate Body of Jesus Christ by “cutting off” Pretenders who said one thing and did another.

(“What’s So Special About the Number Seven?” **The Voice of Elijah**®, January 2012, p. 8)

I pointed out the fact that, instead of carrying out their charge and excommunicating those who were obviously Pretenders, Early Church leaders allowed them to remain in their midst, thereby ensuring the loss of *The Apostolic Teaching*. I did that by showing you the significance of the singular and plural forms of the second person personal pronoun:

By what He says in this chapter and the next, Jesus is indicting the seven local churches because they have all, in one way or another, failed to keep out Pretenders who pose a threat to *The Apostolic Teaching*. But my point is, when He is speaking to the local church as the Corporate Body of Jesus Christ, He uses the singular form of the noun, verb, and personal pronoun. When He is addressing the individuals within the Corporate Body, He uses the plural form. That’s why I capitalized every “**You**” in the text when it is singular, and I didn’t capitalize it when the “**you**” is plural. I do my best to do that throughout my translation of the biblical text just because

you need to know that information before you can understand the meaning and significance of the biblical text.

If you read the text of this chapter and the next with the Corporate nature of the Body of Jesus Christ in mind, you will find that even when Jesus doesn't hold out much hope for the continued existence of the local churches as the Corporate Body of Christ, He does offer hope for the individual members of the Body of Christ. Remember that; it's important. Just as Jesus warned, the Corporate Body of Christ no longer exists as a distinct entity in any one location. But the individual members of the Body of Christ do.

*("What's So Special About the Number Seven?" **The Voice of Elijah**®, January 2012, pp. 8–9)*

I told you the refusal of Early Church leaders to do what was necessary to protect *The Teaching* resulted in the current situation in which individual Believers can no longer rely on the support of any identifiable body of True Believers but must instead focus on their own salvation:

My point is, when Jesus uses the singular form of the personal pronoun in the first two chapters of the Book of Revelation, He is addressing His remarks to the Corporate Body of Christ found in the local church, not at the individuals in that Corporate Body. So, now that you know the dire warnings in the second and third chapters of the Book of Revelation are directed at the Corporate Body of Jesus Christ in each local church because it has failed to accomplish the specific task it had been assigned, perhaps you can better appreciate what Jesus says to the individual Believer.

*("What's So Special About the Number Seven?" **The Voice of Elijah**®, January 2012, p. 10)*

Revelation 3

In commenting on Chapter 3, I explained that Jesus holds out hope to individual Believers in spite of the warnings He issues to the local churches:

*The Truth is, the warnings directed at the local churches in the Book of Revelation apply to any local church that holds itself out to be a gathering of True Believers. Every local church has failed to do what is necessary to protect and preserve the Truth that was **handed down** to the Church in The Apostolic Teaching. But the point that Jesus makes in what He told John about the*

failure of the local churches is this: Every True Believer, as one individual Believer, still has hope, in spite of the failure of the local churches.

*("What's So Special About the Number Seven?" **The Voice of Elijah**®, January 2012, p. 11)*

Finally, I emphasized the significance of everything I had already told you regarding the failure of the local churches:

The point of what John says in the first three chapters of the Book of Revelation is this: When it comes time for the current Age to come to an end, individual Believers will be on their own. But woe be unto any dimwitted dimlight who seeks to hide from the Truth by desperately clinging to the absolutely horrific caricature found in any corporate body he mistakenly assumes to be the Corporate Body of Jesus Christ. He will undoubtedly be sorely disappointed when he discovers his mistake far too late to do anything about it. As Jesus said, "Let the one who has an ear hear."

*("What's So Special About the Number Seven?" **The Voice of Elijah**®, January 2012, p. 12)*

Revelation 4

In Chapter 4, I focused on the statement made in this verse:

And [Flashes of Lightning], [Voices], and [Rolling Thunder] [are coming out] from [The Throne], and [seven] [Lanterns] of [Fire]—which [are] [The [seven] Spirits] of [The {Living} God]—[that are made to burn] [before] [The Throne].

(Revelation 4:5) —my interim translation

I said the following about the "lanterns" that are mentioned in that verse:

To understand the Truth, you need to know the seven parabolic "lanterns" mentioned in the verse above are the heavenly originals on which Moses patterned the seven "lamps" on the "lampstand" in the Tabernacle. I have already told you those seven "lamps" parabolically represent the seven "sealed" messages in The Apostolic Teaching. I have also told you that insight into those seven "sealed" messages made the seven churches seven parabolic "lampstands" that were supposed to "shed" "The parabolic Light" of the Truth

of The Apostolic Teaching on the inhabitants of this parabolically “dark” world.

(“What’s So Special About the Number Seven?” **The Voice of Elijah**®, January 2012, p. 13)

Revelation 5

Beginning in Chapter 5, I began to explain the significance of the insight I had already provided you into the parabolic imagery related to the seven parabolic “lamps” on the parabolic “lampstands” that the seven churches were supposed to be:

*I have not been shy about telling you this chapter has to do with the reason why God called me to do what I am doing. I have also told you it is describing the “opening” of the seven parabolic “seals” that the Prophets placed on the seven messages hidden in the Hebrew Scriptures. They placed those seven “seals” on the things they wrote so that what they wrote could only be understood if it was explained by someone who actually had insight into what they wrote. Jesus Christ had that insight, and He revealed the meaning and significance of the things the Prophets wrote to His disciples. He then told them to **hand** that information **down** to the Church as an oral tradition. I call that oral tradition The Apostolic Teaching.*

*I have repeatedly told you the Church failed to carry out its assigned task. In **The Voice of Elijah**® **Update**, I have even been showing you how that happened. But the real tragedy in the Church’s loss of The Apostolic Teaching is the fact that, down through the centuries, the Hebrew Scriptures have remained “sealed.” That is, it has been impossible for anyone to read and understand them without first hearing an explanation of the meaning and significance of the things found there. That sad situation has existed because the leaders of the Church lost an understanding of those things fairly early on. Unfortunately, that has not stopped loudmouth intellectual bozos from speculating as to what they think the Hebrew Scriptures are saying.*

Now that the End of the Age is almost upon us, Jesus Christ, the “Little Lamb” Who was slaughtered, is finally “opening” the Hebrew Scriptures so that anyone who really wants to know the Truth can understand them. Pay attention now: I said, “Jesus Christ, the ‘Little Lamb’ Who was slaughtered, is finally

‘opening’ the Hebrew Scriptures so that anyone who really wants to know the Truth can understand them.” That does not mean every ridiculous interpretation that any Tom, Dick, or Harry wants to attribute to the Hebrew Scriptures is true. It merely means I am nobody special. I was called to restore The Apostolic Teaching. But to do that, I am doing nothing more than anyone else with the appropriate skills could do—if they really wanted to know the Truth. The problem is, those who have the skills necessary to do what I am doing have a vested interest in not knowing the Truth when it disagrees with the dumb doctrines they have already decided to believe.

(“What’s So Special About the Number Seven?” **The Voice of Elijah**®, January 2012, pp. 14–15)

Revelation 6

In Chapter 6, where John begins to describe the “opening” of the seven “seals” that the Prophets placed on the things they wrote, I told you the single most important thing you need to know about the events related to the “opening” of each “seal”:

The thing to remember about the “opening” of each of the seven “seals” described in this chapter is this: The events described begin with the “opening” of the “seal,” but they do not end when the next “seal” is “opened.” That is, the “opening” of a “seal” merely signals the beginning of a series of events, nothing more. Those events may well take decades to be completed.

(“What’s So Special About the Number Seven?” **The Voice of Elijah**®, January 2012, p. 17)

Then I said the following about the account of the “opening” of the first “seal”:

That is describing an event that began in April 1974, and has not yet been completed. At that time, the first “seal” was “opened,” and the Living Word of God began to come out of His hiding place in the Hebrew Scriptures.

(“What’s So Special About the Number Seven?” **The Voice of Elijah**®, January 2012, p. 17)

After I told you that, I gave you a brief rundown of the titles and the basic message that is hidden behind the first six “seals.”

Revelation 7

In the April issue of *The Voice of Elijah*®, I gave you my translation of Revelation 7–10 along with a brief commentary on each chapter. I began by telling you Chapter 7 describes the final census of the members of Corporate Israel that began with the “opening” of the sixth “seal,” which is described in Revelation 6. I said this about Chapter 7:

That passage is describing the “sealing” of True Believers with the Truth of the Living Word of God that they have freely chosen to believe. That will be completed before the End.

*(“If Only He Had Said, ‘Whoa! Whoa! Whoa!’” **The Voice of Elijah**®, April 2012, p. 11)*

After that, I went on to explain one of the *literal* events that correspond to the events that John describes *parabolically*:

The “sealing” of the final generation of True Believers, as it is described in the seventh chapter of the Book of Revelation, began only recently. It took off in earnest after the publication of the booklet titled The Old Testament Gospel of Jesus Christ. In that booklet, I presented the Truth of the Gospel without any “sugar-coating.” That is because there is no longer any middle ground. One must either be willing to accept the cold, hard fact that, in His wrath, God intentionally hid the Truth in the Scriptures; or one must choose to reject the Truth outright. Ignorance of some parts of the Truth will no longer remain a legitimate defense for those who choose to remain “in the dark.”

*(“If Only He Had Said, ‘Whoa! Whoa! Whoa!’” **The Voice of Elijah**®, April 2012, pp. 11–12)*

Revelation 8

In Chapter 8, John begins giving us a *parabolic* description of events that occur after the “opening” of the seventh “seal.” He tells us that, after the final “seal” comes off the Hebrew Scriptures, there will be an indefinite span of time in which seven messengers sound seven trumpets. In my comments on this chapter, I focused my attention on just the event that John tells us will occur after the third messenger sounds his trumpet. He describes that event *parabolically* as a “star” called

“the wormwood” falling from Heaven and “poisoning” “the waters” on the Earth:

First, I should probably tell you the things that John wrote in this chapter are a parabolic description that tells us what certain future events are LIKE. Without that bit of information, you could still be waiting for physical stars to fall from Heaven even after Satan, who is “the star” called “the wormwood,” appears on the scene as the Antichrist.

*(“If Only He Had Said, ‘Whoa! Whoa! Whoa!’” **The Voice of Elijah**®, April 2012, p. 12)*

I went on to explain that the *parabolic image* of “the waters” that are poisoned by “the star” called “the wormwood” actually refers to the distortion of the Truth of Christianity that would reveal the Truth concerning Satan’s appearance as the Antichrist:

I doubt that you, being accustomed to thinking in terms of time and space, will be able to readily understand an event that occurs outside of both. Just get ready; the world is about to feel its effects, nonetheless. But the world is not my concern here. My only concern is that those who honestly want to know the Truth can recognize and avoid “the waters” that have been contaminated by “the star” called “the wormwood.”

*(“If Only He Had Said, ‘Whoa! Whoa! Whoa!’” **The Voice of Elijah**®, April 2012, pp. 13–14)*

I also told you that I am firmly convinced the groundwork has already been laid to ensure that the majority of “Christians” are deluded by “the waters” that are “poisoned” when Satan makes his appearance here on Earth:

I am willing to admit I might be wrong about this—although I will never be willing to doubt it’s true—but I believe Satan has already gotten most “Christians” all primed and ready to believe “The Lie” that he is going to promote after he falls from Heaven LIKE a star that is called “the wormwood.” If you don’t already know what “The Lie” is, chances are you either haven’t read, or have chosen not to believe, what Irenæus and Hippolytus wrote about the Antichrist.

*(“If Only He Had Said, ‘Whoa! Whoa! Whoa!’” **The Voice of Elijah**®, April 2012, p. 15)*

After I said that, I showed you a few places where “The Lie” of Satan is mentioned by the Prophets of Israel; and I told you this by way of warning:

*“The Lie” that originated with the false prophets of Israel—you know, the ones the Pharisees chose to believe—has finally gone out “to all the Earth.” That is, the majority of the decidedly dumb ducks in the Church today already believe that when Jesus Christ returns, the Jews will accept Him as their Messiah and He will rebuild the Temple in Jerusalem. Nothing could be further from the Truth; but don’t try telling that to anyone who has already drunk “The Cup” of “The Harlot.” That “Cup” contains a whole lot more than the usual dose of “wormwood.” (“If Only He Had Said, ‘Whoa! Whoa! Whoa!’” **The Voice of Elijah**®, April 2012, p. 16)*

Revelation 9

In Chapter 9, John *parabolically* describes events that occur after the fifth and sixth messengers sound their trumpets to initiate the first and second of three “woes.” I said this in regard to the events that come about as a result of their actions:

*This chapter contains a parabolic explanation of some pretty bad things. But just so you don’t lose sight of where we are right now, I should probably remind you that the seventh “seal” has been, or is about to be, “opened.” After that, seven messengers are going to sound seven “trumpets.” It is probably going to take a while for them to make their way through that routine; but it is only after the first four messengers have sounded their “trumpets” that the really bad stuff begins. That is, when the fifth, sixth, and seventh messengers sound their “trumpets,” a “woe” is also pronounced on Planet Earth. So if you think things are bad right now, you might want to make sure your seat belt is securely fastened. You ain’t seen nothin’ yet. (“If Only He Had Said, ‘Whoa! Whoa! Whoa!’” **The Voice of Elijah**®, April 2012, pp. 17–18)*

Revelation 10

In Chapter 10, John *parabolically* describes events that will occur shortly before the seventh messenger sounds the final trumpet. I explained how his *parabolic* description relates to *literal* events that are going to take place here on Earth:

*The “little scroll that had been opened” is nothing other than the “scroll” on which Jesus Christ has either “opened,” or is about to “open,” the final “seal.” That is, the Hebrew Scriptures are “the scroll—the {one} that has been opened”; and it is only after the seventh messenger sounds his “trumpet” that “The Mystery” that has been “sealed” inside that “scroll” will finally be “completed” in all those who have freely chosen to believe it. So it appears I will be casting aspersions at stupid folk for a few more years—at least until I have time to complete my “standardized” translation of that “little scroll.” (“If Only He Had Said, ‘Whoa! Whoa! Whoa!’” **The Voice of Elijah**®, April 2012, p. 18)*

Revelation 11

In the July issue of *The Voice of Elijah*®, I gave you my translation of Revelation 11–13 along with a brief commentary on each chapter. I began by telling you John’s focus in Chapter 11 is on “The Sanctuary” of the *Living* God that stands in Heaven, and the “opening” of that sacred complex so that “The Box” that contains “The Testament” of Jesus Christ can be “seen” by those who have a love for the Truth that is found therein. I pointed out that John spends most of the chapter describing events that occur “outside” “The Sanctuary,” in the *parabolic* “Courtyard” that will be “trampled” by the Gentiles during the last few years of this Age. I also showed you the Early Church Father Hippolytus confirms that John is describing events that occur during the three and a half years that immediately precede the reign of the Antichrist. I said the following regarding those things:

I’ll let you decide whether you want to believe what Hippolytus says in regard to Revelation 11 and the Book of Daniel. It is not my calling to convince anyone that what I tell you is true; I am merely here to inform those who sincerely want to know the Truth in regard to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. If the possibility of that event happening anytime soon is not of any great concern to you, you should probably move on and find something that is more meaningful to you. Continuing to hear and reject the Truth that I have been called to explain will do nothing for you but increase the downside of that unhappy experience for you. I wouldn’t want that to happen to anyone, especially one who is obviously as “bright” as you are.

The seventh “seal” that the Prophets of Israel placed on the Hebrew Scriptures has been, or soon will be, “opened.” From that point on, as each of the seven messengers sounds his parabolic trumpet, you can expect the circumstances here on Planet Earth to become increasingly inhospitable to everyone, but especially to those who strive to hold on to the Truth during that final three and a half years.

(“Ever Seen Any Such Sad-Sack Sea Serpent?” **The Voice of Elijah**®, July 2012, p. 8)

I went on to show you Isaiah 27, where Isaiah talks about Corporate Israel as God’s “vineyard” and mentions the sounding of the parabolic “trumpet” that signals the End of the Age. Then I told you this:

The link that connects Isaiah 27 to Revelation 12 is the Greek word **drakon**, for which translators normally just use the English transliteration “dragon.” I haven’t done that simply because the Truth is, John uses the Greek term **drakon** in Revelation 12 to refer his reader back to what Moses and the other Prophets of Israel said about the **drakon** that Isaiah mentions in the passage above. But to know why I say that, you first need to know that the translators of the Septuagint used the Greek term **drakon** to translate the Hebrew term **tannin**; and the significance of that lies in knowing the mythical “sea serpent” called “Leviathan” was a **tannin** described as having seven heads. The Canaanites mention that frightening creature in a myth that tells how Baal came riding on the clouds, bringing the “rain,” after overcoming the gods “Death” and “Sea” just prior to his “second coming.”

(“Ever Seen Any Such Sad-Sack Sea Serpent?” **The Voice of Elijah**®, July 2012, p. 11)

Now, I suppose I could veer off on a tangent at this point and tell you the Canaanite name “Lotan” is exactly the same as the Hebrew name “Leviathan” if you leave out the two “vowel consonants” in the Hebrew name. I could also tell you how the mythical “sea serpent” known by those two names is exactly the same mythical creature that the ancient Egyptians called “Apep” and the Greeks called “Apophis.”

I could also tell you how the Prophets all speak in terms of the parabolic imagery that I explained in The Passover Parable to tell us how Jesus Christ will overcome that hideous “sea serpent” right before He, like Baal,

comes “riding on the clouds” at His Second Coming. But I won’t. I’ll save all that for another time, another place. ;-) But I will tell you there is no “way,” in this hell-hole in which we currently find ourselves, that you can understand “The Song of Moses,” much less sing it with understanding, if you do not know how all the parabolic imagery of The Apostolic Teaching fits together into one coherent whole. That’s just “The Way” it is.

(“Ever Seen Any Such Sad-Sack Sea Serpent?” **The Voice of Elijah**®, July 2012, p. 11)

Revelation 12

Regarding Chapter 12, I told you it should be obvious to everyone, even the most obtuse among us, that John is not speaking *literally*. I explained that he is speaking *parabolically* in terms of the same *parabolic imagery* the Prophets used to conceal the meaning and significance of the things they wrote. I reminded you that “the water” that comes out of the mouth of the “sea serpent” in Revelation 12:15 depicts false teaching, just as it does in Revelation 8:11. Then, after I quoted what Hippolytus said in regard to the chapter, I said this:

Hippolytus’ explanation of the parabolic imagery in Revelation 12 is interesting, isn’t it? He has clearly told us the Early Church understood Revelation 11 to be describing the three and a half years immediately prior to the reign of the Antichrist, and Revelation 12 to be describing the persecution of True Believers that occurs during the three and a half years the Antichrist reigns. But it would be a mistake to assume Church leaders understood the two chapters to be describing those events sequentially as part of the same account. That is because Revelation 12 is not simply a continuation of Revelation 11; it is instead a recapitulation of events that are described parabolically in Revelation 6–11.

The Truth is, the account found in Revelation 12–20 begins by parabolically describing the birth and Ascension of Christ before picking up again with the opening of the sixth “seal” in Revelation 6:12. But it gives a more detailed parabolic description of the events that lead up to and include the sounding of the final trumpet at the end of Revelation 11.

(“Ever Seen Any Such Sad-Sack Sea Serpent?” **The Voice of Elijah**®, July 2012, p. 14)

Revelation 13

In commenting on Chapter 13, I first quoted what Irenæus explained about the things John wrote and then said this:

I could point out the fact that, in that passage, Irenæus clearly discloses he knows the seventh “day” of Creation has not yet begun and mankind—who was merely “formed” by the hand of God initially—will be “made after the image and likeness of God” when the final “day” of Creation begins; but I won’t. ;-) I will merely remind you that he links Revelation 13 to what Paul says about the Antichrist in 2 Thessalonians 2:1–12. You need to know that just because you will undoubtedly encounter brainless dimwits at some point who have bought into the lunatic belief that John is not talking about the Antichrist in Revelation 13 simply because he never uses that specific term.

*It might help if you face one stubborn fact: Most folks have never read the things that Irenæus and Hippolytus wrote about the insane little man that is commonly called the “Antichrist.” And the Truth is, those who have taken the time to do so were most likely only looking to confirm the things they have already chosen to believe. So much for any “love of the truth.” (“Ever Seen Any Such Sad-Sack Sea Serpent?” **The Voice of Elijah**®, July 2012, pp. 16–17)*

Revelation 14

With regard to Chapter 14, I told you that insight into the *parabolic imagery* of the Prophets is absolutely essential to an understanding of the things that John says, not only in this chapter but also in the entire Book of Revelation. Then I outlined the essential elements in the things that John heard so that you would be able to get the basic gist of it. I said this:

The first thing that John mentions is the fact that the 144,000 members of Corporate Israel that were “sealed” in Revelation 7 have finally been prepared to go through the Tribulation. That is, they have a complete understanding of the parabolic imagery in The Teaching of Moses that Moses used to lay out what God had planned for Corporate Israel.

By his reference to True Believers as “virgins,” John discloses he is referring to “The Remnant” of Corporate

*Israel. He is using the same parabolic imagery that Jesus used in the Parable of the Ten Virgins. Both are speaking parabolically in terms of the “virgins” who participated in the Canaanite sacred marriage ritual the Prophets were mocking when they talked about the “Ground” of Planet Earth as “The Woman” who abandoned God and became a **zonah** (“Harlot”).*

*(“No Need for a Boa, the Constrictor Is on His ‘Way,’” **The Voice of Elijah**®, October 2012, p. 9)*

I then showed you what Isaiah and Zephaniah said about “The Harlot” “city” to emphasize the fact that they knew the True Believers who face down the Antichrist at the End of the Age would know the Truth of *The Teaching of Moses*. I quoted the entirety of Zephaniah to show you what he says God is going to do to that “Woman.” Then I said this:

*I have explained the basics regarding Zephaniah elsewhere; so I see no need to cover that ground again. Just keep in mind the fact that he is speaking parabolically in terms of Planet Earth as a “Woman” who is also a “City,” and he is talking about events that occur just prior to the incineration of that “City” at the End of the Age. (See “On Fairy Tales and Holy Hell,” **The Voice of Elijah**®, July 1992, p. 20; “Two Perspectives, One Truth,” **The Voice of Elijah**® Update, August 2010, pp. 14 ff.; “To ‘Make’ a God, You First Have to Light a ‘Fire,’” **The Voice of Elijah**® Update, December 2010, pp. 17 ff.) (“No Need for a Boa, the Constrictor Is on His ‘Way,’” **The Voice of Elijah**®, October 2012, p. 14)*

I told you a final thing to note about Revelation 14 is the *parabolic image* of the “harvest” because it is also an integral part of the *parabolic imagery* the Prophets used. I explained that Jesus had that *parabolic image* in mind when He told the Parable of the Tares, which I quoted. Then I said this about that parable:

*It should be obvious that Jesus is talking about the “harvest” of True Believers and the “winnowing out” of Pretenders at the End of the Age. That is, He is parabolically describing a time when the Church will face precisely the same set of circumstances that the Jews faced when all but Jesus were “cut off from” Corporate Israel, leaving only Jesus as “The Remnant” of Corporate Israel. (“No Need for a Boa, the Constrictor Is on His ‘Way,’” **The Voice of Elijah**®, October 2012, p. 14)*

After showing you a few passages from the Gospel of Matthew, I said this:

If you scrutinize what John says, you will find that he describes two parabolic "harvests" at the End of the Age. The first is the "harvest" of "wheat," when all Pretenders will be "winnowed" out of "The Kingdom." That "harvest" occurs when the "wheat" "grain" has finally "dried up." Anyone who has ever participated in a wheat harvest knows exactly what that statement means. Wheat grain must be as dry as possible when it is harvested simply because wheat with a high moisture content does not store well. It rots. So the wheat grain must not only be "cleaned" by being separated from the chaff of the wheat plant, it must also be separated from any weeds (think: "tares") that could cause it to rot.

*If you take another look at the four passages from the Gospel of Matthew that I showed you, you will find that all of them describe an exclusion of some folks who think they have no reason to be concerned. The Truth is, what you don't know can kill you. If the End of the Age really is upon us, as many in the Church purport to believe, one would think now is the time for diligence in seeking to know what is true rather than dawdling and dalliance with the world. But that's another matter. For now, it is only important that you understand Planet Earth—"The Woman" who is the "City," Mystery Babylon—is headed for a "fall." ("No Need for a Boa, the Constrictor Is on His 'Way,'" **The Voice of Elijah**®, October 2012, p. 15)*

After I quoted the Parable of the Wise Man, I said this about the meaning of that parable:

Did you notice that, right before Jesus describes the "fall" of Satan's "house," He not only mentions a "harvest," but also an outright rejection of folks who are absolutely convinced they have a lock on Heaven? He is talking about the very same events that He described in the Parable of the Virgins and the Parable of the Tares. That is precisely what John is describing in Revelation 14. So pay attention: The significance of the Parable of the Wise Man is hidden in the parabolic images of "The House," a "Rock," "sand," and "Rain."

Keeping in mind the fact that the Hebrew idiom "build a house" actually means "engender a son," just think of it this "Way": Satan has assiduously striven to "build" his "house" over the past 2000 years; and the

Lord has just as assiduously striven to "build" His. Unfortunately, Satan has "built" his "house" on an unending series of lies ("tares"/"sand") and the liars ("tares"/"sand") who believe them; while the Lord has "built" His "House" on the Living Word of God—which is "the Rock" of one coherent body of Truth—and those who believe the Truth of that Living Word. The "Rain"? That's just what happens when a drought finally ends. So let's just wait and see if the ridiculous shenanigans of the "prophets of Baal" can actually make it "rain."

Don't be dense! Take your head out of the "sand" and take a good, long look around you. Can you honestly say that you see all that much agreement among the individual grains of "sand" that have kept Satan's "house" from "falling"? The agreement ain't there, and it never will be. But before "the fall" of Satan's "house," those who believe "the Rock" of the Truth of the Living Word of God will be in absolute agreement regarding the things they know and believe.

In Revelation 14, John is merely telling us that after True Believers gain a complete understanding of the Truth, the lies that Satan has "sown" in the world at large are going to accomplish precisely what God intended all along. That is, civilization is going to rush headlong over "the brink" just because political leaders are too stupid to agree on what needs to be done to keep them and everyone else from going over "the brink." We aren't there yet, but we soon will be. The "time of distress" that Jesus alluded to in His explanation of the Parable of the Tares has only just begun.

*("No Need for a Boa, the Constrictor Is on His 'Way,'" **The Voice of Elijah**®, October 2012, p. 16)*

Revelation 15

I began my commentary on the things that John tells us in Revelation 15 by telling you this:

Revelation 15 is a parabolic description of the "ordination" of the heavenly "tabernacle" after it has been "built." That is, in this chapter John is describing the spiritual union of True Believers with "The One" Who is "The House" of the Living Word of God. But, since it is impossible for anyone to fully understand what John says in this chapter without an understanding of all the parabolic imagery in The Teaching of Moses, I won't even try to explain it. I will simply tell you he is parabolically describing the reality to which the parabolic pantomime

described in Exodus 40 points.

(*"The Song of Moses' Has Eight-Part Harmony," The Voice of Elijah®*, January 2013, p. 10)

After giving you my interim translation of Exodus 40:1–38, I said this:

As you may have noticed, I did not translate the Hebrew term that is normally translated "ark" the "way" it is normally translated. Instead, since I am in the process of "standardizing" a translation of the Scriptures, I just translated it "The Way" it is normally translated in this passage.

(*"The Song of Moses' Has Eight-Part Harmony," The Voice of Elijah®*, January 2013, p. 11)

Then I showed you the Hebrew term that is normally translated "ark" is translated "coffin" in this verse:

[Then [Joseph] died] [a Son] {of} [a hundred] [and ten] [Years]; [so they embalmed] [him] [and put {him}] [in a Coffin] [in Egypt].

(Genesis 50:26) —my interim translation

After I showed you that, I said this:

Let me explain something plainly for the benefit (or detriment) of those who may still be "sitting on the fence" with regard to believing the things I have been explaining over the years: God called me to restore The Apostolic Teaching and teach those who really want to know the Truth. He did not call me to make it easy for anyone to understand, much less accept, the things I teach. Consequently, because dimwits will always be what dimwits have always been, you will find the Truth in what I write is more often than not stated just "The Way" Isaiah said it would be.

(*"The Song of Moses' Has Eight-Part Harmony," The Voice of Elijah®*, January 2013, p. 11)

Then, after I quoted what the Prophet Isaiah says in Isaiah 28:9–13 about "The Way" the Prophets scattered bits and pieces of the Truth of *The Teaching of Moses* throughout their writings, I issued a warning to anyone who might be tempted to "explain" the things I teach by "summarizing" them for others who have a hard time understanding them. Then I began to explain the Truth a bit more openly:

In accordance with the parabolic imagery of the Passover Parable, the "tabernacle" that the sons of Israel constructed under the direction of Moses was actually a portable mortuary. There; I said it. The sons of Israel were, in parabolic pantomime, carrying around a coffin that contained the "dead body" of the Living Word of God etched in stone. But to understand the Truth regarding the death and Resurrection of "The One" Who is, was, and always will be the Living Word of God, you must always keep in mind the fact that the true "tabernacle"—the One that was parabolically depicted by the "tabernacle" that Moses "built"—is in Heaven. But even then you must learn to think inside the box. That is, you have to understand how the contents of the coffin parabolically depict the dead body of "The Man" Jesus Christ. Only then will you be able to master The Teaching of Moses. And I can tell you right now, that ain't gonna happen if you are doing even the slightest bit of "explaining" to others the things you learn from me.

If you are willing to listen, learn, and believe the Truth, you will eventually come to a comprehensive knowledge of The Teaching of Moses. Only then will you be able to fully appreciate the fact that the sacrificial cult of ancient Israel was nothing more than a parabolic explanation of how and why the Living Word of God "died," and what He had to do to be resurrected. That is, the parabolic rituals of the priesthood were instituted to fully explain why Jesus Christ left "The Light" of the "Land of the Living" to willingly come down here into "the darkness" to completely convince some of those who have already been condemned to unwillingly die the second death. But it does so by speaking parabolically in terms of the Passover Parable.

(*"The Song of Moses' Has Eight-Part Harmony," The Voice of Elijah®*, January 2013, pp. 12–13)

You see, The Teaching of Moses parabolically explains how the King of Israel—"The One" Who was none other than Corporate Israel Himself—parabolically died and made His trek through the realm of the dead. Actually, "was crucified" is a more accurate "way" of describing the death of Christ; I just said "died" so that I could turn around and emphasize "The Way" that Corporate Israel died. Anyway, after His parabolic death, the parabolic "body" of the King of Israel was placed inside a portable coffin inside a portable mortuary, and He began His parabolic trek through the parabolic realm of the dead—just like the Pharaoh in

ancient Egyptian mythology.

("The Song of Moses' Has Eight-Part Harmony," **The Voice of Elijah**®, January 2013, p. 13)

According to ancient Egyptian mythology, the deceased Pharaoh could only be resurrected after all eight parts of his person were "gathered" and brought back to life at the conclusion of their trek through the realm of the dead. You are undoubtedly already familiar with the body, soul, and spirit just because those are the Greek concepts reflected in the New Testament. My task is to explain the Hebrew/Egyptian concept that is reflected in the Old Testament and then tell you how the other five parts of a person fit into the "big picture."

("The Song of Moses' Has Eight-Part Harmony," **The Voice of Elijah**®, January 2013, p. 13)

In accordance with the beliefs inherent in ancient Egyptian mythology, the parabolic imagery of The Teaching of Moses explains how all eight parts of the Person of Jesus Christ have been, or will be, "gathered" after the Living Word of God has made His trek through history to be resurrected and become King over all others who have successfully found and followed "The Way" out of the realm of the dead.

("The Song of Moses' Has Eight-Part Harmony," **The Voice of Elijah**®, January 2013, p. 14)

At the time of His Resurrection, the physical body of Jesus Christ was immediately snatched up into Heaven where it now lies in the coffin in the true "tabernacle." I'm speaking parabolically, of course; and the parabolic imagery explains that all His other "parts" have yet to be "gathered" and united with that physical body. Those other parts are still in the realm of the dead, along with His Spirit, which is actively seeking to find and be reunited with the members of His Body—that is, True Believers—who are parabolically depicted as both "The Woman" and "The Name." Consequently, you will find John speaking in terms of those two parabolic images in the Book of Revelation.

("The Song of Moses' Has Eight-Part Harmony," **The Voice of Elijah**®, January 2013, p. 14)

After I explained that, I said Revelation 15:1–8 is a description of "the appointed time" for the reunion of all eight parts of the Body of Jesus Christ in the heavenly "tabernacle" and then told you this:

In that passage, John is parabolically describing events that are going to occur after True Believers ("The Woman"/"The Name") have been spiritually united with the Spirit of Jesus Christ in preparation for those parts being united with all the other parts of His Person. But take note: That union will occur only after those who are alive at the End of the Age have come to a complete understanding of The Teaching of Moses. ("The Song of Moses' Has Eight-Part Harmony," **The Voice of Elijah**®, January 2013, p. 14)

Revelation 16

I introduced Revelation 16 this way:

Before you can even begin to understand what John says in this chapter, you first need to know how it fits together with what he has already said. The Truth is, He is parabolically explaining how, right before the End of the Age, the Living Word of God is going to ratchet up the debilitating "constriction" that He began to impose on "The Harlot" Planet Earth as each of the seven messengers sounded their "trumpets" in Revelation 8–11. That is, he is continuing with the recapitulation of Revelation 6–11 that he began in Revelation 12.

("The Song of Moses' Has Eight-Part Harmony," **The Voice of Elijah**®, January 2013, p. 16)

The seven messengers who "pour out" the contents of seven "bowls" that contain seven different "beatings" is a parabolic description of an intensification of the "constrictions" the Living Word of God imposed after each of the messengers sounded a "trumpet" in Revelation 8–11. ("The Song of Moses' Has Eight-Part Harmony," **The Voice of Elijah**®, January 2013, p. 16)

To demonstrate the Truth of the things that I told you, I pointed out the parallel passages in which the following things are the recipients of the wrath of the Almighty God:

THE EARTH

(Revelation 8:7)

(Revelation 16:2)

THE SEA

(Revelation 8:8–9)

(Revelation 16:3)

THE "WATERS"

(Revelation 8:10–11)

(Revelation 16:4)

THE SUN

(Revelation 8:12)

(Revelation 16:8)

THE KINGDOM OF THE ANTICHRIST

(Revelation 9:1)

(Revelation 16:10)

THE "EUPHRATES"

(Revelation 9:13–14)

(Revelation 16:12)

THE END OF THE AGE

(Revelation 11:15)

(Revelation 16:17–18)

I concluded by pointing out Hebrews 12:25–26 and telling you that you might want to consider taking the advice offered there.

Revelation 17

Regarding this chapter, I told you that, before going any further, you needed to know what "beast" John had in mind when he wrote this:

[And] [He carried me away] [in] [Spirit], [into] [a Desert]; [and] [I saw] [a Woman] [who was sitting] [on] [a [scarlet] Beast], [{a beast} that is full of] [The Names] {of} [False Religious Claims], [{a beast} that has] [seven] [Heads] [and] [ten] [Horns].

(Revelation 17:3) —my interim translation

I told you the "beast" John had in mind is the same "beast" that he describes in Chapter 13:

¹³[And] [when] [The Sea Serpent] [saw] [that] [he had been thrown] [to] [The Earth], [he pursued] [The Woman] [Who] [gave birth to] [The Male]. ¹⁴[And] [The [two] Wings] {of} [The Eagle]—[the [big] {one}]—[were given to] [The Woman] [so that] [she could fly] [into] [The Desert], [to] [The Place] [she has], [where] [She is provided food] [there] {for} [a Time] [and] [Times] and [half] [a Time], [away from] [The Snake's] [Face]. ¹⁵[And] [The

Snake] [threw] [Water] [out of] [The Mouth] [he had] [like] [a River] [behind] [The Woman], [so that] [he might make] [her] [be carried away by a river*]. ¹⁶[And] [The Earth] [helped] [The Woman], [and] [The Earth] [opened] [The Mouth] [she had]; [and] [swallowed up] [The River] [that] [The Sea Serpent] [threw] [out of] [The Mouth] [he had]. ¹⁷[And] [The Sea Serpent] [became angry] [at] [The Woman], [and] [he went away] [to make] [War] [with] [The Others] {of} [The Seed] [she has]—[the {ones} who are keeping watch over] [The Commandments] {of} [The {Living} God] [and] [who have] [The Testimony] {of} [Jesus], ¹[and] [he stood still] [on] [The Sand] {of} [The Sea]. [And] [I saw] [a Beast] [that was coming up] [out of] [The Sea]—[{one} that has] [ten] [Horns] [and] [seven] [Heads]. [And] [ten] [Diadems] {are} [on] [The Horns] [he has], [and] [Names] {of} [a False Religious Claim] {are} [on] [The Heads] [he has]. ²[And] [The Beast] [that] [I saw] [was] [just like] [a Leopard*]; [and] [The Feet] [it had], [like] [a Bear*]; [and] [The Mouth] [it had], [like] [The Mouth] {of} [a Lion]. [And] [The Sea Serpent] [gave] [it] [The Power] [he had] [and] [The Throne] [he had] [and] [a [great] Authority]. ³[And] [one] [of] [The Heads] [it had] {was} [like] [{one} who had been slaughtered] [to] [Death], [and] [The Beating] {of} [The Death] [it had] [was tended to]. [And] [The [entire] Earth] [following] [The Beast] [was amazed], ⁴[and] [they bowed down to] [The Sea Serpent] [because] [he gave] [The Authority] [to] [The Beast]; [and] [they bowed down to] [The Beast], [saying], "[Who] {is} [just like] [The Beast], [and] [who] [is able] [to wage war] [with] [it]?"

(Revelation 12:13–13:4) —my interim translation

Then I explained a bit more about the "beast" who is yet to come:

First, let's talk about the "sea serpent." I have already told you that the Septuagint translation of the Hebrew Scriptures used the Greek term **drakon** to translate the Hebrew term **tannin**. That identifies the "sea serpent" that John mentions in that passage as the mythical **Leviathan**, which is mentioned in the Hebrew Scriptures. The Hebrew term transliterated as **leviathan** is equivalent to the Canaanite **lotan**, which is described in Canaanite mythology as a giant seven-headed snake that lives in the sea. Therefore, the question is, How does "the beast" that came up out of "the sea" come to have the same seven-headed characteristic as "the

sea serpent" that lives in "the sea"? The answer lies in the Greek term translated "beast."

("Scoffers Delight in Scoffing; Fools Hate Knowledge," **The Voice of Elijah**®, April 2013, p. 13)

I told you the Greek term *therion* is normally translated "beast" throughout the New Testament; but I also showed you Luke uses the term in Acts 28:5 to refer to a snake. Then I said this:

*It should be obvious from that passage that the English term **beast** does not adequately capture the essence of the Greek term **therion**. The Truth is, that term was used by the Greeks to refer to any creature that posed a threat to mankind. Accordingly, several Greek authors use the term to refer to a shark—that is, a "sea monster." So now you know why it could easily be used to refer to a snake that came up out of "the sea" to live on land. But to understand which "sea" John had in mind, one also needs to know the Greek term **therion** occurs in the Septuagint translation of the following passage as a translation of the Aramaic term **chevah**, which I have standardized as "beast" in the Hebrew Scriptures.*

("Scoffers Delight in Scoffing; Fools Hate Knowledge," **The Voice of Elijah**®, April 2013, p. 14)

I then showed you what Daniel says about four "beasts" who came up out of "the great sea":

¹[In Year] [one] [of Belshazzar], [King] {of} [Babylon], [Daniel] [watched] [a Dream] [and Visions] [in his Head] [on his Bed]. [When then] [he wrote down] [The Dream], [he [first] stated] [{the} Things That Were Uttered]. ²[Daniel] [responded] [and said]: "[While watching] [in my Vision] [during] [The Night], [then lo and behold!] [four] [Spirits] {of} [The Sea of Waters] [were churning up*] [The [great] Sea]. ³[And Four] [great] [Beasts] [were coming up] [out of] [The Sea]. [This {one}] [was different] [from] [that {one}]. ⁴[The first] {was} [like a Lion], [and [it had] Wings] [of] [a Griffon-Vulture]. [And I was] [watching] [until] [its Wings] [were scoured off], [and it was raised up] [out of] [The Earth] [and [was made to stand] on] [two Feet] [like a Mortal Man]. [And a Heart] {of} [a Mortal Man] [was given] [to it]. ⁵[And lo and behold!] [another] [Beast], [a second {one}*], {was} [similar] [to a Bear*]. [And it was made to stand] [to [one] Side*], [and three] [Ribs*] {were} [in its Mouth]—[between] [its Teeth]. [And so]

[they said] [to it]: '[You must stand up]! [You must eat] [a lot of] [Flesh]!'

⁶[After] [this] [I was] [watching], [and lo and behold!] [another] {was} [like a Leopard], [and it had] [four] [Wings] [of] [a Flyer] [on] [its Back*]. [And The Beast had] [four] [Heads], [and Dominion] [was given] [to it]. ⁷[After] [this] [I was] [watching] [in Visions] {of} [The Night], [and lo and behold!] [a [fourth] Beast]—[fearful] [and terrifying] [and [extremely] powerful]; [and [it had] [huge] [iron] Teeth]. [It consumed] [and crushed] [and trampled down] [The Remnant] [with its Feet], [but it] [was different] [from] [all] [The Beasts] [that {were}] [before it], [and [it had] [ten] Horns]. ⁸[I was] [gaining insight] [from] [The Horns], [and lo!] [another] [little*] [Horn] [came up] [between them]! [And three] [of] [The [first] Horns] [were rooted up*] [from] [before it]; [and lo!] [Eyes] [like The Eyes] {of} [The Mortal Man] {were} [in [this] Horn], [and a Mouth] [uttering] [great {things}]."

(Daniel 7:1–8) —my interim translation

After I showed you what Daniel wrote about the fourth "beast" in Daniel 7, I identified the "sea" from which the "beast" in Revelation 13 will emerge. I said this:

Just in case anyone needs the Truth explained in more detail, the "sea" from which "the Beast" is going to emerge is the "Sea of Waters." That is, he will come out from the place we normally call "Heaven." The point is, ... John is describing the point in time at which the "sea serpent" Satan becomes incarnate in the body of a man. He mentions the characteristics of the leopard, bear, and lion as a link to Daniel 7 so that his reader will understand Satan is going to exhibit the same characteristics he exhibited on the three other occasions he felt it necessary to take on the form of a man.

("Scoffers Delight in Scoffing; Fools Hate Knowledge," **The Voice of Elijah**®, April 2013, pp. 15–16)

Revelation 18

Concerning this chapter, I told you this:

John is describing the extinction of the civilization on Planet Earth. Scoffers will choose to believe it is impossible that such a thing could ever happen. Unfortunately, the Truth is concealed behind a parabolic image in which the Earth

is viewed corporately as a “harlot” who has produced children who are not God’s Children. The Apostle Peter described that event in detail (2 Pet. 3:1–13) because he understood what Zephaniah said in that regard.
 (“Scoffers Delight in Scoffing; Fools Hate Knowledge,” **The Voice of Elijah**®, April 2013, p. 17)

I then showed you what Zephaniah said about the extinction of the civilization on Planet Earth:

²“[I will [most definitely] bring [everything] to an end] [From on] [The Surface] {of} [The Ground],”
 [declares] [His Majesty].
³“[I will bring [Adam] [and] [Beast] to an end].
 [I will bring [The Flyer] {of} [The Sea of Waters] to an end],
 [And The Fish] {of} [The Sea],
 [And The Stumbling-Blocks]
 [along with] [the [guilty] {ones}].
 [And I will cut off] [The Adam] [from on] [The Surface] {of} [The Ground],” [declares] [His Majesty].
 (Zephaniah 1:2–3) —my interim translation

“[Therefore], [wait] [for Me],” [declares] [His Majesty],
 “[For The Day] [when I rise up] [as a Witness].
 [Because] [The Judgment I have] {is}
 [to round up] [Gentiles],
 [To gather] [Kingdoms],
 [To pour out] [The Fury I have] [on] [them]—
 [All] [The Burning] {of} [The Anger I have].
 [Because] [all] [The Earth] [will be consumed]
 [In The Fire] {of} [The Jealousy I have].”
 (Zephaniah 3:8) —my interim translation

Now that I have explained the essence of the bleak message the Book of Revelation holds for those who are not aware of what is going to happen over the next few years, let’s take a look at what John says next.

Revelation 19—Text

¹[After] [these {things}], [I heard {something}] [like] [a [loud] Voice] {of} [a [big] Crowd] [in] [The Heaven], [saying]: “[Praise His Majesty!] [The Salvation] [and] [The Glory] [and] [The Power] {belong to} [The {Living} God] [we have]:
²(1) [BECAUSE] [THE SENTENCES] [HE HAS] {are} [TRUE] [AND] [FAIR]! (2) [Because] [He has judged]

[The Harlot]—[the [great] {one}] [who] [was corrupting] [The Earth] [with] [The Sexual Promiscuity] [she had], [and] [HE HAS TAKEN VENGEANCE FOR] [THE BLOOD] {of} [THE SLAVES] [HE HAS] [BECAUSE OF] [HER] [HAND]!”

³[And] [a second {time}] [they said], “[Praise His Majesty!]” [And]: “[THE SMOKE] [SHE HAS] [GOES UP] [INTO] [THE AGES] {of} [THE AGES]!”
⁴[And] [The [twenty]-[four] Elders] [and] [The [four] Living Creatures] [fell down] [and] [bowed down to] [The {Living} God] [Who] [is sitting] [on] [The Throne], [saying], “[Without doubt]! [Praise His Majesty!]” ⁵[And] [a Voice] [came out] [from] [The Throne] [saying], “[You— [all] [The Slaves] [He has] [who] [are afraid of] [Him], [the] [little] [and] [the] [big]—must praise [The {Living} God] [we have]!”

⁶[And] [I heard {something}] [like] [a Sound] {of} [a [large] Crowd], [even] [like] [a Sound] {of} [many] [Waters], [even] [like] [a Sound] {of} [a [mighty] Rolling Thunder], [saying]: “[Praise His Majesty!] [Because] [His Majesty], [The {Living} God] [we have], [The Almighty], [is king]! ⁷[Let’s rejoice] [and] [be jubilant] [and] [give] [Him] [The Glory] [because] [The Wedding] {of} [The Little Lamb] [has come] [and] [The Woman] [He has] [has prepared] [Herself]!” ⁸[And] [it was given to] [Her] [that] [She could wrap herself in {something}] [made of fine linen], [splendid], [clean]! [For] [the {thing}] [made of fine linen] [is] [The Judicial Decisions] {of} [the [holy] {ones}]!

⁹[And] [he tells] [me], “[You must write]: ‘[Fortunate] {are} [the {ones} who have been invited] [to] [The Evening Meal] {of} [The Wedding] {of} [The Little Lamb]!’” [And] [he tells] [me], “[These] [are] [The [true] Words] {of} [The {Living} God]!”

¹⁰[And] [I fell down] [in front of] [The Feet] [he had] [to bow down to] [him], [and] [he tells] [me]: “[No]! [See]! [I am] [a Fellow Slave] {with} [You] [and] [The Brothers] [you have]—[the {ones} who have] [The Testimony] {of} [Jesus]! [You must bow down to] [The {Living} God], [for] [The Testimony] {of} [Jesus] [is] [The Spirit] {of} [The Prophecies].”

¹¹[And] [I saw] [The Heaven] [had been opened], [and] [Look!] [A [white] Horse]! [and]

[the {One} Who was sitting] [on] [him] [is called] “[Believable] [and] [True].” [And] [He judges] [and] [wages war] [by] [a Declaration of Not Guilty]. ¹²[But] [The Eyes] [He has] {are} [like] [a Flame] {of} [Fire], [and] [many] [Diadems] {are} [on] [The Head] [He has], [Who has] [a Name] [that has been written], [which] [nobody] [is aware of] [except] [Him], ¹³[and] [{a Name} that has been wrapped in] [an Overgarment] [that has been dipped in] [Blood]. [And] [The Name] [He has] [is called] “[The Word] {of} [The {Living} God].”

¹⁴[And] [The Troops] [in] [The Heaven] [who had slipped on {something}] [made of fine linen], [clean], [white], [were following] [Him] [on] [white] [Horses]. ¹⁵[A {keen} Saber] [came out] [of] [The Mouth] [He had], [so that] [He might repeatedly strike] [The Nations] [with] [her]. [And] [He] [will shepherd] [them] [with] [a Staff] [of iron]! [And] [He] [is trampling] [The Wine Press] {of} [The Wine] {of} [The Rage] {of} [The Anger] {of} [The {Living} God], [The Almighty]! ¹⁶[And] [on] [The Overgarment] [and] [on] [The Thigh*] [He has], [He has] [a Name] [that has been written]: “[KING] {of} [KINGS] AND [LORD] {of} [LORDS].”

¹⁷[And] [I saw] [one] [Messenger] [standing] [in] [The Sun] [and] [shouting] [in] [a loud] [Voice], [telling] [all] [The Birds] [that] [are flying] [in] [Midheaven]: “[Come here]! [You must gather yourselves] [for] [The Evening Meal]—[the {big} {one}]—{of} [The {Living} God], ¹⁸[so that] [you may eat] [Flesh] {of} [Kings] [and] [Flesh] {of} [Commanders of a Thousand] [and] [Flesh] {of} [mighty {ones}] [and] [Flesh] {of} [Horses] [and] [the {ones} who are sitting] [on] [them], [and] [Flesh] {of} [everyone], [both] [free] [and] [Slave], [little] [and] [big]!”

¹⁹[And] [I saw] [The Beast] [and] [The Kings] {of} [The Earth] [and] [The Troops] [they had] [who had been gathered] [to make] [The War] [with] [the {One} Who was sitting] [on] [The Horse] [and] [with] [The Troops] [He had]. ²⁰[And] [The Beast] [was laid hold of], [and] [with] [him] [The False Prophet] [who] [made] [The Signs] [before] [him], [by] [which] [he led astray] [the {ones} who received] [The Mark] {of} [The Beast] [and] [the {ones} who bowed

down to] [The Image] [he has]. [The] [two] [were thrown], [while {still} living], [into] [The Lake] {of} [The Fire] [that] [is burning] [with] [Sulfur]. ²¹[And] [The Others] [were killed] [by] [The Saber] {of} [the {One} Who is sitting] [on] [The Horse]—[the {saber} that] [came out] [of] [The Mouth] [He had]. [And] [all] [The Birds] [were satiated] [by] [The Flesh] [they had].

Revelation 19—Commentary

In my comments up to this point, I have not been pointing out where the text of the Book of Revelation quotes or alludes to something stated in the Old Testament. I plan to remedy that in the future by providing a more comprehensive commentary on the text. In the meantime, what I say here will have to suffice.

In this chapter, there are various references to Old Testament passages, but I will only point out a few. I am going to quote those passages in full and point to their *significance* simply because it is absolutely impossible for anyone to fully appreciate the message of the Book of Revelation without a basic understanding of the things stated in the Old Testament passages to which the text points. John refers to both Psalm 19 and Deuteronomy 32 in verse 2:

¹[After] [these {things}], [I heard {something}] [like] [a loud] [Voice] {of} [a {big} Crowd] [in] [The Heaven], [saying]: “[Praise His Majesty]! [The Salvation] [and] [The Glory] [and] [The Power] {belong to} [The {Living} God] [we have]: ²(1) [BECAUSE] [THE SENTENCES] [HE HAS] {are} [TRUE] [AND] [FAIR]! (2) [Because] [He has judged] [The Harlot]—[the {great} {one}] [who] [was corrupting] [The Earth] [with] [The Sexual Promiscuity] [she had], [and] [HE HAS TAKEN VENGEANCE FOR] [THE BLOOD] {of} [THE SLAVES] [HE HAS] [BECAUSE OF] [HER] [HAND]!”

(Revelation 19:1–2) —my interim translation

The phrase “the sentences He has {are} true” is a reference to Psalm 19:9. Here is my interim translation:

¹[Dedicated] [to The Illustrious One],
[a Melody] [for David]:
[The Sea of Waters] [recounts] [The Glory] {of} [God],
[And] [The Expanse] [tells] [What] [His Hands] [Have Made].
²[Every Day] [articulates] [a Statement],

[And Every Night] [communicates] [Knowledge].
³[There is no] [Statement],
 [And there are no] [Words],
 [Without] [their Voice] [being heard].
⁴[Their Line] [is going out] [in all] [The Earth],
 [And their Utterances] [to the End] {of} [The World].
 [He has put] [a Tent] [for The Sun] [in them],
⁵[And He] {is} [like a Bridegroom] [going out]
 [from His Bridal Tent Canopy];
 [He is elated] [to be running] [a Path] [like a **Gibbor**].
⁶[The Place Where He Goes Out]
 {is} [from the End] {of} [The Sea of Waters],
 [And His Turning] {is} [at] [their Ends],
 [And there is nothing] [hidden] [from His Heat].
⁷[The Teaching] {of} [His Majesty] {is} [complete]—
 [What restores] [a Soul];
 [The Testimonies] {of} [His Majesty]
 {are} [worthy of belief]—
 [What makes [a Moron] wise].
⁸[The Precepts] {of} [His Majesty] {are} [right]—
 [What makes [a Heart] rejoice];
 [The Commandment] {of} [His Majesty] {is}
 [unadulterated]—
 [What enlightens] [{the} Eyes].
⁹[The Fear] {of} [His Majesty] {is} [clean]—
 [What stands] [Forever];
[The Decisions] {of} [His Majesty] {are} [true];
[Together], [they declare {one} not guilty]—
¹⁰[The {decisions} that are more desirable] [than Gold],
 [Even more than [much] Refined Gold];
 [Those that are sweeter] [than Honey],
 [Even [the Raw Honey] {of} Honeycombs].
¹¹[Indeed], [Your Slave] [is being enlightened] [by them]—
 [More than enough] [Consequence]
 [in standing watch over them].
¹²[Who] [would understand] [Ignorant Mistakes*]?
 [He will acquit me of] [hidden {things}].
¹³[He will [even] hold [Your Slave] back]
 [from arrogant {acts}];
 [They must [not] have control] [over me].
 [At that time] [I will be complete],
 [And I will be acquitted]
 [of [more than enough] Transgression].
¹⁴[The Statements] {of} [my Mouth]
 [and the Soothing Melody] {of} [my Heart]
 [Will have] [Goodwill] [before You],
 [Your Majesty]—[my Rock] [and my Redeemer].
 (Psalm 19:1–14) —my interim translation

Let me summarize what the psalmist is saying. It is quite easy to understand if you have insight into a simple Truth in regard to the relationship between “spirit” and light. That Truth goes directly to the heart of the things John says in Revelation 19 about Jesus Christ as the *Living Word of God*. I may not have explained the basis for the following statements in any context outside The Next Step program. If not, so be it. The time has come for me to state openly some of the things I have been explaining privately for many years:

“The ‘Spirit’ of the Living Word of God—the Truth of The Teaching—exists in the fifth dimension, which is nothing other than the light particles (photons) that flash back and forth across the entire length of the universe (‘like a Bridegroom’). When the Believer hears and believes the Truth of the Living Word of God that runs the entire length of that dimension (‘like a Bridegroom’), his ‘spirit’ becomes ‘one’ with that ‘Spirit’ of Truth in the very small slice of the fifth dimension that exists within him, which is nothing other than the light particles (photons) that flash back and forth across the synapses in his nervous system. His belief in, and unity with, the Truth of the ‘Spirit’ of the Living Word that he has heard and believed will result in a declaration of not guilty and his acquittal before God on Judgment Day.”

Now that I have stated that bit of Truth openly to tweak the nose of any ignorant numbskull who might happen to be reading this, let me go a bit further and see if I can’t send him into a fit of absolute apoplexy. I have stated in various contexts that, at the End of this Age, the Redeemed of the Lord will sing “*The Song of Moses*” with complete understanding of the meaning and significance of the things Moses stated in that song. That is what John is describing when he says this:

¹[And] [I saw] [another] [great] [and] [amazing] [Sign] [in] [The Heaven]: [Seven] [Messengers] [who have] [seven] [Beatings]—[the [last] {ones}], [because] [in] [them] [The Rage] {of} [The {Living} God] [was completed]. ²[And] [I saw {something}] [like] [a Sea] [made of glass] [that had been mingled] [by] [Fire], [and] [the {ones} who triumph] [over] [The Beast] [and] [over] [The Image] [he has] [and] [over] [The Number] {of} [The Name] [he has]—[those who have] [Harps] {of} [The {Living} God]—[standing] [on] [The Sea] [that was] [made of glass]. ³[And] [they are singing] “[The

Song] {of} [Moses],” [The Slave] {of} [The {Living} God], [and] “[The Song] {of} [The Little Lamb].”
(Revelation 15:1–3a) —my interim translation

Now is not the time to explain the *meaning* and *significance* of “The Song of Moses,” but I will give you an interim translation of it, just because John alludes to Deuteronomy 32:35–43 in Revelation 19:2:

¹“[Give ear to] [O Sea of Waters], [and I will speak];
[Then [The Earth] will hear]

[{the} Statements] {of} [My Mouth].

²[My Instruction] [will mist] [like Rain];
[My Statements] [will flow] [like The Dew]—
[Like Droplets*] [on] [Green Grass],
[And like Soaking Rain Showers] [on] [Vegetation].

³[When] [I proclaim] [His Majesty’s] [Name],
[Attribute] [Greatness] [to our God]—
⁴[The Rock]. [The Deed He Has Done] {is} [complete]—
[Because] [all] {of} [His Ways] {are} [a Decision] {of}
[A God] {of} [Truth] [and without any] [Deviance],
[He] {is} [One Who Is Not Guilty] [and upright].

⁵[A Slime Pit] {is} [for Him], [not] [His Sons];
[Their Defect] {is}
[a [distorted] [and perverted*] Generation].

⁶[Would you cause] [this] [for His Majesty],
[Senseless] [and not] [wise] [People]?
[Is He] [not] [Your Father]—

[{the One} Who acquired You]?
[He] [will make You] [and prepare You].

⁷[Remember] [{the} Days] {of} [an Eternal Burning]!
[Understand] [{the} Years] {of} [Generation]
[after Generation]!

[Ask [Your Father] about {it}], [and he will tell You];
[Your Elders], [and they will say] [to You]:

⁸[When [Elyon] bestows an **inheritance** on] [Gentiles]—
[When He separates] [{the} Sons] {of} [Adam]—
[He will set up] [{the} Boundaries] {for} [Peoples]
[According to {the} Number]
{of} [{the} Sons] {of} [Israel].

⁹[Because] [His Majesty’s] [Share] {is} [His People],
[Jacob] {is} [{the} Region] {of} [His **Inheritance**].

¹⁰[He will find Him] [in The Earth]—[a Wilderness];
[Even in {the} [howling*] Wasteland]
{of} [a Desolate Region].

[He will surround Him];
[He will provide Him understanding];
[He will guard Him] [like The Pupil] {of} [His Eye].

¹¹[He will wake up] [His Nest] [like a Griffon-Vulture];
[He will hover] [over] [His Young Birds];
[He will spread out] [His Wings]; [He will take Him];
[He will carry Him] [on] [His Flight Feathers].

¹²[His Majesty] [alone] [will lead Him],
[And there will not be any] [foreign] [God] [with Him].

¹³[He will make Him ride] [above] [Earth’s] [High Places],
[So that He may eat] [{the} Yield] {of} [**Shaddai**];
[He will make Him suck] [Honey] [from a Crag]—
[Even Oil] [from flint] [Rock],

¹⁴[Curds] {from} [Cattle] [and Milk] {from} [a Flock],
[Along with {the} Fat] {of} [Young Rams] [and Rams]—
[{The} Sons] {of} [a Snake]—[and Billy Goats],
[Along with {the} Fat]

{of} [{the} Kidneys] {of} [Wheat];
[And [You will drink] [Fermenting Wine],
{the} Blood] {of} [a Grape].

¹⁵[Then [Jeshurun] will grow fat] [and become obese];
[You will grow fat]; [You will become thick];
[You will be flabby*];

[Then He will forsake] [{the} God] [Who made Him],
[And He will treat [{the} Rock]
{of} [His Salvation] foolishly].

¹⁶[They will make Him jealous] [with Strangers];
[They will exasperate Him] [with Abominations].

¹⁷[They will sacrifice communal offerings]
[to The Demons], [not] [God]—

[Gods] [whom they have [not] known];
[New {ones}] [will come] [from within];
[Your Fathers] [had [no] terror of them].

¹⁸[You will fail to remember*] [{the} Rock]
[Who engendered You],
[And You will forget] [{the} God]

[Who went through labor {with} You].

¹⁹[Then [His Majesty] will see],
[and He will treat {You} with contempt]

[Because of The Exasperating Activity]
{of} [His Sons] [and His Daughters].

²⁰[Then He will say]: “[I will hide] [My Face] [from them];
[I will see] [what] [their Outcome] {is},
[Because] [they] {are} [a Generation]
{of} [perverse {ones}]—

[Sons] [in whom] {there is} [no] [Truthfulness].

²¹[They] [will make Me jealous] [by {what is} not] [God];
[They will exasperate Me] [with their futile {thoughts}].
[So I] [will make them jealous]

[by {what is} not] [a People]—
[I will exasperate them] [with a [senseless] Nation].

²²[Because] [a Fire] [will be kindled] [by My Anger],
[And it will keep burning], [as far as] [The Lowest Parts]
{of} [The Sea of El].

[And it will consume] [Earth] [and her Produce],
[And set afire] [{the} Foundations] {of} [Mountains].

²³[I will sweep [Bad Things] up] [on them];
[I will finish off] [My Arrows] [on them].

²⁴[Among those] [emaciated*] {by} [Famine]
[and consumed] {by} [Flaming Arrow]
[I will send] [both a [bitter*] Stinging Rain]
[and {the} Teeth] {of} [Beasts],
[Along with] [{things} that slink back into] [{the} Dust].

²⁵[A Sword] [will cause bereavement] [on the outside],
[But on the insides], [Absolute Terror]—
[Both] [Chosen Son] [and] [Virgin],
[{One} who is nursing] [along with] [gray-haired] [Man].

²⁶[I will say], ‘[I will cut them into pieces];
[I will make [their Memory] keep Sabbath]—
[away from Mortal Man].’

²⁷[If it were not for] [{the} Exasperating Activity]
{of} [an Enemy], [I would reside temporarily]
[So that [His Adversaries] not] [recognize],
[So that they not] [say], ‘[Our Hand] [is raised up],
[And [His Majesty] has [not] put [all] [this] together].’

²⁸[Because] [their] [Plans]
{are} [a Nation] [going to **Abaddon**],
[But there is not any] [Understanding] [in them].

²⁹[If only] [they were wise],
[they would gain insight into] [this {song}];
[They would understand] [their Outcome].

³⁰[How] [could [One] pursue] [a Thousand],
[And two] [make [Ten Thousand] flee],
[If] [not] [that] [their Rock] [had sold them],
[And His Majesty] [had shut them up in prison]?]

³¹[Because] [their Rock] {is} [not] [like our Rock],
[But our Enemies] {are} [Those Who Make Decisions].

³²[Because] [their Vine]
{is} [from The Vine] {of} [Sodom],
[And from {the} Cultivated Fields] {of} [Gomorraah];
[His Grapes] {are} [poisonous] [Grapes]—
[They have] [bitter] [Clusters].

³³[Their Wine] {is} [{the} Rage] {of} [Sea Serpents],
[And a [venomous] Poison] {of} [Cobras].

³⁴[Is [it] [not] stored*] [with Me],
[Sealed up] [in My Storehouses]?]

³⁵[Vengeance] [and Retribution*] {are} [Mine],
[For a Time] [when [their Foot] slips];
[Because] [{the} Day] {of} [their Catastrophe] {is} [near],

[And [things gotten ready beforehand]
are moving quickly] [toward them].”

³⁶[Because] [His Majesty] [will adjudicate]
[His People’s] case],
[And [He will feel sorry] for] [His Slaves],
[Because] [He will see] [that] [a Hand] [has gone away],
[And there is nothing] [held back] [or abandoned].

³⁷[Then He will say]: “[Where] {are} [their Gods],
[{The} Rock] [in whom] [they took refuge]?]

³⁸[Who] [will eat] [{the} Fat]
{of} [their Communal Sacrifices]?
[Will drink] [{the} Wine] {of} [their Libations*]?
[Will rise up] [and help you]?
[Will be] [a Hiding Place] [for you]?]

³⁹[See] [now] [that] [I]—[I]!—{am} [He],
[And there is not any] [God] [with Me]!
[I] [put to death] [and I keep alive];
[I strike with a perfect blow] [and I] [heal],
[And there is not anyone] [who can snatch out]
[of My Hand].

⁴⁰[Because] [I will raise up] [My Hand]
[to] [{the} Sea of Waters]
[And I will say],
‘[I] {am} [alive] [for a Burning Eternity]!’

⁴¹[If] [I sharpen] [{the} Lightning Flashes]
{of} [My Sword],
[And [My Hand] takes hold] [of a Decision],
[I will return] [Vengeance] [to My Adversaries]
[And [I will settle up by giving {it} to those who hate Me].

⁴²[I will get [My Arrows] drunk] (1) [on Blood]—
[And My Sword] [will consume] [Flesh]—
(2) [On The Blood] {of} [{One} pierced] [and a Captive],
(3) [On {the} Poison]
{of} [an Enemy’s] [Representatives].

⁴³[Shout joyfully] [Gentiles]—[His People]—
[Because] [He will avenge] [{the} Blood]
{of} [His Slaves]

[And [He will return] Vengeance]
[to His Adversaries],
[And He will atone for] [His Ground]—[His People].”

⁴⁴[Then [Moses] came] [and spoke] [all] [{the}
Words] {of} [this] [Song] [in {the} Ears] {of} [The
People]—[He] [and Hosea], [Son] {of} [Nun]. ⁴⁵[When
[Moses] finished] [speaking] [all] [these] [Words] [to] [all]
[Israel], ⁴⁶[then he said] [to them], “[Take] [to your
Heart] [all] [The Words] [that] [I] [am testifying]
[against you] [Today], [which] [you must command]

[your Sons] [to stand watch over]—[to do] [all] [{the} Words] {of} [this] [Teaching]: ⁴⁷(1) [Because] [He] {is} [not] [an [empty] Word]; (2) [because] [He] {is} [your Life], [and by [this] Word] [you may extend] [Days] [on] [The Ground] [where] [you] [are crossing over] [The Jordan] [to take possession of her].”

⁴⁸[Then [His Majesty] spoke] [to] [Moses] [that] [very same] [Day], [saying]: ⁴⁹[Go up] [to] [this] [Mountain] {of} [The Abarim]—[Mount] [Nebo], [which] {is} [in {the} Earth] {of} [Moab], [which] {is} [in front of] [Jericho]—[and see] [{the} Earth] {of} [Canaan], [which] [I] [am giving] [to {the} Sons] {of} [Israel] [as Property]. ⁵⁰[Then You must die] [there] [on The Mountain] [that] [You] [are climbing] [and be rounded up] [to] [Your People]—[just as] [Your Brother] [Aaron] [died] [on [Mount] Hor] [and was rounded up] [to] [His People]— ⁵¹[because of] [when] [you {two} betrayed [My] trust] [in the Midst of] [{the} Sons] {of} [Israel] [at {the} Waters] {of} [Meribah] [Kadesh], [Wilderness] {of} [Zin], [because of] [when] [you did [not] treat [Me] as holy] [in the Midst of] [{the} Sons] {of} [Israel]. ⁵²[So] [You will see] [The Earth] [from right in front of {it}], [but] [You will [not] go in] there—[to] [The Earth] [that] [I] [am giving] [to {the} Sons] {of} [Israel].”
(Deuteronomy 32:1–52) —my interim translation

John refers to the last verse of “The Song of Moses” in Revelation 19:2 for precisely the same reason that Moses states in Deuteronomy 32:46–47—one should “take to heart” the words of the song. They are, in fact, a safeguard to anyone who understands their *meaning* and *significance*. If the leaders of the Early Church had not lost *The Apostolic Teaching*, Believers would still understand the terrifying import of what Moses says regarding the lies that Satan constantly seeks to instill in anyone who comes anywhere close to understanding the Truth. You should be able to get just a glimpse of that by what he says regarding Satan as both a poisonous “sea serpent” and a “vine” that yields “poisonous grapes.” All you need do then is overlay that *parabolic imagery* on the text of Revelation 12–18.

Revelation 19:3 contains the next reference to an Old Testament passage:

³[And] [a second {time}] [they said], “[Praise His Majesty!]” [And]: “[THE SMOKE] [SHE HAS] [GOES UP] [INTO] [THE AGES] {of} [THE AGES]!”
(Revelation 19:3) —my interim translation

That verse makes reference to Isaiah 34:10. But the future form of the verb “go up” that occurs in Isaiah 34:10 has been changed to the present form in Revelation 19:3 to indicate that the future has arrived, as will indeed be the case at that time. Isaiah is using *parabolic imagery* in Isaiah 34 to talk about the horrific plans God has for Planet Earth at the End of the Age:

¹[Nations]: [Come close] [to listen];
[And Kinfolk]: [Pay attention]!
[The Earth] [and her Fullness]—
[The World] [and all] [her Offspring]—[will hear]!
²[Because] [His Majesty has] [Wrath]
[against] [all] [The Nations],
[And a Rage] [against] [their [entire] Army]!
[He has put them under the ban]!
[He has given them up] [for Slaughter]!
³[So those of them who have been pierced]
[will be tossed],
[And their Dead Bodies] [will offer up] [their Stench]!
[Mountains] [will be dissolved] [with their Blood]!
⁴[And [the [entire] Army] {of} [The Sea of Waters]
[will rot]!
[The Sea of Waters] [will be rolled up] [like a Scroll],
[And their [entire] Army] [will droop]
[Like [Foliage] drooping] [from a Vine]!
[And like {foliage} drooping] [from a Fig Tree]!
⁵[Because] [My Sword] [will satisfy her thirst]
[in The Sea of Waters]!
[Look!] [She will come down] [on] [Edom]—
[Even on] [a People] [placed under My ban]—
[for Judgment]!
⁶[His Majesty’s] [Sword] [will be filled with] [Blood]!
[It will become saturated] [with The Fat],
[With The Blood], {of} [Young Rams] [and Billy Goats],
[With The Fat] {of} [Rams’] [Kidneys].
[Because] [His Majesty’s] [Communal Sacrifice]
{is} [in The Sheepfold],
[A [great] Slaughter] {is} [in the Earth] {of} [Edom]!
⁷[Wild Oxen] [will go down] [along with them],
[Even Bulls] [along with] [mighty {ones}]!
[Then their Earth] [will satisfy her thirst] [with Blood],
[And their Dust] [will be saturated] [with Fat]!
⁸[Because] [His Majesty has] [a Day]
{of} [Vengeance]—
[A Year] {of} [Reparation] [for [Zion’s] Argument]!
⁹[Then her Gullies] [will be turned into] [Pitch];
[And her Dust], [into Sulfur];

[And her Earth] [will become] [burning] [Pitch].
¹⁰[She will [not] be extinguished] [Night] [or Day]!
 [Her Smoke] [will ascend] [for a Burning Eternity]!
 [She will be waterless]
 [from Generation] [to Generation]—
 [for a Perpetuity] {of} [Perpetuities]!
 [Without any] [{one} who is crossing over] [in her]!
¹¹[Then [Pelican] [and Porcupine]
 will take possession of her]!
 [Owl] [and Crow] [will reside] [in her]!
 [Then He will stretch out] [over her]
 [A Line] {of} [a Wasteland] [and Stones] {of} [Emptiness]!
¹²[Her Nobles]—[there is nothing even] [there]
 [they would call] [Kingship]—
 [And all] [her Princes] [will be] [non-existent]!
¹³[Then [Thorn Bushes] will climb] [her Citadels];
 [Stinging Nettle] [and Thistle], [into her Fortresses]!
 [Then she will be] [{the} Habitat] {of} [Jackals]!
 [Grass] [for The Daughters] {of} [Greed]!
¹⁴[Then [Ocean-going Vessels]
 will encounter] [Coastal Lands],
 [And Seir] [will call] [upon] [His Neighbor],
 [But] [The Succubus*] [will immediately be] [there]!
 [And she will find] [a Resting Place] [for herself]!
¹⁵[A Tree Snake*] [will build a nest] [there],
 [But she will let {an egg} escape],
 [and it will hatch] [in her Shadow]!
 [Birds of Prey] [will [definitely] be gathered] [there]—
 [A Woman] [and Her Neighbors].
¹⁶[Diligently seek] [from on] [The Scroll]
 {of} [His Majesty] [and read]:
 [Not] [one] [of these] [will be missing]—
 [A Woman], [and Her Neighbors]—
 [Because] [a Mouth], [he] [will give a command];
 [And His Spirit], [He] [will gather them]!
¹⁷[And He] [will make [an Allotment] fall] [to them]!
 [And His Hand] [will allot Her [to them] as a share]
 [by a Line]!
 [They will take possession of Her] [a Forever]
 {of} [an Eternal Burning]!
 [They will reside] [in Her]
 [for Generation] [after Generation]!
 (Isaiah 34:1–17) —my interim translation

Let me put the Truth regarding Revelation 19 as succinctly as possible: It describes a point in time after the Earth has gone up in flames. All that will remain to be accomplished at that time is the spiritual union (the

“wedding”) of the bodies of True Believers (the “Bride”) with the Living Word of God (the “Bridegroom”), and the consignment of those who hate the Truth to the horrific fate they chose: the “outer darkness”—a state as far away from the Truth as possible. But enough about that. John makes a couple of other allusions to Old Testament passages in these verses:

¹¹[And] [I saw] [The Heaven] [had been opened], [and] [Look!] [A [white] Horse]! [and] [the {One} Who was sitting] [on] [him] [is called] “[Believable] [and] [True].” [And] [He judges] [and] [wages war] [by] [a Declaration of Not Guilty]. ¹²[But] [The Eyes] [He has] {are} [like] [a Flame] {of} [Fire], [and] [many] [Diadems] {are} [on] [The Head] [He has], [Who has] [a Name] [that has been written], [which] [nobody] [is aware of] [except] [Him], ¹³[and] [{a Name} that has been wrapped in] [an Overgarment] [that has been dipped in] [Blood]. [And] [The Name] [He has] [is called] “[The Word] {of} [The {Living} God].” ¹⁴[And] [The Troops] [in] [The Heaven] [who had slipped on {something}] [made of fine linen], [clean] [and] [white], [were following] [Him] [on] [white] [Horses]. ¹⁵[A [keen] Saber] [came out] [of] [The Mouth] [He had], [so that] [He might repeatedly strike] [The Nations] [with] [her]. [And] [He] [will shepherd] [them] [with] [a Staff] [of iron]! [And] [He] [is trampling] [The Wine Press] {of} [The Wine] {of} [The Rage] {of} [The Anger] {of} [The {Living} God], [The Almighty]! ¹⁶[And] [on] [The Overgarment] [and] [on] [The Thigh*] [He has], [He has] [a Name] [that has been written]: “[KING] {of} [KINGS] AND [LORD] {of} [LORDS].”

(Revelation 19:11–16) —my interim translation

In Revelation 19:11, John alludes to Psalm 96, where the psalmist is looking forward to the time when Christ finally becomes King over all Creation and judges by means of a “declaration of not guilty.” The psalmist begins with a reference to the “new song” that the Redeemed will sing at the End of the Age:

¹[Sing] [to His Majesty] [a [new] Song];
 [Sing] [to His Majesty], [all] [The Earth].
²[Sing] [to His Majesty], [bless] [His Name];
 [Carry information about] [His Salvation] [Every Day].
³[Recount] [His Glory] [among The Nations]—
 [His Incomprehensible Things]
 [among all] [The Peoples]—

⁴[Because] [His Majesty] {is} [great]
 [and praised] [exceedingly].
 [He] {is} [{One} Who is fearsome] [above] [all] [Gods].
⁵[Because] [all] [{the} Gods] {of} [The Peoples]
 {are} [worthless],
 [But His Majesty] [made] [a Sea of Waters].
⁶[Majesty] [and Splendor] {are} [before Him];
 [Strength] [and Beauty] {are} [in His Sanctuary].
⁷[Attribute] [to His Majesty], [O Families] {of} [Peoples],
 [Attribute] [to His Majesty] [Glory] [and Strength].
⁸[Attribute] [to His Majesty] [{the} Glory]
 {of} [His Name]!
 [Carry] [a Cereal Offering]
 [and come in] [to His Enclosures]!
⁹[Prostrate yourselves] [to His Majesty]
 [in {the} Splendor] {of} [Holiness];
 [Squirm] [before Him], [all] [The Earth].
¹⁰[Say] [among The Nations],
 “**[His Majesty] reigns as king!**”
 [The World] [will] [definitely] be prepared];
 [she will] [never] slip].
 [He will adjudicate] [{the} Peoples’] case]
 [with Uprightness].
¹¹[The Sea of Waters] [will rejoice],
 [and [The Earth] will be happy];
 [The Sea] [and his Fullness] [will thunder].
¹²[My Field] [and everyone] [who] {is} [in Him]
 [will be jubilant].
 [At that time], [all] [{the} Trees] {of} [a Forest]
 [will shout joyfully]
¹³[Before] [His Majesty], [because] [He is coming]—
 [Because] [He is coming] [to judge] [The Earth].
 [He will judge] [The World]
 [by a Declaration of Not Guilty]
 [And Peoples] [by His Truth].
 (Psalm 96:1–13) —my interim translation

Do you remember the lyrics to the “new song” the Redeemed of the Lord will be singing at the End of the Age? If not, here’s a reminder:

³[And] [they are singing] “[The Song] {of} [Moses],”
 [The Slave] {of} [The {Living} God], [and] “[The Song]
 {of} [The Little Lamb],” [saying]:

“**[The Works] [You have] {are} [great] [and] [amazing],**
[Your Majesty], [The {Living} God], [The Almighty]!
[The Ways] [You have] {are} [fair] [and] [true],

[The King] {of} [The Gentiles]!

⁴**[Your Majesty], [who] [would] [definitely not] be**
afraid] [and] [glorify] [The Name] [You have]?
[Because] {You} [alone] {are} [devout]!
[Because] [ALL] [THE GENTILES] [WILL COME]!
[THEY WILL BOW DOWN] [BEFORE] [You],
[BECAUSE] [THE JUDICIAL DECISIONS] [YOU HAVE],
[HAVE BEEN MADE APPARENT]!”
 (Revelation 15:3–4) —my interim translation

You may have noticed that John alludes to Psalm 2:8 in Revelation 19:15. Here is what Psalm 2 says about the Coronation of Christ as King over all Creation:

¹[Why] [are] [Gentiles] conspiring together*],
 [And Kinfolk] [cooing over] [Emptiness]?
²[The Kings] {of} [Earth] [will position themselves],
 [And Authorities] [will be founded] [together]
 [Against] [His Majesty]—[even against] [His anointed]:
³“[Let’s snap] [their Shackles],
 [And toss] [their Cords] [from us]!”
⁴[{One} Who sits] [in The Sea of Waters] [will laugh]!
 [My Master] [will jeer] [at them].
⁵[At that time], [He will speak] [to them] [in His Anger],
 [And [He will frighten them] with His Burning]:
⁶“[But I] [have {already} poured out [My King]
 as a cast image]
 [On] [Zion], [{the} Mountain] {of} [My Holiness]!”
⁷“[I will recount] [concerning] [{the} Statute]
 {of} [His Majesty]:
 [He said] [to Me]: ‘[You] {are} [My Son]!
 [I engendered You] [Today]!’
⁸[Ask] [of Me], [and I will give] [Gentiles]
 [as Your Inheritance],
 [The Ends] {of} [Earth], [as Your Property].
⁹[You will break them] [with an [iron] Staff];
 [You will pulverize them] [like a Thing]
 [that is being formed].”
¹⁰[So now], [O Kings], [gain insight];
 [Accept admonishment], [O Judges] {of} [Earth].
¹¹[Work for] [His Majesty] [in Fear],
 [And be happy] [with Shudders].
¹²[Kiss] [{the} Son], [lest] [He become angry],
 [And you go] [{the} Way] to **Abaddon**,
 [Because] [His Anger] [will burn] [before long].
 [Those Who Attain the Resurrection]
 {are} [all] [those who take refuge] [in Him].
 (Psalm 2:1–12) —my interim translation ■



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: In the October 1998 The Voice of Elijah® newsletter article, “I Tell You What: Odds Are, You’ll Never Beat God at His Shell Game,” you talked about the parabolic imagery Jesus used in the Parable of the Wedding Feast (Matt. 22:1–14). Is the Parable of the Dinner in Luke 14:16–24 dealing with the same circumstances as Matthew but just in different words, or does the parable in Luke deal with a different time and place?

Elijah: I first need to show you my interim translation of the two passages mentioned. Here is the passage from Matthew 22:

¹[And] [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 [The Son] [he had]. ³[And] [he sent] [The Slaves] [he had] [to call] [the {ones} who had been called] [to] [The Wedding Feast], [and] [they did] [not] want [to come]. ⁴[Again] [he sent] [other] [Slaves] [saying], ‘[You must tell] [the {ones} who have been called]: “[Look!] [I have prepared] [The Breakfast] [I have]! [The Bulls] [and] [The Fatlings*] [I have] [have been sacrificed] [and] [all] {is} [ready]! [Come here], [into] [The Wedding Feast]!’” ⁵[But] [the {ones} who paid no attention] [went away], [one] [to] [his personal] [Field], [another] [to] [The Trade*] [he had]. ⁶[But] [The Others], [after holding on to] [The Slaves] [he had], [insulted] [and] [killed] {them}].

⁷[But] [The King] [became angry], [and], [after sending] [The Troops] [he had], [did away with] [Those Murderers] [and] [set] [The City] [they had] on fire*. ⁸[At that time], [he says to] [The Slaves] [he had]: ‘[On the one hand], [The Wedding] [is] [ready]; [but on the other hand], [the {ones} who have been called] [were] [not] [worthy]. ⁹[Therefore], [you must go] [to] [The Intersections*] {of} [The Ways] [and] [call] [to] [The Wedding Feast] [as many as] [it should happen to be that] [you find].’ ¹⁰[And] [after] [Those Slaves] went out [into] [The Ways], [they gathered] [everyone] [that] [they found], [both] [nasty] [and] [good]; [and] [The Wedding] [was filled full of] [those who were lying back and relaxing].

¹¹[But] [when] [The King] came in [to briefly see] [the {ones} who were lying back and relaxing], [he saw] [a Man] [there] [who had] [not] slipped on [Clothing] {for} [a Wedding]. ¹²[And] [he says to] [him], ‘[Friend], [how] [did you come in] [here] [not] [having] [Clothing] {for} [a Wedding]?’ [But] [he was muzzled]. ¹³[At that time], [The King] [told] [The Servers]: ‘[After binding] [him] [Hand] [and] [Foot] [you must throw] [him] out [into] [The Darkness]—[that is] [farther outside]. [The Weeping] [and] [The Gritting] {of} [The Teeth] [will be] [there].’

¹⁴[For] [many] [are] [called], [but] [few] [chosen].”
(Matthew 22:1–14) —my interim translation

As I have already explained, Jesus is referring to Himself as the Son of God in that parable. But He is also referring to the Jews’ refusal to accept the Truth of *The Teaching* that He was explaining to His disciples in private. In the parabolic imagery of *The Teaching*, *The Teaching* is described as a “meal” that Believers “eat,” and “wine” that they “drink.” From that, it should be obvious that the parabolic pantomime of the Lord’s Supper is parabolically depicting Believers gathering to hear someone teach the Truth of *The Teaching*. That is true; it is. But as I have also explained, there are various parabolic equivalences in *The Teaching* in which a parabolic image describes two or more things/events/realities that are parabolically LIKE the one thing/event/reality to which they are all being compared.

In this case, the parabolic pantomime of the Lord’s Supper is not only pointing to the parabolic equivalence of Believers participating in the “Wedding Feast” (think: Passover meal) by learning *The Teaching* in this life, it is also pointing to the ultimate reality that the parabolic imagery depicts. That is, it is pointing to the event that John is referring to in this passage:

⁶[And] [I heard {something}] [like] [a Sound] {of} [a [large] Crowd], [even] [like] [a Sound] {of} [many] [Waters], [even] [like] [a Sound] {of} [a [mighty] Rolling Thunder], [saying]: “[Praise His Majesty!] [Because] [His Majesty], [The {Living} God] [we have], [The Almighty], [is king]!” ⁷[Let’s rejoice] [and] [be jubilant] [and] [give] [Him] [The Glory] [because] [The Wedding] {of} [The Little Lamb] [has come] [and] [The Woman] [He has] [has prepared] [Herself]!” ⁸[And] [it was given to] [Her] [that] [She could wrap herself in {something}] [made of fine linen], [splendid] [and] [clean]! [For] [the {thing}] [made of fine linen] [is] [The Judicial Decisions] {of} [the [holy] {ones}]! ⁹[And] [he tells] [me], “[You must write: ‘[Fortunate] {are} [the {ones} who have been invited] [to] [The Evening Meal] {of} [The Wedding] {of} [The Little Lamb].’” [And] [he tells] [me], “[These] [are] [The {true} Words] {of} [The {Living} God]!” (Revelation 19:6–9) —my interim translation

That passage refers to what is commonly called “the Marriage Supper of the Lamb.” But the *spiritual* reality that the *parabolic image* of the “wedding” depicts is actually the Resurrection of the Righteous, a *spiritual* event in which the *physical* bodies of all True Believers will finally be united (become “one”) with the *spiritual*, resurrected Body of the Lord. Don’t ask me to explain that event, because it is impossible to explain. That is why it is depicted *parabolically*. What happened when Jesus Christ was resurrected in the image and likeness of the *Living Word* of God is beyond our ability to comprehend. That is, it is impossible to understand how a *physical* body could enter the fifth dimension and become nothing more than light particles (photons) that are invisible to the naked eye. Never mind that the Scriptures claim both Enoch and Elijah did it.

Now that I have once again openly explained a bit about “*The Mystery*” to which the Apostle Paul refers in the following passage, I am absolutely certain I will be assailed as some sort of “heretic” by the Pretenders in the Church. It is rather remarkable how that label is bandied about today by dimwits who are completely enamored by the clichés so prevelant among “Christians” today. They apparently consider it acceptable for a person to believe anything and everything as long as they don’t get too close to “walking in *The Way*”:

¹⁵[Therefore], [you must watch out for] [how] [accurately] [you walk], [not] [as] [unwise*], [but] [as]

[wise], ¹⁶[buying back] [The Time], [because] [The Days] [are] [nasty]. ¹⁷[For] [this {reason}] [you must [not] be] [mindless], [but] [you must comprehend] [what] [The Will] {of} [The Lord] {is}. ¹⁸[And] [you must [not] become intoxicated] {with} [Wine], [in] [which] [is] [Degeneracy], [but] [be completely filled] [by] [a Spirit]: ¹⁹(1) [speaking to] [yourselves] [in] [Psalms] [and] [Hymns] [and] [spiritual] [Songs]; (2) [singing] [and] [singing a song] {to} [The Lord] {in} [The Heart] [you have]; ²⁰(3) [always] [giving thanks to] [The {Living} God] [and] [Father] [for] [all {things}] [in] [The Name] {of} [The Lord] [we have], [Jesus] [Anointed]; ²¹(4) [being submissive to] [one another] [in] [Fear] {of} [an anointed {One}]: ²²(a) [The Women]: {to} [their personal] [Males] [as] {to} [The Lord], ²³[because] [a Male] [is] [Head] {of} [The Woman] [as] [also] [the [anointed] {One}] {is} [Head] {of} [The **Ekklesia**]. [He] {is} [Savior] {of} [The Body]. ²⁴[But] [as] [The **Ekklesia**] [is submissive to] [the anointed {One}], [so] [also] [The Women] {to} [The Males]—[in] [everything]. ²⁵(b) [The Males]: [You must love] [The Women] [just as] [the [anointed] {One}] [also] [loved] [The **Ekklesia**] [and] [handed [Himself] over] [for [Her] sake]: ²⁶(1) [so that] [He might make [Her] holy] [after cleansing {Her}] {in} [The Bath] {of} [The Water] [in] [a Statement]; ²⁷(2) [so that] [He] [could present [The [glorious] **Ekklesia**] to] [Himself], [not] [having] [a Stain] [or] [Wrinkle*] [or] [anything] [such as these], [but] [so that] [She could be] [holy] [and] [without blemish]. ²⁸[The Males] [have an obligation] [to love] [their own] [Women] [like this]—[like] [their own] [Bodies]. [The {one} who loves] [his own] [Woman] [loves] [himself]. ²⁹[For] [nobody] [has [at one time] hated] [his own] [Flesh], [but] [he nurtures] [and] [cherishes] [her], [just as] [also] [the [anointed] {One}] [The **Ekklesia**], ³⁰[because] [we are] [Members] {of} [The Body] [He has]. ³¹[FOR] [THIS {reason}] [A MAN] [WILL LEAVE BEHIND] [THE FATHER] [AND] [THE MOTHER] [AND] [BE UNITED] [WITH] [THE WOMAN] [HE HAS], [AND] [THE] [TWO] [WILL BE] [IN] [ONE] [FLESH]. ³²[This Mystery] [is] [great], [but] [I] [am talking] [about] [an Anointing] [and] [about] [The **Ekklesia**].

(Ephesians 5:15–32) —my interim translation

“*The Mystery*” Paul had in mind when he wrote that is how the *spiritual* union of the *physical* bodies of all Believers with the *spiritual*, resurrected body of Jesus Christ is nothing more than a logical continuation of the union of their “spirits” with the “Spirit” of the

Living Word of God that began when they heard and believed the Truth of the Gospel. Unfortunately, those who choose to reject the Truth of that Living Word have no other “way” to become “one” with it.

Enough about that. The question asked was whether the following passage “deals with” the same set of circumstances as the parable in Matthew 22 or “with a different time and place.” From what I have told you, I assume you can deduce what my response might be. The two passages “deal with” a *parabolic image* that can be applied to multiple sets of circumstances simply because the ultimate reality to which the *parabolic image* refers is the *spiritual union* of the Believer with the “Spirit” of the Living Word of God:

¹[And] [it came about] [when] [He] [went in] [to] [a House] {of} [someone] {from} [The Rulers] {of} [The Pharisees] {on} [a Sabbath] [to eat] [a Loaf of Bread], [they] [were] [also] [watching] [Him] carefully. ²[And] [Look!] [Some] [edematous*] [Man] [was] [in front of] [Him]! ³[And] [in response], [Jesus] [said] [to] [The Lawyers] [and] [The Pharisees], [saying], “Is it permissible [to cure {someone}] {on} [The Sabbath] [or] [not]?” ⁴[But] [they] [kept quiet]. [And] [after taking hold of {the man}], [he healed] [him] [and] [dismissed {him}]. ⁵[And] [He said] [to] [them], “[Which] {of} [you] {whose} [Son] [or] [Cow] [falls] [into] [a Cistern] [will] [not] [also] pull [him] up] [straight off] [on] [The Sabbath] [Day]?” ⁶[And] [they did] [not] have the ability [to argue] [against] [these {things}].

⁷[So] [He was saying] [a Comparison] [to] [the {ones} who had been invited], [while focusing His attention on] [how] [they were choosing] [The First Places], [saying] [to] [them]: ⁸“[Whenever] [You are invited] [to] [a Wedding Feast] [by] [someone], [You should] [not] recline [in] [The First Place], [so that not once] [{one} who has been invited] [by] [him] [might be] [{one} with more honor than] [You], ⁹[and] [after [the {one} who invited] [You] [and] [him] comes], [he will say to] [You], ‘[You must give] [{Your} Place] [to] [this {one}],’ [and] [at that time] [You would begin] [to hold fast to] [The [last] Place] [with] [Shame]. ¹⁰[But] [whenever] [You are invited], [after going], [You must lean back] [in] [The [last] Place] [so that] [when] [the {one} who invited] [You] [comes], [he will tell] [You], ‘[Friend], [You must move up*] [higher up].’ [At that time], [You] [will have] [Glory] [before] [all] {of} [the {ones} who are lying back and relaxing with] [You]. ¹¹[Because] [everyone] [who]

[elevates] [himself] [will be humbled], [and] [the {one} who humbles] [himself] [will be elevated].”

¹²[Then] [He] [also] told [the {one} who had invited] [Him]: “[Whenever] [You make] [a Breakfast] [or] [an Evening Meal], [You must] [not] call out to] [The Friends] [You have] [nor] [The Brothers] [You have] [nor] [The Relatives] [You have] [nor] [rich] [Close Neighbors], [so that not once] [would] [they] [also] invite [You] in return*] [and] [it would become] [Your] [Payback]. ¹³[But] [whenever] [You make] [a Reception], [You must invite] [poor {ones}], [disabled {ones}], [lame {ones}], [blind {ones}], ¹⁴[and] [You will be] [fortunate] [because] [they do] [not] have {any way} [to pay] [You] back], [for] [it will certainly be paid back to] [You] [in] [The Resurrection] {of} [the {ones who are} fair].”

¹⁵[But] [after] [someone] {from} [the {ones} who were lying back and relaxing with {Him}] heard [these {things}], [he said to] [Him], “[Whoever] [eats] [a Loaf of Bread] [in] [The Kingdom] {of} [The {Living} God] {is} [Fortunate]!” ¹⁶[So] [He] [said to] [him]: “[A certain Man] [made] [a [big] Evening Meal] [and] [invited] [many]. ¹⁷[And] [he sent] [The Slave] [he had] {at} [The Hour] {of} [The Evening Meal] [to tell] [the {ones} who had been invited], ‘[You must come], [because] [it is] [already] [ready]!’ ¹⁸[And] [all] [alike*] [began] [to make excuses]. [The] [first] [told] [him], ‘[I bought] [a Field] [and], [after coming out], [I have] [a Constraint] [to see] [it]. [I ask] [You], [You must hold] [me] {as} [{one} who has been excused].’ ¹⁹[And] [a different {one}] [said]: ‘[I bought] [five] [Pair] {of} [Cows], [and] [I am going] [to approve] [them]. [I ask] [You], [You must hold] [me] {as} [{one} who has been excused].’ ²⁰[And] [a different {one}] [said], ‘[I married] [a Woman], [and] [for] [this {reason}] [I am] [not] able [to come].’ ²¹[And] [after] [The Slave] arrived], [he reported] [these {things}] [to] [The Lord] [he had]. [At that time], [after] [The Householder] became angry], [He told] [The Slave] [he had], ‘[You must go out] [quickly] [into] [The Thoroughfares] [and] [Streets] {of} [The City] [and] [bring in] [here] [The Poor] [and] [disabled] [and] [blind] [and] [lame]!’ ²²[And] [The Slave] [said], ‘[Lord], [what] [You ordered] [has come about], [and] [there is] [still] [a Place].’ ²³[And] [The Lord] [said] [to] [The Slave]: ‘[You must go out] [into] [The Ways] [and] [Hedges] [and] [compel {them}] [to come in], [so that] [The House] [I have] [may be filled up].’ ²⁴[For] [I tell] [you] [that] [none] {of} [Those Males] [who] [have been invited] [will taste] [The Evening Meal] [I have].” (Luke 14:1–24) —my interim translation

Editor: *The following email arrived at our website not long ago addressed to you. Would you please comment on it?*

To the One that writes the articles in the Voice of Elijah,

I know that you have been saved and are blessed with such knowledge and understanding as you have been doing so far, yet there has been an issue that has arisen, and that is the way you have been talking with others in your articles to the editor. I know all of this simply because, the good Lord in his infinite wisdom has blessed me, like He has done you, and such ways that is hard for me to explain.

You see, I have been blessed in a way too, I have been in heaven at least three times, I have seen the new Jerusalem, I have seen how everything fits together and how simple it is, so simple that mankind has never even thought of it, you see the good Lord has blessed me as well, He treats me very good and I have no complaints. And yet, I do not go around and boast [sic: boast] like others do, nor do I talk down at others because they have not seen or been where I have been. But I know you do not believe me at what I have said, that's okay, I did not expect you too, yet if you knew the Lord as you say that you do, you would know me, for I have come from Him that has sent me, this I know for sure, I am not the Son nor Christ, yet I know I have come from Him, and that is good enough.

After reading your latest booklet, April 2013, towards the end I see that you started beating up, or bullying, pardon my expression, on a couple of other people. I know for a fact that the Lord has blessed you and has given you a great task to do, you see he has told me this so I believe in what you say, yet this does not give you the right to act and say what you will to others. This shows your arrogance and your pride, and quite frankly, the good Lord has asked me to let you know He's getting fed up with this. Remember King Solomon, back in the Bible days, how the good Lord blessed him and right at the very end, King Solomon fell away and the good Lord gave him over to Satan, the reason that it is there for, is an example to others. I do not write and say all of this on my own, if it was up to me I would not say anything to you, yet the good Lord in his infinite wisdom asked me to drop a line to you, to let you know He is tired of this, for I know when a person acts like this, the Lord's spirit is not upon him. The good Lord wants you to know, He will give you a little

more time for you to correct your self or He will remove His blessings from you.

Has he not given you enough to do, he knows that you want to do more, yet time is running out for all of us, finish what he has given you to do and then and only then do the rest of what is in your heart to do. This country has only a little more time left and in a little while the door will be open and behold the last week will be here.

I hope this finds you well and that you receive this, yet if you do not, it is not my fault, for behold, I have forewarned you.

Elijah: I will comment on it; but only because you asked and because everyone who writes deserves a response—even though I do not have the time, nor the space in this column, to respond to them all. That's why I depend on you to select the ones you would like for me to respond to.

First, I have a question of my own: What's the deal with all the "behold" this and "behold" that talk? Nobody talks like that any more—nobody, that is, but someone who *thinks* he is a Prophet. There may still be some of those around, but that certainly can't be the case in this instance. A Prophet would know that only an Apostle has the authority to admonish others for their actions, and even then he only has that authority with regard to local churches he has established.

A Prophet would also be concerned about correcting false beliefs rather than correcting *what he considers to be* the inappropriate actions of someone he readily admits God has called. More than that, a Prophet would know that anyone God has called is responsible for his own calling and is well aware that he must beware of taking advice from anyone else. Otherwise, he might end up being killed by a lion on the way back from Bethel, just because he believed a lie that someone spoke off the top of his head.

Furthermore, a Prophet would know the Lord's "Spirit" was on the Prophets and Apostles—and even Jesus Himself when He "acts like this" and ridicules Pretenders who were actually nothing more than "snakes in the grass" but had somehow come to believe they were God's favorite sons:

¹[Now], [in] [Those Days], [John] [The Baptizer] [arrives], [preaching] [in] [The Desert] {of} [Judea] ²[and] [saying], "[You must apologize], [for] [The Kingdom] {of} [The Heavens] [has drawn near]." ³[For]

[this] [is] [the {one} who was spoken of] [through] [The Prophet] [Isaiah] [saying], "[A VOICE] {of} [{one} WHO IS CRYING OUT] [IN] [THE DESERT]: '[YOU MUST PREPARE] [THE WAY] {of} [HIS MAJESTY]! [YOU MUST MAKE] [THE PATHS] [HE HAS] [A STRAIGHTAWAY]!'"

⁴[But] [John] [himself] [had] [The Clothing] [he had] [from] [Hairs] {of} [a Camel] [and] [a Belt] [made of leather] [around] [The Loins] [he had], [but] [The Foodstuff] [he had] [was] [Locusts] [and] [wild] [Honey].

⁵[At that time], [Jerusalem]—[and] [all] [Judea] [and] [all] [The Area Around] [The Jordan]—[was coming out] [to] [him]; ⁶[and] [they were being baptized] [in] [The [Jordan] River] [by] [him], [while making a commitment regarding] [The Sins] [they had]. ⁷[But] [after seeing] [many] {of} [The Pharisees] [and] [Sadducees] [who were coming] [for] [The Baptism] [he had], [he said to] [them]: "[Descendants] {of} [Vipers]! [Who] [indicated to] [you] [that {you} should flee] [from] [The Anger] [that is going to {be}]? ⁸[Therefore], [you must make] [Fruit] [worthy] {of} [The Apology], ⁹[and] [not] [assume] [that {you} can say] [in] [yourselves], '[We have] [a Father]—[Abraham].' [For] [I tell] [you] [that] [The {Living} God] [is able] [to raise up] [Children] {for} [Abraham] [out of] [These Stones], ¹⁰[so] [The Axe] [is] [already] [laid] [at] [The Root] {of} [The Trees]. [Therefore], [every] [Tree] [that does not] [make] [excellent] [Fruit] [will be cut off] [and] [thrown] [into] [a Fire]."

(Matthew 3:1–10) —my interim translation

The greatest danger a person faces when they judge—or even worse, try to correct—the actions of someone whom God has called to do a specific task is what is commonly called “blasphemy of the Holy Spirit.” That is, in rejecting what that person is doing, they may very well be attributing a legitimate work of the Holy Spirit to someone other than the Holy Spirit. In so doing, they prove themselves to be nothing more than another “snake in the grass” like the ones that Jesus Himself ridiculed in this passage:

²²[At that time], [a [blind] [and] [deaf-mute] {man}] [who was demon-possessed] [was brought and presented to] [Him]; [and] [He cured] [him], [with the result that] [the] [deaf-mute] [could speak] [and] [see]. ²³[And] [The Crowds] [were] [all] [beside themselves] [and] [were saying], “[This {One}] [is] [certainly not] [The Son] {of} [David], [is He]?” ²⁴[But] [when] [The Pharisees] [heard], [they said], “[This {One}] [does not]

throw out] [The Demons] [except] [by] [Beelzebul], [The Ruler] {of} [The Demons]."

²⁵[But] [being aware of] [The Contemplations] [they had], [He said to] [them]: “[Any] [Kingdom] [that has been divided] [against] [herself] [is being deserted], [and] [any] [City] [or] [House] [that has been divided] [against] [herself] [will not] be made to stand. ²⁶[And] [if] [Satan] [is throwing out] [Satan], [he has been divided] [against] [himself]. [Therefore], [how] [will] [The Kingdom] [he has] be made to stand? ²⁷[And] [if] [I] [am throwing out] [The Demons], [by] [Beelzebul], [by] [whom] [are] [The Sons] [you have] throwing {them} out? [For] [this {reason}] [they] [will be] [your] [Judges]. ²⁸[But] [if] [I] [am putting out] [The Demons] [by] [God’s] [Spirit], [then] [The Kingdom] {of} [The {Living} God] [has over] taken [you]. ²⁹[Or] [how] [is] [anyone] able [to go in] [to] [The House] {of} [the [mighty] {one}] [and] [snatch] [The Containers] [he has], [if it should happen to be that] [he does not] bind [the [mighty] {one}] [first]? [And] [at that time], [he will carry off] [The House] [he has] as plunder. ³⁰[The {one} who is] [not] [with] [Me] [is] [against] [Me], [and] [the {one} who is] [not] gathering [with] [Me] [is dispersing].

³¹[For] [this {reason}] [I tell] [you], [every] [Sin] [and] [False Religious Claim] [will be forgiven] {for} [The Men], [but] [The False Religious Claim] {about} [The Spirit] [will not] be forgiven. ³²[And] [whoever], [if it should happen to be that] [he has spoken] [a Word] [against] [The Son] {of} [The Man], [it will be forgiven] {for} [him]; [but] [whoever] [it might be who] [has spoken] [against] [The Spirit] [that is] [holy], [it will not] be forgiven] {for} [him], [neither] [in] [This Age] [nor] [in] [the {one} that is going to {be}].

³³[You must] [either] [make] [The Tree] [excellent] [and] [The Fruit] [he has] [excellent], [or] [make] [The Tree] [rotten] [and] [The Fruit] [he has] [rotten]. [For] [The Tree] [is known] [from] [The Fruit]. ³⁴[Descendants] {of} [Vipers]! [How] [are you—[being] [{those who are} nasty]—able] [to speak] [good {things}]? [For] [The Mouth] [speaks] [out of] [The Excess] {of} [The Heart]. ³⁵[The [good] Man] [puts out] [good {things}] [from] [The [good] Treasure], [and] [The [nasty] Man] [puts out] [nasty {things}] [from] [The [nasty] Treasure]. ³⁶[But] [I tell] [you] [that] [every] [Statement] [{that is} not working] [that] [The Men] [will speak] [concerning] [His] [Word], [they will give back] [in] [a Day] {of} [Sentencing]. ³⁷[For] [You

will be declared not guilty] [from] [The Words] [You have], [and] [You will be declared guilty] [from] [The Words] [You have]."

(Matthew 12:22–37) —my interim translation

I leave the evaluation of the things I am doing to fulfill my calling up to those who are benefiting, or have benefited, from the ridicule I heap on the blind who are leading the blind in the Church today. Those who can see they are benefiting from my actions run no risk at all in approving of my actions. If I am mistaken about anything God has called me to do and veer off into areas where I should not, I bear all the blame. They get off scot-free simply because I alone am responsible for what I do, and the things I teach contradict nothing in the historic tenets of Christianity. One cannot say the same for any "descendant of vipers" who finds fault with what I am doing—provided I am doing precisely what God called me to do.

I should probably also tell you this: I have been told that the email you quoted is not the first email this individual has sent in a misguided effort to correct me. In the one that concerns me the most, he tells me I should not be providing True Believers my own translation of the Scriptures. That concerns me only because I believe the one thing that goes to the very heart of what God has called me to do is produce a "standardized" translation of the Scriptures that will provide True Believers a translation in which every word in the original text carries a "standardized" meaning. Let me show you what this person said about that so that your readers may decide for themselves where they think he stands before God:

Larry Harper,

Hope this finds you well and in good health. I am writing this to you, to inform you that you are right in the fact that God told you to write these things for the people, not only has He showed me this, He has also showed me of something else that He has said to you, not to write the bible, rewrite, or anything like this, He says that He has given you enough to do or to keep busy. I find this exciting to say to you, for the Good Lord has not only showed me these things, but has also showed me more than this, I am not fabricating this for my own will and purposes. I know that you are busy, would love to sit down and talk with you, for there are a lot of things to say and ask. But, you

are right in the fact that God has sent you for this purpose, and thank you, for I have learned a lot.

Editor: *After having read (and reread) the January 2004 newsletter article, "O' What a Lofty Perch This Is!" a few questions have arisen in another reader's mind:*

"God sees adultery as Larry explains. What about a Believer who has an unbelieving spouse and the unbeliever committed adultery once in the past? I see 1 Corinthians 7 speaks of letting those who wish to leave to go, having called us to peace. What if the unbelieving spouse wishes not to leave but to stay; is the believer to seek divorce, or is the unregenerate in this case the 'overrider,' in that they are not a believer, especially if the marriage occurred before the believer became such? Are you aware of Larry answering anything in correlation? If not, I would be curious, not in the sense of what to 'do,' but what 'is.'"

Elijah: Let me begin by summarizing what I have already explained: The sin of adultery, as far as God is concerned, is defined by the status of the woman involved in the affair. If a woman who has a "one-flesh" relationship with one man has sexual intercourse with another man, both of them have committed adultery against the first man in the eyes of God simply because they have severed a "member" from his body by joining it to another. That is the definition of adultery as it pertains to the Ten Commandments.

That being the case, it is impossible for a man to commit adultery against himself or against his woman by having sexual intercourse with another woman. In the eyes of God, when a man who has a "one-flesh" relationship with one woman has sexual intercourse with another woman, he has not severed a "member" from his body, he has added another "member" to it. In the process, he may well have committed adultery against another man if the second woman was already in a "one-flesh" relationship; and he may very well be guilty of fornication if he and the woman with whom he had sexual intercourse had no intention of maintaining their "one-flesh" relationship, but the definition of adultery as it pertains to the Ten Commandments still holds true.

Now, I realize those who are enamored by the romantic notion of "holy matrimony" will assail me as a heretic for what I just told you; but the Truth is, I am merely giving you a "strict constructionist" view of the

terminology found in the Ten Commandments. That is, the terms found there *mean* what they *meant* at that time, not what men take them to *mean* today; and God judges according to the definition of adultery at the time the Ten Commandments were given, not according to any definition of adultery as it is stated in a legal code today. Same goes for “marriage” and “divorce.”

Now, I realize some bonehead will view the things I just told you as a green light that allows him to “take” more than one woman. So before I respond to the question asked, let me show you a red light that indicates that would be a very bad idea on his part:

¹[But] [concerning] [the things that] [you wrote]: {It is} [excellent] [that [a Woman] is [not] touched] {by} [a Man]. ²[But] [because of] [The Sexual Promiscuities], [each {man}] [must have] [his own] [Woman], [and] [each {woman}] [must have] [her personal] [Male]. ³[The Male] [must give back [The Obligation] to] [The Woman], [so] [likewise] [also] [The Woman] {to} [The Male]. ⁴[The Woman] [does [not] have authority over] [her personal] [Body], [but] [The Male]. [But] [likewise], [The Male] [also] [does [not] have authority over] [his personal] [Body], [but] [The Woman]. ⁵[You must [not] deprive] [one another], [certainly] [if] [it might be] [not] [out of] [Mutual Consent*] [for] [a Time]: (1) [so that] [you may have leisure time] {for} [The Prayer] [and] [be] [at] [the] [same] {place} [again]; (2) [so that] [Satan] [can [not] test] [you] [through] [The Self-indulgence] [you have]. ⁶[But] [I say] [this] [in accordance with] [What Is Allowed*], [not] [in accordance with] [an Order]. ⁷[But] [I wish] [that [all] [Men] were] [like] [myself] [also]. [But] [each one] [has] [his personal] [Gift] [from] [God]—[the {one}] [like this], [the {other}] [like that].

⁸[But] [I tell] [the] [unmarried] [and] [The Widows], {it is} [excellent] {for} [them] [if it should happen to be that] [they remain] [like] [me also]. ⁹[But] [if] [they do [not] have self-control], [they must marry]. [For] [it is] [better] [to marry] [than] [to burn].

¹⁰[But] [I instruct] [the {ones} who are married] ([not] [I], [but] [The Lord]): (1) [that [a Woman] should [not] be separated] [from] [a Male]—¹¹[but] [if it should [also] happen to be that] [she has been separated], [she must remain] [unmarried] [or] [be reconciled to] [The Male]—[and] (2) [that [a Male] should [not] leave] [a Woman].

¹²[But] [I] ([not] [The Lord]) [tell] [The Others]: [If] [any] [Brother] [has] [an [unbelieving] Woman] [and] [she] [is delighted] [to reside] [with] [him], [he must [not]

leave] [her]. ¹³[And] [if] [any] [Woman] [has] [an [unbelieving] Male] [and] [this {one}] [is delighted] [to reside] [with] [her], [she must [not] leave] [The Male]. ¹⁴[For] [The Male] [who is] [an Unbeliever] [is made holy] [by] [The Woman], [and] [The Woman] [who is] [an Unbeliever] [is made holy] [by] [The Brother] [since] [then], [The Children] [you have] [are] [unclean], [but] [now] [they are] [holy]. ¹⁵[But] [if] [The Unbeliever] [separates himself], [he must be separated]. [The Brother] [or] [The Sister] [has [not] been made a slave] [in] [the {cases}] [such as these]. [But] [The {Living} God] [has called] [us] [in] [Peace]. ¹⁶[For], [Woman], [how] [have you become aware of] [whether] [you will save] [The Male]? [Or], [Male], [how] [have you become aware of] [whether] [you will save] [The Woman]?

(1 Corinthians 7:1–16) —my interim translation

In that passage, Paul is extremely careful to *make a distinction* between his opinion and the Lord’s command. He has a very good reason for doing that. When he gives the Lord’s command (verse 11), he is speaking in terms of two Believers separating and warning them against the danger of adultery. If the woman leaves, she can avoid adultery only by remaining celibate or by returning to the “male” with whom she is still in a “one-flesh” relationship. If the man leaves, he has repudiated the woman and thereby freed her from any obligation to their “one-flesh” relationship. He will therefore bear all the blame for her “adultery” if she decides to take the opportunity he has given her to enter another “one-flesh” relationship without bearing guilt.

Paul clearly states the rest of what he writes is his opinion. He also indicates we may ignore it if we so choose. So here is my opinion: One should take his advice unless one has good reason not to; he was aware of things I have not yet taught you. As for the question asked, here is my response: The one who leaves bears the guilt when the woman has sexual intercourse with another man. So the Believer has a small window of opportunity to move on without guilt when a spouse leaves. That window closes when the Believer once again has sexual intercourse with the one who left. But when a woman commits adultery, she has broken the first “one-flesh” relationship and entered a new one. The law regarding adultery now applies to that relationship. So, if the woman’s adultery becomes known before the Believer has sexual intercourse with her again, he is obligated to honor her new relationship. ■

Continued from front cover

See how God, through His love of goodness, seeks repentance; and by means of the plan He pursues of threatening silently, shows His own love for man. "I will avert," He says, "My face from them, and show what shall happen to them." For where the face of the Lord looks, there is peace and rejoicing; but where it is averted, there is the introduction of evil. The Lord, accordingly, does not wish to look on evil things; for He is good. But on His looking away, evil arises spontaneously through human unbelief. "Behold, therefore," says Paul, "the goodness and severity of God: on them that fell, severity; but upon thee, goodness, if thou continue in His goodness," that is, in faith in Christ.

Now hatred of evil attends the good man, in virtue of His being in nature good. Wherefore I will grant that He punishes the disobedient (for punishment is for the good and advantage of him who is punished, for it is the correction of a refractory subject); but I will not grant that He wishes to take vengeance. Revenge is retribution for evil, imposed for the advantage of him who takes the revenge. He will not desire us to take revenge, who teaches us "to pray for those that despitefully use us." But that God is good, all willingly admit; and that the same God is just, I require not many more words to prove, after adducing the evangelical utterance of the Lord; He speaks of Him as one, "That they all may be one; as Thou, Father, art in Me, and I in Thee, that they also may be one in Us: that the world also may believe that Thou hast sent Me. And the glory which Thou hast given Me I have given them; that they may be one, as We are one: I in them, and Thou in Me, that they may be made perfect in one."

Clement of Alexandria, "The Instructor," Book i, Chap. viii, in Roberts and Donaldson (Eds.), *The Ante-Nicene Fathers* (1885), Vol. 2, pp. 226-227.

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