



Restoring the hearts of the fathers to the children

Better Examine the Contents of Your Soul; He Will

These testimonies of the soul are simple as true, commonplace as simple, universal as commonplace, natural as universal, divine as natural. I don't think they can appear frivolous or feeble to any one, if he reflect on the majesty of nature, from which the soul derives its authority. If you acknowledge the authority of the mistress, you will own it also in the disciple. Well, nature is the mistress here, and her disciple is the soul. But everything the one has taught or the other learned, has come from God—the Teacher of the teacher. And what the soul may know from the teachings of its chief instructor, thou canst judge from that which is within thee.

Think of that which enables thee to think; reflect on that which in fore-bodings is the prophet, the augur in omens, the foreseer of coming events. Is it a wonderful thing, if, being the gift of God to man, it knows how to divine? Is it anything very strange, if it knows the God by whom it was bestowed? Even fallen as it is, the victim of the great adversary's machinations, it does not forget its Creator, His goodness and law, and the final end both of itself and of its foe. Is it singular then, if, divine in its origin, its revelations agree with the knowledge God has given to His own people?

But he who does not regard those outbursts of the soul as the teaching of a congenital nature and the secret deposit of an inborn knowledge, will say that the habit and, so to say, the vice of speaking in this way has been acquired and confirmed from the opinions of published books widely spread among men. Unquestionably the soul existed before letters, and speech before books, and ideas before the writing of them, and man himself before the poet and philosopher. Is it then to be believed, that before literature and its publication no utterances of the sort we have pointed out came from the lips of men? Did nobody speak of God and His goodness, nobody of death, nobody of the dead? Speech went a-begging, I suppose; nay, (the subjects being still

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A Note From the Editor

Website News

In an effort to advance the outreach of *The Voice of Elijah*®, the organization's website, voiceofelijah.org, will soon have a new look and provide much more content. Here's what you will find on the updated website:

- The first fifteen years' worth of *The Voice of Elijah*® newsletters will be available to read online in PDF format (from the Premier Issue of 10/1990–10/2005). Three additional years (12 issues) will be added shortly thereafter (1/2006–10/2008).
- Articles are organized by topic for those who are interested in a particular subject matter (i.e., The Antichrist, Bible Prophecy, The Early Church, End Times, Revelation, The Tribulation).
- Each newsletter article is excerpted and related articles are provided.
- "Questions & Answers" has been revamped to make it more easily accessible in online searches (also includes related articles).
- Mobile version is more tablet-friendly.
- The Stacks and The Reading Room have been merged and revamped. This new page is named "Online Library." It is the new hub of *The Voice of Elijah*®'s online content. Plan to spend a lot of time there!
- The website has been redesigned to be more intuitive to the first-time visitor. Finding what you are looking for will be much easier with the user-friendly design.
- Links have been added to each newsletter page for sharing on various social media platforms (enabling you to support the mission of *The Voice of Elijah*® by participating in outreach).
- More printer-friendly pages than the previous website.

Facebook News

The Voice of Elijah® is always working to improve its various forms of outreach. The redesigned website is just one part of that picture. In keeping with the times, Royce Gonzalez, CEO, has dedicated a considerable amount of time increasing *The Voice of Elijah*®'s social media presence. The progress she has made with Facebook alone is staggering. *The Voice of Elijah*® had 3496 page likes on Facebook on September 1, 2017 (after being "live" for over seven years). On September 1, 2018, just twelve months later, and after a considerable amount of work, *The Voice of Elijah*® Facebook page hit 940,474 likes. Be on the lookout for that number to cross the 1 million mark any time now! Nice work, Royce!

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HSSB News

Harper's Standardized Study Bible App for PCs has been available online since March of this year. Since that time, Royce has received many emails/letters asking when the print version will be made available also. Let me just say that The Elijah Project is (and has been) working on it! Providing a print version isn't as simple as just printing the online version. For the print version, the entire New Testament has to be stripped of the bracketing that designates a single Greek word/phrase. That is not the time-consuming part. The more meticulous task is changing the convention of initial caps for nouns to lower case, while maintaining the initial caps on words referring to the Lord (He, Him, His) and proper nouns. This process is a verse-by-verse task that must be checked and triple checked, and it can't be completely automated.

The next hurdle to be jumped is funding the publication of the print version. I have every confidence that the Lord will provide the means when the time comes for that. It has happened so many times before that I can't even count them, believe me; yet I am still astounded and grateful—every single time it happens.

In Addition

Recent subscribers, are you aware that the Truth is available through *The Voice of Elijah*® as the direct result of the faithful contributions of Monthly Contributors? Monthly contributions fund outreach, alerting True Believers to the fact that they can learn the Truth of The Apostolic Teaching through *The Voice of Elijah*®. Are you also aware that *The Voice of Elijah*® has another publication (in addition to this newsletter)? *The Voice of Elijah*® *Update* is much like this newsletter and is published in the months between the quarterly newsletter publications. *The Voice of Elijah*® *Update* has been in publication since June 1992. Back issues of *The Update* are available to Monthly Contributors only via the Order Form that accompanies each mailing of *The Update*.

If you would like to join those who financially support this ministry by contributing a minimum of \$75 each month, see the Order Form you received with this issue. As a Monthly Contributor, you will receive an ongoing subscription to the newsletter, *The Update*, and receive all newly released publications that VOE distributes during the time you are actively contributing.

One-time contributions are also very much appreciated and will be used to further outreach as well. Contributions can be made in the following ways:

- Mail a check to *The Voice of Elijah*® in the enclosed envelope (addressed to *The Voice of Elijah*®, P.O. Box 2257, Rockwall, TX 75087-2257).
- PayPal or credit card charge at voiceofelijah.org.
- Call (972) 635-2021, and speak to VOE's CEO, Royce Gonzalez, to set up one-time or recurring credit card contribution(s).

I'll close with an admonition from a back issue of *The Voice of Elijah*® *Update*:

(Matthew 6:19–33) Are you able to accept His words? If you are one of His, I know you are. I also know you will respond generously so as to provide others an opportunity to acquire the same "treasure" you have found. In sharp contrast to your response, however, I know the Pretenders will hold back because they don't "see" the value of what they have heard. Consequently, they will not be willing to "sell everything" to "buy that pearl of great value." They'll hang on to their futility to the bitter end. And how bitter that end will be!

"Time to Start Countin' (the Cost of Building 'The House')," The Voice of Elijah® *Update*, May 1993, p. 27

In Him,

Marcia Harper

If You Don't Love the Truth, You Cannot Give God What He Requires

In the January 2017 issue of *The Voice of Elijah*® newsletter, I began to explain how the “winds” that “blow” here on Planet Earth are constantly at work, training those who are ignorant of their presence to think “the way” they want them to think so that they will do what they want them to do. In this article, I am going to explain a few things that may help you who have been born again understand what the Apostles are *talking about* so that you are able to triumph over the “winds” that “blow” through your mind.

In the “Questions & Answers” section of this newsletter, I explain the influence Plato’s view of the soul had on the “conventional wisdom” current in the time of Christ. I say this:

*The Greek philosopher Plato (ca. 424–348 B.C.) proposed a tripartite view of the soul that had become more or less conventional wisdom by the time of Christ. In his view: (1) The **logistikos** is the rational part of the soul that is responsible for deciding what one believes; (2) the **thymoeides** is the part of the soul that advocates expression of emotion based on the feeling of the spirit; and (3) the **epithymetikon** is the part of the soul that advocates action based on desires of the flesh. Plato argued that in the just and impartial person, the **logistikos** will always be devoted to a love of the truth, constantly seeking to learn the truth and live in accordance with it. In such a person, the **logistikos** will always keep in check the nasty emotions prompted by the **thymoeides** and the selfish desires promoted by the **epithymetikon**.*

Plato was hampered in his understanding of the soul because, as I explained in The Next Step several years ago, the ancient Greeks believed the soul (*psyche*)

resided in the blood and the spirit (*pneuma*), in the heart. That is because they believed, like the Egyptians and Hebrews, that the mind was the heart, and the heart did the thinking. We know better today, but there are a few things the ancients understood that scientists have not yet realized; and those things are what I want to explain so that you are aware of what God expects of His Children. But first, I need to show you what Jesus said about your “heart”—that is, your conscious mind:

“[Those who are] [clean] [in their] [**Heart**] [are fortunate], [because] [they] [will see] [The] [{Living} God].”
(Matthew 5:8) —HSSB

²⁷“[You have heard] [that] [it was said], ‘[YOU MUST] [NOT] COMMIT ADULTERY’; ²⁸[but] [I] [tell] [you] [that] [anyone] [who] [looks] [at a Woman] [in order] [to] [desire] [her] [has] [already] committed adultery with] [her] [in] [his] [**Heart**].”
(Matthew 5:27–28) —HSSB

¹⁹“[Do] [not] store up] [Treasures] [for yourselves] [on] [The] [Earth], [where] [Moth] [and] [Rust] [make {it} disappear], [and] [where] [Thieves] [dig through a wall] [and] [steal]. ²⁰[But] [store up] [Treasures] [for yourselves] [in] [Heaven], [where] [neither] [Moth] [nor] [Rust] [make {it} disappear], [and] [where] [Thieves] [do] [not] dig through a wall] [or] [steal]. ²¹[For] [where] [Your] [Treasure] [is], [Your] [**Heart**] [will be] [there] [also].”
(Matthew 6:19–21) —HSSB

“[{You} Descendants] [of Vipers], [how] [can you] [who are] [nasty] [speak] [Good Things]? [For] [The] [Mouth] [speaks] [out] [of The] [Excess] [of The] [**Heart**].”
(Matthew 12:34) —HSSB

¹⁰[And] [when [The] [Disciples] approached], [they said] [to Him], “[Why] [are You speaking] [to them] [in] [Comparisons]?” ¹¹[So], [in response], [He] [told] [them] [that] “[it has been given] [to you] [to know] [The] [Mysteries] [of The] [Kingdom] [of The] [Heavens], [but] [it has [not] been given] [to Those Individuals]. ¹²[For] [whoever] [has], [to him] [it will be given], [and] [he will have an excess]; [but] [whoever] [does [not] have], [even] [what] [he has] [will be taken away] [from] [him]. ¹³[For] [This Reason] [I speak] [to them] [in] [Comparisons], [because] [those who are looking at {the mystery}] [are [not] looking at {it}]; [and] [those who are hearing {the mystery}] [are [not] hearing {it}], [neither] [do they comprehend {it}]. ¹⁴[And] [the full measure of [The] [Prophecy] [of Isaiah] is going to be completely filled] [by them], [the {prophecy} that] [says]:

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

¹⁶[But] [your] [Eyes] [are fortunate], [because] [they are looking at {the Mystery}]; [and] [your] [Ears], [because] [they are hearing {the Mystery}]. ¹⁷[For] [without doubt] [I tell] [you] [that] [Many] [Prophets] [and] [Those Who Were Blameless] [desired] [to see] [what] [you are looking] [at], [and] [they could [not] see {it}], [and] [to hear] [what] [you are hearing], [and] [they could [not] hear {it}]. ¹⁸[Therefore], [you] [must listen to] [The] [Comparison] [of the One Who] [sowed {the Word}]. ¹⁹[When [anyone] hears] [The] [Word] [of The] [Kingdom] [and] [does [not] comprehend {it}], [The] [One Who Is Nasty] [comes] [and] [snatches up] [the {Word} that] [has been sown] [in] [his] [**Heart**]. [This {Word}] [is] [the {Word} that] [was sown] [by] [The] [Way].”
(Matthew 13:10–19) —HSSB

¹[At that time], [Pharisees] [and] [Scribes] [from] [Jerusalem] [approach] [Jesus], [saying]: ²“[Why] [do [Your] [Disciples] deviate from] [The] [Oral Tradition] [of The] [Elders]? [For] [they do [not] wash] [their] [Hands] [when] [they eat] [Bread].” ³[So then], [in response], [He] [said] [to them]: “[And] [why] [do [you] deviate from] [The] [Commandment] [of The] [{Living} God] [because of] [your] [Oral Tradition]? ⁴[For] [The] [{Living} God] [said]: ‘[HONOR] [YOUR] [FATHER] [AND] [YOUR] [MOTHER],’ [and] ‘[LET [THE ONE WHO] [SAYS AWFUL THINGS ABOUT] [{his} FATHER] [OR] [MOTHER] COME TO AN END] [AT DEATH].’ ⁵[But] [you] [say], ‘[Whoever] [it might be who] [says] [to his] [Father] [or] [his] [Mother], “[Whatever] [benefit] [it may be that] you have gained] [from] [me] {is} [an Offering]”’ ⁶[He will [definitely not] honor] [his] [Father], [so] [you invalidate] [The] [Word] [of The] [{Living} God] [because of] [your] [Oral Tradition]. ⁷[Hypocrites]! [Isaiah] [prophesied] [exceptionally well] [about] [you], [saying]:

⁸[THIS] [PEOPLE] [HONORS] [ME] [WITH THEIR] [LIPS],
[BUT] [THEIR] [**HEART**] [IS FAR], [FAR AWAY] [FROM] [ME].
⁹[SO] [THEY ARE WORSHIPING] [ME] [FUTILELY],
[TEACHING] [TEACHINGS]—[RELIGIOUS PRECEPTS]—
[OF MEN].”

¹⁰[And] [after summoning] [The] [Crowd], [He told] [them], “[Listen] [and] [comprehend]: ¹¹[The thing that] [comes in] [to] [his] [Mouth] [does [not] contaminate] [The] [Man], [but] [the thing that] [comes out] [of] [his] [Mouth]; [this is what] [contaminates] [The] [Man].”

¹²[At that time], [after [His] [Disciples] approached], [they say] [to Him], “[Are You aware] [that] [The] [Pharisees] [were offended] [when they heard] [The] [Word]?” ¹³[So], [in response], [He] [said]: “[Every] [Plant*] [that] [My] [heavenly] [Father] [did [not] plant] [will be uprooted]. ¹⁴[Leave [them] alone]! [They are] [blind] [Guides] [of Those Who Are Blind]. [So] [if] [a Blind Man] [guides] [a Blind Man], [both of them] [will fall] [into] [a Pit].”

¹⁵[And then], [in response], [Peter] [said] [to Him], “[Expound on*] [This] [Comparison] [for us].” ¹⁶[So] [He] [said]: “[Are] [you] [even now*] [also] [lacking insight]? ¹⁷[Do you [not] understand] [that] [anything] [that] [goes in] [to] [The] [Mouth] [makes room] [in] [The] [Belly] [and] [is cast out] [into] [a Toilet]? ¹⁸[But] [the things that] [come out] [of] [The] [Mouth] [come out] [of] [The] [**Heart**], [and Those Things] [contaminate] [The] [Man]!

¹⁹[For] [nasty] [Speculations] [come out] [of] [The] [Heart]: [Murders], [Adulteries], [Sexual Promiscuities], [Stealing], [False Testimony], [False Religious Claims].
²⁰[These Things] [is] [the things that] [contaminate] [The] [Man], [but] [to] [eat] [with unwashed] [Hands] [does] [not] [contaminate] [The] [Man]."
 (Matthew 15:1–20) —HSSB

³⁴[So then], [when [The] [Pharisees] heard] [that] [He] had muzzled] [The] [Sadducees], [they were gathered] [at] [the] [same place]; ³⁵[and] [One] [of] [them]—[a Lawyer]—[asked {Him} a question], [testing] [Him], ³⁶"[Teacher], [in] [The] [Law], [which] [Commandment] {is} [most important]?" ³⁷[So] [He] [declared] [to him]: "[YOU MUST LOVE] [His Majesty], [Your] [God], [with] [Your] [entire] [Heart] [and] [with] [Your] [entire] [soul] [and] [with] [Your] [entire] [understanding].'" ³⁸[This] [is] [The] [first] [and] [most important] [Commandment]; ³⁹[but] [a Second] {is} [just like] [it], '[YOU MUST LOVE] [Your] [Neighbor] [as much as] [yourself].'" ⁴⁰[The] [entire] [Law]—[as well as] [The] [Prophets]—[hangs] [on] [These] [two] [Commandments]."
 (Matthew 22:34–40) —HSSB

You should seriously consider the implications of the things Jesus said about your "heart." If you foolishly think you are going to *inherit* God's Kingdom without keeping every nasty thought out of your mind, that only reveals how abjectly stupid you are. But, for the benefit of those who actually want to hear, understand, and live in accordance with the Truth that God has revealed in the Scriptures, I am going to tell you what you need to know. The Truth is exactly what Jesus told the lawyer:

"[YOU MUST LOVE] [His Majesty], [Your] [God], [with] [Your] [entire] [Heart] [and] [with] [Your] [entire] [soul] [and] [with] [Your] [entire] [understanding]."
 (Matthew 22:37b) —HSSB

The Apostles clearly believed we are tripartite beings, made up of a body, a soul, and a spirit; and I have already told you the ancient Greeks believed the spirit resided in the heart and the soul resided in the blood. So I ask you, Did you see any mention of the body in what Jesus said about the love for God that we must have if we intend to *inherit* the Kingdom? Let me answer that for you real quick so we can keep moving: No, you didn't. What you saw was a mention of the heart, the soul, and

the understanding. Just so you know, the understanding Jesus had in mind is the result of a mental interaction between the spirit that is in the heart and the soul that is in the blood. So let me provide just a small bit of information for your "heart" to perceive and your soul to decide whether or not you want to understand it: You didn't see any mention of the body (what the Apostles call "the flesh") in what Jesus said because you are supposed to be rejecting the desires of the flesh through the interaction of your "heart" and soul. That is what the Apostle Paul is talking about when he says this:

¹⁶[But] [I say], "[Walk] [in {the} Spirit], [and] [you] will [definitely not] complete] [a Selfish Desire] [of {the} Flesh]."
¹⁷[For] [The] [Flesh] [desires {things that are}] [against] [The] [Spirit], [but then] [The] [Spirit] {desires things that are} [against] [The] [Flesh]; [for] [These] {two} [are opposed] [to one another], [so that] [whatever] [it may be that] [you want to do], [These Things] [you do] [not] do. ¹⁸[But] [if] [you are being led] [by {the} Spirit], [you are] [not] [subject to] [Law].

¹⁹[Now] [The] [Works] [of The] [Flesh] [is] [well-known], [which] [is]: [Sexual Promiscuity], [Uncleaness], [Licentiousness], ²⁰[Idolatry], [Drug Dealing], [Hostilities], [Contentiousness], [Jealousy], [Rages], [Self-centeredness], [Disagreements], [Sects], ²¹[Envy], [Drunkenness], [Festivities], [and] [the things that are] [just like] [These Things], [which] [I tell] [you] [in advance]—[just as] [I told] {you} before—[that] [those who] [are involved in] [Such Things] [will] [not] *inherit* [God's] [Kingdom]. ²²[But] [The] [Fruit] [of His] [Spirit] [is] [Love], [Joy], [Peace], [Patience], [Benevolence], [Goodness], [Belief in God's Promise], ²³[Gentleness], [Self-control].

[There is] [no] [Law] [against] [Such Things]; ²⁴[so] [those who are] [part of The] [Anointed One], [Jesus], [have crucified] [The] [Flesh] [along with] [its] [Impulse] [and] [Selfish Desires].
 (Galatians 5:16–24) —HSSB

Did I happen to mention the fact that the Prophets and Apostles tell us our soul resides in our blood and our spirit resides in our heart? I think I did, but I don't recall also mentioning that's not what actually is, that's just *parabolically* what "what actually is" is like. By that I mean that the *parabolic* depiction of the relationship between the spirit and the soul is just a *parabolic image* the Prophets and Apostles used to describe a reality that actually exists. So listen up; I'm going to tell you what

that reality is and, in the process, over-simplify a reality that is extremely difficult for even the most learned researcher to understand.

The Truth is, the person you have chosen to be resides in the neurons of your body's nervous system. I say "the person you have *chosen* to be" because *you are what you believe*, and *what you believe* is stored in, and in part determined by, the nerve cells in your body. That storage system is what the Scriptures are referring to when they *talk about* the soul; it includes not only *what you have decided to believe*, but also all the tasks you have been trained to do and the emotions you have been trained to feel. The soul is, in fact, where all the subconscious activity of your nervous system occurs.

In contrast to your soul, which is *the person you have chosen to be*, the person you are going to become will, in part, be determined by the information your spirit provides to your soul. That is so because your spirit resides in the extremely tiny particles of light (photons) that are zipping between the synapses on the millions of tiny neurons that make up your brain and nervous system. The majority of those photons enter your body directly through the four senses of seeing, tasting, touching, and smelling. Others are generated internally by the sound waves that cause the tympanic membrane (ear drum) that closes off your middle ear to vibrate and allow you to experience the sense of hearing; but in all cases, the sensations you experience with your conscious mind are provided by the photons that travel through your brain and nervous system.

This is where the connection between the spirit and the soul becomes very interesting, insofar as it concerns your *understanding* of the Truth that Moses and the other Prophets of Israel hid in the Scriptures. The Truth is, when God spoke the Ten Commandments to the sons of Israel from Mount Sinai, they were terrified by the sound of His voice; so they asked Moses to ask Him not to speak to them directly. You need to know that; it is absolutely essential to your accurate understanding of the Scriptures. Here it is:

¹⁸[Now all] [The People] [were seeing] [The Sounds] [and] [The Torches] [and {the}] [Sound] [of The Trumpet] [and {the}] [Mountain] [smoking]; [when [The People] saw {those things}], [they moved to and fro] [and stood] [a long ways away]. ¹⁹[Then they said] [to] [Moses], "[You speak] [with us], [and we will listen]; [but You must] [not] let [God] speak [with us], [lest] [we die]." ²⁰[Then

[Moses] said] [to] [The People], "[You must [not] be afraid]; [because] [The {Living} God] [has come] [in order to] [test] [you], [and so that] [Fear of Him] [is] [on] [your Faces] [so that you do [not] sin]." ²¹[So [The People] stood] [a long ways away], [and Moses] [approached] [The Dense Fog] [where] [The {Living} God] [was].

(Exodus 20:18–21) —my interim translation

As a result of what the people requested at the outset, God began to work with them in accordance with the same Prophet-priest relationship that already existed between Moses and Aaron. If you don't know what that was, I explained it in *The Mystery of Scripture, Volume 1*: God spoke to the Prophet; the Prophet spoke to the priest, and the priest taught the people. The New Testament indicates the Church was supposed to work somewhat "The same Way":

²⁷[So] [you] [are] [The Anointed One's] [Body], [and] [Members] [of] [a Part]. ²⁸[Yet] [The] [{Living} God] [has put [some {members}] down] [in] [The] [Summoned Assembly] [as servants]: [first], [Apostles]; [second], [Prophets]; [third], [Teachers]; [then], [Supernatural Powers]; [then], [Gifts] [of Healings], [Aids*], [Administrative Abilities*], [Kinds] [of Tongues]. ²⁹[Not] [all] {are} [Apostles], [not] [all] {are} [Prophets], [not] [all] {are} [Teachers], [not] [all] {have} [Supernatural Powers], ³⁰[not] [all] [have] [Gifts] [of Healings], [not] [all] [speak] [in Tongues], [not] [all] [interpret].

(1 Corinthians 12:27–30) —HSSB

In that passage, the Apostle Paul is describing the authority structure that was to be adhered to during a meeting; in his letter to the Ephesians, he indicates there was another authority structure that pertained to the interaction between the leaders of the Church:

¹¹[And] [He] [gave]: (1) [some] [as Apostles], (2) [others] [as Prophets], (3) [others] [as Evangelists], (4) [others] [as Shepherds] [and] [as Teachers]: ¹²(a) [for] [The] [Equipping*] [of The] [Holy Ones], (b) [for] [a Work] [of Serving], (c) [for] [Edification] [of The] [Body] [of The] [Anointed One]: ¹³(1) [until] [we—[Every Last One]—come down]: (a) [to] [our] [Unity] [on the basis of our] [Belief in God's Promise] [and] [our] [Full Knowledge of the Truth] [regarding The] [Son] [of The] [{Living} God], (b) [to] [a [complete] Man], (c) [to] [a Measure] [of {the}]

Stature] [of The] [Fullness] [of The] [Anointed One];
¹⁴(2) [so that] [we would [no longer] be] [Toddlers] [who
 are being tossed about by billowing waves*] [and] [carried
 around]: (a) [by every] [Wind] [of their] [Teaching], (b) [by]
 [The] [Trickery*] [of] [Men], (c) [by] [Dishonesty] [of]
 [The] [Tactic] [of their] [Deception]; ¹⁵(3) [but], [while
 speaking the truth] [in] [Love], [we would—[Every Last
 One]—grow] [into] [Him]: (a) [Who] [is] [our] [Head]—
 [The Anointed One]; ¹⁶(b) [from] [Whom] [The] [whole]
 [Body]—[which is being precisely framed together] [and]
 [all put together] [via] [The] [Abundant Provision] [of
 every] [Ligament], [in accordance with] [{the} Energy]
 [in] [{the} Measure] [of [each] one's] [Part]—[produces],
 [through] [Love], [The] [Growth] [of The] [Body] [into]
 [His Own] [Building].
 (Ephesians 4:11–16) —HSSB

My point in showing you what Paul said about the authority structure in the Church is easy enough for anyone of average intelligence to understand: God would never have established the role of the Teacher in the Church if He expected everyone to figure out the message of the Scriptures for themselves. Anyone who thinks differently is way below average in intelligence. The Truth is, Jesus *handed down* The Teaching to His disciples and told them to *hand* it *down* to the next generation just as they had *received* it:

¹⁹“[Therefore], [go]! [Make disciples of] [all]
 [The] [Gentiles]: (1) [baptizing] [them] [into] [The]
 [Name] [of The] [Father] [and] [of The] [Son] [and] [of
 The] [holy] [Spirit], ²⁰(2) [teaching] [them] [to keep
 watch over] [everything]—[as much as] [I gave a
 commandment] [to you]. [And] [guess what!] [I] [AM]
 [always] [with] [you], [until] [The] [Consummation] [of
 The] [Current Age].”
 (Matthew 28:19–20) —HSSB

The Apostle Paul confirms the importance of *hearing* the Truth spoken by someone God called:

¹[Brothers], [The] [Thing That Is Delightful] [to]
 [my] [Heart] [and] [my] [Petition] [to] [The] [{Living}
 God] [for [their] sake] {is}, [in fact], [for] [{their}
 Salvation]. ²[For] [I provide testimony about] [them] [that]
 [they have] [a Zeal] [for God], [but] [not] [in accordance
 with] [Full Knowledge of the Truth]. ³[For], [not under-
 standing] [The] [Declaration of Not Guilty] [of The]

[{Living} God] [and] [seeking] [to make [their] [own]
 [Declaration of Not Guilty] stand], [they have [not] sub-
 mitted] [to The] [Declaration of Not Guilty] [of The]
 [{Living} God]. ⁴[For] [The Anointed One] {is}—[in] [a
 Declaration of Not Guilty]—[The Consummation] [of
 Law] [for anyone] [who] [believes God's **promise**]. ⁵[For]
 [Moses] [writes] [The] [Declaration of Not Guilty] [that is]
 [on the basis] [of The] [Law]—[that] “[THE] [MAN] [WHO
 HAS ACTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH] [THEM] [WILL LIVE] [BY]
 [THEM].” ⁶[But] [The] [Declaration of Not Guilty] [on the
 basis] [of Belief in God's **Promise**] [says {it}] [this way]:
 “[DO [NOT] SAY] [IN] [YOUR] [HEART], ‘[WHO] [WILL GO
 UP] [INTO] [HEAVEN]?’” [That] [is], [to bring [The
 Anointed One] down]. ⁷[Or] “[WHO] [WILL GO DOWN]
 [INTO] [THE] [ABYSS]?” [That] [is], [to bring [The Anointed
 One] up] [from] [Those Who Are Dead]. ⁸[But] [what]
 [does it say]? “[THE] [COMMENT {He} MADE] [IS] [NEAR]
 [YOU]—[IN] [YOUR] [MOUTH] [AND] [IN] [YOUR]
 [HEART].” [That] [is], [The] [Comment {He} Made]
 [regarding The] [Belief in God's **Promise**] [that] [we are
 preaching], ⁹[that] [if]: (1) [You acknowledge [Jesus] as]
 [His Majesty] [with] [Your] [Mouth], [and] (2) [You
 believe] [in] [Your] [Heart] [that] [The] [{Living} God]
 [raised] [Him] [from] [Those Who Are Dead], [You will be
 saved]; ¹⁰[for] [one believes God's **promise**] [in {his}
 Heart], [resulting in] [a Declaration of Not Guilty], [but]
 [the truth {of God's **promise**} is acknowledged] [with
 {the} Mouth], [resulting in] [Salvation].
 (Romans 10:1–10) —HSSB

If that doesn't convince you that Jesus intended the things He taught to be *handed down* orally, nothing will. And your illogical predilection to reject something that is as obvious as the nose on your face is why I explained “The Way” God intended the Church to handle *The Teaching*. You see, the Evangelists in the Church were supposed to preach the Truth of the Gospel message to unbelievers *outside the Church* so they could repent and be born again; the Teachers were supposed to *hand down* the Truth of *The Teaching* by speaking to Believers *inside the Church*.

The Evangelists that God called managed to retain the essence of the Gospel down to our own day, but the Teachers failed to hold on to *The Teaching*. That is directly attributable to the “illogical predilection” I mentioned above, so I will conclude this short diatribe with a warning to those who have eyes to see and ears to hear—that is, those without that “illogical predilection.”

The Truth is, God set up a salvation process that will determine whether your soul is worth saving, and you are going to prove whether it is or is not worth saving by your response to the Truth; so let me briefly explain how the salvation process works. It begins when you hear the Truth *spoken audibly* or you read it and hear it *spoken mentally*. Either way, the Truth you hear comes into the Spirit of your conscious mind and you are immediately faced with a decision as to what you are going to do with it. That is, your soul is going to *make a decision* as to whether or not you believe it and make it a part of who you are. That's where the rub comes in.

You see, your brain is made up of two parts that are connected by a bridge that allows the two parts to work together so that your soul—your subconscious mind—can *understand* the Truth that you have heard and decide whether or not to believe it. Folks still *talk about* those two parts in terms of a right-brain/left-brain theory that is somewhat outdated, but the basics are still valid, so I am going to explain what you need to know about that. Maybe then you will not only understand how God is going to use the function of the brain to accomplish salvation in some, but also how Satan has been using it to create the political polarization that will lead to the holocaust.

The left half of your brain is the logical part; it works with words, and dearly loves to focus on details. The right side of your brain, by contrast, is the creative part; its preference is to focus on the big picture rather than the details. If you are running a bit ahead of me, it may have already occurred to you that “*The Way*” the two parts of your brain work together is why God spoke through the Prophets in terms of Hebrew idioms (words) and *parabolic imagery* (pictures). You would be right in that supposition; but that is only part of what you need to know about how God expects you to use your brain to *understand* the Truth if you intend to do what the Apostle Paul urges:

¹[Therefore], [I implore] [you], [Brothers], [via] [The] [Compassion] [of The] [{Living} God], [to *present*] [your] [Bodies] [as a [living], [holy] Sacrifice], [well-pleasing] [to The] [{Living} God]—[your] [logical] [Priestly Service]. ²[And] [do [not] be shaped] [by] [This] [Current Age], [but] [be transformed] [by The] [Renewing] [of your] [Mind], [so] [that] [you] [approve of] [what] [The] [Will] [of The] [{Living} God] {is}—

[which is] [good] [and] [well-pleasing] [and] [complete].
(Romans 12:1–2) —HSSB

Here's a short list of the characteristics of how the two sides of your brain work:

LEFT BRAIN	RIGHT BRAIN
Reasons Logically	Reasons Emotionally
Thinks Objectively	Thinks Subjectively
Mentally Hears Words	Mentally Sees Pictures
Prefers the Status Quo	Seeks Change
Plans Ahead	Prefers Spontaneity
Deals With Reality	Imagines What Could Be
Focuses on Details	Focuses on the Whole
Thinks Independently	Prefers to Work in a Group

If it has already occurred to you that those two lists could be describing the characteristics of political progressives (seek change) and conservatives (prefer the status quo), you are right, but only partially. The Truth is, no one person is entirely one way or the other.

The two sides of the brain work in tandem, so an individual can easily exhibit characteristics from both sides equally. But an individual can just as easily allow one side to become dominant at the expense of the other. That is where the political polarization that Satan is counting on comes into play, and it is going to get progressively worse right up until the end. So you can bet the Lord expects you to remain right smack dab in the middle and let both sides of your brain work together to sort out what is true and try to *understand* it. If that were not so, God would never have spoken to both sides of your brain through Hebrew idioms (words) and *parabolic images* (pictures).

Now that you know a bit more about the reality related to the working of the spirit and the soul, I leave you with this:

¹¹[Therefore], [we must make every effort] [to come in] [to] [That] [Rest], [so that] [no] [one] [would fall] [by] [The] [same] [Perfect Example] [of their] [Apathy]. ¹²[For] [The] [Word] [of The] [{Living} God] {is} [living] [and] [effectual] [and] [more cutting*] [than] [any] [double-edged] [Sword], [and] [one that penetrates*] [as far as] [{the} Dividing] [of Soul] [and] [Spirit]—[of [both] Joints*] [and] [Marrow*]—[and] [able to judge*] [{the} Contemplations] [and] [Intentions] [of a Heart].
(Hebrews 4:11–12) —HSSB ■



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: A woman is wondering how you see the words Jesus spoke at the Last Supper in light of the “parabolic pantomime” view of what it says in the Bible. The subject is the practice of the communion service, not so much in the Protestant churches where it is done as a “memorial” but in the Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox churches when those items of bread and wine change into the real body and blood of Jesus. She is not looking to criticize or offend anyone, especially God, but she needs to know how you interpret this practice. In addition, she questions the duty of “Eucharistic Adoration” where people sit near a specially displayed consecrated wafer from the communion service as if it is really Jesus Himself there next to them, and they keep Him company. She ended by writing:

“I always have questions about this part of ‘normal’ worship because I don’t actually know how it came about that people would want to ‘consume’ the body of Jesus anyway. It has to be a mistake in the translation or interpretation.”

Elijah: Before I respond to the question you were asked, let me explain a bit about the history of the two conflicting views. The issue arose during the Protestant Reformation, when a man named Huldrych Zwingli parted ways with Martin Luther, the man who is credited with starting the Reformation. Martin Luther, a Catholic priest, held to the traditional view of the

Roman Catholic Church. Zwingli begged to differ, and let it be known quite openly:

Zwingli and Luther were in many respects in substantial agreement, but they were temperamentally unlike, and their religious experiences had been very different. Luther had reached his goal by a profound religious struggle, involving a transforming sense of relationship between his soul and God. Zwingli had travelled the humanists’ road, though going much farther than most humanists. His emphases were unlike Luther’s. To Zwingli the will of God rather than the way of salvation was the central fact of theology. To Luther the Christian life was one of freedom in forgiven sonship. To Zwingli it was far more one of conformity to the will of God as set forth in the Bible.

Zwingli’s nature was intellectual and critical. In no point of Christian doctrine was his diversity from Luther more apparent than in their unlike interpretation of the Lord’s Supper, and here their disagreement unfortunately ultimately sundered the Evangelical ranks. To Luther Christ’s words, “This is my body,” were literally true. His deep religious feeling saw in an actual partaking of Christ the surest pledge of that union with Christ and forgiveness of sins of which the Supper was the divinely attested promise. But as early as 1521 a Dutch lawyer, Cornelius Hoen, had argued that the proper interpretation is “This signifies my body.” Hoen’s argument came to Zwingli’s notice in 1523, and confirmed the symbolic understanding of the words to which he was already inclined. Henceforth he denied any physical presence of Christ in the Supper, and emphasized its memorial character and its significance as uniting a congregation of believers in a common attestation of loyalty to their Lord. By 1524 the rival interpretations had led to an embittered controversy of pamphlets in which Luther and Bugenhagen on the one side and Zwingli and Oecolampadius on the other, and their respective associates, took part. The most important work of Luther’s was his [Great] Confessions Concerning the Lord’s Supper, of 1528. Little charity was shown on either side. To Zwingli Luther’s assertion of the physical presence of Christ was an unreasoning remnant of Catholic superstition. A physical body could only be in one place. To Luther Zwingli’s interpretation was a sinful exaltation of reason above Scripture, and he sought to explain the physical presence of Christ on ten thousand altars at once by a scholastic assertion, derived largely from Occam, that the qualities of Christ’s divine nature, including ubiquity, were communicated to His human nature. Luther was anxious, also, to

maintain that the believer partook of the whole divine-human Christ, and to avoid any dismemberment of His person. Luther declared Zwingli and his supporters to be no Christians, while Zwingli affirmed that Luther was worse than the Roman champion, Eck. Zwingli's views, however, met with approval not only of German-speaking Switzerland but of much of southwestern Germany. The Roman party rejoiced at this evident division of the Evangelical forces.

Williston Walker, *A History of the Christian Church*, Charles Scribner's Sons, New York: 1970, p. 324.

Now that you know why Protestants have one view, and Catholics another, I need to show you the passages in the Scriptures that pertain to the issue. There are, first of all, the accounts of the Last Supper in the Gospels:

¹⁷[And then], [on The] [First Day] [of The] [Feast of Unleavened Bread], [The] [Disciples] [approached] [Jesus], [saying], "[Where] [do You want] [us to prepare] [The] [Passover] [for You] [to eat]?" ¹⁸[So] [He] [said], "[Go on] [into] [The] [City] [to] [The] [One I Cannot Name*] [and] [tell] [him], '[The] [Teacher] [says], '[My] [Time] [is] [near]; [I, [with] [My] [Disciples], am going to spend] [The] [Passover] [with] [You].'" ¹⁹[And] [The] [Disciples] [did] [as] [Jesus] [had arranged with] [them], [and] [they prepared] [The] [Passover]. ²⁰[So then], [when it was] [late in the day], [He was lying back and relaxing] [with] [The] [Twelve]. ²¹[And] [while] [they] were eating], [He said], "[Without doubt], [I tell] [you] [that] [One] [of] [you] [will hand [Me] over]." ²²[And] [being in [extreme] anguish], [each] [One] [began] [to tell] [Him], "[I] [am] [not by any means] going to {do that}], [Your Majesty]" ²³[But] [in response], [He] [said]: "[The one who] [has dipped] [his] [Hand] [in] [The] [Crockery] [with] [Me]; [This Individual] [will hand [Me] over]. ²⁴[On the one hand], [The] [Son] [of The] [Man] [is going to go], [just as] [it has been written] [about] [Him]; [but on the other hand], [Woe] [to That] [Man] [through] [whom] [The] [Son] [of The] [Man] [is going to be handed over]. [It would have been] [far better] [for him] [if] [That] [Man] [had] [not] been engendered.'" ²⁵[And then], [in response], [Judas]—[the one who] [was going to hand [Him] over]—[said], "[I] [am] [not by any means] going to {do that}], [Rabbi]!" [He tells] [him], "[So [You] said]." ²⁶**[And then], [while] [they] were eating], [Jesus], [after taking] [a Loaf of Bread] [and] [blessing {it}], [broke {it}];**

[and]—[after giving {it}] [to His] [Disciples]—[said]: "[Take {it}]! [Eat {it}]! [This] [is] [My] [Body]." ²⁷[And] [after taking] [a Cup] [and] [giving thanks], [He gave {it}] [to them], [saying]: "[You must [all] drink] [some] [of it]. ²⁸[For] [This] [is] [The Blood] [of] [My] [Testament], [which] [is going to be poured out] [for] [Many] [for] [Forgiveness] [of Sins]. ²⁹[But] [I tell] [you], [I will] [definitely not] drink] [any] [of] [This] [Produce] [of The] [Vine] [from] [this point] on] [until] [That] [Day] [when] [I drink] [it] [with] [you] [new] [in] [The] [Kingdom] [of] [My] [Father]." (Matthew 26:17–29) —HSSB

¹⁰[Then] [Judas] [Iscaiot]—[who was] [One] [of The] [Twelve]—[went away] [to] [The] [High Priests], [so that] [he could hand [Him] over] [to them]. ¹¹[So] [those who] [heard {what he said}] [rejoiced], [and] [they promised] [to give] [him] [Silver]. [So] [he was looking for] [how] [he could hand [Him] over] [at an opportune time]. ¹²[Then], [on The] [first] [Day] [of The] [Feast of Unleavened Bread], [when] [they were going to sacrifice] [The] [Passover Lamb], [His] [Disciples] [say] [to Him], "[Where] [do You want] [us to go] prepare {it}], [so that] [You may eat] [The] [Passover]?" ¹³[And] [He sends] [Two] [of] [His] [Disciples]; [and] [He tells] [them]: "[Go on] [into] [The] [City], [and] [a Man] [who is carrying] [an Earthenware Container] [of Water] [will come out to meet] [you]. [Follow] [him], ¹⁴[and] [wherever] [it may be that] [he comes in], [tell] [The] [Owner of the House] [that] '[The] [Teacher] [says], "[Where] [is] [My] [Guest Room] [where] [I may eat] [The] [Passover] [with] [My] [Disciples]?"'" ¹⁵[And] [he] [will show] [you] [a [large] Upstairs Room] [that has been spread out] [ready], [and] [you must prepare {it}] [for us] [there]." ¹⁶[So] [The] [Disciples] [left] [and] [came] [into] [The] [City], [and] [they found {it}] [just as] [He told] [them]. [And] [they prepared] [The] [Passover].

¹⁷[Then], [when it was] [late in the day], [He came] [with] [The] [Twelve]; ¹⁸[and] [while] [they] were lying back and relaxing] [and] [eating], [Jesus] [said], "[Without doubt], [I tell] [you] [that] [One] [of] [you]—[the one who] [is eating] [with] [Me]—[will hand [Me] over]." ¹⁹[They began] [to be in anguish] [and] [to tell] [Him] [One] [by] [One], "[Not by any means] [I]!" ²⁰[So then] [He] [told] [them]: "{It is} [One] [of The] [Twelve], [the one who] [dips {his hand} in] [to] [The] [Crockery] [with] [Me]. ²¹[Because], [on the one hand], [The] [Son] [of The] [Man] [is going to go] [just as] [it has been written]

[about] [Him]; [but on the other hand], [Woe] [to] [That] [Man] [through] [whom] [The] [Son] [of The] [Man] [is going to be handed over]. [Far better] [for him] [if] [That] [Man] [had] [not] [been engendered]." ²²[Then], [while [they] were eating], [after taking] [a Loaf of Bread] {and} [blessing {it}], [He broke {it}] [and] [gave {it}] [to them] [and] [said]: "[Take {it}]! [This] [is] [My] [Body]." ²³[And] [after taking] [a Cup] {and} [giving thanks], [He gave {it}] [to them]; [and] [they [all] drank] [some] [of it]. ²⁴[Then] [He told] [them]: "[This] [is] [My] [Blood] [of The] [Testament], [which] [is going to be poured out] [for the sake] [of Many]. ²⁵[Without doubt] [I tell] [you] [that] [I will] [definitely not] [drink] [any more] [of] [The] [Produce] [of The] [Vine] [until] [That] [Day] [when] [I drink] [it] [new] [in] [The] [Kingdom] [of The] [{Living} God]." (Mark 14:10–25) —HSSB

It should be obvious to anyone with half a brain and one eye open that the Last Supper was not only a Passover Seder but also a *parabolic pantomime* in which Jesus depicted Himself as a Passover Lamb Who was going to be delivered up to be sacrificed. That being the case, you should be asking yourself what the bread and wine *parabolically* represent—that is, what ARE they LIKE. While you do that, take a look at what Luke tells us:

⁷[And then] [The] [Day] [of The] [Feast of Unleavened Bread] [came], [on] [which] [The] [Passover Lamb] [had] [to be sacrificed]; ⁸[so] [He sent] [Peter] [and] [John], [saying]: "[Go]! [Prepare] [The] [Passover Lamb] [for us], [so that] [we may eat]." ⁹[So] [they] [said] [to Him], "[Where] [do You want] [us to prepare {it}]?" ¹⁰[So] [He] [told] [them]: "[Guess what!] [When] [you] come in] [to] [The] [City], [a Man] [carrying] [an Earthenware Container] [of Water] [will meet] [you]. [Follow] [him] [into] [The] [House] [in] [to] [which] he goes], ¹¹[and] [say] [to The] [Owner] [of The] [House], '[The] [Teacher] [says] [to You], "[Where] [is] [The] [Guest Room] [where] [I may eat] [The] [Passover Lamb] [with] [My] [Disciples]?"' ¹²[And That Individual] [will show] [you] [a [large] Upstairs Room] [that has been spread out]. [Prepare {it}] [there]." ¹³[So] [after going away], [they found {it}] [just as] [He had told] [them]; [and] [they prepared] [The] [Passover Lamb]. ¹⁴[Then], [when] [The] [Hour] [came], [He—[and] [The] [Apostles] [along with] [Him]—leaned back and relaxed]. ¹⁵[And] [He said] [to] [them], "[I have had] [a Selfish Desire] [to

eat] [This] [Passover Lamb] [with] [you] [before] [I] [suffer]; ¹⁶[for] [I tell] [you] [that] [I can] [definitely not] eat] [it] [until] [it is fully complete] [in] [The] [Kingdom] [of The] [{Living} God]." ¹⁷[Then] [having accepted] [a Cup], [after giving thanks], [He said], "[Take] [This] [and] [divide {it} up] [for] [yourselves]; ¹⁸[for] [I tell] [you] [that] [from [now] on], [I will] [definitely not] drink] [from] [The] [Produce] [of The] [Vine] [until] [The] [Kingdom] [of The] [{Living} God] [comes]." ¹⁹[Then], [after taking] [a Loaf of Bread] {and} [giving thanks], [He broke {it}] [and] [gave {it}] [to them], [saying]: "[This] [is] [My] [Body], [which] [is going to be given] [for [your] sake]. [Do] [This] [as] [your] [Remembrance] [of Me]." ²⁰[And] [in the same way], [The] [Cup], [after] [{they} had dinner], [saying]: "[This] [Cup] {is} [The] [new] [Testament] [in] [My] [Blood], [which] [is going to be poured out] [for [your] sake]. ²¹[But] [guess what!] [The] [Hand] [of the one who] [is going to hand [Me] over] {is} [on] [The] [Table] [with] [Mine]. ²²[Because] [The] [Son] [of The] [Man] [is, [in fact], going to go] [in accordance with] [what] [has been stipulated]; [but] [Woe] [to] [That] [Man] [through] [whom] [He is going to be handed over]." ²³[So] [they] [began] [to argue [with] [one another] about] [which one] [of] [them] [then] [might be] [the one who] [was going] [to be involved in] [This]? ²⁴[So then] [an Argument*] [also] [ensued] [among] [them]: [The {issue of}] [which one] [of them] [seemed] [to be] [most important]? ²⁵[So] [He] [told] [them]: "[The] [Kings] [of The] [Gentiles] [are [their] slave masters], [yet] [those who] [have authority over] [them] [are called] '[Benefactors*]'. ²⁶[So] [you] {are} [not] [like this], [but] [the] [most important] [among] [you] [must be] [like] [the] [youngest], [and] [the one who] [is esteemed] [like] [the one who] [is serving]. ²⁷[For] [which one is] [more important]? [The one who] [lies back and relaxes] [or] [the one who] [is serving]? [{Is it} not] [the one who] [lies back and relaxes]? [But] [I] [am] [in] [your] [Midst] [like] [the one who] [is serving].

²⁸[Now] [you] [are] [those who] [have continued to be] [with] [Me] [during] [My] [Tests], ²⁹[so I] [am going to make a bequest [to you] by a testament] [just as] [My] [Father] [made [a Kingdom] as a bequest [to Me] by a testament]—³⁰[so that] [you may eat] [and] [drink] [at] [My] [Table] [in] [My] [Kingdom]. [You will] [also] sit] [on] [Thrones], [judging] [The] [twelve] [Tribes] [of] [Israel]." (Luke 22:7–30) —HSSB

There you go. Luke makes it perfectly clear Jesus and His disciples were eating a Passover lamb. But he also tells us Jesus told His disciples the purpose of the *parabolic pantomime* was intended to depict the ratification of the New Covenant that He makes clear by His choice of words was actually a “new testament” whose function was to transfer title to God’s Kingdom to His disciples as a “bequest.” So the question is, What is He talking about?

I have already explained in *The Inheritance of the Believer, Volume 1*, how the two New Covenants correspond to the two Old Covenants. That is, just like the first Old Covenant, the first New Covenant demanded the perfect obedience of Jesus Christ, the sole remaining Member of Corporate Israel; but the second Old and New Covenants provided a means of atonement for the individual members of Corporate Israel so that they could avoid being “cut off from” Corporate Israel.

I have also told you that, at His Baptism, Jesus accepted the terms of the first New Covenant and went on to adhere to those terms without sin. After He began His ministry, He offered the second New Covenant to everyone as an *oral testament* that requires only belief in *the promise* so that those who become members of His Body by means of the new birth can avoid being “cut off from” Him. Here is Matthew’s account of what Jesus said when He made His oral will:

⁴⁶[While [He] was [still] speaking] [to The] [Crowds], [guess what!] [His] [Mother] [and] [Brothers] [were standing] [outside] [seeking] [to speak] [to Him].

⁴⁷[So] [someone] [told] [Him], “[Guess what!] [Your] [Mother] [and] [Your] [Brothers] [are standing] [outside] [seeking] [to speak] [to You].” ⁴⁸[But] [in response], [He] [said] [to the one who] [was telling] [Him], “[Who] [is] [My] [Mother] [and] [who] [are] [My] [Brothers]?” ⁴⁹[And] [after stretching out] [His] [Hand] [over] [His] [Disciples], [He said]: “[Guess what! These are] [My] [Mother] [and] [My] [Brothers]! ⁵⁰[For] [whoever] [it might be who] [acts in accordance with] [The] [Will] [of] [My] [Father], [Who is] [in] [the] Heavens, [he] [is] [My] [Brother] [and] [Sister] [and] [Mother].”

(Matthew 12:46–50) —HSSB

I have long since explained the meaning and significance of the things Jesus said in that short declaration. They can be found in an article I wrote for the July 1991

issue of this newsletter titled “Did Jesus Leave a Will?” Knowing the things I explain there, you should be able to see that, in what Jesus said at the Last Supper, He was referring to the fact that His death was going to invoke the terms of the *oral testament* He had already made. That bit of information will, in turn, allow us to understand what the bread and wine of the Last Supper *parabolically* depict. But we are still missing some crucial information that the Apostle John provides, so I am going to show you what he says Jesus said at the Last Supper:

¹[So then], [before] [The] [Feast] [of The] [Passover], [Jesus]—(1) [being aware] [that] [His] [Hour] [had come], [so that] [He could move on] [out] [of] [This] [World] [to] [The] [Father]; (2) [having loved] [those who were] [His Own] [who were] [in] [The] [World] ([He loved] [them] [to] [The Consummation]); ²[and] (3) [while [a Dinner Meal] was occurring]; (4) [when [The] [False Accuser] had [already] put {it} [into] [The] [Heart] [of Judas], [son] of Simon [Iscariot], [so that] [he would hand [Him] over]; ³(5) [being aware] (a) [that] [The] [Father] [had given] [everything] [to Him] ([into] [His] [Hands]) [and] (b) [that] [He had come out] [from] [God] [and] [was going to go on] [to] [The] [Living] God—⁴[gets up] [from] [The] [Dinner Meal] [and] [puts [His] [Overgarments] down]. [And] [after taking] [a Linen Cloth], [He girded {it} around] [Himself]. ⁵[Then] [He put] [Water] [into] [The] [Basin*] [and] [began] [to wash] [The] [Feet] [of The] [Disciples] [and] [wipe {them}] [with The] [Linen Cloth] [with which] [He was] [girded]. ⁶[Therefore], [He came] [to] [Simon] [Peter]. [He said] [to Him], “[Your Majesty], [are [You] going to wash] [my] [Feet]?” ⁷[Jesus] [responded] [and] [told] [him], “[You] [are not] aware of [what] [I] [am doing] [at this time], [but] [You will find out] [after] [These Things].” ⁸[Peter] [tells] [Him], “[You will [definitely not] wash] [my] [Feet] [in] [The] [Current Age]!” [Jesus] [responded] [to him], “[If] [I do not] wash [You], [You do not] have [a Part] [with] [Me].” ⁹[Simon] [Peter] [tells] [Him], “[Your Majesty], [not] [only] [my] [Feet], [but] [also] [my] [Hands] [and] [my] [Head]!” ¹⁰[Jesus] [tells] [him]: “[The one who] [has been bathed] [does not] have [Any Need] [to wash {anything}] [except] [his] [Feet], [but] [The Entirety] [is] [clean]. [And] [you] [are] [clean]—[but] [not] [all of {you}].” ¹¹[For] [He was aware of] [who] [was going to hand [Him] over]. [For] [This Reason] [He said], “[You are] [not] [all] [clean].”

¹²[Therefore], [when] [He had washed] [their] [Feet] [and] [taken up] [His] [Overgarments] [and] [leaned back and relaxed] [again], [He said] [to them]: “[Do you know] [what] [I have done] [for you]? ¹³[You] [call] [Me], [‘My] [Teacher]’ [and] [‘Your Majesty’]; [and] [you say {that}] [exceptionally well], [for] [I am]. ¹⁴[Therefore], [if] [I]—[your] [Master] [and] [your] [Teacher]—[wash] [your] [Feet], [you] [also] [have an obligation] [to wash] [The] [Feet] [of one another]. ¹⁵[For] [I gave] [you] [a Perfect Example], [so that] [just as] [I] [did] [for you], [you] [would [also] do for {others}]. ¹⁶[Without doubt]! [Without doubt] [I tell] [you], [a Slave] [is] [not] [more important than] [his] [Master]; [neither] {is} [an Apostle] [more important than] [the One Who] [sent] [him]. ¹⁷[If] [you are aware of] [These Things], [you are] [fortunate]—[if] [you act in accordance with] [them]. ¹⁸[I am [not] talking] [about] [every one] [of you]. [I] [know] [which ones] [I have chosen], [but only] [so that] [The] [Scripture] [would be fulfilled]: [‘THE ONE WHO] [IS CHOWING DOWN ON] [MY] [BREAD] [HAS LIFTED UP] [HIS] [HEEL *] [AGAINST] [ME].’ ¹⁹[From [this point] on], [I am going to tell] [you] {what is going to occur} [before] [it] [occurs], [so that] [when] [it occurs], [you may believe] [that] [I] [Am]. ²⁰[Without doubt]! [Without doubt] [I tell] [you], [the one who] [accepts] [anyone] [it might be that] [I send] [accepts] [Me]; [but] [the one who] [accepts] [Me] [accepts] [the One Who] [sent] [Me].” ²¹[After saying] [These Things], [Jesus] [was disturbed] [in His] [Spirit] [and] [provided testimony] [and] [said], “[Without doubt]! [Without doubt], [I tell] [you] [that] [One] [of] [you] [will hand] [Me] over.” ²²[The] [Disciples]—[who were perplexed] [about] [what] [He was talking about]—[were looking] [at] [one another]. ²³[One] [of] [His] [Disciples]—[the one whom] [Jesus] [loved]—[was] [lying back and relaxing] [in] [The] [Fold of] [Jesus’] [Garment]. ²⁴[Therefore], [Simon] [Peter] [nods] [for This Individual] [to inquire] [which one] [it might [possibly] be] [that] [He is talking] [about]. ²⁵[Therefore], [after leaning back and relaxing] [the same way] [on] [The] [Chest] [of] [Jesus], [That Individual] [says] [to Him], “[Your Majesty], [who] [is it]?” ²⁶[Jesus] [responds], “[That Individual] [is] [the one for whom] [I] [will dip] [The] [Morsel] [and] [give {it}] [to him].” [Therefore], [after dipping] [The] [Morsel], [He takes {it}] [and] [gives {it}] [to Judas], [{son} of Simon] [Iscaiot]. ²⁷[And] [at that time], [after] {he took} [The] [Morsel], [Satan] [came in] [to] [That Individual]. [Therefore], [Jesus] [tells] [him], “[Whatever] [you are going to do], [do {it}] [more quickly].” ²⁸[Now] [none] [of

those who] [were lying back and relaxing] [knew] [why] [He said] [This] [to] [him]. ²⁹[For] [some] [assumed]—[since] [Judas] [was holding] [The] [Money Bag]—[that] [Jesus] [was telling] [him], “[Buy] [the things that] [we have] [Need] of] [for] [The] [Feast],” [or] [that] [he should give] [something] [to those who are] [poor]. ³⁰[Therefore], [after accepting] [The] [Morsel], [That Individual] [left] [straightaway]; [and then] [it was] [Night].

³¹[Therefore], [when] [he left], [Jesus] [says]: “[Now] [The] [Son] [of The] [Man] [has been glorified], [and] [The] [{Living} God] [has been glorified] [in] [Him]. ³²[If] [The] [{Living} God] [has been glorified] [in] [Him], [then] [The] [{Living} God] [will glorify] [Him] [in] [Himself]; [and] [He will glorify] [Him] [straightaway]. ³³[Little Children], [I am going to be] [with] [you] [for a little while] [longer]. [You will look for] [Me], [and] [just as] [I told] [The] [Jews] [that] [‘where] [I] [am going], [you] [can] [not] [come],’ [I [also] tell] [you] [at this time]. ³⁴[I am going to give] [you] [a [new] Commandment]—[that] [you should love] [one another] [just as] [I loved] [you]—[so that] [you] [would [also] love] [one another]. ³⁵[By] [This {Love}] [everyone] [will know] [that] [you are] [My] [Disciples]—[when] [you have] [Love] [for] [one another].”

³⁶[Simon] [Peter] [says] [to Him], “[Your Majesty], [where] [are You going]?” [Jesus] [responds] [to him], “[You can] [not] [follow] [Me] [where] [I am going] [now], [but] [you will follow] [later].” ³⁷[Peter] [says] [to Him]: “[Your Majesty], [why] [can I] [not] [follow] [You] [at this time]? [I will put] [My] [Soul] down [for] [Your sake]!” ³⁸[Jesus] [responds]: “[Will you put] [Your] [Soul] down [for] [My] sake? [Without doubt]! [Without doubt] [I tell] [You], [a Rooster] [will] [definitely not] crow [until] [You deny] [Me] [three times].”

¹[Do [not] let] [Your] [Heart] be disturbed; [you believe God’s **promise**] [about] [The] [{Living} God]; [you must [also] believe God’s **promise**] [about] [Me]. ²[There are] [a lot of] [Dwelling Places] [in] [My] [Father’s] [House]; [but] [if] {there were} [none], [I [would] have told] [you], [because] [I am going] [to prepare] [a Place] [for you]. ³[So] [if] [I go] [and] [prepare] [a Place] [for you], [I am going to come] [again] [and] [take] [you] [to] [Myself], [so that] [you] [also] [are] [wherever] [I] [Am]. ⁴[And] [you know] [The] [Way] [to where] [I] [am going].” ⁵[Thomas] [tells] [Him], “[Your Majesty], [we do [not] know] [where] [You are going]; [how] [could we] [know] [The] [Way]?” ⁶[Jesus] [tells] [him]: “[I] [Am] [The] [Way] [and] [The] [Truth] [and] [The] [Life]; [nobody] [is going to come] [to]

[The] [Father] [except] [through] [Me]. ⁷[If] [you have known] [Me], [you will [also] know] [My] [Father]; [and] [from [this point] on] [you are going to know] [Him]. [You have seen] [even] [Him]."

⁸[Philip] [tells] [Him], "[Your Majesty], [show] [us] [The] [Father], [and] [it is enough] [for us]." ⁹[Jesus] [tells] [him]: "[Am I] [with] [you] [so long] [a Span of Time], [and] [you do [not] know] [Me], [Philip]? [The one who] [has seen] [Me] [has seen] [The] [Father]! [How] [can [You] say], '[Show] [us] [The] [Father]'?" ¹⁰[Do You] [not] believe [that] [I] {am} [in] [The] [Father], [and] [The] [Father] [is] [in] [Me]? [I am [not] making] [The] [Comments] [that] [I] [am making] [to you] [of] [My Own accord], [but] [The] [Father] [Who remains] [in] [Me] [is doing] [His] [Works]. ¹¹[Believe God's **promise**] [about Me], [that] [I] {am} [in] [The] [Father] [and] [The] [Father] {is} [in] [Me]; [otherwise], [believe God's **promise**] {regarding Me} [because of] [The] [Works] [themselves]. ¹²[Without doubt]! [Without doubt] [I tell] [you], [the one who] [believes God's **promise**] [about] [Me], [even That Individual] [will do] [The] [Works] [that] [I] [am doing]; [he will [even] do {works}] [more tremendous than] [These], [because] [I] [am going to go] [to] [The] [Father]. ¹³[And] [anything], [whatever] [it might be that] [you request] [in] [My] [Name], [this is what] [I will do], [so that] [The] [Father] [may be glorified] [by] [The] [Son]. ¹⁴[If] [you request [anything] of] [Me] [in] [My] [Name], [I] [will do {it}].

¹⁵[If] [you love] [Me], [you will keep watch over] [The] [Commandments] [that] [I have]; ¹⁶[and I] [will ask] [The] [Father]; [and] [He will give] [you] [another] [Advocate], [so that] [He may be] [with] [you] [into] [The] [Age to Come]—¹⁷[The] [Spirit] [of] [The] [Truth] [that] [The] [World] [can] [not] [accept], [because] [it does [not] observe] [or] [know] [Him]. [You] [are going to know] [Him], [because] [He is going to remain] [with] [you] [and] [will be] [in] [you].

¹⁸[I will [not] leave] [you] [Orphans]; [I am going to come] [to] [you]. ¹⁹[A little while] [longer], [and] [The] [World] [will [no longer] observe] [Me]; [but] [you] [will observe] [Me]. [Because] [I] [live], [you] [will [also] live]. ²⁰[On] [That] [Day], [you] [will know] [that] [I] {am} [in] [My] [Father], [and] [you] {are} [in] [Me], [and I] {am} [in] [you]. ²¹[The one who] [has] [My] [Commandments] [and] [keeps watch over] [them], [That Individual] [is] [the one who] [loves] [Me]. [And then] [the one who] [loves] [Me] [will be loved] [by] [My] [Father], [and I] [will love]

[him] [and] [make [Myself] apparent] [to him]." ²²[Judas]—[not] [Iscaiot]—[says] [to Him], "[So] [what] [has occurred], [Your Majesty], [that] [You are going] [to make [Yourself] apparent] [to us] [and] [not] [to The] [World]?" ²³[Jesus] [responded] [and] [told] [him]: "[If] [anyone] [loves] [Me], [he will keep watch over] [My] [Word]; [and] [My] [Father] [will love] [him], [and] [We will come] [to] [him] [and] [make] [a Dwelling Place] [with] [him]. ²⁴[The one who] [does [not] love] [Me] [is [not] going to keep watch over] [My] [Words]. [Yet] [The] [Word] [that] [you hear] [is] [not] [Mine], [but] {the word} [of The] [Father] [Who sent] [Me].

²⁵[I have spoken] [These Things] [to you] [while remaining] [with] [you], ²⁶[but] [The] [Advocate]—[The] [Spirit] [that is] [holy], [the One that] [The] [Father] [will send] [in] [My] [Name]—[That Individual] [will teach] [you] [everything] [and] [remind [you] of] [everything] [that] [I] [told] [you]. ²⁷[I am going to leave] [Peace] [for you]; [I am going to give] [you] [a Peace] [that] [I have]. [I] [am going to give] [you] {a peace} [not] [at all like] [The] [World] [gives]. [Do [not] let [Your] [Heart] be disturbed] [or] [cowardly*]; ²⁸[you have heard {the word}] [that] [I] [told] [you]: '[I am going to go] [and] [come back] [to] [you].' [If] [you loved] [Me], [you [would] have rejoiced] [that] [I am going to go] [to] [The] [Father], [because] [The] [Father] [is] [more important than] [I]. ²⁹[So] [now] [I have told] [you] {what is going to occur} [before] [it occurs], [so that] [when] [it occurs], [you may believe God's **promise**]. ³⁰[I will [no longer] talk about] [Many Things] [with] [you], [for] [The] [Ruler] [of The] [World] [is going to come], [and] [he does [not] have] [anything at all] [in] [Me]. ³¹[But] [so that] [The] [World] [may know] [that] [I love] [The] [Father], [and] [just as] [The] [Father] [gave] [Me] a commandment], [so also] [am I going to do]. [Get up]! [We should go on], [away from here].

¹[I] [Am] [The] [Vine] [that is] [real], [and] [My] [Father] [is] [The] [Cultivator]. ²[Every] [Cutting] [in] [Me] [that is [not] bearing] [Fruit], [He is going to take [it] away]; [and] [anything] [that] [is bearing] [Fruit], [He is going to clean [it] up*], [so that] [it may bear] [much more] [Fruit]. ³[You] [are] [already] [clean] [because of] [The] [Word] [that] [I have spoken] [to you]. ⁴[You must remain] [in] [Me], [and I] {will remain} [in] [you]. [Just as] [The] [Cutting] [can] [not] [bear] [Fruit] [of] [its own accord] [if] [it does [not] remain] [on] [The] [Vine], [so also] [neither] {can} [you], [if] [you do [not] remain] [in] [Me]. ⁵[I] [Am] [The] [Vine]; [you] {are} [The] [Cuttings]. [The one who] [remains] [in] [Me],

[and I] [in] [him], [This Individual] [is going to bear] [a lot of] [Fruit], [because] [apart from] [Me], [you can] [not] [do] [anything at all]. ⁶[If] [anyone] [does] [not] [remain] [in] [Me], [he has been thrown] [out] [and] [shriveled up] [like] [The] [Cutting]; [and] [they are going to gather] [them] up [and] [throw {them}] [into] [The] [Fire], [and] [they are going to be burned]. ⁷[If] [you remain] [in] [Me], [and] [The] [Comments I] Make [remain] [in] [you], [request] [whatever] [it may be that] [you want]; [and] [it will be done] [for you]. ⁸[My] [Father] [has been glorified] [in] [This Individual], [so that] [you would bear] [a lot of] [Fruit] [and] [become] [My] [Disciples]. ⁹[Just as] [The] [Father] [loved] [Me], [I also] [loved] [you]. [You must remain] [in] [The] [Love] [that] [I have]. ¹⁰[If] [you keep watch over] [My] [Commandments], [you will remain] [in] [My] [Love], [just as] [I] [have kept watch over] [The] [Commandments] [of] [My] [Father] [and] [remain] [in] [His] [Love]. ¹¹[I have spoken] [These Things] [to you], [so that] [The] [Joy] [that] [I have] [would be] [in] [you] [and] [your] [Joy] [would be fully complete]. ¹²[This] [is] [The] [Commandment] [that] [I have]: [That] [you would love] [one another] [just as] [I have loved] [you].

¹³[Nobody] [has] [a Love] [more intense than] [This]: [That] [someone] [would put] [His] [Soul] down [for the sake] [of] [His] [Friends]. ¹⁴[You] [are] [My] [Friends]—[if] [you act in accordance with] [the things that] [I] [am giving] [you] as a commandment. ¹⁵[I am] [no longer] going to call] [you] [Slaves], [because] [The] [Slave] [is] [not] aware of] [what] [his] [Master] [is doing]. [But] [I have called] [you] [Friends], [because] [I have made known] [to you] [everything] [that] [I heard] [from] [My] [Father]. ¹⁶[You] [did] [not] choose] [Me], [but] [I] [chose] [you]. [And] [I put] [you] down in writing; (1) [so that] [you] [would go on] [and] [bear] [Fruit] [and] [your] [Fruit] [would remain]; (2) [so that] [anything] [it might be] [that] [you request of] [The] [Father] [in] [My] [Name], [He would give {it}] [to you]. ¹⁷[I am giving] [you] [These Things] as a commandment, [so that] [you would love] [one another]. ¹⁸[If] [The] [World] [hates] [you], [you know] [that] [it has hated] [Me], [the first of all] [of you]. ¹⁹[If] [you were] [part] [of The] [World], [The] [World] [would] [be fond of] [its] [own]. [So then], [because] [you are] [not] [part] [of The] [World], [but] [I] [chose] [you] [out] [of The] [World], [for] [This Reason] [The] [World] [hates] [you]. ²⁰[Remember] [The] [Word] [that] [I] [told] [you]: ‘[A Slave] [is] [not] [more important than] [his] [Master].’ [If] [they persecuted] [Me], [they will] [also] per-

secute] [you]; [if] [they kept watch over] [My] [Word], [they will] [also] keep watch over] [your own]. ²¹[But] [they will do] [all] [These Things] [to] [you] [for] [My] [Name], [because] [they do] [not] know] [the One Who] [sent] [Me]. ²²[If] [I had] [not] come] [and] [spoken] [to them], [they would] [not] have] [Sin]. [But] [now] [they do] [not] have {any}] [Pretense] [about] [their] [Sin]. ²³[The one who] [hates] [Me] [also] [hates] [My] [Father]. ²⁴[If] [I had] [not] done] [among] [them] [The] [Works] [that] [nobody] [else] [has done], [they would] [not] have] [Sin]. [But] [now] [they have] [both] seen] [and] [hated] [both] [Me] [and] [My] [Father], ²⁵[but only] [so that] [The] [Word] [that] [has been written] [in] [their] [Law] [would be fulfilled], [that] ‘[THEY HATED] [ME] [FOR NO REASON].’

²⁶[When] [The] [Advocate] [that] [I] [will send] [to you] [from] [The] [Father] [comes]—[The] [Spirit] [of The] [Truth] [that] [is going to come out] [from] [The] [Father]—[That Individual] [will provide testimony] [about] [Me]. ²⁷[But] [you] [will] [also] provide testimony, [because] [you are] [with] [Me] [at] [The Beginning].”

(John 13:1–15:27) —HSSB

There are those who ignorantly argue that John is not describing the same Passover meal that Matthew, Mark, and Luke describe simply because in John 13:1 John says he is describing a meal that they ate “before the feast of the Passover.” I have already explained why John says that on another occasion, so I need not cover that ground again. (See “Questions & Answers,” *The Voice of Elijah*®, October 2006, pp. 16–25.)

Drink the Wine, Not the Water

Suffice it to say, there is something of significance going on with regard to the apparent discrepancy between what the Gospel of John and the other three Gospels say about the Last Supper. The Truth is, John is describing the same Passover meal that they do, but he is providing a whole lot more detail as to what Jesus said and did on that occasion. And what John tells us allows us insight into the meaning and significance of the bread and wine that Jesus used in the parabolic pantomime. Jesus is explaining the parabolic image of the wine when He says this:

¹⁴[I] [AM] [The] [Vine] [that is] [real], [and] [My] [Father] [is] [The] [Cultivator]. ²[Every] [Cutting] [in]

[Me] [that is [not] bearing] [Fruit], [He is going to take [it] away]; [and] [anything] [that] [is bearing] [Fruit], [He is going to clean [it] up*], [so that] [it may bear] [much more] [Fruit]. ³[You] [are] [already] [clean] [because of] [The] [Word] [that] [I have spoken] [to you]. ⁴[You must remain] [in] [Me], [and I] {will remain} [in] [you]. [Just as] [The] [Cutting] [can] [not] [bear] [Fruit] [of] [its own accord] [if] [it does [not] remain] [on] [The] [Vine], [so also] [neither] {can} [you], [if] [you do [not] remain] [in] [Me]. ⁵[I] [AM] [The] [Vine]; [you] {are} [The] [Cuttings]. [The one who] [remains] [in] [Me], [and I] [in] [him], [This Individual] [is going to bear] [a lot of] [Fruit], [because] [apart from] [Me], [you can] [not] [do] [anything at all]. ⁶[If] [anyone] [does [not] remain] [in] [Me], [he has been thrown] [out] [and] [shriveled up] [like] [The] [Cutting]; [and] [they are going to gather [them] up] [and] [throw {them}] [into] [The] [Fire], [and] [they are going to be burned].”
(John 15:1–6) —HSSB

What Jesus says in that passage will elude you if you do not understand the things I explain in *Not All Israel Is Israel*. To put the Truth as succinctly as I can, Jesus is merely stating that He has become the *parabolic* “Vine” of “The House” of Judah just as the Prophets said He would. If you didn’t know “The House” of Judah is *parabolically* described as a “vine” in the Hebrew Scriptures, shame on you. You should read the Scriptures more often. Here’s just one of several places where you can find that *parabolic image* used:

¹[Please] [let Me sing] [for My Beloved]
[My Loved One’s] [Song] [for His Vineyard].
[My Beloved] [had] [a Vineyard]—[a Son] [of Oil]—
[on a Mountain Peak].
²[And He tilled Him], [and threw out His Stones].
[Then He planted Him] [{with} a Productive Vine],
[And He built] [a Tower] [in His Midst].
[And He [even] hewed] [a Wine Vat] [in Him],
[And He waited expectantly {for Him}]
[to make] [Grapes].
[But He made] [Stinking Gourds].
³“[So now], [Inhabitants of] [Jerusalem]
[and Man] [of Judah],
[Please] [judge] [between Me] [and] [My Vineyard].
⁴[What is there] [yet] [to do] [to My Vineyard]
[That I have [not] done] [in Him]?
[Why] [did I wait eagerly {for Him}] [to make] [Grapes],

[And He made] [Stinking Gourds]?
⁵[So now] [let Me make known to] [you]
[What] [I] [am going to do] [to My Vineyard]:
[I am going to remove] [His Hedge*],
[And it will become] [something to be burned];
[{I am} going to make a breach in] [His Wall],
[And He will become] [What Is Trampled].
⁶[Then I will designate Him for] [Ruination*].
[He will [not] be pruned],
[And He will [not] be hoed].
[But [Briars] [and Thorns] will come up],
[And [I will give a command] to] [The Thunderheads]
[Not to cause [Rain] to fall] [on Him].”
⁷[Because] [The Vineyard] [of His [Supreme] Majesty]
[is] [{the} House] [of Israel],
[And {the} Man] [of Judah] [is] [{the} Plant]
[of those who enjoy Him].
[So He waited expectantly] [for a Decision Based
on Truth],
[But look! There was] [a Breach of Trust*];
[For a Declaration of Not Guilty],
[But look! There was] [an Outcry].
(Isaiah 5:1–7) —my interim translation

As for the *parabolic imagery* of the Prophets in which wine *parabolically* represents blood, the story gets a bit more complicated; but here’s a passage that may make it easier for you to accept my explanation of the things you need to know:

¹³[Then] [I heard] [a Voice] [out] [of] [Heaven],
[saying], “[Write], [‘The] [Dead]—[those [in] [His
Majesty] who] [die] [from [this point] on]—[are fortunate]!” “[Yes],” [says] [The] [Spirit], “[so that] [they may
be refreshed] [from] [their] [Trouble], [for] [their] [Works]
[are going to follow] [after] [them].” ¹⁴[Then] [I [also]
saw], [guess what! There was] [a [white] Cloud], [and]
[sitting] [on] [The] [Cloud] {was} [One [just like] [a
Son] [of a Man] Who had] [a Crown] [made of gold] [on]
[His] [Head] [and] [a [keen] Sickle] [in] [His] [Hand].
¹⁵[Then] [another] [Messenger] [came out] [of] [The]
[Sanctuary], [shouting] [in] [a [loud] Voice] [to the One
Who] [was sitting] [on] [The] [Cloud], “[Send] [Your]
[Sickle] [and] [reap], [because] [The] [Hour] [to reap] [has
come], [because] [The] [Harvest] [of The] [Earth]
[has shriveled up].” ¹⁶[So] [the One Who] [was sitting]
[on] [The] [Cloud] [cast] [His] [Sickle] [onto] [The]
[Earth], [and] [The] [Earth] [was reaped].

¹⁷[Then] [another] [Messenger] [came out] [of] [The] [Sanctuary] [that is] [in] [Heaven], [and] [he] [had] [a] [keen] Sickle. ¹⁸[Then] [another] [Messenger]—[the one who] [has] [Authority] [over] [The] [Fire] [of] [The] [Sacrificial Altar]—[came out] [and] [called out] [in a] [loud] Voice [to the one who] [has] [The] [Sickle] [that is] [keen], [saying], “[Send] [Your] [Sickle]—[the] [keen] one—[and] [pick] [The] [Clusters of Grapes*] [of The] [Vine] [of The] [Earth], [because] [her] [Bunches of Grapes] [are ripe*].” ¹⁹[So] [The] [Messenger] [cast] [his] [Sickle] [onto] [The] [Earth] [and] [picked] [The] [Vine] [of The] [Earth] [and] [threw {the grapes}] [into] [The] [Wine Press]—[The] [Great One]—[of The] [Rage] [of The] [{Living} God]. ²⁰[And] [The] [Wine Press] [was trampled] [on the outside] [of The] [City], [and] [Blood] [came out] [of] [The] [Wine Press] [up to] [The] [Bits] [of The] [Horses] [for] [one thousand] [six hundred] [200-Meter Units].

(Revelation 14:13–20) —HSSB

Now that you have that information, I can explain the *parabolic image* of “blood” for you: The “vine” *parabolically* represents the lineage from which an individual has descended. The *parabolic* “grapes” from which the “blood” of the “grapes” comes are the individual members of “The House” represented by that *parabolic* “vine.” In the case of Jesus at the Last Supper, He was both the “Vine” of Corporate Israel and the sole remaining “Grape” of “The House” of Judah simply because He had become the sole remaining Member of both Corporate Israel and “The House” of Judah when God *fulfilled the promise* He made through the Prophet Jeremiah. That *promise* was, God said He planned to strip the “bunchstems”—the individual members—from the “vine” of Corporate Israel because the sons of Israel had given up “The Way” of the Truth of The Teaching of Moses. But part of God’s *promise* was that He would not completely do away with the “Vine” that Corporate Israel and “The House” of Judah had become. Jeremiah tells us the Lord said this:

¹“[Go out looking] [in {the} Streets of] [Jerusalem], [So that you see], [please], [and know], [And seek] [in her Plazas]. [If] [you can find] [a Man], [If] [there is any] [one who is making] [a Decision Based on the Truth]— [{Any} one who is seeking] [Truth]—

[then I will forgive] [her].
²[But if] [they say], ‘[I swear on [His Majesty’s] life],’ [Therefore], [they swear a [false] oath].”
³[Your Majesty], [are [Your Eyes] not] [for {the} Truth]? [You viciously struck] [them], [But they were [not] in torment]. [You finished them off]; [They refused] [to accept] [Admonishment]. [They made [their Faces] stronger] [than a Crag]; [They refused] [to come back].
⁴[But I] [said], “[But] [they {are}] [destitute]; [They are idiots] [because] [they do [not] know] [{The} Way] [of His Majesty]— [A Decision Based on the Truth] [of their God].
⁵[I will go] [for myself] [to] [those who are great]; [And I will speak to] [them], [Because] [they] [knew] [{the} Way] [of His Majesty]— [A Decision Based on the Truth] [of their God].” [But] [they] [have, [altogether], broken] [{the} Yoke]! [They have snapped] [{the} Shackles]!
⁶[Therefore], [a Lion] [from {the} Forest] [will viciously attack them]; [A Wolf] [{of the} Desert Plain] [will vanquish them]. [A Leopard] [is keeping watch over] [their Cities]; [Everyone] [who goes out] [of them] [will be torn to pieces], [Because] [their Transgressions] [are many], [Their Apostasies] [are numerous].
⁷“[Why] [would I forgive] [for this]? [Your Sons] [abandoned Me] [And swore an oath] [by {something that is} not] [God]. [When I satisfied] [them], [they committed adultery] [And [ritually cut themselves] {in the} House] [of a Zonah].
⁸[They are] [well-fed*] [virile*] [Horses]; [Each One] [cries out shrilly] [to] [his Neighbor’s] [Woman].
⁹[Should I [not] levy] [on account of] [These Things],” [Declares] [His Majesty], “[And in such a case], [should I [not] avenge] [My Soul] [On a Gentile] [who] {is} [like this]?
¹⁰[Go up] [on her Terraces*] [and destroy], [But You must [not] make] [a Complete End]; [Remove] [her Bunchstems], [Because] [they] {are} [not] [His Majesty’s].
¹¹[Because] [{the} House of] [Israel] [and {the} House of] [Judah]

[Have acted [completely] deceptively] [against Me],”
[Declares] [His Majesty].

¹²[They have denied the truth] [about His Majesty]

[And said]: “[Not] [He];

[No] [Bad Thing] [will come] [upon us],

[And [we will [not] see] Sword] [or Famine].

¹³[But [a Spirit] [has] The Prophets],

[And The Word] [is not] [in them].

[This is what] [will be done] [to them].”

¹⁴[Therefore], [this is what] [His Majesty],

[{The} [supreme] God], [has said]:

“[Simply because of] [you speaking] [this] [Word],

[Look! I am] [going to turn] [My Word] [into Fire]

[in Your Mouth];

[And [this] People] {will be} [Wood],

[and it will consume them].”

(Jeremiah 5:1–14) —my interim translation

Part of *the promise* that God made in that passage from Jeremiah 5 was *fulfilled* when all of the Jews were “cut off from” Corporate Israel in the time of Christ. But just as God *promised*, the “Vine” of Corporate Israel was not uprooted at that time. Jesus explained that to His disciples at the Last Supper. The point He made to them was, He was the continuation of that “Vine”; and He stringently warned them that they must do everything necessary to avoid being “cut off from” Him after they were grafted back in to Him after His Resurrection (Rom. 11:17–24). But it is important that you keep in mind the fact that Jesus was also the last “Grape” on the parabolic “vine” of “The House” of Corporate Israel. And Jeremiah goes on in the very next chapter to tell us God was going to “glean” that “Vine” at some point and take vengeance on the entire Earth simply because the sons of Israel gave up *The Teaching of Moses* and chose to believe lies about God:

⁹[This is what] [His [Supreme] Majesty] [has said]:

“[They will [completely] glean]

[{The} Remnant] [of Israel] [like a Vine].

[Bring [Your Hand] back]

[Over] [{the} Tendrils]

[like one who is gathering grapes].”

¹⁰[To] [whom] [should I speak]

[And testify] [so that they may hear?]

[Look!] [their Ears] {are} [uncircumcised]

[So they are [not] able] [to pay attention].

[Look!] [{The} Word] [of His Majesty]

[Has become] [a Disgrace] [to them];

[They were [not] pleased] [with Him].

¹¹[But] [I am filled with] [{the} Rage of] [His Majesty];

[I am having a hard time] [containing {it}].

“[Pour {it} out] [on] [Infants] [on {the} Outside]

[And on] [{the} Intimate Relationship]

[of Chosen Sons] [together].

[Because] [both] [Man] [along with] [Woman]

[will be captured],

[An Old Person] [along with] [one who is full of] [Days].

¹²[Then their Houses] [will be turned over] [to others],

[Fields] [and Women] [together];

[Because] [I will stretch out] [My Hand]

[Against] [{the} Inhabitants of] [The Earth],”

[Declares] [His Majesty].

¹³“[Because] [from their smallest]

[Even up to] [their biggest],

[Everyone of him] [is pursuing] [Ill-gotten Gain];

[And from Prophet] [even up to] [Priest],

[Everyone of him] [is making {up}] [a Falsehood].

¹⁴[So they heal] [{the} Brokenness] [{of} My People]

[On account of] [what is despicable],

[Saying], ‘[Peace], [Peace],’

[But there is not any] [Peace].

¹⁵[Were they ashamed] [that] [they did]

[an Abominable Thing?]

[They were [not] [even] [a little bit] ashamed];

[They did [not] [even] know how] [to feel humiliated].

[Therefore], [they will fall] [with those who fall]

[At {the} Time] [{when} I levy them],

[They will be made to stumble],” [says] [His Majesty].

¹⁶[This is what] [His Majesty] [has said]:

“[Stand] [beside] [Ways] [and look];

[Then ask] [for {the} Pathways]

[{to} a Burning Eternity]:

‘[Where {is}] [this] [Way]—[the good {one}]?’

[And walk] [in her] [and find]

[a Place of Tranquility*] [for your Souls].

[But they said], ‘[We will [not] walk].’

¹⁷[So I raised up] [over you]

[those who are keeping watch]:

‘[Pay attention] [to {the} Sound] [{of the} Trumpet].’

[But they said], ‘[We will [not] pay attention].’

¹⁸[Therefore], [listen], [O Gentiles],

[And know] [what] {is} [in them], [O Assembly].

¹⁹[Listen], [O Earth]:

[Look!] [I {am}] [going to bring]

[A Bad Thing] [to] [this] [People]—

[A Fruit] [{of} their Thoughts]—
 [Because] [they did [not] pay attention] [to] [My Word],
 [And {as for} My Teaching]? [They rejected] [her]!
²⁰[Why] {is} [this]?
 [You bring] [Frankincense] [to Me] [from Sheba],
 [And the best] [Aromatic Reed] [from a distant] [Land].
 [Your Burnt Offerings] {are} [not] [for Goodwill],
 [So your Communal Sacrifices]
 [are [not] pleasing] [to Me].”
²¹[Therefore], [this is what] [His Majesty] [has said]:
 “[Look! I am] [going to give] [Causes of Stumbling]
 [To] [this] [People].
 [And they will stumble] [over them],
 [Fathers] [and Sons] [together];
 [Resident] [and his Neighbor] [will go to Hell].”
 (Jeremiah 6:9–21) —my interim translation

My point is, the source of the *parabolic statement* Jesus made regarding His “blood” at the Last Supper is to be found in the Prophets’ use of the *parabolic image* in which both Corporate Israel and “The House” of Judah are viewed as a “vine.” But to put the matter succinctly, His “blood” must somehow refer to His death because that is what put the terms of the second New Covenant—that is, His *oral testament*—into effect. What I mean is, the terms of a will apply only after the one who made the will has died. The author of the Book of Hebrews mentions that in this passage:

¹¹[But] [after [The Anointed One] arrived] [as High Priest] [of The] [Good Things] [that have come into being] [via] [The] [more important] [and] [more complete] [Tent] [not] [made by human hands]—[that] [is], [not] [of] [This] [Creation]—¹²[He came in] [to] [The] [Holy Things] [once and for all], [after finding] [eternal] [Redemption], [not even] [via] [{the} Blood] [of Goats] [and] [Calves], [but] [via] [His] [Own] [Blood]. ¹³[For] [if] [The] [Blood] [of Goats] [and] [Bulls] [and] [{the} Ashes] [of a Heifer*] [sprinkling on] [those who] [have had sexual intercourse] [makes {them} holy] [with regard to] [The] [Cleanness*] [of The] [Flesh], ¹⁴[how much] [more] {will} [The] [Blood] [of The] [Anointed One]—[Who], [via] [an [eternal] Spirit], [brought and presented] [Himself] [to The] [{Living} God] [unblemished]—[cleanse] [our] [Conscience] [of] [dead] [Works] [so] [that] [{we} may serve [a [living] God] as priests]?

¹⁵[And] [for] [This Reason] [He is] [Mediator] [of a [new] Testament], [so that]—[after [{His} Death]

occurred] [for] [{His} Emancipation] [from The] [Violations] [against] [The] [first] [Testament]—[those who] [have been invited] [could **receive**] [The] [Promise] [of The] [eternal] [Inheritance]. ¹⁶[For] [where] {there is} [a Testament], {there is} [a Pressing Need] [to bear] [{the} Death] [of the one who] [made the bequest by the testament]. ¹⁷[For] [a Testament] {is} [confirmed] [by] [Those Who Are Dead], [since] [it [never] has the ability {to convey **the inheritance**}] [when] [the one who] [made the bequest by the testament] [is living].
 (Hebrews 9:11–17) —HSSB

The things I have told you to this point are true, but to fully understand the significance of the *parabolic image* of the “blood” of Christ, you first need to know what Moses says about blood in a couple of passages. He says the following in Genesis 9:

¹[Then [God] **blessed**] [Noah] [and] [his Sons] [and said] [to them]: “[Bear fruit] [and become many], [and fill] [The Earth]. ²[And an Abject Fear of you] [and Trepidation of you] [will be] [on] [every] [Animal of] [The Earth] [and on] [every] [Flyer] [of The Sea of Waters], [on everything] [that] [crawls] [on The Ground] [and on all] [{the} Fish of] [The Sea]. [They have been given] [into your Hand]. ³[Every] [Crawling Thing] [that] [is] [alive] [will become] [Foodstuff] [for you]. [Like {the} verdant] Vegetation, [I have given] [everything] [to you]. ⁴[But] [you must [not] eat] [Flesh] [with its Soul]—[its Blood]. ⁵[But also] [I will diligently seek] [your Blood] [for your Souls]. [I will diligently seek {it}] [from {the} Hand] [of every] [Living Being]. [But from {the} Hand] [of The Adam]—[from {the} Hand] [of each] [of His Brothers]—[I will diligently seek] [{the} Soul] [of The Adam].

⁶[Anyone who pours out] [{the} Blood] [of The Adam], [His Blood] [will be poured out] [by The Adam] [When] [He makes] [The Adam] [in {the} Image] [of God].

⁷[But you] [must bear fruit] [and become many]; [You must reproduce] [on {the} Earth] [And become many] [in it].”
 (Genesis 9:1–7) —my interim translation

I realize I have already alluded to the significance of this passage in various places over the years, but I am going to explain it in some detail here so that you

get a better understanding of the “big picture” that Moses and the other Prophets of Israel painted as they described God’s plan to create His Children in His Own image and likeness. I may have stated some of these things in exactly the same way, so bear with me if I do so again.

The first thing you need to know is, the first chapter of Genesis is nothing more than a summary of everything God has done and is going to do before He finishes His final act of Creation and starts to rest on the seventh “day” of Creation.

The next thing you need to know is, the “Adam” described in the following passage is Jesus Christ—the One Who became *Corporate* Israel when God “cut off” all the other Jews “from” *Corporate* Israel. The mention of “male and female” in the passage is a reference to the individual members of *Corporate* Israel who retained their position in *Corporate* Israel until they died:

²⁶[Then [God] said], “[Let Us make] [an Adam] [in Our Image], [in accordance with Our Likeness], [so that they may exercise authority] [over {the} Fish of] [The Sea] [and over {the} Flyer] [of The Sea of Waters] [and over {the} Beast] [and over all] [The Earth] [and over all] [The Crawling Thing] [that crawls] [on] [The Earth].”

²⁷[And [God] will create] [The Adam] [in His Image]. [In the Image] [of God] [He will create] [Him]; [Male] [and Female] [He will create] [them]. ²⁸[Then [God] will bless] [them]; [and [God] will say] [to them], “[Bear fruit] [and become many], [and fill] [The Earth] [and subjugate her], [and exercise authority] [over The Fish of] [The Sea] [and over The Flyer] [of The Sea of Waters] [and over every] [living {soul}] [that crawls] [on] [The Earth].” ²⁹[Then [God] will say]: “[Guess what!] [I have given] [you] [all] [{the} Vegetation] [that] {is} [on] [{the} Surface of] [all] [The Earth] [sowing] [Seed], [and] [all] [The Trees] [on] [which] {is} [{the} Fruit of] [a Tree] [sowing] [Seed]. [It will become] [Foodstuff] [for you], ³⁰[and for every] [Animal of] [The Earth] [and for every] [Flyer] [of The Sea of Waters] [and for everything] [that crawls] [on] [The Earth] [in] [which] {is} [a [living] Soul]. [All] [verdant] [Vegetation] {is} [for Foodstuff].” [And it will be] [so]. ³¹[Then [God] will look at] [all] [that] [He has made], [and guess what!] [It will be [very] good!] [And there will be] [an Evening] [and there will be] [a Morning]—[The [sixth] Day].

(Genesis 1:26–31) —my interim translation

The third thing you need to know is, the “Adam” described in the second chapter of Genesis is our forefather. The biblical account tells us he was created on the third “day” of Creation—after dry land had appeared, but *before* the creation of the birds, fish, and other animals on the fifth and sixth “days” of Creation. The woman Eve, by contrast, was created on the sixth “day” of Creation—*after* the birds, fish, and all the other animals were created on the fifth and sixth “days” of Creation.

The fourth thing you need to know is, the information that Moses provides in Genesis 2:4–9:17 tells us why God decided to give up on the descendants of the first “Adam” and focus instead on the creation of Jesus Christ and other “male and female” individuals in His Own image and likeness. He did so because the descendants of Adam and Eve infuriated Him to the point where He was sorry He had ever created those two in the first place. You may not have noticed what He said about that, so here it is:

⁵[When [His Majesty] saw] [that] [{the} Bad Behavior of] [The Descendants of Adam] {was} [more than enough] [on {the} Earth] [and every] [Thing Formed in] [The Thoughts of] [his Heart] {was} [nothing but] [bad] [The [entire] Day], ⁶[His Majesty] [was sorry] [that] [He had made] [The Adam] [on {the} Earth] [and was grieved] [to] [His Heart]. ⁷[Then [His Majesty] said], “[I will wipe [The Descendants of Adam] [that] [I created] off] [of] [{the} Surface of] [The Ground]—[from {the} Descendants of Adam] [to] [Beast], [to] [Crawling Thing], [and to] [{the} Flyer] [of] The Sea of Waters]—[because] [I am sorry] [that] [I made them].” ⁸[But Noah] [found] [Favor] [in [His Majesty’s] Eyes].

(Genesis 6:5–8) —my interim translation

My point is, the Flood is the point in time when God decided to give up on His creation of Adam and Eve and moved on to the next item on His agenda. If you were paying attention, you may have already noticed He said essentially the same thing in the following passage as He said after He finished creating the birds and the fish:

¹[Then [God] **blessed**] [Noah] [and] [his Sons] [and said] [to them]: “[Bear fruit] [and become many], [and fill] [The Earth]. ²[And an Abject Fear of you] [and

Trepidation of you] [will be] [on] [every] [Animal of] [The Earth] [and on] [every] [Flyer] [{of} The Sea of Waters], [on everything] [that] [crawls] [on The Ground] [and on all] [{the} Fish of] [The Sea]. [They have been given] [into your Hand]. ³[Every] [Crawling Thing] [that] [is] [alive] [will become] [Foodstuff] [for you]. [Like {the} verdant] Vegetation], [I have given] [everything] [to you]. ⁴[But] [you must not] eat] [Flesh] [with its Soul]—[its Blood].”

(Genesis 9:1–4) —my interim translation

The oral tradition being kept alive in the Church today will tell you God was just changing things up a bit in that passage and allowing the eating of meat after only allowing the eating of vegetation in this passage:

²⁶[Then [God] said], “[Let Us make] [an Adam] [in Our Image], [in accordance with Our Likeness], [so that they may exercise authority] [over {the} Fish of] [The Sea] [and over {the} Flyer] [of The Sea of Waters] [and over {the} Beast] [and over all] [The Earth] [and over all] [The Crawling Thing] [that crawls] [on] [The Earth].” ²⁷[And [God] will create] [The Adam] [in His Image]. [In the Image] [of God] [He will create] [Him]; [Male] [and Female] [He will create] [them]. ²⁸[Then [God] will bless] [them]; [and [God] will say] [to them], “[Bear fruit] [and become many], [and fill] [The Earth] [and subjugate her], [and exercise authority] [over The Fish of] [The Sea] [and over The Flyer] [of The Sea of Waters] [and over every] [living {soul}] [that crawls] [on] [The Earth].” ²⁹[Then [God] will say]: “[Guess what!] [I have given] [you] [all] [{the} Vegetation] [that] {is} [on] [{the} Surface of] [all] [The Earth] [sowing] [Seed], [and] [all] [The Trees] [on] [which] {is} [{the} Fruit of] [a Tree] [sowing] [Seed]. [It will become] [Foodstuff] [for you], ³⁰[and for every] [Animal of] [The Earth] [and for every] [Flyer] [of The Sea of Waters] [and for everything] [that crawls] [on] [The Earth] [in] [which] {is} [a [living] Soul]. [All] [verdant] [Vegetation] {is} [for Foodstuff].” [And it will be] [so].

(Genesis 1:26–30) —my interim translation

Don’t be deceived! The Truth regarding those two passages is this: Those who are resurrected in the image and likeness of God at the end of the sixth “day” will eat only vegetation; *the blessing* and mention of eating meat in Genesis 9 are intended to point out the fact that God was done with His creation of the first

“Adam” and was moving on to start the creation of the Second “Adam” in His Own image and likeness. He is referring to His intention to do that when He says this:

¹[Then [God] **blessed**] [Noah] [and] [his Sons] [and said] [to them]: “[Bear fruit] [and become many], [and fill] [The Earth]. ²[And an Abject Fear of you] [and Trepidation of you] [will be] [on] [every] [Animal of] [The Earth] [and on] [every] [Flyer] [of The Sea of Waters], [on everything] [that] [crawls] [on The Ground] [and on all] [{the} Fish of] [The Sea]. [They have been given] [into your Hand]. ³[Every] [Crawling Thing] [that] [is] [alive] [will become] [Foodstuff] [for you]. [Like {the} verdant] Vegetation], [I have given] [everything] [to you]. ⁴[But] [you must not] eat] [Flesh] [with its Soul]—[its Blood]. ⁵[But also] [I will diligently seek] [your Blood] [for your Souls]. [I will diligently seek {it}] [from {the} Hand] [of every] [Living Being]. [But from {the} Hand] [of The Adam]—[from {the} Hand] [of each] [of His Brothers]—[I will diligently seek] [{the} Soul] [of The Adam].

⁶[Anyone who pours out] [{the} Blood] [of The Adam], [His Blood] [will be poured out] [by The Adam] [When] [He makes] [The Adam] [in {the} Image] [of God].

⁷[But you] [must bear fruit] [and become many]; [You must reproduce] [on {the} Earth] [And become many] [in it].”

(Genesis 9:1–7) —my interim translation

Now I am going to tell you what I am going to explain in more detail a bit later on: The verb that I translated as “pour out” in that passage is normally translated “shed” when it refers to killing a person, but it is always translated “pour out” when it refers to the killing of a sacrificial animal. Knowing that, you tell me, How would you translate it when it refers to the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ as the Passover Lamb of God? Is He a Person or an animal? If you can tell me “The very best Way” to translate that verb, I may consider changing my translation. Until then, I am going to leave it as “pour out” just to remind you that the Lord is referring to the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ.

I trust you made a note of the fact that the blood of an animal is considered to be the same as its soul in that passage. If you didn’t do that when you read it, you should go and do it right now. I’ll wait here ‘til you

get back. The Truth is, if you don't know the soul of both animal and man resides in the blood as far as God is concerned, you have no basis at all on which to understand what Jesus said about drinking His blood at the Last Supper, so let me show you a couple of the passages in which Moses explains what you need to know about that. Maybe then you will understand what Jesus had in mind. Here's the first one:

¹[Then [His Majesty] spoke] [to] [Moses], [saying]:
²"[Speak] [to] [Aaron] [and to] [his Sons] [and to] [all] [the Sons of] [Israel], [and tell] [them], '[This] {is} [The Word] [that] [His Majesty] [has commanded], [saying]:
³"[Any] [Man] [from {the} House] [of Israel] [who] [slaughters] [an Ox] [or] [Sheep] [or] [Goat] [in {the} Camp]—[or] [who] [slaughters {it}] [on The Outside] [of {the} Camp]—⁴[and has [not] brought it] [to] [{the} Entrance] [of {the} Tent] [of The Appointed Time] [to present {it}] [as an Offering] [to His Majesty] [before] [{the} Residence] [of His Majesty], [it will be considered as] [Blood] [for [That] Man]. [That] [Man] [has poured out] [Blood], [so he will be cut off] [from among] [his People], ⁵[in order] [that] [{the} Sons of] [Israel] [bring in] [their Communal Sacrifices]—[the ones that] [they are sacrificing as communal sacrifices] [on] [{the} Surface of] [The Field]—[and bring them in] [to His Majesty], [to] [The Priest] [at] [{the} Entrance] [of {the} Tent] [of The Appointed Time], [and sacrifice [them] as] [Communal Sacrifices of] [Peace Offerings] [to His Majesty]. ⁶[Then [The Priest] must toss] [The Blood] [on] [{the} Altar] [of His Majesty] [at the Entrance] [of {the} Tent] [of The Appointed Time] [and burn [The Fat] as incense] [for a [soothing] Aroma] [to His Majesty]. ⁷[But they must [not] sacrifice [their Communal Sacrifices] as communal sacrifices] [to the Shaggy Goats] [that] [they] {are} [following] [by participating in the **zonah** rituals]. [This] [will be] [an [eternally burning] Statute] [for them] [throughout their Generations]."

⁸[So [you must tell] them]: '[Any] [Man] [from {the} House] [of Israel] [or from] [The Temporary Residents] [who] [resides temporarily] [in their Midst] [who] [offers up] [a Burnt Offering] [or] [a Communal Sacrifice] ⁹[and [does [not] bring it] to] [{the} Entrance] [of {the} Tent] [of The Appointed Time] [to do] [it] [for His Majesty], [That] [Man] [will be cut off] [from his People]. ¹⁰[So any] [Man] [from {the} House] [of Israel], [or from] [The Temporary Residents], [who resides temporarily] [in their Midst], [who] [consumes] [any]

[Blood], [I will set] [My Face] [against {the} Soul] [of the one who consumes] [The Blood] [and cut [it] off] [from among] [its People], ¹¹[because] [{the} Soul] [of The Flesh] {is} [in {the} Blood]; [and I] [have given it] [for you] [on] [The Altar] [to make atonement] [for] [your Souls], [because] [The Blood] [that] {is} [in {the} Soul] [will make atonement].' ¹²[Therefore], [I told] [{the} Sons of] [Israel], '[Every] [Soul] [of you] [must [not] consume] [Blood], [and The Temporary Resident] [who resides temporarily] [in your Midst] [must [not] consume] [Blood].' ¹³[So any] [Man] [from {the} Sons of] [Israel], [or from] [The Temporary Residents] [who resides temporarily] [in your Midst], [who] [hunts] [an Animal] [or] [a Flyer] [that] [may be eaten] [as] [Provisions] [must also pour out] [its Blood] [and cover it] [with Dust], ¹⁴[because] [{the} Soul] [of all] [Flesh] {is} [its Blood]; [it] {is} [in its Soul]. [So I have told] [{the} Sons of] [Israel]: '[You must [not] eat] [{the} Blood] [of any] [Flesh], [because] [{the} Soul] [of every] [Flesh] [is] [its Blood]. [Anyone] [who eats it] [will be cut off].'"

(Leviticus 17:1–14) —my interim translation

That should do it for everyone but the most contentious among us; the soul resides in the blood. Now take a look at this passage:

¹[Then [His Majesty] spoke] [to] [Moses], [saying]:
²"[Speak] [to] [{the} Sons of] [Israel], [saying]: '[When] [a Soul] [sins] [inadvertently] [because of any of] [{the} Commandments of] [His Majesty] [that] [must [not] be done] [and does] [any one] [of them], ³[in such a case] [The [anointed] Priest] [sins] [as [The People's] Cause of Guilt]. [So he must present] [a Bull], [a Son] [of Cattle], [without defect] [to His Majesty] [as a Sin Offering] [on account of] [his Sinful Act] [that] [he committed]; ⁴[and he must bring] [The Bull] [to] [{the} Entrance] [of {the} Tent] [of The Appointed Time] [in front of] [His Majesty], [and he must lay] [his Hand] [on] [{the} Head] [of The Bull] [and slaughter] [The Bull] [in front of] [His Majesty]. ⁵[Then [The [anointed] Priest] must take] [some of {the} Blood] [of The Bull] [and bring] [it] [to] [{the} Tent] [of The Appointed Time]; ⁶[and [The Priest] must dip] [his Finger] [in {the} Blood] [and sprinkle] [some of] [The Blood] [seven] [Times] [in front of] [His Majesty], [before] [{the} Veil] [of The Holy Place]. ⁷[Then [The Priest] must put] [some of] [The Blood] [on] [{the} Horns of] [{the} Altar] [of {the} Incense] [of The Sweet

Spices] [that is] [in {the} Tent] [of The Appointed Time] [in front of] [His Majesty], [but] **[he must pour out] [all of] [the} Blood] [of The Bull] [at] [the} Base] [of {the} Altar] [of The Burnt Offering] [that is] [at the} Entrance] [of {the} Tent] [of The Appointed Time];** ⁸[but] [he must take] [all of] [the} Fat] [of {the} Bull] [of The Sin Offering] [out of it]—[The Fat] [that covers] [over] [The Entrails] [and] [all of] [The Fat] [that is] [on] [The Entrails], ⁹[and] [The [two] Kidneys] [and] [The Fat] [that is] [on them] ([what is] [on] [The Fat Muscles of the Kidneys] [and] [The Lobe] [on] [The Liver], [which] [he must remove] [along with] [The Kidneys] ¹⁰[just as] [it is taken] [out of {the} Ox] [of {the} Communal Sacrifice] [of The Peace Offerings]), [and] [The Priest] must burn them as incense] [on] [the} Altar] [of The Burnt Offering]. ¹¹[But] [as for {the} Hide] [of The Bull] [and] [all of] [its Flesh], [along with] [its Head] [and along with] [its Legs] [and its Entrails] [and the Contents of its Stomach and Intestines], ¹²[he must also bring] [all of] [The Bull] [to] [The Outside] [of {the} Camp], [to] [a [clean] Place], [to] [the Place Where [The Grease] Is Poured Out]; [and he must burn [it] up] [in {the} Fire] [along with] [the} Wood]. [It must be burned up] [at] [the Place Where [The Grease] Is Poured Out].

¹³[But if] [the} [entire] Assembly of] [Israel] [becomes intoxicated], [and [a Word] is hidden] [from{the} Eyes of] [The Congregation] [so that they do] [any [one] of] [the} Commandments of] [His Majesty] [that] [must [not] be done], [so that they incur guilt]; ¹⁴[when [The Sinful Act] [that] [they have committed] [because of it] becomes known], [then [The Congregation] must present] [a Bull], [a Son] [of Cattle], [for a Sin Offering] [and bring] [it] [to {the} front of] [the} Tent] [of The Appointed Time]. ¹⁵[Then [the} Elders of] [The Assembly] must lay] [their Hands] [on] [the} Head] [of The Bull] [in front of] [His Majesty], [and {the} priest] must slaughter] [The Bull] [in front of] [His Majesty]. ¹⁶[And [The [anointed] Priest] must bring] [some of {the} Blood] [of The Bull] [into] [the} Tent] [of The Appointed Time]; ¹⁷[then [The Priest] must dip [some of] [The Blood] with] [his Finger] [and sprinkle {it}] [seven] [Times] [in front of] [His Majesty] [before] [The Veil]. ¹⁸[But [he must put] some of] [The Blood] [on] [the} Horns of] [The Altar] [that is] [in front of] [His Majesty] ([the one that is] [in {the} Tent] [of The Appointed Time]), [and] **[he must pour out] [all of] [The Blood] [at] [the} Base] [of {the} Altar] [of The Burnt Offering] [that is] [at the} Entrance] [of {the} Tent] [of The**

Appointed Time]. ¹⁹[But] [he must take] [all of] [its Fat] [out of it] [and burn {it} as incense] [on The Altar]. ²⁰[Then he must do] [to {the} Bull] [just as] [he did] [to {the} Bull] [of The Sin Offering]; [The Priest] [must do] [the same] [to it] [so that it makes atonement] [for them], [and it will be forgiven] [for them]. ²¹[Then he must bring [The Bull] out] [to] [The Outside] [of {the} Camp] [and burn [it] up] [just as] [he burnt up] [The [first] Bull]. [It is] [The Congregation's] [Sin Offering].

²²[When] [a Carrier] [inadvertently] [sins] [and does] [one] [of all] [the} Commandments of] [His Majesty] [his God] [that] [must [not] be done], [so that he feels guilty], ²³[or] [his Sinful Act] [by] [which] [he has sinned] [is made known] [to him], [he must bring] [as his Offering] [a Shaggy Goat] [of {the} Goats], [a Male] [without defect]. ²⁴[And he must lay] [his Hand] [on] [the} Head] [of The Shaggy Goat] [and slaughter] [it] [in {the} Place] [where] [he must slaughter] [The Burnt Offering], [in front of] [His Majesty]. [It is] [a Sin Offering], ²⁵[so [The Priest] must take] [some of {the} Blood] [of The Sin Offering] [with his Finger] [and put {it}] [on] [the} Horns of] [the} Altar] [of The Burnt Offering], [and] **[he must pour [its Blood] out] [at] [the} Base] [of {the} Altar] [of The Burnt Offering].** ²⁶[But] [he must burn [all of] [its Fat] as incense] [on The Altar] [like {the} Fat] [of {the} Communal Sacrifice] [of The Peace Offerings]. [So [The Priest] must make atonement] [for him] [because of his Sinful Act] [so that it is forgiven] [for him].

²⁷[But if] [another] [Soul] [sins] [inadvertently] [because of {the} People] [of The Land] [by doing] [one] [of {the} Commandments of] [His Majesty] [that] [must [not] be done] [so that he feels guilty], ²⁸[or] [his Sinful Act] [that] [he has committed] [is made known] [to him], [he must bring] [as his Offering] [a Female Shaggy Goat] [of {the} Goats], [a Female] [without defect] [for] [his Sinful Act] [that] [he committed]. ²⁹[And he must lay] [his Hand] [on] [the} Head] [of The Sin Offering] [and slaughter] [The Sin Offering] [in {the} Place] [for slaughtering] [The Burnt Offering]. ³⁰[Then [The Priest] must take] [some of its Blood] [with his Finger] [and put {it}] [on] [the} Horns of] [the} Altar] [of The Burnt Offering], [but] **[he must pour out] [all of] [its Blood] [at] [the} Base] [of The Altar].** ³¹[But] [he must remove] [all of] [its Fat] [just as] [the} Fat] [was removed] [from] [the} Communal Sacrifice] [of The Peace Offerings], [and [The Priest] must burn {it} as incense] [on The Altar] [for a [soothing] Aroma] [for His Majesty]. [So [The Priest] must make atonement] [for him] [so that it will be forgiven] [for him].

³²[And if] [he should bring] [a Sheep] [as his Offering] [for a Sinful Act], [he must bring] [a Female] [without defect]; ³³[and he must lay] [his Hand] [on] [{the} Head] [of The Sin Offering] [and slaughter] [it] [for a Sin Offering] [in {the} Place] [where] [he slaughters] [The Burnt Offering]. ³⁴[Then [The Priest] must take] [some of {the} Blood] [of The Sin Offering] [with his Finger] [and put {it}] [on] [{the} Horns of] [{the} Altar] [of The Burnt Offering], [and] [he must pour out] [all of] [its Blood] [at] [{the} Base] [of The Altar]. ³⁵[But] [he must remove] [all of] [its Fat] [just as] [{the} Fat] [of {the} Sheep] [was removed] [from {the} Communal Sacrifice] [of The Peace Offerings]; [and [The Priest] must burn [them] as incense] [on The Altar], [along with] [{the} Fire Offerings of] [His Majesty]. [So [The Priest] must make atonement] [for him] [regarding] [his Sinful Act] [that] [he committed] [and it will be forgiven] [for him].”
(Leviticus 4:1–35) —my interim translation

That’s an interesting *parabolic pantomime*, isn’t it? If the sacrifice was for one circumstance, the priest did one thing; if it was for another, he did something different. I’ll eventually explain what you need to know about that; for now, all you need to know is this: The sin offering required the blood to be “poured out” at the base of the altar on which the burnt offering was burned. In the case of Jesus, that event occurred while His body was hanging on the cross:

³¹[Therefore], [since] [it was] [a Day of Preparation], [The] [Jews] [asked] [Pilate] [that] [their] [Legs] [be crushed], [and] [they be taken away] [so that] [The] [Bodies] [would not] remain [on] [The] [Cross] [on] [The] [Sabbath]—[for] [That] [Sabbath] [Day] [was] [a Most Important Day]. ³²[Therefore], [The] [Soldiers] [did, in fact], come [and] [crush] [The] [Legs] [of The] [First] [as well as] [of The] [Other One] [who] [had been crucified together with] [Him]; ³³[but] [after coming] [over to] [Jesus], [when] [they saw that] [He] [had [already] died], [they did not] crush [His] [Legs]. ³⁴[But] [One] [of The] [Soldiers] [pierced [His] [Side] with*] [a Spear*], [and] [straightaway] [Blood] [and] [Water] [came out].
(John 19:31–34) —HSSB

Knowing what I have explained about the connection between the blood and the soul, you should be able to see Jesus summed up the *parabolic significance* of the “pouring out” of His blood when He said this:

¹¹[I] [AM] [The] [Shepherd] [Who is] [exceptionally good]. [The] [Shepherd] [Who is] [exceptionally good] [is going to put [His] [Soul] down] [for the sake] [of His] [Sheep]. ¹²[The] [Hired Hand]—[who is] [not] [even] [a Shepherd], [whose] [Sheep] [is] [not] [his own]—[observes] [The] [Wolf] [coming] [and] [leaves] [The] [Sheep] [and] [flees]—[so] [The] [Wolf] [snatches {them} up] [and] [disperses] [them]—¹³[because] [he is] [a Hired Hand]; [and] [he] [is] [not] [concerned] [about] [The] [Sheep]. ¹⁴[I] [AM] [The] [Shepherd] [Who is] [exceptionally good], [and] [I know] [those that] [I have], [and] [those that] [I have] [know] [Me]. ¹⁵[Just as] [The] [Father] [knows] [Me], [I also] [know] [The] [Father]; [and] [I am going to put [My] [Soul] down] [for the sake] [of My] [Sheep]. ¹⁶[I also] have [other] [Sheep] [that] [is] [not] [part] [of] [This] [Courtyard]. [I] [have] [to lead out] [Those {sheep} also]. [And] [they will heed] [My] [Voice], [so] [they will become] [one] [Flock]—[{with} One] [Shepherd]. ¹⁷[For] [This Reason] [The] [Father] [loves] [Me]—[because] [I] [am going to put [My] [Soul] down], [so that] [I may take [it] up] [again]. ¹⁸[Nobody] [is going to take [it] away] [from] [Me], [but] [I] [am going to put [it] down] [of] [My Own accord]. [I have] [Authority] [to put [it] down], [and] [I have] [Authority] [to take [it] up] [again]. [I received] [This] [Commandment] [from] [My] [Father].”
(John 10:11–18) —HSSB

You now have everything you need to know about the “blood” that Jesus had in mind when He spoke to His disciples at the Last Supper. The trouble is, you are still lacking one crucial bit of information that relates to the soul. As I have stated here and there over the past three decades, the soul retains everything that a person has *decided* to believe. That is, it sums up everything you are simply because *you are what you believe*. But that still doesn’t tell you everything you need to know about the soul. For that you have to understand the role that the Greek philosophy known as Platonism played in the mind-set of the Apostolic and Early Church.

The Greek philosopher Plato (ca. 424–348 B.C.) proposed a tripartite view of the soul that had become more or less conventional wisdom by the time of Christ. In his view: (1) The *logistikos* is the rational part of the soul that is responsible for *deciding what one believes*; (2) the *thymoeides* is the part of the soul that advocates expression of emotion based on the feeling

of the spirit; and (3) the *epithymetikon* is the part of the soul that advocates action based on desires of the flesh. Plato argued that in the just and impartial person, the *logistikon* will always be devoted to a love of the truth, constantly seeking to learn the truth and live in accordance with it. In such a person, the *logistikon* will always keep in check the nasty emotions prompted by the *thymoeides* and the selfish desires promoted by the *epithymetikon*.

My hope is you are now able to see how the ancient Greeks (and Christians) viewed the interaction between the body, soul, and spirit in the truly “good” person. I trust you will also be able to understand what Moses had in mind when he wrote this:

⁴“[But] [you must [not] eat] [Flesh] [with its Soul]—[its Blood]. ⁵[But also] [I will diligently seek] [your Blood] [for your Souls]. [I will diligently seek {it}] [from {the} Hand] [of every] [Living Being]. [But from {the} Hand] [of The Adam]—[from {the} Hand] [of each] [of His Brothers]—[I will diligently seek] [{the} Soul] [of The Adam].

⁶[Anyone who pours out] [{the} Blood] [of The Adam], [His Blood] [will be poured out] [by The Adam] [When] [He makes] [The Adam] [in {the} Image] [of God].”
(Genesis 9:4–6) —my interim translation

Let’s put it this way: If your soul does not have a love of the Truth that drives you to learn more and more of the Truth every day—that is, if it does not have exactly the same characteristics as the soul that Jesus Christ “put down” for you—God is going to come looking to claim your soul when it is “poured out,” and when He finds it, things aren’t going to be very pretty. But if you are one of those who have “poured out” the blood of Christ by accepting His sacrifice for your sins, wake up! Your blood has already been “poured out” by Him, and your soul is already His, so I suggest you get used to being dead. As Paul said:

¹⁹[For] [I] [died] [to Law] [via] [Law], [so that] [I could live] [with God]. [I have been crucified together with] [The Anointed One], ²⁰[so] [I] [am [no longer] living], [but] [The Anointed One] [is living] [in] [me]. [So] [what] [I am [now] living] [in] [Flesh] [I am living] [in] [my] [Belief in God’s Promise] [regarding The] [Son] [of The]

[{Living} God], [Who] [loved] [me] [and] [handed [Himself] over] [for [my] sake].”
(Galatians 2:19–20) —HSSB

Let me give you another hint: The “winds” that “blow” down here are at war with your soul, doing their best to kill it. But they will only be able to do that if they can get you to doubt the Truth that holds your flesh in check. Think about it.

Eat the Bread, Not the Leaven

From what I have explained to this point, it should be fairly obvious that Jesus had some specific *parabolic imagery* in mind when He spoke *parabolically* at the Last Supper, telling His disciples they had to “drink” His “blood” and “eat” His “flesh” in order to *inherit the promise* under the terms of the New Testament. Having already explained the *parabolic image* of the blood, I am going to wrap this up all neat and tidy by showing you what Jesus said about those things right after He fed the five thousand with just a few loaves of bread and a few fish. John tells us this:

²²[On The] [Next Day], [The] [Crowd] [that] [was standing] [on the other side] [of The] [Sea] [saw] [that] [there was] [not] [another] [Small Boat] [there], [except] [One]; [and] [that] [Jesus] [had [not] gone with] [His] [Disciples] [in] [The] [Boat], [but] [His] [Disciples] [had gone away] [alone]. ²³[Other] [Small Boats] [had come back] [from] [Tiberias], [near] [The] [Place] [where] [they had eaten] [The] [Bread] [after [His Majesty] gave thanks]; ²⁴[therefore], [when] [The] [Crowd] [saw] [that] [Jesus] [was] [not] [there]—[nor] [His] [Disciples]—[they] [got in] [to] [The] [Small Boats] [and] [came] [to] [Capernaum], [looking for] [Jesus]. ²⁵[And] [after finding] [Him] [on the other side] [of The] [Sea], [they said] [to Him], “[Rabbi], [when] [did You come] [here]?” ²⁶[Jesus] [responded] [to them] [and] [said]: “[Without doubt]! [Without doubt] [I tell] [you], [you look for] [Me], [not] [because] [you saw] [Signs], [but only] [because] [you ate] [some] [of The] [Bread] [and] [were satiated]. ²⁷[Do [not] work for] [The] [Meal] [that] [is going to be done away with], [but only] [for The] [Meal] [that] [is going to continue on] [into] [eternal] [Life]—[the {life} that] [The] [Son] [of The] [Man] [will give] [you]. [For] [My] [Father], [The] [{Living} God], [has set His seal on] [This Individual].” ²⁸[Therefore], [they said] [to]

[Him], “[What] [should we do], [so that] [we may do] [The] [Works] [of The] [Living} God?”²⁹ [Jesus] [responded] [and] [told] [them], “[This] [is] [The] [Work] [of The] [Living} God]: [that] [you believe God’s **promise**] [about] [the One that] [That Individual] [sent].”³⁰ [Therefore], [they said] [to Him]: “[Therefore], [what] [Sign] [are [You] going to do], [so that] [we may see {it}] [and] [believe] [You]? [What] [work are You going to do]?³¹ [Our] [Fathers] [ate] [The] [Manna] [in] [The] [Desert] [just as] [it is] [written]: ‘[HE GAVE] [THEM] [BREAD] [OUT] [OF] [HEAVEN] [TO EAT].’”³² [Therefore], [Jesus] [told] [them]: “[Without doubt]! [Without doubt] [I tell] [you], [Moses] [did not] give [you] [The] [Bread] [out] [of] [Heaven], [but] [My] [Father] [is going to give] [you] [The] [Bread] [out] [of] [Heaven] [that is] [real].³³ [For] [The] [Bread] [of The] [Living} God] [is] [the One Who] [comes down] [out] [of] [Heaven] [and] [gives] [Life] [to The] [World].”³⁴ [Therefore], [they said] [to] [Him], “[Your Majesty], [always] [give] [us] [This] [Bread]!”

³⁵ [Jesus] [told] [them]: “[I] [AM] [The] [Bread] [of] [Life]. [The one who] [comes] [to] [Me] [will] [definitely] [not] be hungry], [and] [the one who] [believes God’s **promise**] [about] [Me] [will] [definitely] [not] [ever] be thirsty].³⁶ [But] [I told] [you] [that] [you have] [also] seen] [Me], [yet] [you do not] believe God’s **promise**.³⁷ [Anyone] [that] [The] [Father] [gives] [Me] [will come] [to] [Me], [and] [I will] [definitely] [not] throw] [out] [the one who] [comes] [to] [Me],³⁸ [because] [I have] [not] come down] [from] [Heaven] [so that] [I may act in accordance with] [My Own] [Will], [but only] [The] [Will] [of the One Who] [sent] [Me].³⁹ [Yet] [This] [is] [The] [Will] [of the One Who] [sent] [Me]: [That] [all] [that] [He has given] [Me] [I not] lose] [any] [of it], [but] [raise] [it] up] [on] [The] [last] [Day].⁴⁰ [For] [This] [is] [The] [Will] [of] [My] [Father]: [That] [anyone] [who] [observes] [The] [Son] [and] [believes God’s **promise**] [about] [Him] [may have] [eternal] [Life], [and] [I] [will raise] [him] up] [on] [The] [last] [Day].”⁴¹ [Therefore], [The] [Jews] [were grumbling] [about] [Him] [because] [He said], “[I] [AM] [The] [Bread] [that] [came down] [out] [of] [Heaven].”⁴² [And] [they were saying]: “[Is] [This Individual] [not] [Jesus], [The] [Son] [of Joseph], [Whose] [Father] [and] [Mother] [we] [know]? [How] [can He] [now] say] [that] ‘[I have come down] [out] [of] [Heaven]’?”⁴³ [Jesus] [responded] [and] [told] [them]: “[Do not] grumble] [with] [one another]! ⁴⁴ [Nobody] [can] [come] [to] [Me] [if] [The] [Father] [Who] [sent] [Me] [does not] drag

[him] in], [and I] [will raise] [him] up] [on] [The] [last] [Day].⁴⁵ [It is] [written] [in] [The] [Prophets]: ‘[And] [EVERYONE] [WILL BE] [TAUGHT] [OF GOD].’ [Anyone] [who] [has heard] [and] [learned] [from] [The] [Father] [is going to come] [to] [Me].⁴⁶ [Not] [that] [anyone] [except] [the One Who] [is] [from] [The] [Living} God] [has seen] [The] [Father], [This Individual] [has seen] [The] [Father].⁴⁷ [Without doubt]! [Without doubt] [I tell] [you], [The one who] [believes God’s **promise**] [has] [eternal] [Life].⁴⁸ [I] [AM] [The] [Bread] [of] [Life].⁴⁹ [Your] [Fathers] [ate] [The] [Manna] [and] [died] [in] [The] [Desert].⁵⁰ [This Individual] [is] [The] [Bread] [that] [is going to come down] [out] [of] [Heaven] [so that] [anyone] [may eat] [some] [of Him] [and] [not] [die].⁵¹ [I] [AM] [The] [Bread] [that] [is living], [the One that] [came down] [out] [of] [Heaven]. [If] [anyone] [eats] [some] [of] [This] [Bread], [he will come to life] [in] [The] [Age to Come]. [But] [My] [Flesh] [is] [also] [The] [Bread] [that] [I] [will give] [for] [The] [Life] [of The] [World].”

⁵² [Therefore], [The] [Jews] [were quarreling] [with] [one another], [saying], “[How] [can] [This Individual] [give] [us] [His] [Flesh] [to eat]?”⁵³ [Therefore], [Jesus] [told] [them]: “[Without doubt]! [Without doubt] [I tell] [you], [if] [you do not] eat] [The] [Flesh] [of The] [Son] [of The] [Man] [and] [drink] [His] [Blood], [you are not] going to have] [Life] [in] [yourselves].⁵⁴ [The one who] [chows down on] [My] [Flesh] [and] [drinks] [My] [Blood] [has] [eternal] [Life], [and I] [will raise] [him] up] [on The] [last] [Day].⁵⁵ [For] [My] [Flesh] [is] [a real] Meal], [and] [My] [Blood] [is] [a real] Drink].⁵⁶ [The one who] [chows down on] [My] [Flesh] [and] [drinks] [My] [Blood] [remains] [in] [Me], [and I] [in] [him].⁵⁷ [Just as] [The] [living] [Father] [sent] [Me], [and I] [am living] [because of] [The] [Father], [the one who] [chows down on] [Me]—[even That Individual]—[will] [also] live] [because of] [Me].⁵⁸ [This Individual] [is] [The] [Bread] [that] [came down] [out] [of Heaven]; [not] [at all like] [The] [Fathers] [ate] [and] [died]. [The one who] [chows down on] [This] [Bread] [will live] [into] [The] [Age to Come].”⁵⁹ [He said] [These Things] [in] [a Synagogue], [while teaching] [in] [Capernaum].

⁶⁰ [Therefore], [after hearing {what He said}], [a Lot] [of] [His] [Disciples] [said], “[This] [Word] [is] [hard] [to understand}], [who] [is able] [to listen to] [it]?”⁶¹ [But] [Jesus], [aware] [in] [Himself] [that] [His] [Disciples] [were grumbling] [about] [This], [said] [to them]: “[Does] [This {word}] [offend] [you]? ⁶² [Therefore], [when] [you observe] [The] [Son] [of The] [Man] [going

up] [to where] [He was] [previously], ⁶³[The] [Spirit] [is] [What] [is going to give life]; [The] [Flesh] [is] [not] going to provide {any} benefit] [at all]. [The] [Comments] [that] [I] [have made] [to you] [is] [Spirit] [and] [is] [Life]. ⁶⁴[But] [some] [of] [you] [are] [those who] [do] [not] believe God's **promise**]." [For] [from] [The Beginning] [Jesus] [was aware of] [which ones] [were] [the ones who] [did] [not] believe God's **promise**, [and] [which one] [was] [the one who] [would hand [Him] over]. ⁶⁵[So] [He was saying], "[For] [This Reason] [I have told] [you] [that] [nobody] [can] [come] [to] [Me] [if] [it is] [not] [given] [to him] [from] [The] [Father]."

(John 6:22-65) —HSSB

The parabolic image of the "bread" that Jesus had in mind is fairly easy for me to explain, since He is obviously saying His Incarnation is the reality to which the original parabolic pantomime related to manna refers. So it should be just as easy for you to understand as it is for me to explain: The "bread" parabolically depicts *The Teaching of Moses*. For those who have ears to hear, Moses explains that in this passage:

¹[So they set out] [from Elim]; [and] [{the} [entire] Assembly of] [{the} Sons of] [Israel] came in] [to] [{the} Wilderness] [of Sin], [which is] [between] [Elim] [and] [Sinai], [on {the} fifteenth] [Day] [of [the second] New Moon] [after they came out] [of {the} Land] [of Egypt]. ²[Then [{the} [entire] Assembly of] [{the} Sons of] [Israel] grumbled] [against] [Moses] [and against] [Aaron] [in {the} Wilderness]. ³[And [{the} Sons of] [Israel] said] [to them]: "[Who] [caused] [us to die] [by {the} Hand] [of His Majesty] [in {the} Land] [of Egypt] [when we sat] [beside] [a Pot] [of Meat], [when we ate] [Bread] [to Satisfaction]? [You have [definitely] brought us out] [into] [This] [Wilderness] [to put [This] [entire] [Congregation] to death] [with Hunger]!"

⁴[So [His Majesty] told] [Moses]: "[Guess what! I am] [going to cause [Bread] to fall like rain] [out of] [The Sea of Waters] [for you] [so [The People] may go out] [and pick up] [{the} Word] [of a Day] [in its Day], [so that] [I may test him]: [Will he walk] [in My Teaching] [or] [not]? ⁵[So it will be] [on [the sixth] Day] [that they must prepare] [what] [they bring in], [but it must be] [twice as much] [over] [what] [they pick up] [Every Day]."⁶[So [Moses] [and Aaron] said] [to] [all] [{the} Sons of] [Israel]: "[{Come} Evening] [and you will know] [that] [His Majesty] [brought [you] out] [of

{the} Land] [of Egypt]; ⁷[but {come} Morning], [and you will see] [{the} Glory] [of His Majesty], [because He has heard] [your Grumbling]. [But [what are] we] [that] [you would grumble] [against us]?" ⁸[Then [Moses] said]: "[Since [His Majesty] is going to give] [you] [Meat] [to eat] [to Satisfaction] [in {the} Evening] [and Bread] [in {the} Morning] [because [His Majesty] has heard] [your Grumbling] [that] [you] [have been grumbling] [against Him], [then [what are] we]? [Your Grumbling] [is] [not] [against us]! {It is} [definitely] [against] [His Majesty]!"

⁹[Then [Moses] said] [to] [Aaron], "[Say] [to] [{the} [entire] Assembly of] [{the} Sons of] [Israel], [You must come near], [in front of] [His Majesty], [because] [He has heard] [your Grumbling]."¹⁰[Then it happened] [as [Aaron] was speaking] [to] [{the} [entire] [Assembly of] [Israel], [that they faced] [towards] [The Wilderness], [and guess what!] [{the} Glory] [of His Majesty] [appeared] [in {the} Cloud]. ¹¹[Then [His Majesty] spoke] [to] [Moses], [saying], ¹²"[I have heard] [{the} Grumbling of] [{the} Sons of] [Israel]; [speak] [to them], [saying], '[At] [Twilight] [you may eat] [Meat], [but in {the} Morning] [you will be satisfied with] [Bread] [and know] [that] [I am] [His Majesty] [your God].'"

¹³[Then it happened] [in {the} Evening] [that [The Quail] came up] [and covered] [The Camp], [and in {the} Morning] [there was] [an Emission of] [The Dew] [round about] [{the} Camp]. ¹⁴[Then [{the} Emission of] [The Dew] ascended], [and guess what!] [A [thin] Crispy Substance*]—[as [thin] as Hoarfrost]—[was] [on] [The Earth]. ¹⁵[When [{the} Sons of] [Israel] saw {it}], [Each One] [said] [to] [his Brother], "[What is] [it]?" [Because] [they did] [not] know] [what] [it was]. [So [Moses] said] [to them]: "[It is] [The Bread] [that] [His Majesty] [has given] [you] [for Something to Eat]. ¹⁶[This is] [The Word] [that] [His Majesty] [has commanded {you}]. [You must pick up] [some of it], [Each One] [in accordance with what] [he could eat], [Each One] [an Omer] [apiece] [for [{the} Number of] [Souls] who are] [in his Tent]."¹⁷[So [{the} Sons of] [Israel] did] [so], [and [the one who was many] [and the one who was few] picked {it} up]. ¹⁸[And they measured {it}] [by {the} Omer], [yet [the one who was many] did] [not] have a surplus] [and the one who was few] [did] [not] lack; [they picked {it} up] [Each One] [in accordance with what] [he could eat]. ¹⁹[Then [Moses] said] [to them], "[Each One] [must] [not] leave a remnant] [of it] [until] [Morning]."²⁰[But they did] [not] listen] [to] [Moses], [and [some] left a remnant] [of it] [until]

[Morning], [and it raised up] [Maggots] [and became a stench], [so [Moses] was filled with wrath] [against them].²¹[So they picked [it] up] [each and every Morning], [Each One] [in accordance with what] [he could eat]; [then [The Sun] would warm {it} up], [and it would dissolve].²²[But it was] [on [the sixth] Day] [that they would pick up] [twice as much] [Bread], [two of] [The Omers] [for Each One]. [So [all] [{the} Carriers of] [The Assembly] came] [and told] [Moses],²³[and he said] [to them]: “[That is] [what] [His Majesty] [was talking about]: [Tomorrow] {is} [a Special Sabbath], [a [holy] Sabbath] [to His Majesty]. [Bake] [what] [you can bake] [and] [cook] [what] [you can cook], [but] [make [The Surplus] rest] [with you] [for Guarding] [until] [The Morning].”²⁴[So they made [it] rest] [until] [The Morning] [just as] [Moses] [commanded], [and it did [not] become a stench], [and [there was] [no] Maggot] [in it].²⁵[Then [Moses] said]: “[Eat it] [Today] [because] [Today] {is} [a Sabbath] [to His Majesty]; [you will [not] find it] [in {the} Field] [Today].²⁶[You must pick it up] [six] [Days]; [but on [the seventh] Day], [a Sabbath], [there will [not] be {any}].”

²⁷[But it happened [on [the seventh] Day] that] [some of] [The People] [went out] [to pick {it} up], [but [they found] none].²⁸[Then [His Majesty] said] [to] [Moses]: “[How long] [will you refuse] [to stand watch over] [My Commandments] [and My Teachings]?²⁹[Look]! [Since] [His Majesty] [has given] [you] [The Sabbath], [He] [is], [therefore], going to give] [you] [Bread] [{for} two Days] [on [the sixth] Day]. [Each One] [must stay] [in his place]; [no] [One] [may go out] [from his Place] [on [the seventh] Day].”³⁰[So [The People] kept Sabbath] [on [the seventh] Day].

³¹[And [{the} House] [of Israel] called] [its Name] “[What Is It?]” [And it was] [white] [like [Coriander] Seed], [but its Taste] {was} [like Flat Bread*] [with Honey].³²[Then [Moses] said], “[This is] [The Word] [that] [His Majesty] [commanded], ‘[Fill [The Omer] full] [of it] [for Guarding] [throughout your Generations] [so that] [they may see] [The Bread] [that] [I made [you] eat] [in {the} Wilderness], [when I brought you out] [of {the} Land] [of Egypt].’”³³[So [Moses] said] [to] [Aaron], “[Take] [one] [Jar*] [and put] [{the} Fullness] [of The Omer] [of Manna] [there] [and make [it] rest] [in front of] [His Majesty] [for Guarding] [throughout your Generations].”³⁴[So [Aaron] made it rest] [in front of] [The Testimonies] [for Guarding] [just as] [His Majesty] [had commanded] [Moses].³⁵[So {the} Sons of] [Israel] [ate] [The Manna] [forty] [Years], [until] [they

came] [to] [an [inhabited] Land]; [they ate] [The Manna] [until] [they came] [to] [{the} Outskirts] [of {the} Land] [of Canaan].³⁶[Now The Omer] [is] [a tenth of] [The Ephah].)

(Exodus 16:1–36) —my interim translation

Moses tucks the Truth regarding the *parabolic pantomime* of the manna into that passage three different times, but the casual reader will miss it every time just because of his deft sleight of hand. Take a look:

[So [His Majesty] told] [Moses]: “[Guess what! **I am** [going to cause [Bread] to fall like rain] [out of] [The Sea of Waters] [for you] [so [The People] may go out] [and pick up] [{the} Word] [of a Day] [in its Day], [so that] [I may test him]: [Will he walk] [in My Teaching] [or] [not]?”

(Exodus 16:4) —my interim translation

“[This is] [The Word] [that] [His Majesty] [has commanded {you}]. [You must pick up] [some of it], [Each One] [in accordance with what] [he could eat], [Each One] [an Omer] [apiece] [for [{the} Number of] [Souls] that are] [in his Tent].”

(Exodus 16:16) —my interim translation

[Then [Moses] said], “[This is] [The Word] [that] [His Majesty] [commanded], ‘[Fill [The Omer] full] [of it] [for Guarding] [throughout your Generations] [so that] [they may see] [The Bread] [that] [I made [you] eat] [in {the} Wilderness], [when I brought you out] [of {the} Land] [of Egypt].’”

(Exodus 16:32) —my interim translation

When Moses says “this is the word,” he is, with a slight nod and a sly wink, ridiculing every dimwitted religious zealot down through history who has given up the Truth of *The Teaching* and wandered off into something stolidly stupid. But he is also sarcastically mocking their total lack of insight into the *meaning* and *significance* of the *parabolic pantomime* related to the sons of Israel picking up manna—“the Word of a Day in its Day”—when he says this:

¹“[Give ear], [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 down] [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 Deeds He Has Done]
 {are} [without defect]—
 [Because] [all] [His Ways]
 {are} [a Decision Based On the Truth]
 [By {the} God] [of Truth], [and without any] [Deviance].
 [He] {is} [One Who Is Impartial] [and upright]."
 (Deuteronomy 32:1–4) —my interim translation

In that passage, Moses is talking about the meaning and significance of the parabolic pantomime in which the sons of Israel were required to pick up manna every day but one. But one has no "way" of understanding that if one does not know: (1) the manna those folks picked up was an "emission" that came out of the dew; and (2) the manna parabolically depicted The Teaching regarding Jesus Christ, the One Who is not only "The Name" of God, but also the Word of God. If you didn't already know that, you should probably read what the Apostle John wrote about it:

¹[In] [The Beginning], [there was] [The] [Word];
 [and] [The] [Word] [was] [with] [The] [{Living} God],
 [and] [God] [was] [The] [Word]. ²[This Individual] [was]
 [in] [The Beginning] [with] [The] [{Living} God].
³[Everything] [has come into being] [via] [Him], [and] [not
 even] [One Thing] [that] [has come into being] [has come
 into being] [apart from] [Him]. ⁴[Life] [was] [in] [Him],
 [and] [His] [Life] [was] [The] [Light] [of] [Men]. ⁵[And]
 [The] [Light] [appears] [in] [The] [Darkness], [yet] [The]
 [Darkness] [has] [never] grasped [it]. ⁶[A Man] [sent]
 [from] [God] [came]; [his] [Name] {was} [John]. ⁷[This
 Individual] [came] [for] [a Testimony], [so that] [he could
 provide testimony] [about] [The] [Light], [so that] [every-
 one] [could believe God's **promise**] [via] [Him]. ⁸[That
 Individual] [was] [not] [The] [Light], [but] {he came} [so
 that] [he could provide testimony] [about] [The] [Light].
⁹[The] [Light] [was] [the] [real {Light}], [the One
 Who] [provides light for] [every] [Man] [who comes]
 [into] [The] [World]. ¹⁰[He was] [in] [The] [World], [and]
 [The] [World] [came into being] [via] [Him], [yet] [The]
 [World] [did] [not] know [Him]. ¹¹[He came] [to] [His]
 [Own], [and] [His] [Own] [did] [not] take [Him] to them-
 selves]. ¹²[But] [as many as] [accepted] [Him], [to

them]—[to those who] [believe God's **promise**] [about]
 [His] [Name]—[He gave] [Authority] [to become] [God's]
 [Children]: ¹³[those who] [were] [not] engendered [by]
 [Blood] [or] [by] [{the} Will] [of Flesh] [or] [by] [{the}
 Will] [of Man], [but only] [by {the will}] [of God]. ¹⁴[So]
 [The] [Word] [became] [Flesh] [and] [camped out]
 [among] [us]; [and] [we got a good look] [at] [His]
 [Glory]—[like] [{the} Glory] [of an only engendered
 {son}] [from] [a Father], {a glory} [completely full] [of a
 Favor] [and] [Truth]. ¹⁵[John] [was providing testimony]
 [about] [Him]. [He [even] shouted], [saying], "[This
 Individual] [was] [the One of Whom] [I said]: '[The One
 Who] [is going to come] [after] [me] [was] [ahead] [of
 me], [because] [He existed] [before] [me].'" ¹⁶[Because]
 [we] [have] [all] **received**] [some] [of] [His] [Fullness],
 [even] [a Favor] [in exchange for] [a Favor]. ¹⁷[Because]
 [The] [Law] [was given] [via] [Moses]; [The] [Favor]
 [and] [The] [Truth] [came] [via] [Jesus], [The Anointed
 One]. ¹⁸[Nobody] [has] [ever] seen [God]; [{the} [only
 engendered] God], [Who] [is] [in] [The] [Fold of [The]
 [Father's] Garment], [That Individual] [has described
 {Him} at length].

(John 1:1–18) —HSSB

Let me point out one more thing that may have never occurred to you: The Virgin Birth of Jesus Christ was *the fulfillment of the promise* that God gave David through the Prophet Nathan (2 Sam. 7:1–17). If you don't know what I am talking about, I suggest you read what I have written regarding that *promise* over the past three decades. My point here is, the physical body of Jesus Christ was the visible manifestation of the Word of God that Nathan *delivered* to David. I could go on to explain how He is *the fulfillment of promises* God gave other individuals at various times as well, but I won't. The Prophet Isaiah describes it best when he says the following regarding the Word of God:

¹"[Woe!] [Everyone] [who is thirsty],
 [come] [for {the} Water];
 [And whoever] [has] [no] [Silver],
 [come {for the water}].
 [Buy grain] [and eat],
 [and come {for the water}].
 [Buy grain] [with no] [Silver],
 [And [Wine] [and Milk] with nothing] [of Market Value].
²[Why] [would you weigh out] [Silver]
 [for {what is} not] [Bread]—

[Your Production] [for {what has} no] [Satisfaction]?
 [Listen] [carefully] [to Me] [and eat] [a Good Thing],
 [So that your Soul] [may take delight]
 [in {the} Grease].

³[Cup] [your Ear] [and come] [to Me];
 [Listen], [so that [your Soul] may live].
 [Then I will cut] [an [eternally burning]
 Legal Agreement] [for you]—
 [Those who believe]

[{the} Loving-kindnesses of] [David].
⁴[Guess what!] [Kinfolk have] [a Witness].
 [I will make Him] [a Leader]
 [and one who gives commands to] [Kinfolk].
⁵[Guess what!] [You will call] [a Nation]
 [You do [not] know],
 [And a Nation]—[they will [not] know You]—
 [will run] [to You]

[For the sake of] [His Majesty], [Your God],
 [And to [Israel's] Holy One],
 [When] [He has made You beautiful].
⁶[Diligently seek] [His Majesty] [while He can be found];
 [Call out to Him] [while He is] [near].

⁷[Let [a guilty {man}] abandon] [his Way];
 [And a [contentious] Man], [his Thoughts],
 [So that he may return] [to] [His Majesty],
 [So that He may have compassion on him],
 [And to] [our God]:

(1)[Because] [He will [forgive] much].

⁸(2) [Because] [My Thoughts]
 {are} [not] [your Thoughts];
 [And your Ways] {are} [not] [My Ways],"
 [declares] [His Majesty].

⁹“(3) [Because] [{the} Sea of Waters]
 [are higher] [than {the} Earth],
 [So also] [My Ways] [are higher] [than your Ways];
 [And My Thoughts], [than your Thoughts].

¹⁰(4) [Because], [just as] [The Rainfall]
 [and The Snow]

[Comes down] [from] [The Sea of Waters],
 [And [it does [not] return] there]
 [Unless]: (a) [It satisfies the thirst of] [The] [Earth],
 [And (b) causes her to engender]
 [And (c) causes her to sprout],
 [And (d) gives] [Seed] [for {the} one who is sowing]
 [And Bread] [for {the} one who is eating].

¹¹[So also] [My Word] [will be]
 [One Who] [goes out] [of My Mouth];
 [He will [not] return] [to Me]

[without {doing} anything]
 [Unless]: (a) [He does] [what] [I want],
 [And (b) makes [what] [I sent Him {for}] successful]."
 (Isaiah 55:1–11) —my interim translation

What can I say? Your accurate understanding of that passage depends on you knowing that the *parabolic pantomime* in which the sons of Israel picked up a crunchy substance emitted by the dew was intended to remind them that they were to be focused on believing *The Teaching of Moses*. It also helps to know *The Teaching of Moses* was called “*The Way*,” that is, “*The Way*” God thinks, which is “*The only Way*” you are ever going to make it out of the realm of the dead. But I have explained those things on other occasions, so I will resist the temptation to say more here.

Let Me Put It This “Way”

This is “*The Way*” the Apostle Paul explains the purpose of the *parabolic pantomime* of the Last Supper:

²³[For] [I] [took to myself] [from] [His Majesty]
 [what] [I [also] handed over] [to you], [that] [His Majesty], [Jesus], [in] [The] [Night] [in which] [He was handed over], [took] [a Loaf of Bread], ²⁴[and] [after giving thanks], [He broke {it}] [and] [said], “[This] [is] [My] [Body], [which is] [for [your] sake]; [do] [This] [as] [your] [Remembrance] [of Me].” ²⁵[In the same way] [also], [The] [Cup], [after] [{they} had dinner], [saying]: “[This] [Cup] [is] [The] [new] [Testament] [in] [My] [Blood]. [As often as] [it may be that] [you drink {it}], [do] [This] [as] [your] [Remembrance] [of Me].” ²⁶[For] [as often as] [it may be that] [you eat] [This] [Loaf of Bread] [and] [drink] [The] [Cup], [you are proclaiming] [The] [Death] [of] [His Majesty] [up to the time] [when] [He comes back].
 (1 Corinthians 11:23–26) —HSSB

Did you see the key word in that passage? Let me point it out for you: *remembrance*. So what do you think we are supposed to be remembering about Christ, considering the fact that He is the *Living Word of God*? Don't be one of the dimwitted dullards who holds tenaciously to a philosophical view of the Scriptures rather than one based on Hebrew idioms and *parabolic imagery*. You are supposed to remember the Truth He *handed down* to His disciples. Good luck with that one, considering Church leaders tossed it out 1800 years ago. ■

Continued from front cover

advanting, without which it cannot even exist at this day, when it is so much more copious, and rich, and wise), it could not exist at all if the things which are now so easily suggested, that cling to us so constantly, that are so very near to us, that are somehow born on our very lips, had no existence in ancient times, before letters had any existence in the world—before there was a Mercury, I think, at all.

And whence was it, I pray, that letters themselves came to know, and to disseminate for the use of speech, what no mind had ever conceived, or tongue put forth, or ear taken in? But, clearly, since the Scriptures of God, whether belonging to Christians or to Jews, into whose olive tree we have been grafted—are much more ancient than any secular literature, (or, let us only say, are of a somewhat earlier date, as we have shown in its proper place when probing their trustworthiness); if the soul have taken these utterances from writings at all, we must believe it has taken them from ours, and not from yours, its instruction coming more naturally from the earlier than the later works. Which latter indeed waited for their own instruction from the former, and though we grant that light has come from you, still it has flowed from the first fountainhead originally; and we claim as entirely ours, all you may have taken from us and handed down.

Since it is thus, it matters little whether the soul's knowledge was put into it by God or by His book. Why, then, O man, wilt thou maintain a view so groundless, as that those testimonies of the soul have gone forth from the mere human speculations of your literature, and got hardening of common use?

Tertullian, "The Soul's Testimony," Chap. 6, in Roberts and Donaldson (Eds.), *The Ante-Nicene Fathers* (1885), Vol. 3, pp. 178–179.

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