



THE VOICE of ELIJAH

Restoring the hearts of the fathers to the children

Simpletons Do Deeply Love Simplicity

We have ample means of encountering those who are given to carping. For we are not termed children and infants with reference to the childish and contemptible character of our education, as those who are inflated on account of knowledge have calumniously alleged. Straightway, on our regeneration, we attained that perfection after which we aspired. For we were illuminated, which is to know God. He is not then imperfect who knows what is perfect.

And do not reprehend me when I profess to know God; for so it was deemed right to speak to the Word, and He is free. For at the moment of the Lord's baptism there sounded a voice from heaven, as a testimony to the Beloved, "Thou art My beloved Son, to-day have I begotten Thee." Let us then ask the wise, Is Christ, begotten to-day, already perfect, or—what were most monstrous—imperfect? If the latter, there is some addition He requires yet to make. But for Him to make any addition to His knowledge is absurd, since He is God.

For none can be superior to the Word, or the teacher of the only Teacher. Will they not then own, though reluctant, that the perfect Word born of the perfect Father was begotten in perfection, according to oeconomic fore-ordination? And if He was perfect, why was He, the perfect one, baptized? It was necessary, they say, to fulfil the profession that pertained to humanity. Most excellent. Well, I assert, simultaneously with His baptism by John, He becomes perfect? Manifestly. He did not then learn anything more from him? Certainly not.

But He is perfected by the washing—of baptism—alone, and is sanctified by the descent of the Spirit? Such is the case. The same also takes place in our case, whose exemplar Christ became. Being baptized, we are illuminated; illuminated, we become sons; being made sons, we are made perfect; being made perfect, we are made immortal. "I," says He, "have said that ye are gods, and all sons of the Highest." This work is variously called grace, and

Continued on back cover



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A Note From the Editor

The Mind-set of Moses Seminar

We have finalized dates for *The Mind-set of Moses* Seminar: Thursday, January 16, 2020, through Sunday, January 19, 2020, in Dallas, Texas. Egyptologist Khaled Osman will be the guest speaker for the four-day seminar. I have heard Mr. Osman teach, and I can guarantee that you are in for a treat, if the subject matter interests you at all. Feel free to invite family and friends, but please contact me with the number of people in your group so we can make sure that the venue is large enough and that we have enough hand-out materials to go around. No need to do so a second time if you have already responded; you are already on the list. As the details are firmed up, I will keep in touch via email. Contact me at mwharper@the-elijah-project.com if you'd like more information.

Your Contributions at Work

Contributions to *The Voice of Elijah*® have been in the doldrums in 2019. Knowing what lies ahead, the time is right to ask you to step up and be counted among the active supporters of VOE. Believers need to start preparing now for what is coming down the pike—and those who have yet to hear the Truth need to be reached as quickly as possible so they, too, can prepare. That can only be done through your contributions. Consider becoming a Monthly Contributor (See Order Form) or one-time contributor to *The Voice of Elijah*®.

If you have ears to hear, there is a lot more information available (beyond this quarterly newsletters) to help you see through Satan's lies. The choice is yours. With your decision to become a Monthly or Next Step Contributor you will be helping yourself—while at the same time helping *The Voice of Elijah*® reach others. Your financial commitment will enable VOE to escalate outreach programs and accomplish the mission of warning born-again Christians about Satan's lies, while at the same time giving scoffers the opportunity to hear the Truth and reject it. It's all part of the plan. We see it all the time around here.

On occasion an especially encouraging letter arrives in the mail. Your contributions were responsible for reaching the author of this one:

Hello!

I just wanted to take a moment and express to you how much you have blessed me as a follower of Christ. I will be sixty-two years old in a few days and quite honestly, I am the happiest I have ever been! It has been over a year now and the time always seems to slip away faster every year that passes by. As I alluded to earlier, "The Teaching" has great joy and power over the

Continued on page 29

Continued from inside front cover

"flesh." You guys know all this and relate to all I unskillfully try to describe. Words fall short now, as I try to express to you how deeply you have blessed me, and others around me! (They "see" the change.)

I will continue to support you and will "simplify" my life to do more. In just over one year I have completed my first lap of the materials, i.e. newsletters, Updates, and books (all). My goal now is to "lock it" in my heart forever! That is a lifelong project!

By the way, I love the sarcastic wit regarding the myopic, mendacious, moronic minions who proliferate piously like parroting penguins pompously to pervert God's holy never-changing Word!!! LOL! Just know how much I love you and how thankful I am you are fulfilling the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. You are set as an inspiring testimony to all of us at the end of this age.
J.C., Florida

Twenty-six years ago, Larry Harper wrote this:

*I encourage those of you who have come to believe in the Truth of The Teaching you have found through the ministry of **The Voice of Elijah®**. Stand firm in your belief in that Truth, **knowing that many will contradict it, seeking only to "cause divisions" among you.** It will become increasingly clear to you over time that, in the manifold wisdom of God, Jesus Christ, the Living Word of God, is (mystically, I might add) seeking to replicate Himself in you. He can only do that in those who are willing to listen and to learn. "Mystics, Meatballs, and the Marvelous Works of God," **The Voice of Elijah®**, April 1993, pp. 16–17*

Not everyone is "willing to listen and to learn." Two such examples arrived this past week:

I just finally read one of the books play [sic: by] mr. Harper and have come to a conclusion... I'm deeply saddened as a believer in Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior of over 60 years to have read articles such as these which actually do distort the truth of God's word.... I am familiar with the early church fathers and what they say as well as Old Testament New Testament history and languages in the original context.

However I also do notice that mr. Harper does not use longtime respected sources and biblical Scholarship to substantiate his point of view, he merely quotes himself and his own articles over and over and mainly because he cannot really substantiate his point of view. It is sad that he has fallen into the Trap of isolationist heresy claiming a particular type of Truth which is not really there in the word of God only making evangelicals look ridiculous in this article.

Let me give you a clue mr. Harper... the original Church Fathers we're [sic: were] not perfect we're [sic: were] not authors of the original Canon of scripture and we're [sic: were] just as human and you as I [sic: as you and I]. Not everything that they wrote is true or completely accurate, however many things they said are very helpful. Look at the early church and some of the teachers within the context of the apostles... how there was heresy and false teaching going on at the same time that Paul and the 12 we're [sic: were] doing their Ministry.... I will be destroying your booklets and warning anyone I know regarding this false teaching. I believe the early church fathers would be ashamed of mr. Harper and where this teaching is leading those which [sic: who] have been deceived. I wish you the best and that something will change,
L.W., Washington

Then this came one via email:

Thank you for your free booklets. Started with "Wanna Hear A Whopper" as the "In the Image & Likeness of God" suggested. I made it to page 4 and had enough of your insults, pride and arrogance! Please remove me from all lists and do not contact me again!
E.S., email sent to webmaster@voiceofelijah.org

The winnowing process is working as God intended! Your contributions to **The Voice of Elijah®** make the Truth available to scoffer and Believer alike. The Word takes it from there.

In Him,

Marcia Harper

When You Say “New,” You Imply Something Else Is “Old”

In the January 2017 issue of *The Voice of Elijah*® newsletter, I told you the Apostle Paul makes a statement in the second chapter of 2 Corinthians that one can easily overlook if one doesn't know what he has in mind. But I also said that if one knows what Paul is *talking about*, it becomes a stark reminder of the pitched battle in which the Lord demands each and every one of His Children not only participate but also come out triumphant. Therefore, I showed you what Paul says; and then I explained what he knows that you need to know if you intend to overcome the wiles of Satan here at the End of the Age.

April 2017

In the April 2017 issue of *The Voice of Elijah*® newsletter, I first reviewed what I had told you in the January issue. Then I explained how the renewing of the mind that Paul mentions in Romans 12:2 fits together with the things I had already explained in those issues. But in both of those issues, I included the following statement:

Most folks who call themselves “Christians” today don’t believe there is only one Truth to be found in the Hebrew Scriptures. Instead, they believe there is some sort of smorgasbord of “truths” from which one just picks and chooses whatever “truth” they find most acceptable. The Truth is, the Apostles fully understood the message of the Hebrew Scriptures and they made no bones about it. They also believed that anybody who believed something that contradicted the Truth they understood was not going to be saved. Paul states that emphatically in the first chapter of the Book of Galatians.

What Paul says in that passage should settle the issue for anyone with half a brain; but unfortunately, most “Christians” today are content to go on believing the mishmash of contradictory beliefs they have heard in the distorted remnants of the Church established by the Apostles. It has never occurred to them that the New Testament clearly reveals the leaders of the Apostolic Church believed but one Truth, and they also believed the Truth that they possessed can be found in the Hebrew Scriptures.

After stating that, I gave you a summary of the message of the Old Testament:

1. Two “Adams” are mentioned in the Creation Account. The Apostle Paul *talks about* those two “Adams” in 1 Corinthians 15:45–49. Genesis 1 describes the Resurrection of Jesus Christ in the image and likeness of God on the sixth “day” of Creation; Genesis 2 describes the creation of our forefather on the third “day.” I have already explained these things in the booklet titled *In the Image and Likeness of God* and in the October 2017 issue of this newsletter.

2. When God banned Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden, He gave them the promise that they could be created in the image and likeness of God if they would only believe the promise. He also expected them to *hand down the promise* from one generation to the next as an *inheritance* that each *heir of the promise* could bequeath to the next *heir of the promise* as an *oral blessing*. The Book of Genesis is an account of how the Patriarchs did that very thing. I have already explained these things in *The Inheritance of the Believer, Volume 1*.

3. *The central purpose of the covenant God made with the sons of Israel at Mount Sinai was to unify the promise after Jacob divided it up when he blessed his sons and grandsons.* Since there was no longer just one *heir of the promise* as there had been up to that time, God used the Mosaic Covenant to create *Corporate Israel*, a corporate body that He claimed as His Firstborn Son. That corporate body functioned as a mediator to hold title to *the promise* until Jesus Christ became *Corporate Israel, the Heir of the promise*. I have also explained these things in *Not All Israel Is Israel* and *The Inheritance of the Believer*, Volume 1.

4. *Under the terms of The Law of Moses, an individual member of Corporate Israel could be “cut off from” Corporate Israel.* Various parts of that law demanded that ultimate punishment. If the sons of Israel were aware that someone had violated one of those, they were expected to execute the individual and thereby erase his name from Israel. Even if they did not do that, God would “cut him off from” *Corporate Israel*. That is, He would erase the individual’s name from the census book of Israel that He maintained. For that reason God alone knew who had been “cut off from” *Corporate Israel*, and no one else had the right to say anyone was still a member of *Corporate Israel*. I have already explained these things in *Not All Israel Is Israel*.

5. *God made two covenants with the sons of Israel at Mount Sinai.* The first covenant required the perfect obedience of the corporate body and did not provide a means of atonement. If one individual sinned, every member of the corporate body became guilty. The second covenant provided a means of atonement for the individual. If an individual sinned, his sin could be atoned for through a sacrificial ritual, but the corporate body still remained guilty. I have also explained these things in *The Inheritance of the Believer*, Volume 1.

6. *Because the sons of Israel failed to adhere to the requirements of both the first and second Mosaic Covenants, the Prophets Jeremiah and Ezekiel promised them God would offer a New Covenant to the individual members of Corporate Israel.* He did that through the ministry of John the Baptist. But the New Covenant that the Jews accepted at that time was just like the first Old Covenant their ancestors had accepted at Mount Sinai—it provided no means of atonement. If a person sinned,

he would immediately be “cut off from” *Corporate Israel*. So God “cut off from” *Corporate Israel* all the members of *Corporate Israel* other than Jesus Christ because they could not keep the terms of the New Covenant. I have also explained these things in *Not All Israel Is Israel*.

7. *When Jesus Christ was baptized by John and accepted the terms of the New Covenant, He became Corporate Israel, the Heir of the promise.* Therefore, when He died, He atoned for the sins of *Corporate Israel* by suffering under the curses of the Mosaic Covenant. But because of His obedience to the terms of the New Covenant, God was obligated to fulfill the promise and resurrect Him so that He could inherit what was promised to Adam and Eve—creation in the image and likeness of God. I have also explained these things in *Not All Israel Is Israel* and in the pages of *The Voice of Elijah*® newsletter and *The Voice of Elijah*® Update over the past quarter of a century.

8. *When Christ died, His death invoked the terms of the oral testament He had made prior to His death.* Under the terms of that oral testament, all anyone has to do to inherit the promise is believe it—and apologize to God for the sins they have committed. Those who do that will be declared not guilty by God; those who don’t, won’t. I have also explained these things in the pages of *The Voice of Elijah*® newsletter and *The Voice of Elijah*® Update over the past quarter of a century.

I told you that, if you intend to triumph over the enemy of your soul, you need to believe the things I outlined in the eight paragraphs above; and you also need to know why you have chosen to believe them. That is because the Truth they provide is a refuge in which your soul can hide whenever you face a fierce onslaught of enemy forces. Without them, you will have nothing you can use to defend against the lies that Satan propagates for the sole purpose of destroying the souls of men. I also told you that, for that reason, I planned to write a series of articles in which I provide a summary explanation of those eight parts of *The Teaching*.

In the October 2017 issue, I began by talking about the first item on the list above; then I talked about the second in the January 2018 issue; the third, in the April 2018 issue; the fourth, in the July 2018 issue; and the fifth, in the April 2019 issue. I am going to continue by talking about the sixth item on the list a bit later in this issue.

October 2017

In the article I wrote for the October 2017 issue of this newsletter, I gave yet another list of things you need to know and believe if you intend to triumph over the “winds” that are going to “blow” here at the End of the Age. I said this:

The Truth regarding the biblical account of God’s decision to create Jesus Christ—the Second Adam—in His Own image and likeness is this:

1. *Genesis 1 is a summary overview of everything God has done with regard to His decision to create Jesus Christ in His Own image and likeness.*
2. *Genesis 2–4 explains some of the events that led up to God’s decision to create Jesus Christ in His Own image and likeness.*
3. *The first two verses of Genesis 5 are an introduction to Moses’ account of why God decided to create Jesus Christ in His Own image and likeness.*
4. *Moses’ account of why God decided to create Jesus Christ in His Own image and likeness begins in Genesis 5:3 and goes through Genesis 8.*
5. *Genesis 9:1–7 is a summary of God’s announcement of His intention to begin the process of creating Jesus Christ in His Own image and likeness.*

January 2018

In the article I wrote for the January 2018 issue of this newsletter, I told you that you need to keep those things in mind if you want to know the Truth with regard to the message of the Scriptures. But I said you also need to know the creation of Jesus Christ in the image and likeness of God is the very focus of the Scriptures in which God has revealed His plan and purpose for the salvation of mankind. His *fulfillment* of that plan began with the Resurrection of “*The Man*,” Jesus Christ, in His Own image and likeness; and it will conclude with the Resurrection of all “male and female” Believers in that same image and likeness at the End of the Age. That is the Truth regarding the *parabolic image* of the “new birth” by which one becomes a Child of God. But only those who believe the Truth

here at the End of the Age will participate in that event. Everyone else will be discarded.

I went back to the beginning of the biblical account of God’s plan of salvation and recounted the things you need to know and believe if you intend to be one of those who participate in the Resurrection of the Righteous at the End of the Age. I told you the story begins immediately after Adam and Eve admitted their sin to God. At that time, He gave them *the promise* that they could be created in His image and likeness if they would merely believe *the promise* and *hand it down* as an *inheritance* so that others would have opportunity to believe it as well. I also reviewed the things I explained in *The Inheritance of the Believer, Volume 1*. I told you the genealogies in Genesis 5–11 are an account of how Abraham came to be *the heir of the promise*, and the remainder of the Book of Genesis tells us how Abraham *handed down the promise* to his son Isaac, and Isaac *handed down the promise* to his son Jacob.

April 2018

In the April 2018 issue of this newsletter, I explained something that erudite “scholars” have long debated: What is the *significance* of the Old Testament appellation “all Israel”? That is, what does it *mean*? Why did the Prophets use it to refer to the Northern Kingdom after the division of the kingdom following the death of Solomon? Why do some translations infer the Apostle Paul uses it in Romans 9:6?

I told you that if you have read *Not All Israel Is Israel*, you should already know what Paul *means* by what he says in that passage. He knows *the promise* was *handed down* from one *heir of the promise* to the next until it came into the possession of Jacob. He also knows “all Israel” is how the Prophets referred to *Corporate Israel*. That is, they refer to the sons of Israel as if they were all one person. A little later on in the Book of Romans, Paul makes it clear he knows the *significance* of the phrase “all Israel”; but I told you that those with “eyes that cannot see and ears that cannot hear” won’t have a clue as to what he *meant* by what he said because the Truth regarding their situation is exactly as Paul describes it in 2 Corinthians 4:2–6.

I gave you the following paraphrase of what Paul says in Romans 11:1–32 to show you a bit of his mind-set regarding Jesus Christ as “*The Remnant*” of *Corporate Israel* Who continued to hold title to *the promise* after all the other Jews were “cut off from” *Corporate Israel*:

Based on what I explained in the previous chapter, you should already know that the Living God has not completely abandoned His People. Just as Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob were all individually **heirs of the promise**, so also at this time there is One Individual Who is **Heir of the promise**. Jesus Christ became **the Heir of the promise** when He became Corporate Israel, the Firstborn Son of God Who has been **the Heir of the promise** since the ratification of the Mosaic Covenant.

Just as the majority of the members of Corporate Israel in the time of Elijah were “cut off from” Corporate Israel, so also the individual members of Corporate Israel were “cut off from” that Corporate body in our day. But there are many of us who were members of Corporate Israel who are still members of Corporate Israel. We are members of that Corporate body because, after we were “cut off from” it, we were “grafted back in” to it in the same way that you were “grafted in.” But we were given the opportunity to be “grafted in” before you Gentiles because we were members of the Corporate body before we were “cut off from” it. So don’t lord it over the Jews who have rejected Christ, because you can easily be “cut off from” Christ—Corporate Israel—in the same way that they were; and they can be “grafted back in.”

Now that I have warned you not to think too highly of yourself as members of Corporate Israel, let me explain “The Mystery” of how God intends to salvage the remaining members of Corporate Israel. He is going to continue to allow Gentiles to be “grafted in” to Corporate Israel until “the fullness of the Gentiles has come in.” And the individual members of Corporate Israel who are “grafted in” will be “grafted in,” in the same way that we have been: by being forgiven freely under the terms of the oral will that Jesus made before He died. After Gentiles have been “grafted in” to Corporate Israel, the totality of that Corporate body will be saved.

(**The Voice of Elijah**®, April 2018, pp. 6–7)

I told you Paul begins *talking about* the fact that the Jews have been “cut off from” Corporate Israel, but he insists that does not *mean* God has abandoned His intention to **fulfill the promise**. It just *means* the Jews who rejected the Truth are no longer members of Corporate Israel, **the Heir of the promise** Who has already **inherited what was promised**. He points back to the fact that **the promise** was **handed down** by Abraham to Isaac, and Isaac to Jacob, in accordance with God’s choice. In both cases, God rejected a potential **heir**—Ishmael and

Esau—who did not **inherit the promise**. His point is, the same thing has happened to the Jews.

I explained the essence of what Paul says is, God has the right to choose who does and does not have access to **the promise**. But he mentions what Hosea says about the Gentiles becoming the People of God because Hosea prophesied at the time when God “cut off” the ten tribes of the Northern Kingdom “from” Corporate Israel and never *restored* them. Paul’s point is, that same “cutting off” process resulted in Jesus remaining as “*The Remnant*” of Israel; and God is now “building a house” on the very “Stone” that the Jewish leaders ignorantly thought they were “cutting off from” Israel.

I told you that, in Romans 10, Paul expresses his desire that the Jews who have been “cut off from” Corporate Israel would believe that Jesus Christ is **the Heir of the promise** and accept God’s declaration of not guilty by believing God has **fulfilled the promise** by raising Christ from the dead. Unfortunately, the Jews have refused to do that; so God turned to the Gentiles and is now “taking” a People for Himself and “building a house” out of those who respond to the Truth.

I told you the biblical account regarding “the fullness of the Gentiles” begins in Genesis 48, where Jacob, **the heir of the promise**, was on his death bed, ready to **hand down the promise** to the next **heir of the promise**. Moses tells us that Jacob passed over his eldest sons and gave his grandson Ephraim the honor of “carrying *The Name*” of the three men who had most recently been **the heir of the promise** (Gen. 48:1–22).

I explained that Genesis 48 is a pivotal point in the biblical history of **the promise**, and it provides critical insight into why God granted Gentiles the opportunity to be “grafted in” to Corporate Israel. But I also said to understand the biblical history pertaining to the salvation of the Gentiles, one needs to know a few crucial facts about the ancient Hebrew mind-set regarding “*The Names*” of the Patriarchs that Jacob gave Ephraim the honor of “carrying.” So I gave you this list:

1. “The Name” of a man was considered to be an integral part of the man, just as real a part as his body, soul, and spirit. It reflected the essence of who he was. That is why God changed “The Name” of Abram to Abraham and “The Name” of Jacob to Israel.

2. The ancients believed that, when a man died, he had no hope of resurrection if his name did not have a

"house" (a son) in which it could continue living. That is the unstated point of the story about Tamar and Judah in Genesis 38 and the story about Ruth and Boaz in the Book of Ruth, as well as the law regarding levirate marriage in Deuteronomy 25:5–10.

3. The son who had the honor of "carrying The Name" of his forefathers was the "carrier." Since the resurrection and eternal life of the forefathers depended on someone "carrying" their "Name," having a son who could "carry" it after his death was essential.

I told you the fact that Jacob gave Ephraim the right to "carry The Names" of the Patriarchs became extremely significant in 722 B.C., when the ten tribes of the Northern Kingdom were "cut off from" Corporate Israel at the time of the Assyrian Captivity. The tribe of Ephraim was one of those ten tribes; and Hosea plainly tells us the "The Names" of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob were scattered throughout the Gentiles when Ephraim got himself all mixed up with them (Hos. 7:8).

I said that, when Paul used the phrase "the fullness of the Gentiles" in Romans 11:25, he is pointing back to what Jacob said to Joseph; but I also told you he uses the phrase "all Israel" in the very next verse because he knows it means "Corporate Israel." So I went on to explain how God used the covenant ratified at Mount Sinai to mold the sons of Israel into Corporate Israel, the Firstborn Son of God that Jesus Christ became when He was baptized by John.

July 2018

In the article I wrote for the July 2018 issue of this newsletter, I told you the book *Not All Israel Is Israel* provides the rock-solid foundation on which I base nearly everything else I teach. It explains how Jesus Christ became Corporate Israel via a process in which the Living Word of God "cut off" everyone else "from" Corporate Israel. I explained the significance of the Hebrew idiom "cut off from" and gave you a list of activities (*Not All Israel Is Israel*, pp. 107–110) for which the individual members of Corporate Israel could lose their position in that corporate body.

I told you that one of the most important takeaways you can gain from *Not All Israel Is Israel* is an accurate understanding of Romans 11, where the Apostle Paul is talking about the fact that Jesus Christ is

now Corporate Israel. So everyone else, both Jew and Gentile, must be "grafted back in" to the same corporate body from which the Jews were all "cut off." Paul begins by insisting God has not abandoned His People because Jesus Christ still remains as a Remnant of that august body; but since the unrepentant Jews have lost their position in it, they must be "grafted in" again. What he says is impossible to understand if you don't know Jesus Christ became Corporate Israel when all the other Jews were "cut off from" Corporate Israel simply because he uses the name *Israel* to refer to both Jesus Christ as Corporate Israel and the Jews who were members of that corporate body before they were "cut off from" it.

I told you a second takeaway from *Not All Israel Is Israel* that is just as important as the first is an accurate understanding of how Romans 11 relates to the Assyrian Captivity of the ten tribes of the sons of Israel in the Northern Kingdom in 722 B.C. I said if one does not understand the significance of those ten tribes becoming Gentile, what Paul explains in Ephesians 2:1–22 will elude him.

April 2019

In the article I wrote for the April 2019 issue of this newsletter, I told you I have repeatedly reminded you:

God made two covenants with the sons of Israel at Mount Sinai. The first covenant required the perfect obedience of the corporate body and did not provide a means of atonement. If one individual sinned, every member of the corporate body became guilty. The second covenant provided a means of atonement for the individual. If an individual sinned, his sin could be atoned for through a sacrificial ritual, but the corporate body still remained guilty. I have also explained these things in The Inheritance of the Believer, Volume 1.

Then I showed you some of the things that I explain in *The Inheritance of the Believer, Volume 1*. I told you:

The purpose of the Mosaic Covenant was to unify title to the promise that Jacob distributed to his sons. It was to make Corporate Israel the Heir of the promise, and to establish the terms under which God would fulfill the promise.

(*The Inheritance of the Believer, Session 3*)

I reminded you that:

The inheritance of what was promised is *conditioned on the collective obedience—the inheritance of what was promised*. Corporate Israel already has **the promise—under the Mosaic Covenant**. That’s the purpose: Bring this **promise** back and unify it, and make Corporate Israel **the Heir of the promise**. So Corporate Israel, under the terms of the Mosaic Covenant, became **the Heir of the promise**. In the same way that Abraham was **heir of the promise**. In the sense that Isaac was **heir of the promise**. In the sense that Jacob was **heir of the promise**. Now you have a group of people that God looks at {parabolically} as one Person:

“Israel is My firstborn Son.”
(Exodus 4:22b)

God said that at the time of the Exodus.
(The Inheritance of the Believer, Session 3)

Then I showed you how God made Moses *the heir of the promise* by “cutting off” everyone else when the people sinned at Mt. Sinai and how He then made a second covenant with Moses, a covenant in which the people were viewed as members of Moses, a covenant that allowed Moses to *hand the promise down* to the people once again by making them Corporate Israel and blessing them shortly before he died. I also showed you *the blessing* of Moses—who was *the heir of the promise* in his day—and *the blessing* that Jacob—who was *the heir of the promise* in his day—bestowed on his sons; and I told you to compare them.

My point in showing you both *the blessing* of Moses and *the blessing* of Jacob was to make the point that both served the same function. In both cases, *the heir of the promise* was *handing down the promise* to the next *heir(s) of the promise*. I told you the difference is, Jacob divided up *the promise* and *handed down* various parts of *the promise* to his sons. Moses *handed down the promise* to the tribes of Corporate Israel, *the heir of the promise*. But he did so only after the people ratified yet a third covenant, one in which they became members of the Corporate entity rather than members of Moses.

Those are a few of the things I have already explained; now I am going to tell you even more things you need to know if you intend to avoid the delusion of the Antichrist.

A Promise Is a Promise, I Promise

As the sixth item on my summary of the Old Testament message that I gave you in the April 2017 issue of this newsletter, I said this:

6. Because the sons of Israel failed to adhere to the requirements of both the first and second Mosaic Covenants, the Prophets Jeremiah and Ezekiel promised them God would offer a New Covenant to the individual members of Corporate Israel. He did that through the ministry of John the Baptist. But the New Covenant that the Jews accepted at that time was just like the first Old Covenant their ancestors had accepted at Mount Sinai—it provided no means of atonement. If a person sinned, he would immediately be “cut off from” Corporate Israel. So God “cut off from” Corporate Israel all the members of Corporate Israel other than Jesus Christ because they could not keep the terms of the New Covenant. I have also explained these things in Not All Israel Is Israel.

Let me begin by reiterating the first thing that is absolutely essential to an accurate understanding of the things that Moses wrote with regard to God’s legal agreement with the sons of Israel: God signed on to three “covenants” (legal agreements) with the sons of Israel. They are these:

1. The first legal agreement that God offered at Mt. Sinai is described in Exodus 21:1–31:18. The terms of that legal agreement made all the sons of Israel one person—Corporate Israel. That one Person held title to every part of *the promise* that God *handed down* to Adam and Eve when He banned them from the Garden of Eden. But God did not provide any means of atonement under the terms of that agreement; if one member of Israel sinned, every member of Israel was guilty of his sin. Therefore, when the sons of Israel broke the legal agreement by worshiping the golden calf that Aaron made, God rejected the entire group—except Moses.

2. The second legal agreement that God offered at Mt. Sinai is described in Exodus 32:1–40:38. When Moses begged God to spare the sons of Israel and not destroy them, the Lord agreed to ratify a second legal agreement with the sons of Israel. But He did not make the second legal agreement directly with the sons of Israel; He made it with Moses, and He made Moses the

sole member of *Corporate Israel*, with the sons of Israel “grafted in” to *Corporate Israel* as members of Moses. That is, Moses was in much the same position as Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob had been when they were *the heir of the promise*. The only difference was, *Corporate Israel* had already been established as *the heir of the promise* under the terms of the first legal agreement. Therefore, Moses became the sole member of that *Corporate body*.

Under the terms of the second legal agreement, God also allowed atonement for sin, so that although *Corporate Israel* was still held guilty for the sin of each individual member, the individual members could retain their position in the *Corporate body* by following the sacrificial rituals that Moses established.

3. The third legal agreement that God offered the sons of Israel is described in Deuteronomy 27:1–32:52. Shortly before Moses died, the Lord laid out the terms under which Moses, as the sole member of *Corporate Israel*, would *hand down the promise* to the sons of Israel so that they *individually* became members of *Corporate Israel* rather than members of Moses. Under the terms of that legal agreement, the most significant change was to the priesthood: The entire tribe of Levi replaced the sons of Aaron as priests, and they were given the responsibility of *handing down The Teaching of Moses* from one generation to the next.

Now that you have that information firmly fixed in your mind, you also need to understand the *significance* of several passages of Scripture before you can read and understand what the Prophets Jeremiah and Ezekiel said about the New Covenant. The first passage essential to your accurate understanding of the message of the Scriptures is Leviticus 26:

¹“[You must [not] make] [Worthless Things] [for yourselves], [and [you must [not] raise up] a Graven Image] [or a **Massebah**] [for *yourselves*]; [and *you* must [not] put down] [a [wishing] Stone] [in *your Land*] [to prostrate *yourselves*] [to it], [because] [I] {am} [His Majesty], [your God].

²[You must observe] [My Sabbaths], [and *you* must fear] [My Sanctuary]. [I] {am} [His Majesty].

³[If] [*you* walk] [in My Statutes] [and] [observe] [My commandments] [and act in accordance with] [them],

⁴[then I will give] [*your* Rainfalls] [in their Time], [so that [The Earth] gives] [her Produce] [and {the} Tree] [of The Field] [gives] [his Fruit]. ⁵[Then [Threshing*] will attain

{until}] [Grape Harvest] [for you] [and Grape Harvest] [will attain {until}] [sowing], [and *you* will eat] [your Bread] [to Satisfaction] [and dwell] [securely] [in your Country]. ⁶[Then I will give] [Peace] [on {the} Earth] [so that *you* lie down], [and there will not be any] [one causing trembling]. [Then I will make [a [bad] Animal] keep Sabbath] [away from] [The Earth], [and a Sword] [will [not] pass through] [*your* Country]. ⁷[Then *you* will pursue] [*your* Enemies], [and they will fall] [before *you*] [by the Sword]. ⁸[Then [Five] [of *you*] will pursue] [a Hundred], [and a Hundred] [of *you*] [will pursue] [Ten Thousand], [and [*your* Enemies] will fall] [before you] [by the Sword]. ⁹[Then I will face] [toward *you*], [and I will make [*you*] bear fruit] [and make [*you*] many], [and I will confirm] [My Legal Agreement] [with *you*]. ¹⁰[Then *you* will eat] [{the} old]—[what has become old]—[and *you* will bring out] [{the} old] [because of] [{the} new].

¹¹[Then I will put] [My Residence] [in *your* Midst] [and My Soul] [will [not] detest] [*you*]. ¹²[And I will move about] [in *your* Midst], [and I will be] [*your*] [God], [and *you*] [will be] [My] [People]. ¹³[I] {am} [His Majesty], [*your* God], [the One Who] [brought *you* out] [of the Land] [of Egypt]—[from being] [their] [Slaves]. [And I broke] [The Yoke Bars] [of *your* Yoke], [and I made [*you*] walk] [standing upright*].

¹⁴[But if] [*you* do [not] listen] [to Me] [and *you* do [not] act in accordance with] [all of] [These] [Commandments], ¹⁵[and if] [*you* reject] [My Statutes] [and if] [*your* Soul] [detests] [My Judgments] [so as not to] [act in accordance with] [all of] [My Commandments] [so as to make [My Legal Agreement] null and void], ¹⁶[I] [will [definitely] deal [with *you*] about] [This]; [and I will appoint] [over *you*] [a Sudden Overwhelming Terror]—[both] [The Emaciation] [and] [The Inflammation] [that finish off] [{the} Eyes] [and make [{the} Soul] pine away*]. [Then *you* will sow] [your Seed] [to empty {it} out], [and [*your* Enemies] will consume it]. ¹⁷[Then I will set] [My Face] [against *you*], [and *you* will be struck down] [before *your* Enemies], [and those who hate *you*] [will exercise authority] [over *you*], [and *you* will flee] [when there is not anyone] [pursuing] [*you*].

¹⁸[But if] [*you* do [not] listen] [to Me] [during] [These Things], [then I will continue] [to admonish] [*you*] [Seven Times] [for] [your Sinful Activity]. ¹⁹[Then I will break] [{the} Pride] [of *your* Strong One] [and make] [*your* Sea of Waters] [like Iron] [and] [*your* Earth] [like Bronze]. ²⁰[Then [*your* Power] will be completed] [for Emptiness], [and [*your* Land] will [not] put forth]

[its Produce], [and {the} Tree] [of The Land] [will [not] put forth] [its Fruit].

²¹[But if] [**you** walk] [with me] [in opposition to Me] [and are [not] willing] [to listen] [to Me], [then I will add [Seven Times] more of] [{My} Attack] [against **you**] [in accordance with **your** Sinful Activity]. ²²[And I will let [{the} Animal of] [The Open Field] go free and send him] [among **you**]; [and he will bereave [**you**] of your children] [and completely cut off] [**your** Beasts] [and reduce [**you**] to nothing], [so that [**your** Ways] are devastated].

²³[But if] [you do [not] accept admonishment] [from Me] [by These Things], [but you walk] [with Me] [in opposition to Me], ²⁴[then I] will [definitely] walk] [with **you**] [in opposition to **you**]; [and I] will [also] strike] [**you**] [Seven Times] [for] [**your** Sinful Activity]. ²⁵[Then I will bring] [upon **you**] [a Sword] [that is going to take [Vengeance] for] [{the} Legal Agreement]. [Then **you** will be rounded up] [into] [**your** Cities], [and I will let [an Epidemic] go] [into **your** Midst] [and turn **you** over] [to {the} Hand] [of an Enemy]. ²⁶[When I break] [{the} Staff] [of [**your**] Bread], [then [ten] [Women] will bake] [**your** Bread] [in [one] Oven] [and bring [**your** Bread] back] [by Weight], [so that **you** eat] [and are [not] satisfied].

²⁷[But if] [**you** do [not] listen] [to Me] [because of This], [but walk] [with Me] [in opposition to Me], ²⁸[then I will walk] [with **you**] [in [a raging] opposition to **you**]; [and I] will [definitely] admonish [**you**] sternly] [Seven Times] [for] [**your** Sinful Activity]. ²⁹[Then **you** will eat] [{the} Flesh] [of **your** Sons], [and **you** will eat] [{the} Flesh] [of **your** Daughters]. ³⁰[So I will wipe out] [**your** High Places] [and completely cut up] [**your** Incense Altars]; [then I will put] [**your** Dead Bodies] [on top of] [{the} Dead Bodies of] [**your** Idols], [and My Soul] [will detest] [**you**]. ³¹[Then I will make] [**your** Cities] [a Ruin] [and devastate] [**your** Sanctuaries], [and I will [not] smell] [**your** soothing] [Aromas]. ³²[And I] will devastate] [**your** Land], [so that [**your** Enemies]—[those who dwell] [in it]—will be devastated] [because of it]. ³³[And I will spread [**you**] out] [among {the} Gentiles] [and marshal] [a Sword] [behind **you**], [so that [**your** Land] becomes] [a Desolate Area] [and **your** Cities] [become] [a Ruin].

³⁴[At that time], [The Land] [will take great pleasure in] [its Sabbaths] [all] [{the} Days that] [it is devastated], [while **you** {are} [in {the} Land] [of **your** Enemies]; [at that time], [The Land] [will keep Sabbath] [and take great pleasure in] [its Sabbaths]. ³⁵[All] [{the} Days of] [being devastated] [it will keep {the} Sabbaths] [that] [it did [not] keep Sabbath] [on **your** Sabbaths], [while **you** were

dwelling] [on it]. ³⁶[But [then I will bring] [Despondency*] [into {the} Heart of] those [among **you**] who remain as a remnant] [in the Lands of] [their Enemies]. [Then [{the} Sound] [of Foliage] [being blown away] will pursue] [them]. [So they will flee], [Fleeing] [a Sword]; [and they will fall] [when there is no one] [pursuing]. ³⁷[And they will stumble], [each one] [over his Brother], [like {those fleeing} from {the} edge of] [{the} Sword], [when there is no one] [pursuing]; [and [**you**] will [not] have] [an Ability to Stand] [before] [your Enemies]. ³⁸[Then **you** will go to Hell] [among {the} Gentiles], [and [{the} Earth] [of **your** Enemies] will consume] [**you**]. ³⁹[So those [among **you**] who remain as a remnant] [will rot away] [because of their Reprehensible Activity] [in {the} Lands of] [their Enemies]; [and [because of the Reprehensible Activity of] [their Fathers], they will [definitely] rot away] [with them].

⁴⁰[So they must confess] [their Reprehensible Activity] [and] [{the} Reprehensible Activity] [of their Fathers] [by their Betrayal of Trust] [when] [they betrayed [My] trust]—[and definitely] [when] [they walked] [with Me] [in opposition to Me]. ⁴¹[I] [will [definitely] walk] [with them] [in opposition to them] [and bring] [them] [into {the} Land] [of their Enemies]; [or] [their [uncircumcised] Heart] [will be subdued] [at that time], [and [they will make amends for] [their Reprehensible Activity] at that time]. ⁴²[Then I will remember] [My Legal Agreement] [{with} Jacob], [and I will [definitely] remember] [My Legal Agreement] [{with} Isaac] [and definitely] [My Legal Agreement] [{with} Abraham], [and [I will remember] The Land].

⁴³[But The Land] [will be abandoned] [because of them], [and it will take great pleasure in] [its Sabbaths] [while devastated] [because of them]. [But they] [must make amends for] [their Reprehensible Activity] [for the simple reason that] [they rejected] [My Judgments], [and] [their Soul] [detested] [My Statutes]. ⁴⁴[But by all means] [even after] [This], [when they are] [in {the} Land] [of their Enemies], [I will [not] reject them]; [and I will [not] detest them] [so as to finish them off]—[so as to make [My Legal Agreement] [with them] null and void]—[because] [I] {am} [His Majesty] [their God]. ⁴⁵[But I will remember] [for them] [{the} Legal Agreement] [{with} The First Ones]—[those] [that] [I brought out] [of {the} Land] [of Egypt] [in the sight of] [The Gentiles] [to become] [their] [God]. [I] {am} [His Majesty]."

⁴⁶[These] {are} [The Statutes] [and The Judgments] [and The Teachings] [that] [His Majesty]

[granted] [between Himself] [and {the} Sons of] [Israel] [at Mount] [Sinai] [by {the} Hand] [of Moses].
(Leviticus 26:1–46) —my interim translation

The basic takeaways from that chapter are fairly easy to understand—unless you have your own theological axe to grind. If you do, you may want to stop reading right here and go back to reviewing whatever theological propaganda you have already *received*; you are most likely not open to considering anything other than what you have already *chosen* to believe to be true. But for the benefit of those who are not quite so closed-minded, here are a few things one should make note of in the text of Leviticus 26:

1. Every last statement in the passage is addressed to the sons of Israel as individuals. I have indicated that by translating every plural form of the second person personal pronoun with a lower-case “you” and bolding every occurrence of it. If the statements in the passage were addressed to Corporate Israel, I would have translated the pronoun you with an initial cap—“You”—to indicate the statements are addressed to Corporate Israel, instead of the sons of Israel as many individuals.

2. The **promise** stated in verses 11 and 12 is clearly conditioned on the people **fulfilling** the conditions on which the **promise** is based. You need to keep that in mind simply because the text of the Scriptures make it abundantly clear that did not happen at any time during the Old Testament history of the sons of Israel. You also need to keep in mind the fact that the Tabernacle was already in the midst of the sons of Israel at that time. The point being, the **promise** stated in verse 11 is not talking about God dwelling in the Tabernacle among the sons of Israel at that time; it is, instead, speaking in terms of a time when the individual members of Corporate Israel would finally get their act together and do what God required.

3. The **promise** stated in verses 44 and 45 explains what God intends to do after the sons of Israel have violated the terms of the legal agreement they accepted at Mount Sinai, thereby making that legal agreement null and void. At that time, God says He is going to go back to the terms He stipulated under the **first** legal agreement He offered the sons of Israel when He brought them out of Egypt. Make note of what I just told you; it is extremely

important. That is because God did not offer any provision for atonement under the terms stipulated in the **first** legal agreement.

Just to emphasize it for you once again, here are the two *promises* God made the sons of Israel through Moses on the occasion described in Leviticus 26:

¹¹“[Then I will put] [My Residence] [in **your** Midst] [and My Soul] [will [not] detest] [**you**]. ¹²[And I will move about] [in **your** Midst], [and I will be] [**your**] [God], [and **you**] [will be] [My] [People].”
(Leviticus 26:11–12) —my interim translation

⁴⁴“[But by all means] [even after] [This], [when they are] [in {the} Land] [of their Enemies], [I will [not] reject them]; [and I will [not] detest them] [so as to finish them off]—[so as to make [My Legal Agreement] [with them] null and void]—[because] [I] {am} [His Majesty] [their God]. ⁴⁵[But I will remember] [for them] [{the} Legal Agreement] [{with} The First Ones]—[those] [that] [I brought out] [of {the} Land] [of Egypt] [in the sight of] [The Gentiles] [to become] [their] [God]. [I] {am} [His Majesty].”
(Leviticus 26:44–45) —my interim translation

When read in the context of the second legal agreement God made with the sons of Israel at Mount Sinai, the first of those two *promises* is clearly conditioned on the individual members of Moses (who, if you remember, was the only member of Corporate Israel at the time) adhering to all of the terms stipulated in the legal agreement; the second *promise* is completely unconditional—God is going to do it no matter what. Keep that in mind if you want to understand what God had planned for the future; if you don’t, you won’t.

God Never Changes; Circumstances Do

Now that you know what God *promised* the sons of Israel when their relationship to Him was governed by the terms of the second legal agreement He made with them at Mount Sinai, you need to know what He said to them when the time came for Moses to *hand down the promise* before he died. I have already told you he did that by means of *the blessing* recorded in Deuteronomy 33, and I have explained those things in *The Inheritance of the Believer*, Volume 1. But in case you

need a reminder, here is my interim translation of what Moses said:

¹[Now this] {is} **[The Blessing]** [{with} which] [Moses],
[{the} Man] [of The {Living} God], **[blessed]** [{the}
Sons of] [Israel] [before] [his Death]. ²[And he said]:

"[His Majesty] [will come in] [out of Sinai],
[And He will rise] [for them] [out of Seir];
[He will shine forth] [out of Mount] [Paran],
[And a Holy One] [will come] [out of Ten Thousand]—
[Out of His Right Hand],

{the} Fire [of a Decree] [for them].

³[He will [definitely] cherish*] [Peoples];
[All] [His Holy Ones] {will be} [in Your Hand],
[And they] [will follow*] [in Your Footsteps].
[He will carry] [some of Your Words].

⁴[Moses] [commanded] [a Teaching] [for us]
[As {the} Possession] [of {the} Congregation of] [Jacob],

⁵[So that there will be] [a King] [in Jeshurun]
[When he rounds up] [{the} Heads of] [{the} People]
[Together with] [{the} Branches of] [Israel].

⁶[Reuben] [will live] [and [not] die],
[But there will be] [a small number of]
[his Adult Males]."

⁷[But [then he said] This] [concerning Judah]:

"[Your Majesty], [Listen to] [{the} Voice] [of Judah],
[And [bring Him] to] [His People].
[He will argue] [for Him] [{with} His Hands],
[But You must be] [a Helper] [against His Adversaries]."

⁸[And concerning Levi] [he said]:

"[Your Thummim] [and Your Urim] [belong to a Man]
[{with} Your Virtue],
[The One that] [You tested] [at Massah],
[The One that] [You argued with]
[beside] [{the} Waters of] [Meribah],

⁹[The One Who will say] [to His Father]
[and to His Mother],

'[I have [never] seen him].'

[And] [He will [not] recognize] [His Brothers];
[And He will [not] know] [His Sons],
[Because] [they must stand watch over]
[Your Statements];

[And [they must safeguard] Your Legal Agreement].

¹⁰[They will teach] [Your Decisions Based on the Truth]
[to Jacob]

[And Your Teaching] [to Israel].

[They will assign] [Incense*] [for Your Nose]—
[Even a Whole Burnt Offering] [on] [Your Altar].

¹¹[Your Majesty], **[bless]** [His Entourage],
[And take great pleasure in]

{the} Deed [His Hands] Have Done].

[Strike [{the} Loins] [of those who rise up against Him]
with a perfect blow],

[And of those who hate Him],

[so that] [they cannot rise up]."

¹²[Concerning Benjamin] [he said]:

"[{The} Beloved] [of His Majesty] [will reside] [securely]
[beside Him],

[Sheltered*] [beside Him] [all] [Day],

[Even residing] [between] [His Shoulders]."

¹³[And concerning Joseph] [he said]:

"[His Land] {is} [part of {the} **Blessings** of]
[His Majesty]—

[Part of The Best Produce] [of The Sea of Waters]—

[Part of {the} best produce of the} Dew],

[Even part of {the} best produce} of The Deep]
[that lies] [below]—

¹⁴[Even part of The Best Produce] [of {the} Crop]
[of The Sun],

[Even part of The Best Produce] [of the Edible Fruit*]
[of {the} Cycles of the Moon],

¹⁵[Even part of {the} best produce of the} Top]
[of {the} Mountains of] **[Qedem]**,

[Even part of The Best Produce of] [The Hills of]
[a Burning Eternity],

¹⁶[Even part of The Best Produce of] [{the} Earth]
[and her Fullness],

[Even {the} Goodwill] [of {the} One Who resided]
[{in the} Prickly Bush]

[Will come] [to {the} Head] [of Joseph],

[Even to {the} Crown of the Head] [of {the} Nazirite]
[of his Brothers].

¹⁷[Splendor] [belongs to him]—[{the} Firstborn]
[of his Spring Wall]—

[But [his Horns] {are} {the} Horns of] [a Wild Ox];
[He will butt] [Peoples] [together] [with them],

[{To the} Ends of] [{the} Earth].
[And they] {will be} [{the} Ten Thousands of]
[Ephraim],
[And they] {will be} [{the} Thousands of] [Manasseh].”

¹⁸[And to Zebulun] [he said]:

“[Rejoice], [Zebulun], [when You go out];
[And, Issachar], [in Your Tents].
¹⁹[They will summon [Peoples] to] [a Mountain];
[They will sacrifice] [Communal Sacrifices of]
[a Declaration of Not Guilty] [there],
[When] [a Tremendous Number*]
[nurse on] [{the} Seas],
[Even {on} what is concealed in*]—
[what is hidden in]—[{the} Sand].”

²⁰[And concerning Gad] [he said]:

“[**Blessed**] {is} [{the} One Who enlarges] [Gad].
[He will reside] [like a Lioness With Cubs];
[Then He will tear [an Arm] to pieces],
[even] [{the} Crown of the Head].
²¹[But He will see {what}] [belonged to Him]
[{at the} Beginning],
[Because] [a Name]—[a Share of] [what was inscribed]
[has been concealed].
[So He will come] [{with the} Heads of] [a People].
[He will make] [His Majesty’s]
[Declaration of Not Guilty]
[And His Decisions Based on the Truth] [for Israel].”

²²[And concerning Dan] [he said]:

“[Dan] {is} [The Cub] [of a Lioness];
[He will leap out*] [of] [The Snake].”

²³[And concerning Naphtali] [he said]:

“[Naphtali] {will be} [satisfied with] [Goodwill]
[And filled with] [{the} **Blessing** of] [His Majesty];
[He will take possession of] [{the} Sea]
[and {the} South Wind].”

²⁴[And concerning Asher] [he said]:

“[Asher] {is} [more **blessed**] than Sons];
[He will be] [favored] [by his Brothers],

[And he will dip] [his Foot] [in {the} Oil].
²⁵[Your Bolts] {will be} [Iron] [and Bronze],
[And [Your Endurance*] {will be} equal to Your Days].

²⁶[There is nobody] [like {the} God] [of Jeshurun],
[{The} One Who rides] [The Sea of Waters]

[when He helps You],

[But [Dust Clouds] in His Pride].

²⁷[The {Living} God of] [**Qedem**] {is} [a Haven],
[With [{the} [eternally burning] Arms] below].
[So He will drive [an Enemy] away] [from before You];
[And He will say], ‘[Wipe {him} out]!’

²⁸[So that [Israel] may reside] [securely],
[Jacob’s] [Spring] [will be isolated]
[To] [a Land] [of Grain] [and New Wine].
[Even] [His Sea of Waters] [will mist] [a Dew].

²⁹[You, O Israel], {will be}
[Those Who Attain the Resurrection]!

[Who is] [like You]?

[A People] [saved] [by His Majesty]—

[{By the} Shield] [that helps You]?

[Even {the} One Who] {is} [{the} Sword]
[of Your Pride].

[So [Your Enemies] will be denied the truth] [about You],
[And You] [will tread] [on] [their High Places].”
(Deuteronomy 33:1–29) —my interim translation

If you understand the significance of that **blessing**, you should be able to see the bigger “picture” within which it occurs. That is, God made Moses *the heir of the promise*—the sole member of Corporate Israel—after He “cut off” all the other members of Corporate Israel after they sinned at Mount Sinai. Then He “grafted” them “back in” by making them members of Moses’ “house.” Since *the promise* would be lost if Moses did not *hand it down* to the next *heir of the promise* before he died, Moses did exactly what was required; he *blessed* Corporate Israel and made Him *the Heir of the promise*. That’s the short version of those events, but you also need to know how all the sons of Israel became members of Corporate Israel instead of just members of Moses’ “house.” You can find those events described in Deuteronomy 27:1–31:30. That passage begins with this:

¹[Then [Moses] [and {the} Elders of] [Israel] com-
manded] [The People], [saying]: “[**You** must stand watch
over] [all] [The Commandment] [that] [I] [am going to
command] [**you**] [Today]: ²[So it must be] [on {the} Day]

[that] [you cross over] [The Jordan] [into] [The Land] [that] [His Majesty], [Your God], [is going to give] [to You], [that You must raise up] [big] [Stones] [for Yourself] [and whitewash] [them] [with Lime]. ³[Then, [when You cross over], You must write] [all] [{the} Words of] [This] [Teaching] [on them], [in order] [that] [You may go in] [to] [The Land] [that] [His Majesty], [Your God], [is going to give] [to You]—[a Land] [flowing] [{with} Milk] [and Honey]—[just as] [His Majesty], [the God of] [Your Fathers], [spoke] [to You]. ⁴[So it must be that], [when you cross over] [The Jordan], [you must raise up] [These] [Stones] [on Mount] [Ebal] [as] [I] [am going to command] [you] [Today]; [and You must whitewash] [them] [with Lime].

⁵[Then You must build] [an Altar] [for His Majesty], [Your God], [there]—[an Altar] [of Stones]—[You must not] [move] [Iron] [side to side] [on them]; ⁶[You must build] [{the} Altar] [of His Majesty], [Your God], [{with} complete] [Stones]; [and You must offer] [Burnt Offerings] [to His Majesty], [Your God], [on it]. ⁷[And You must sacrifice] [Peace Offerings] [as communal sacrifices] [and eat {them}] [there] [and rejoice] [before] [His Majesty], [Your God]. ⁸[Then You must write] [on] [The Stones] [all] [The Words of] [This] [Teaching]—[making good] [{my} explaining].”

⁹[Then [Moses]—[and The Priests], [The Levites]—spoke] [to] [all] [Israel], [saying]: “[Shut up*] [and listen], [O Israel]! [This] {very} [Day] [You have been brought about to become] [{the} People] [of His Majesty], [Your God]. ¹⁰[So You must listen] [to {the} Voice] [of His Majesty], [Your God], [and act in accordance with] [His Commandments] [and] [His Statutes]—[the ones that] [I] [am commanding You] [Today].”

¹¹[Then [Moses] commanded] [{the} People] [on [That] Day], [saying]: ¹²[When you cross over] [The Jordan], [These] [must stand up] [to bless] [The People] [on] [Mount] [Gerizim]: [Simeon] [and Levi] [and Judah] [and Issachar] [and Joseph] [and Benjamin]. ¹³[And These] [must stand up] [for] [The Curse] [on Mount] [Ebal]: [Reuben], [Gad] [and Asher] [and Zebulun], [Dan] [and Naphtali]. ¹⁴[Then [The Levites] must respond] [and say] [to] [every] [Man] [of Israel] [with a [raised] Voice]:

¹⁵[The Man] [who] [makes] [a Graven Image] [or a Cast Image]—[What [{the} Hands of] [a Craftsman] Makes] {is} [an Abomination] [to His Majesty]—[and sets {it} up] [in secret] [is irrevocably cursed]! [And [all]

[The People] must respond] [and say], ‘[Without doubt!]’

¹⁶‘[Anyone who dishonors] [his Father] [or his Mother] [is irrevocably cursed]!’ [And [all] [The People] must say], ‘[Without doubt!]’

¹⁷‘[Anyone who pulls back] [his Neighbor’s] [Boundary] [is irrevocably cursed]!’ [And [all] [The People] must say], ‘[Without doubt!]’

¹⁸‘[Anyone who intoxicates] [One Who Is Blind] [through The Way] [is irrevocably cursed]!’ [And [all] [The People] must say], ‘[Without doubt!]’

¹⁹‘[Anyone who confuses] [{the} Decision Based on the Truth] [of a Temporary Resident] [or Fatherless Child], [or Widow] [is irrevocably cursed]!’ [And [all] [The People] must say], ‘[Without doubt!]’

²⁰‘[Anyone who lies] [with] [his Father’s] [Woman], [since] [he has uncovered] [his Father’s] [Skirt], [is irrevocably cursed]!’ [And [all] [The People] must say], ‘[Without doubt!]’

²¹‘[Anyone who lies] [with] [any] [Beast] [is irrevocably cursed]!’ [And [all] [The People] must say], ‘[Without doubt!]’

²²‘[Anyone who lies] [with] [his Sister], [{the} Daughter of] [his Father] [or] [the Daughter] [of his Mother], [is irrevocably cursed]!’ [And [all] [The People] must say], ‘[Without doubt!]’

²³‘[Anyone who lies] [with] [his Mother-in-law] [is irrevocably cursed]!’ [And [all] [The People] must say], ‘[Without doubt!]’

²⁴‘[Anyone who attacks] [his Neighbor] [in secret] [is irrevocably cursed]!’ [And [all] [The People] must say], ‘[Without doubt!]’

²⁵‘[Anyone who takes] [a Bribe] [to attack] [a Soul] {with} [innocent] [Blood] [is irrevocably cursed]!’ [And [all] [The People] must say], ‘[Without doubt!]’

²⁶‘[Whoever] [does not] confirm] [{the} Words of] [This] [Teaching] [by acting in accordance] [with them] [is irrevocably cursed]!’ [And [all] [The People] must say], ‘[Without doubt!]’”

(Deuteronomy 27:1–26) —my interim translation

The takeaways from that chapter are just as easy to understand as those from Leviticus 26, provided you are willing to accept them. Here they are:

1. The majority of the occurrences of the second person personal pronoun in that passage are singular—“You”—rather than plural—“you.” When Moses uses the plural form, he is always addressing the people as individuals;

when he uses the singular form, he is addressing them as a single individual—Corporate Israel.

2. The point of the passage, which is to emphasize the responsibility of the individual as it pertains to the Corporate body, is clearly stated in verse 26:

“[Whoever] [does [not] confirm] [{the} Words of] [This] [Teaching] [by acting in accordance] [with them] [is irrevocably cursed]!” [And [all] [The People] must say], ‘[Without doubt!]’”
(Deuteronomy 27:26) —my interim translation

3. The essence of the passage is summed up in verses 9 and 10, where Moses and the Levites tell the sons of Israel the obligation they have taken on by becoming members of Corporate Israel:

⁹[Then [Moses]—[and The Priests], [The Levites]—spoke] [to] [all] [Israel], [saying]: “[Shut up*] [and listen], [O Israel]! [This] {very} [Day] [You have been brought about to become] [{the} People] [of His Majesty], [Your God]. ¹⁰[So You must listen] [to {the} Voice] [of His Majesty], [Your God], [and act in accordance with] [His Commandments] [and] [His Statutes]—[the ones that] [I] [am commanding You] [Today].”
(Deuteronomy 27:9–10) —my interim translation

The emphasis on the obligation of the Corporate body continues on in Deuteronomy 28, the chapter that follows. So with very few exceptions, the second person personal pronouns are all singular—to indicate that the obligation to maintain adherence to the terms of the legal agreement falls on the Corporate body:

¹“[So [if] [You [carefully] listen] [to {the} Voice] [of His Majesty], [Your God], [to stand watch]—[to act in accordance] [with] [all] [His Commandments] [that] [I] [am commanding You] [Today]—it will happen] [that] [His Majesty], [Your God]—[Elyon]—will put You] [over] [all] [{the} Gentiles of] [The Earth]. ²[And [all] [these] [Blessings] will come] [upon You] [and overtake You] [when] [You listen] [to {the} Voice] [of His Majesty], [Your God]:

³[You] {will be} [blessed] [in {the} City],
[And [You] {will be} blessed] [in {the} Field].

⁴[{The} Fruit of] [Your Belly] {will be} [blessed],
[Even {the} Fruit of] [Your Ground]
[and {the} Fruit of] [Your Beasts]—
[{The} Offspring] [of Your Draft Animals]
[and {the} Newborn of] [Your Flock].
⁵[Your Garden Basket] [and Your Kneading Bowl]
{will be} [blessed].
⁶[You] {will be} [blessed] [when You come in],
[And [You] {will be} blessed] [when You go out].

⁷[His Majesty] [will cause] [Your Enemies]—[those who rise up] [against You]—[to be beaten] [before You]; [they will come out] [against You] [by [one] Way], [but [they will flee] [before You] by seven] [Ways]. ⁸[His Majesty] [will command that] [The Blessing] {be} [with You] [in Your Pantries] [and in each of] [Your Undertakings]; [and He will bless You] [in {the} Land] [that] [His Majesty], [Your God], [is going to give] [You]. ⁹[His Majesty] [will raise You up] [for Himself] [as a [holy] People] [just as] [He swore an oath] [to You], [when] [You stand watch over] [{the} Commandments of] [His Majesty], [Your God], [and walk] [in His Ways]. ¹⁰[Then [all] [The Peoples of] [The Earth] will see] [that] [{the} Name] [of His Majesty] [has been called] [over You], [and they will be afraid] [of You].

¹¹[So [because of Good Behavior] [His Majesty] will leave You a remnant] [from {the} Fruit of] [Your Belly] [and from {the} Fruit of] [Your Beast] [and from {the} Fruit of] [Your Ground]—[on] [The Ground] [that] [His Majesty] [swore an oath] [to Your Fathers] [to give] [to You]. ¹²[His Majesty] [will open up] [His [good] Storehouse]—[The Sea of Waters]—[for You] [by giving] [Your Land] [Rain] [in its Time] [and by blessing] [everything] [Your Hand] [Has Made]. [Then You will lend to] [many] [Gentiles], [but You will [not] borrow]. ¹³[Then [His Majesty] will make You] [{the} Head] [and not] [{the} Tail], [and You will [only] be] [at the top]; [and You will [not] be] [at the bottom], [because] [You will listen] [to] [{the} Commandments of] [His Majesty], [Your God], [that] [I] [am commanding You] [Today]—[to stand watch] [and to act in accordance with {them}]. ¹⁴[So You must [not] turn aside]—[Right] [or Left]—[from any of] [The Words] [that] [I] [am commanding] [you] [Today], [to walk] [behind] [other] [Gods] [to be their slave]. ¹⁵[But [if] [You do [not] listen] [to {the} Voice] [of His Majesty], [Your God], [to stand watch]—[to act in accordance] [with] [all] [His Commandments] [and Statutes] [that] [I] [am commanding You] [Today]—it

will happen] [that [all] [These] [Curses] will come] [upon **You**] [and overtake **You**]:

¹⁶[**You**] {will be} [irrevocably cursed] [in {the} City],
[And [**You**] {will be} irrevocably cursed] [in {the} Field].

¹⁷[**Your** Garden Basket] [and **Your** Kneading Bowl]
{will be} [irrevocably cursed].

¹⁸[{The Fruit} of] [**Your** Belly]
{will be} [irrevocably cursed],
[Even {the} Fruit of] [**Your** Ground]—
[{The} Offspring] [of **Your** Draft Animals]
[and {the} Newborn of] [**Your** Flock].

¹⁹[**You**] {will be} [irrevocably cursed]
[when You come in],
[And [**You**] {will be} irrevocably cursed]
[when You go out].

²⁰[His Majesty] [will send] [The Irrevocable Curse],
[The Panic], [and] [The Rebuke] [against **You**]—[against
each of] [**Your** Undertakings] [that] [**You** do]—[until]
[**You** are wiped out] [and until] [**You** [quickly] go to Hell]
[because of] [{the} Badness] [of **Your** Practices]—
[because] [**You** abandoned Me]. ²¹[His Majesty] [will make
[The Epidemic] cling] [to **You**] [until] [it finishes [**You**]
off] [from on] [The Ground] [where] [**You**] [are going in]
[to take possession of it]. ²²[His Majesty] [will viciously
attack {You}] [with Emaciation] [and with Inflammation]
[and with Fever*]—[even a Dangerously High Fever]—
[and with a Sword] [and with Blight] [and with Mildew],
[and they will pursue **You**] [until] [**You** go to Hell].

²³[Then [Your Sea of Waters]—[the one that is]
[over] [**Your** Head]—will be] [Bronze]; [and The Earth]
[under **You**], [Iron]. ²⁴[His Majesty] [will make] [{the}
Rain] [of **Your** Land] [Dusty Powder], [and Dust] [will
come down] [on **You**] [out of] [The Sea of Waters] [until]
[it wipes **You** out].

²⁵[His Majesty] [will give **You** up] [to be struck
down] [before] [Your Enemies]; [**You** will go out] [against
him] [one] [Way], [but [**You** will flee] seven] [Ways]
[before him]. [Then **You** will become] [Sheer Terror] [to
all] [{the} Kingdoms of] [The Earth]. ²⁶[But **Your**
Corpse] [will become] [Food] [for every] [Flyer] [of The
Sea of Waters] [and for {the} Beasts of] [The Earth], [and
there will not be anyone] [who causes trembling].

²⁷[His Majesty] [will viciously attack {You}] [with
{the} Blisters] [of Egypt] [and with Tumors] [and with a
Rash] [and with an Itch] [{from} which] [**You** will [not]
be able] [to be healed]. ²⁸[His Majesty] [will viciously

attack {You}] [with Insanity] [and with Blindness] [and
with Bewilderment] [of Heart]. ²⁹[Then **You** will be] [feel-
ing around] [at Noon] [just like] [The One Who Is Blind]
[feels around] [in Nether Gloom], [and **You** will [not] be
successful] [with] [**Your** Ways], [but **You** will [definitely]
[always] be] [short-changed] [and robbed], [and there will
not be anyone] [who can save {You}]. ³⁰[**You** will betroth]
[a Woman], [but [another] Man] [will have sexual inter-
course with her]; [**You** will build] [a House], [but **You**
will [not] dwell] [in it]; [**You** will plant] [a Vineyard],
[but **You** will [not] begin {to use} it]. ³¹[**Your** Ox] [will
be slaughtered] [before **Your** Eyes], [but **You** will [not]
eat] [any of it]; [**Your** Jackass] [will be stolen] [in front of
You], [and he will [not] be returned] [to **You**]; [**Your**
Flock] [will be given] [to **Your** Enemies], [and [**You**] will
not have anyone] [who can save {You}]. ³²[**Your** Sons]
[and **Your** Daughters] [are going to be given] [to [another]
People], [and **Your** Eyes] [are going to see {it}] [and
long] [for them] [all] [Day Long], [but [**Your** Hand] will
not] [have {any} God].

³³[A People] [that] [**You** do [not] know] [will eat]
[{the} Fruit of] [**Your** Ground] [and all] [That **You**
Produce], [and **You** will be] [nothing but] [short-changed]
[and squashed] [all] [Day Long]. ³⁴[Then **You** will be] [dri-
ven crazy] [by What [**Your** Eyes] See]—[{by} what] [**You**
see]. ³⁵[His Majesty] [will viciously attack **You**] [on] [The
Knees] [and on] [The Thighs] [with Blisters] [{so} bad]
[that] [**You** will [not] be able] [to heal]—[from {the} Sole]
[of **Your** Foot] [even up to] [{the} Crown of **Your** Head].
³⁶[His Majesty] [will make [**You**] [and] [**Your** King]—[the
one that] [**You** have raised up] [over **You**]—walk] [to] [a
Nation] [that] [**You**] [and **Your** Fathers] [have [not]
known], [and **You** will work for] [other] [Wood] [and
Stone] [Gods] [there]. ³⁷[Then **You** will become]
[Something Devastated]—[a Comparison] [and an Object
of Ridicule]—[among all] [The Peoples], [wherever] [His
Majesty] [drives You].

³⁸[**You** will bring out] [more than enough] [Seed]
[to The Field]; [but [**You** will round up] just a little],
[because] [The Swarming Locust] [will gobble it up*].
³⁹[**You** will plant] [and work] [Vineyards]; [but [**You** will
[not] drink] {their} Wine] [or] [gather a crop], [because]
[The Insects] [will consume it]. ⁴⁰[**You**] [will have] [Olive
Trees] [within all] [**Your** Boundary]; [but **You** will [not]
apply] [Oil], [because] [**Your** Olives] [will come clear off].
⁴¹[**You** will engender] [Sons] [and Daughters]; [but they
will [not] be] [**Yours**], [because] [they will go] [into
Captivity]. ⁴²[The Cricket*] [will take possession of] [all]

[**Your** Trees] [and {the} Fruit of] [**Your** Ground]. ⁴³[The Temporary Resident] [that is] [in **Your** midst] [will come up] [over **You**] [higher and higher], [but **You**] [will go down] [lower and lower]. ⁴⁴[He] [will lend to **You**], [but **You**] [will [not] lend to him]; [he] [will become] [{the} Head], [and **You** will become] [{the} Tail].

⁴⁵[So [all] [These] [Curses] will come] [on **You**] [and pursue **You**] [and overtake **You**] [until] [**You** are wiped out], [because] [**You** did [not] listen] [to {the} Voice] [of His Majesty], [**Your** God], [to stand watch over] [His Commandments] [and His Statutes]—[the ones that] [He commanded **You**]; ⁴⁶[and they will become] [a Sign] [and a Harbinger] [on **You**] [and on **Your** Seed] [as long as] [a Burning Eternity].

⁴⁷[Because] [**You** did [not] work for] [His Majesty], [**Your** God], [with Joy] [and a good] [Heart] [because of {the} Large Amount] [of everything], ⁴⁸[**You** will work for] [**Your** Enemies]—[the ones that] [His Majesty] [sends] [against **You**]—[with Hunger] [and with Thirst] [and with Nakedness] [and with a Lack] [of all things]; [and He will put] [an [iron] Yoke] [on] [The Back of **Your** Neck] [until] [He has wiped [**You**] out].

⁴⁹[His Majesty] [will raise up] [over **You**] [a Nation] [from a long ways away]—[from {the} End] [of The Earth]—[just like] [The Griffon-Vulture] [soars], [a Nation] [whose] [Tongue] [**You** will [not] have heard], ⁵⁰[a Nation] [with a strong] [Countenance] [who] [will [not] lift up] [{the} Countenance] [of an Old Person] [and will [not] show favor to] [a Youth]. ⁵¹[And he will consume] [{the} Fruit of] [**Your** Beasts] [and {the} Fruit of] [**Your** Ground] [until] [**You** are wiped out]—[one who] [will [not] leave [**You**] a remnant] [of Grain], [New Wine], [or Fresh Olive Oil], [Offspring] [of **Your** Draft Animals] [or Newborn of] [Your Flock]—[until] [he sends [**You**] to Hell].

⁵²[And he will bind [**You**] up] [in every one of] [**Your** Gates] [until] [**Your** Walls]—[the high] [and enclosed ones] [in] [which] [**You**] [trust]—[come down] [throughout all] [**Your** Land]; [and he will bind [**You**] up] [in every one of] [Your Gates] [throughout all] [**Your** Land], [the {land} that] [His Majesty], [Your God], [gave] [**You**]. ⁵³[Then **You** will consume] [{the} Fruit of] [**Your** Belly]—[{the} Flesh] [of **Your** Sons] [and **Your** Daughters], [the ones that] [His Majesty], [**Your** God], [has given] [**You**]—[during {the} Siege] [and during {the} Constraint] [with which] [**Your** Enemy] [constrains] [**You**]. ⁵⁴[{The} Eye of] [The Man] {who is} [delicate] [and {very} delightful] [within **You**] [will be

bad] [toward his Brother] [and toward {the} Woman] [in {the} Fold of his Garment] [and toward What Is Left of] [his Sons] [that] [have been left behind as a remnant], ⁵⁵[not giving] [any [one] of them] [any of {the} Flesh] [of his Sons] [that] [he will consume], [because [he has] nothing] [left] [during {the} Siege] [and during {the} Constraint] [with which] [**Your** Enemy] [will constrain] [**You**] [in all] [**Your** Gates]. ⁵⁶[The Eye of] [the delicate] [and delightful {woman}] [within **You**]—[the one who] [would [not] test] [{the} Sole] [of her Foot] [{by} placing {it}] [on] [The Earth] [because of delighting herself] [and because of {her} Delicateness]—[will be bad] [toward {the} Man] [in {the} fold of her Garment] [and toward her Son] [and toward her Daughter] ⁵⁷[and toward {the} Afterbirth] [that comes out] [from between] [her Legs] [and toward the Sons] [that] [she engendered], [because] [she will consume them] [in secret] [for Lack] [of all things] [during {the} Siege] [and during {the} Constraint] [with which] [**Your** Enemy] [will constrain] [**You**] [in Your Gates].

⁵⁸[If] [**You** do [not] stand watch] [to act in accordance] [with] [all] [{the} Words of] [This] [Teaching] [that] [have been written] [in] [This] [Scroll] [by fearing] [This] [honored] [and fearsome] [Name]—[His Majesty], [**Your** God]—⁵⁹[then [His Majesty] will make [{the} Attacks against **You**] [and] [{the} Attacks against] [**Your** Seed] incomprehensible]—[intense] [Attacks], [but ones that prove worthy of belief], [as well as Torments], [but ones that prove worthy of belief]. ⁶⁰[And He will bring back] [on **You**] [every] [Sexually Transmitted Disease of] [{the} Egyptians] [whose] [Presence] [**You** cringe at the thought of], [and they will cling] [to **You**].

⁶¹[His Majesty] [will [even] bring up] [on **You**] [every] [Cause of Torment] [and every] [Attack] [that] [is [not] written] [in The Scroll] [of This] [Teaching], [until] [**You** are wiped out]. ⁶²[Then **You** will be left a remnant of] [just a few] [Adult Males] [instead of] [what] [**You** had been]—[a Large Number] [like {the} Stars of] [The Sea of Waters]—[because] [**You** did [not] listen] [to {the} Voice] [of His Majesty], [**Your** God]. ⁶³[Then it will happen that] [just as] [His Majesty] [was elated] [over **you**] [to do good things] [for **you**] [and to increase] [**you**], [so also] [He will be elated] [over **you**] [to send [**you**] to Hell] [and to wipe [**you**] out]. [So **you** will be torn] [away from] [The Ground] [where] [**You**] [are going in] [to take possession of it]. ⁶⁴[Then [His Majesty] will disperse **You**] [among all] [The Peoples], [from {one} End] [of The Earth] [to] [{the} other} End] [of The Earth]; [and [there] **You** will work for]

[other] [Gods], [{gods} of wood] [and stone] [that] [You] [and Your Fathers] [have [not] known].

⁶⁵[But **You** will [not] find peace] in [Those] Nations], [and [there will be] no] [Resting Place] [for {the} Sole] [of **Your** Foot], [and [there] [His Majesty] will give] [You] [an [agitated] Heart] [and failing] [Eyes] [and Despair*] [of Soul]. ⁶⁶[And **Your** Life] will be] [hung up] [right out in front of] [You]; [and **You** will feel dread] [Every Night] [and Every Day], [and no longer] [believe in] [Your Life]. ⁶⁷[In {the} Morning] [You will say], ‘[What] [will [Evening] bring?}]’ [and in {the} Evening] [You will say], ‘[What] [will [Morning] bring?}]’ [because of What **Your** Heart] Dreads]—[what] [You dread]—[and because of What **Your** Eyes] See]—[what] [You see]. ⁶⁸[Then [His Majesty] will bring **You** back to] [Egypt] [in Ships] [by {the} Way] [that] [I told] [You], ‘[You will [not] go on] [to see it] [again!}]’ [And [there] **you** will offer to sell **yourselves**] [to **Your** Enemies] [as Male Slaves] [and as Female Slaves], [but there will not be anybody] [to acquire {you}].”

(Deuteronomy 28:1–68) —my interim translation

If, while reading that chapter, you got a funny feeling that the Lord and Moses might be intentionally overdoing their emphasis on the singular “You” just to make fun of fools who think they know when they don’t, I have a hunch you may be right. The sick, sad, situation in academia today is, most folks who consider themselves to be Old Testament “scholars” are about as dimwitted as they come when faced with texts like Deuteronomy 28; and the Prophets and Apostles do tell us God mocks those who think they know more than they actually know, so it doesn’t seem too far-fetched to imagine there might be a bit of ridicule in the text above.

The Truth concerning Corporate Israel should be fairly obvious if one just stops to consider the implications of what is stated in verses 54–57 and verses 62–63. In those two passages, individual members of Corporate Israel are depicted as members of a Corporate body that Moses addresses as a single Person.

Now that you have seen the emphasis in this text is on the Corporate body rather than the individual members of that Corporate body, go back and review the text of Leviticus 26, which I showed you above. Once you are aware of the fact that Moses addresses the People as separate individuals at that time, it should be obvious that God had no confidence the People would

ever respond to Him with unity during their forty years in the wilderness. Under those circumstances, his use of the plural form of the second person personal pronoun makes perfect sense.

The Truth is, when God spoke through Moses and Aaron after the erection and consecration of the Tabernacle, He was already planning to move on from the second legal agreement to the one before us here in Deuteronomy—yet a third legal agreement. And a follow-on Truth to that one is this: When God spoke through Moses on this occasion, He was already planning to move on from this third legal agreement to a fourth legal agreement. That was because He already knew the People were not going to adhere to the terms of this third legal agreement either. Moses is going to tell us about that in Deuteronomy 30, so let’s move on and look at Deuteronomy 29:

¹[These are] [{the} Words of] [The Legal Agreement] [that] [His Majesty] [commanded] [Moses] [to cut] [with] [{the} Sons of] [Israel] [in {the} Land] [of Moab] [apart from] [The Legal Agreement] [that] [He cut] [with them] [at Horeb].

²[So [Moses] summoned] [all] [Israel] [and said] [to them]: “[**You**] [saw] [everything] [that] [His Majesty] [did] [before **your** Eyes] [in {the} Land] [of Egypt] [to Pharaoh] [and to all] [his Slaves] [and to all] [his Land]—

³[The [great] Tests] [that] [**Your** Eyes] [saw], [Those] [great] [Signs] [and Harbingers]. ⁴[Yet [His Majesty] has [not] given] [**you**] [a Heart] [to know] [or Eyes] [to see] [or Ears] [to hear], [up to] [This] [Day]. ⁵[So I made [**you**] walk] [through {the} Wilderness] [forty] [Years]; [**your** Cloaks] [did [not] wear out] [on **you**]; [**Your** Sandal] [did [not] wear out] [on] [**Your** Foot]. ⁶[You have [not] eaten] [Bread]; [and [**you** have [not] drunk] Wine] [or Liquor], [so that] [**you** would know] [that] [I] {am} [His Majesty], [**your** God]. ⁷[Then **you** came] [to] [This] [Place]; [and [Sihon], [{the} King] [of Heshbon], [and Og], [{the} King] [of Bashan], came out] [to meet us] [for Battle]; [but we viciously attacked them] ⁸[and took] [their Land] [and gave it] [as an **Inheritance**] [to {the} Reubenites] [and to {the} Gadites] [and to half] [{the} Branch] [of {the} Manassites]. ⁹[So **you** must stand watch over] [{the} Words of] [This] [Legal Agreement] [and act in accordance with] [them], [in order to] [gain insight into] [everything] [that] [**you** do].

¹⁰[**You**] [are stationed] [Today]—[all of **you**]—[before] [His Majesty], [**your** God], [**your** Heads], [**your**

Branches], [your Elders], [and your Overseers]—[every] [Man] [of Israel]—¹¹[your Little Ones], [your Women], [Your Temporary Residents] [who are] [in the midst of] [Your Camps], [from {the} one who cuts] [Your Wood] [to] [{the} one who draws and carries] [Your Water], ¹²[so that You may cross over] [in accordance with {the} Legal Agreement] [of His Majesty], [Your God], [and in accordance with {the} Oath] [that] [His Majesty], [Your God], [is cutting] [with You] [Today], ¹³[in order to] [raise [You] up] [as a People] [for Himself] [Today]. [Then He] [will become] [Your] [God], [just as] [He stated] [to You] [and just as] [He swore an oath] [to Your Fathers]—[to Abraham], [to Isaac], [and to Jacob].

¹⁴[So I] {am} [not] cutting] [This] [Legal Agreement] [and] [This] [Oath] [with you] [alone]:

¹⁵(1) [because] {it is} [with] [him [who] is] [standing] [here] [with us] [Today] [before] [His Majesty], [our God], [and with] [him [who] is not] [here] [with us] [Today];

¹⁶(2) [because] [you] [know] [that] [we dwelled] [in {the} Land] [of Egypt] [and] [that] [we passed through] [in the midst of] [The Gentiles] [that] [you passed through]; ¹⁷[and you saw] [their Disgusting Things] [and their Idols]—[Wood] [and Stone] [and Silver] [and Gold] [that] {they had} [with them];

¹⁸(3) [so that [there is] no] [Man] [or] [Woman] [or] [Family] [or] [Branch] [whose] [Heart] [does an about face] [Today] [to walk] [away from] [His Majesty], [our God], [to work for] [{the} Gods of] [Those] [Gentiles];

(4) [so that [there is] no] [Root] [among you] [bearing] [Poison] [and Wormwood] as fruit]. ¹⁹[Then it will happen that], [when he hears] [The] [Words of] [This] [Oath], [he will bless himself] [in his Heart], [saying], ‘[Peace] [will be] [mine] [although] [I walk] [in {the} Stubbornness] [of my Heart] [in order to] [sweep up] [the watered] [along with] [the thirsty].’ ²⁰[His Majesty] [will] [not] be willing to] [forgive] [him] [because] [{the} Anger] [of His Majesty] [and His Jealousy] [will smolder] [against [That] Man], [and all of] [The Oath] [that is written] [in [This] Scroll] [will lie down] [on him], [and [His Majesty] will wipe [his Name] out] [from under] [The Sea of Waters]. ²¹[And [His Majesty] will separate him out] [of all] [{the} Branches of] [Israel] [for What Is Bad] [in accordance with all] [{the} Oaths of] [The Legal

Agreement] [that is written] [in [This] Scroll] [of The Teaching].

²²[Then [The [final] Generation]—[your Sons] [who] [rise up] [after you] [and The Foreigner] [who] [comes in] [from a [distant] Land] [and sees] [The] [Wounds From the Attacks] [on [That] Land] [and The] [Torments] [with which] [His Majesty] [has tormented] [her]—will say], ²³‘[All] [her Land] {is} [burning] [Molten Rock] [and Salt]; [it will [never] be sowed], [so it will [never] sprout], [and no] [Vegetation] [will come up] [in it]—[like {the} Overthrowing of] [Sodom] [and Gomorrah], [Admah] [and Zeboiim], [which] [His Majesty] [overthrew] [in His Anger] [and in His Rage].’

²⁴[Then [all] [The Gentiles] will say]: ‘[Why] [has [His Majesty] acted] [like this] [to [This] Land]? [Why is] [This] [great] [Anger] [white-hot]?’ ²⁵[Then they will say]: ‘[Because] [they abandoned] [The] [Legal Agreement] [of His Majesty], [{the} God of] [their Fathers], [the one that] [He cut] [with them] [when He brought] [them] [out of {the} Land] [of Egypt]. ²⁶[Then they went] [and worked for] [other] [Gods] [and fell prostrate] [to them], [Gods] [whom] [they had [not] known], [so He did [not] allot a share] [to them]. ²⁷[So [{the} Anger] [of His Majesty] was inflamed] [against [That] Land], [to bring] [against it] [all] [The Curse] [that is written] [in [This] Scroll]; ²⁸[and [His Majesty] uprooted them] [from] [their Ground] [with Anger] [and with Rage] [and with [great] Wrath]; [and He threw them out] [into] [another] [Land], [as {it is to} [This] Day].’

²⁹[The things that have been hidden] [belong to His Majesty], [our God], [but the things that have been revealed] [belong to us] [and to our Sons] [as long as] [a Burning Eternity], [to act in accordance] [with] [all] [{the} Words of] [This] [Teaching].”

(Deuteronomy 29:1–29) —my interim translation

The very first verse in the English translations of Deuteronomy 29 is actually the final verse of Deuteronomy 28 in the Hebrew Scriptures. That is because it refers back to the things Moses stated in the two previous chapters. The verse says this:

[These are] [{the} Words of] [The Legal Agreement] [that] [His Majesty] [commanded] [Moses] [to cut] [with] [{the} Sons of] [Israel] [in {the} Land] [of Moab] [apart from] [The Legal Agreement] [that] [He cut] [with them] [at Horeb].

(Deuteronomy 29:1) —my interim translation

From what Moses says in that chapter, we know that Deuteronomy 27–28 lay out the essence of the legal agreement the sons of Israel accepted that day. We also know from the following passage, that the legal agreement would continue on from one generation to the next so as to include all the descendants of those who accepted the legal agreement the Lord offered at that time:

¹⁴“[So [I] {am} [not] cutting] [This] [Legal Agreement] [and] [This] [Oath] [with **you**] [alone]: ¹⁵(1) [because] {it is} [with] [him [who] is] [standing] [here] [with us] [Today] [before] [His Majesty], [our God], [and with] [him [who] is not] [here] [with us] [Today]].”

(Deuteronomy 29:14–15) —my interim translation

Now that you understand the basics regarding the three legal agreements that the Lord made with the sons of Israel, you need to take a close look at Deuteronomy 30. The reason is, at this point in the text Moses switches from speaking generally regarding what the future holds for the sons of Israel and begins to speak specifically concerning the future of *Corporate* Israel. That is, as the Master Prophet he was, Moses begins to speak *prophetically*.

As you read what Moses wrote, make note of the fact that he is consistently using the singular form of the second person personal pronoun to speak regarding the future of *Corporate* Israel. The significance of that is not obvious at first glance, but he is describing what will happen after Jesus Christ becomes *Corporate* Israel and *Corporate* Israel finally does what God requires:

¹“[And it will happen] [when] [all] [These] [Words] [have come] [upon **You**]—[**The Blessing**] [and The Curse] [that] [I have put] [before **You**]—[and **You** have been restored] [to] [**Your** Heart] [among all] [The Gentiles] [where] [His Majesty], [**Your** God], [has banished **You**], ²[and **You** return] [to] [His Majesty], [**Your** God], [and listen to] [His Voice] [in accordance with everything] [that] [I] [am commanding **You**] [Today]—[**You**] [and **Your** Sons]—[with all] [**Your** Heart] [and with all] [**Your** Soul], ³[then [His Majesty], [**Your** God], will bring {You} back from] [**Your** Captivity]; [and He will have compassion on **You**] [and return] [and gather **You**] [out of all] [The Peoples] [where] [His Majesty], [**Your** God], [has dispersed **You**]. ⁴[If] [**Your** Banished One] [is] [at {the} End of] [The Sea of Waters], [His

Majesty], [**Your** God], [will gather **You**] [from there]; [and from there] [He will take **You**]. ⁵[And [His Majesty], [**Your** God], will bring **You**] [into] [The Land] [that] [**Your** Fathers] [have taken possession of]; [and **You** will take possession of it], [and He will do good things for **You**] [and increase **You**] [more than **Your** Fathers].

⁶[And [His Majesty], [**Your** God], will circumcise] [**Your** Heart] [and The] [Heart] [of **Your** Seed], [to love] [His Majesty], [**Your** God], [with all] [**Your** Heart] [and with all] [**Your** Soul]—[so that] [**You** live]. ⁷[And [His Majesty], [**Your** God], will put] [all] [These] [Oaths] [on] [**Your** Enemies] [and on] [those who hate **You**], [who] [pursued **You**]. ⁸[So **You**] [will come back] [and listen] [to {the} Voice] [of His Majesty], [and **You** will act in accordance] [with] [all of] [His Commandments]—[the ones that] [I] [am commanding **You**] [Today].

⁹[Then [His Majesty], [**Your** God], will leave **You** a remnant] [because of all] [That **Your** Hand Has Done]—[in {the} Fruit of] [**Your** Belly] [and in {the} Fruit of] [**Your** Beasts] [and in {the} Fruit of] [**Your** Ground]—[for What Is Good]:

(1) [because] [His Majesty] [will return] [to being elated] [over **You**] [for What Is Good], [just as] [He was elated] [over] [**Your** Fathers];

¹⁰(2) [because] [**You** will listen] [to {the} Voice] [of His Majesty], [**Your** God], [to stand watch over] [His Commandments] [and His Statutes]—[the thing that is written] [in [This] Scroll] [of The Teaching];

(3) [because] [**You** will come back] [to] [His Majesty], [**Your** God], [with all] [**Your** Heart] [and with all] [**Your** Soul];

¹¹(4) [because] [This] [Commandment] [that] [I] [am commanding **You**] [Today] [is] [not] [too [incomprehensible] for **You**] [and [is] not] [far away].

¹²(a) [It is] [not] [in The Sea of Waters], [saying], ‘[Who] [will ascend] [for us] [to The Sea of Waters] [and take it] [for us] [so that we may hear it] [and act in accordance with] [it]?’

¹³(b) [And [it is] not] [from {the} Area Beyond] [{the} Sea], [saying], ‘[Who] [will cross over] [for us] [to] [The Area Beyond] [The Sea] [and take it] [for us] [so that we may hear] [it] [and act in accordance with it]?’

¹⁴(5) [because] [The Word] {is} [very] [near] [to **You**]—[in **Your** Mouth] [and in **Your** Heart]—[so that {You} may act in accordance with it].

¹⁵[Look!] [I have set] [before **You**] [Today] [The Life] [and] [The Good Thing] [as well as] [The Death] [and] [The Bad Thing]; ¹⁶[because] [I] [am commanding **You**] [Today]:

- (1) [to love] [His Majesty], [**Your** God];
- (2) [to walk] [in His Ways]; [and]
- (3) [to stand watch over] [His Commandments] [and His Statutes] [and His Judgments],

[so that **You** may live] [and become many], [so that [His Majesty], [**Your** God], may **bless You**] [in {the} Land] [where] [**You**] [are going in] [to take possession of it].

¹⁷[But if] [**Your** Heart] [does an about face] [and **You** do [not] listen] [and are banished] [and fall prostrate] [to [other] Gods] [and work for them], ¹⁸[I tell] [**you**] [Today] [that] [**You** will [definitely] go to Hell]. [**You** will [not] have extended] [Days] [on] [The Ground] [where] [**You**] [are going to cross over] [The Jordan] [to take possession of it].

¹⁹[I have called] [The Sea of Waters] [and] [The Earth] [to testify] [against **you**] [Today]. [I have set] [before **You**] [The Life] [and The Death]—[**The Blessing**] [and The Curse]. [So choose] [{the} Life] [so that] [**You**] [and **Your** Seed] [may live]:

- ²⁰(1) [by loving] [His Majesty], [**Your** God];
- (2) [by listening] [to His Voice]; [and]
- (3) [by clinging] [to Him];

[because] [He is] [**Your** Life] [and {the} Length] [of **Your** Days] [for dwelling] [on] [The Ground] [that] [His Majesty] [swore an oath] [to **Your** Fathers]—[to Abraham], [to Isaac], [and to Jacob]—[to give] [to them].” (Deuteronomy 30:1–20) —my interim translation

Now that you know that passage is talking about the future of Corporate Israel after God offers the sons of Israel the New Covenant that Jesus accepted when He was baptized by John the Baptist, it should be fairly obvious why Paul refers to verses 11–14 when he says this:

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] [STATEMENT {HE} MADE] [IS] [NEAR] [YOU]—[IN] [YOUR] [MOUTH] [AND] [IN] [YOUR] [HEART].” [THAT] [IS], [THE] [STATEMENT {HE} MADE] [CONCERNING THE] [BELIEF IN GOD’S **PROMISE**] [THAT] [WE ARE PREACHING].

(Romans 10:6–8) —HSSB

Such are the vagaries of God’s dealings with the sons of Israel. Through it all, He had no purpose other than *fulfilling the promises* He made to Adam and Eve, the Patriarchs, and a whole host of others along “The Way.” But I digress; let’s quickly wrap up our survey of Moses’ account of the third legal agreement the Lord offered the sons of Israel so that we can move on to look at what the Prophets said about the New Covenant.

Moses goes on in Deuteronomy 31 to describe the *parabolic pantomime* God orchestrated in which he, as *the heir of the promise*, had to die so that those he had previously *blessed* could *parabolically inherit what was promised*. The text says this:

¹[Then [Moses] went] [and spoke] [These] [Words] [to] [all] [Israel]. ²[And he said] [to them]: “[I] {am} [a hundred] [and twenty] [Years] [old] [Today]; [I am [no] [longer] able] [to go out] [and come in]; [so His Majesty] [has told] [me], ‘[You will [not] cross over] [This] [Jordan].’” ³[His Majesty], [**Your** God], [is] [going to cross over] [in front of **You**]; [He] [will wipe out] [These] [Nations] [before **You**] [so that **You** take possession of their possessions].

[Joshua] [is] [going to cross over] [before **You**], [just as] [His Majesty] [has stated]. ⁴[Then [His Majesty] will do] [to them] [just as] [He did] [to Sihon] [and to Og], [{the} Kings of] [The Amorites], [and to their Land], [when] [He wiped [them] out]. ⁵[And [His Majesty] will give them up] [before **you**], [and **you** must do] [to them] [in accordance with all] [The Commandment] [that] [I commanded] [**you**]. ⁶[Be resolute] [and unyielding]; [**you** must [not] be afraid] [or] [terrified] [before them], [because] [His Majesty], [**Your** God], [is] [the One Who is going] [with **You**]. [He will [not] leave **You** alone], [and He will [not] abandon **You**].”

⁷[Then [Moses] summoned] [Joshua] [and said] [to him] [before {the} Eyes of] [all] [Israel]: “[Be resolute] [and unyielding] [when] [**You**] [go [with] [This] [People] in] [to] [The Land] [about [which] [His Majesty] swore an oath] [to their Fathers] [to give {it}] [to them], [and

You [will bestow it on [them] as an **inheritance**]. ⁸[So His Majesty] [is] [the One Who is going to go] [before **You**]. [He] [will be] [with **You**]; [He will [not] leave **You** alone], [and He will [not] abandon **You**]. [**You** must [not] be afraid], [and **You** must [not] be intimidated]."

⁹[Then [Moses] wrote down] [This] [Teaching] [and gave it] [to] [The Priests], [{the} Sons of] [Levi], [the ones who carried] [{the} Coffin] [of {the} Legal Agreement] [of His Majesty], [as well as to] [all] [{the} Elders of] [Israel]. ¹⁰[And [Moses] commanded] [them], [saying]: "[At {the} End] [of seven] [Years], [at The Appointed Time] [in {the} Year of] [The Cancellation of Debts], [at {the} Feast] [of The Temporary Shelters], ¹¹[when [all] [Israel] goes in] [to see] [{the} Face of] [His Majesty], [**Your** God], [at {the} Place] [that] [He will choose], [**You** will proclaim] [This] [Teaching] [right in front of] [all] [Israel] [in their Hearing]. ¹²[Congregate] [The People]—[The Men] [and The Women] [and The Little Ones] [and Temporary Residents] [who] {are} [in **Your** Gates]—[in order that] [they may listen] [and in order that] [they may learn], [so that they are afraid of] [His Majesty], [**Your** God], [and stand watch] [to act in accordance with] [all] [{the} Words of] [This] [Teaching]. ¹³[Then their Sons] [who] [have [not] known {it}] [will hear {it}] [and learn] [to fear] [His Majesty], [**your** God], [all] [The Days] [that] [**you**] [are living] [on] [The Ground] [to] [which] [**you**] [are about to cross over] [The Jordan] [to take possession of it]."

¹⁴[Then [His Majesty] said] [to] [Moses]: "[Guess what!] [{the} Days for **You**] [to die] [are near]. [Call] [Joshua]; [and take up **your** positions] [in {the} Tent] [of The Appointed Time], [so that I may give him a command]."

[So Moses] [and Joshua] [went] [and took up their positions] [in {the} Tent] [of The Appointed Time]. ¹⁵[Then [His Majesty] appeared] [in {the} Tent] [in {the} Pillar] [of a Cloud], [and [{the} Pillar] [of a Cloud] stood] [beside] [The Entrance] [of The Tent]. ¹⁶[Then [His Majesty] said] [to] [Moses]: "[Guess what! **You**] [are going to lie down] [with] [**Your** Fathers]; [then [This] [People] will rise up] [and participate in the **zonah** rituals] [following] [The Gods of] [The Foreigner] [in his midst] [in The Land] [where] [he] [is going]. [Then he will abandon Me] [and make [My Legal Agreement], [the one that] [I cut] [with Him], null and void. ¹⁷[Then [My Anger] will become inflamed] [against Him] [on [that] Day], [and I will abandon them], [and I will hide] [My Face] [from them] [so that he is] [consumed]. [When

[many] [Bad [and distressing] Things] find Him], [on [that] Day] [He will say], 'Have [not] [These] [Bad Things] found me] [because] [my God] [is not] [within me]?' ¹⁸[But I] [will [definitely] hide] [My Face] [on [That] Day] [because of] [all] [The Bad] [that] [He did] [when] [He faced] [toward] [other] [Gods].

¹⁹[So now] [write [This] [Song] down] [for yourselves], [and make [{the} Sons of] [Israel] learn it]. [Put it] [in their Mouth] [so that] [This] [Song] [becomes] [a Witness] [for Me] [against {the} Sons of] [Israel] ²⁰[when] [I bring him in] [to] [The Ground] [flowing with] [Milk] [and Honey] [about [which] I swore an oath] [to his Fathers]. [But he will eat] [and be satisfied] [and get fat] [and face] [toward] [other] [Gods], [and they will become their slaves] [and treat Me with contempt]. [So he will make [My Legal Agreement] null and void. ²¹[Then, [when] [many] [Bad [and distressing] Things] [find] [Him], it will happen that] [This] [Song] [will respond] [before him] [as a Witness], [because] [it will [not] be forgotten] [from {the} Mouth of] [his Seed], [because] [I will know] [The Thing he Has Formed]—[the one that] [he] [is making] [Today]—[before] [I bring him in] [to] [The Land] [about [which] I swore an oath]."
²²[Then [Moses] wrote] [This] [Song] [on [That] Day], [and He made [{the} Sons of] [Israel] learn it].

²³[And He gave a commandment to] [Joshua], [Son] [of Nun], [and said], "[Be resolute] [and unyielding] [because] [**You**] [must bring [{the} Sons of] [Israel] in] [to] [The Land] [about [which] I swore an oath] [to them], [and I] [will be] [with **You**]."

²⁴[So it happened that], [when [Moses] finished] [writing] [{the} Words of] [This] [Teaching] [on] [a Scroll] [until] [they were complete], ²⁵[then [Moses] commanded] [The Levites] [who were carrying] [The Coffin] [of {the} Legal Agreement] [of His Majesty], [saying]: ²⁶"[Take] [This] [Scroll] [of The Teaching] [and place] [it] [beside] [{the} Coffin] [of {the} Legal Agreement] [of His Majesty], [**your** God]; [and it will be] [there] [as a Witness] [against **You**], ²⁷[because] [I] [know] [**Your** Rebellion] [and] [**Your** [hard] Neck]. [Guess what!] [**You** have been] [rebellious] [against] [His Majesty] [while I {am} still] [alive] [with **you**] [Today]; [how much more] [after] [my Death]? ²⁸[Congregate] [for me] [all] [The Elders of] [your Branches] [and your Overseers], [so that I may speak] [These] [Words] [in their Hearing] [and call [The Sea of Waters] [and] [The Earth] to testify] [against them]. ²⁹[Because] [I know] [that] [**You** will [definitely] become totally corrupt] [after] [my Death], [and **you** will turn

aside] [from] [The Way] [that] [I commanded] [you]; [and
[Something Bad] will befall] [you] [in The Last] [Days]
[because] [you will do] [The Thing That Is Bad] [in {the}
Eyes of] [His Majesty] [to exasperate Him] [with The
Thing That **your** Hands Made].”

³⁰[Then [Moses] spoke] [{the} Words of] [This]
[Song] [in {the} Hearing of] [The [whole] Congregation]
[of Israel] [until] [they were complete].
(Deuteronomy 31:1–30) —my interim translation

So now that you know “The Song of Moses” was an integral part of the *parabolic pantomime* in which **the heir of the promise** dies so that others have an opportunity to **inherit what was promised**, it only seems fair that you know some folks are going to be singing “The Song of Moses” when the End of the Age rolls around:

¹(1) [Then] [I saw] [another] [tremendous] [and]
[amazing] [Sign] [in] [Heaven]: [seven] [Messengers]
[who have] [The] [last] [seven] [Lashes], [because] [The]
[Rage] [of The] [{Living} God] [was completed] [by]
[them].

²(2) [And] [I saw {something}] [like] [a Sea] [made
of glass] [that had been mingled] [with Fire], [and]
[standing] [on] [The] [Sea] [that was] [made of glass]
{were} [those who] [triumph]

(a) [over] [The] [Beast] [and]

(b) [over] [his] [Image] [and]

(c) [over] [The] [Number] [of] [his] [Name]—

[those who are holding] [{the} Harps] [of The] [{Living}
God]. ³[And] [they were singing] “[The] [Song] [of
Moses]”—[The] [Slave] [of The] [{Living} God]—[and]
“[The] [Song] [of The] [Little Lamb],” [saying]:

“[Your] [Works] {are} [tremendous] [and] [amazing],
[Your Majesty], [The] [{Living} God], [The] [Almighty];
[Your] [Ways] {are} [right] [and] [true],
[The] [King] [of The] [Gentiles]!”

⁴[Your Majesty], [who] [would] [definitely not] be afraid]
[And] [glorify] [Your] [Name]?]

[Because] {You} [alone] {are} [devout];
[Because] [ALL] [THE] [GENTILES] [WILL COME]

[AND] [PAY HOMAGE] [IN [YOUR] PRESENCE],

[BECAUSE] [YOUR] [LEGAL REQUIREMENTS]

[HAVE BECOME WELL-KNOWN].”

(Revelation 15:1–4) —HSSB

That passage is a preview of coming attractions, but anyone who seeks to participate in those festivities needs to keep one thing in mind: You can’t really say you are singing a song unless you know what it *means*. Therefore, I’ll give you an interim translation of the song so you can see it doesn’t just tell it like it was, it told it like it was going to be even before it came to be. As you read what Moses wrote, you might want to ask yourself, “Is he *talking about me?*” Just a thought:

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].

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

[and perverted*] Generation].

⁶[Would you cause] [this] [for His Majesty],
[Senseless] [and not] [wise] [People]?]

[Is He] [not] [Your Father]—

[{the} One Who acquired You]?]

[He] [will make You] [and prepare You].

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

[after Generation]!

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

⁸[When **[Elyon]** bestows an **inheritance** on] [Gentiles]—
[When He separates] [{the} Sons of] [Adam]—

[He will set up] [{the} Boundaries for] [Peoples]
[According to {the} Number] [of {the} Sons of] [Israel].

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

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

[of a Desolate Region].

[He will surround Him];

[He will provide Him understanding];

[He will guard Him] [like The Pupil] [of His Eye].

¹¹[He will wake up] [His Nest] [like a Griffon-Vulture];

[He will hover] [over] [His Young Birds];

[He will spread out] [His Wings]; [He will take Him];

[He will carry Him] [on] [His Flight Feathers].

¹²[His Majesty] [alone] [will lead Him],

[And there will not be any] [foreign] [God] [with Him].

¹³[He will make Him ride]

[above] [Earth's] [High Places],

[So that He may eat] [{the} Yield of] [**Shaddai**];

[He will make Him suck] [Honey] [from a Crag]—

[Even Oil] [from flint] [Rock],

¹⁴[Curds] [{from} Cattle] [and Milk] [{from} a Flock],

[Along with {the} Fat] [of Young Rams] [and Rams],

[{The} Sons of] [a Snake] [and Billy Goats],

[Along with {the} Fat] [of {the} Kidneys] [of Wheat];

[And [You will drink] [Fermenting Wine],

{the} Blood] [of a Grape].

¹⁵[Then [Jeshurun] will grow fat] [and become obese];

[You will grow fat]; [You will become thick];

[You will be flabby*];

[Then He will forsake] [{the} God] [Who made Him],

[And He will treat [{the} Rock] [of His Salvation]

foolishly].

¹⁶[They will make Him jealous] [with Strangers];

[They will exasperate Him] [with Abominations].

¹⁷[They will sacrifice communal offerings]

[to The Demons], [not] [God]—

[Gods] [whom they have [not] known];

[New {ones}] [will come] [from within];

[Your Fathers] [had [no] terror of them].

¹⁸[You will fail to remember*] [{the} Rock]

[Who engendered You],

[And You will forget] [{the} God]

[Who went through labor {with} You].

¹⁹[Then [His Majesty] will see],

[and He will treat {You} with contempt]

[Because of The Exasperating Activity] [of His Sons]

[and His Daughters].

²⁰[Then He will say]:

“[I will hide] [My Face] [from them];

[I will see] [what] [their Outcome] {will be},

[Because] [they] {are} [a Generation]

[of perverse {ones}]—

[Sons] [in whom] {there is} [nothing] [That Is True].

²¹[They] [will make Me jealous] [by {what is} not] [God];

[They will exasperate Me] [with their Delusions].

[So I] [will make them jealous]

[by {what is} not] [a People]—

[I will exasperate them] [with a [senseless] Nation],

²²[Because] [a Fire] [will be kindled] [by My Anger],

[And it will keep burning], [as far as] [The Lowest Parts]

[of The Sea of **El**].

[And it will consume] [{the} Earth] [and her Produce]

[And set afire] [{the} Foundations of] [Mountains].

²³[I will sweep [Bad Things] up] [on them];

[I will finish off] [My Arrows] [on them].

²⁴[Against those] [emaciated*] [{by} Famine]

[and consumed] [{by} Flaming Arrow],

[I will send] [both a [bitter*] Stinging Rain]

[and {the} Teeth] [of Beasts],

[Along with] [{the} Rage] [of things that slink back into]

[{the} Dust].

²⁵[A Sword] [will cause bereavement] [on the outside];

[But on the insides], [Absolute Terror]—

[Both] [Chosen Son] [and] [Virgin],

[{One} who is nursing] [along with]

[gray-haired] [Man].

²⁶[I will say], ‘[I will cut them into pieces];

[I will make [their Memory] keep Sabbath]—

[away from Mortal Man].’

²⁷[If it were not for] [{the} Exasperating Activity]

[of an Enemy], [I would reside temporarily],

[So that [His Adversaries] not] [recognize],

[So that they not] [say], ‘[Our Hand] [is raised up],

[And [His Majesty] has [not] put [all] [this] together],’

²⁸[Because] [their] [Plans] {are}

[a Nation] [going to Hell],

[And there is not any] [Understanding] [in them].

²⁹[If only] [they were wise],

[they would gain insight into] [this {song}];

[They would understand] [their Outcome].

³⁰[How] [could [One] pursue] [a Thousand],

[And two] [make [Ten Thousand] flee],

[If] [not] [that] [their Rock] [had sold them],

[And His Majesty] [had shut them up in prison]

³¹[Because] [their Rock] {is} [not] [like our Rock],

[And our Enemies] {are} [Those Who Make Decisions]

³²[Because] [their Vine] {is} [from The Vine] [of Sodom],

[And from {the} Cultivated Fields of] [Gomorrah?]

[His Grapes] {are} [poisonous] [Grapes]—

[They have] [bitter] [Clusters].

³³[Their Wine] {is} [{the} Rage of] [Sea Serpents],

[And a [venomous] Poison] [of Cobras].

³⁴[Is [it] [not] stored*] [with Me],

[Sealed up] [in My Storehouses?]

³⁵[Vengeance] [and Retribution*] {are} [Mine],
[For a Time] [when [their Foot] slips];
[Because] [{the} Day] [of their Catastrophe] {is} [near],
[And [things gotten ready beforehand]
are moving quickly] [toward them].”

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

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

³⁸[Who] [will eat] [{the} Fat]
[of their Communal Sacrifices]?

[{Who} will drink] [{the} Wine] [of their Libations*]?
[{Who} will rise up] [and help you]?

[{Who} will be] [a Hiding Place] [for you]?

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

⁴⁰[Because] [I will raise up] [My Hand]
[to] [{the} Sea of Waters]

[And I will say], “[I] {am} [alive]
[for a Burning Eternity]!”

⁴¹[If] [I sharpen] [{the} Lightning Flashes]
[of My Sword],

[And [My Hand] takes hold of]
[a Decision Based on the Truth],
[I will pay back] [Vengeance] [to My Adversaries];
[And [I will settle up by giving {it}]
to those who hate Me].

⁴²[I will get [My Arrows] drunk] [on Blood]—
[And My Sword] [will consume] [Flesh]—

(1) [On The Blood] [of {One} pierced] [and a Captive],
(2) [On {the} Poison] [of an Enemy’s] [Representatives].

⁴³[Shout joyfully], [Gentiles]—[His People]—
[Because] [He will avenge] [{the} Blood] [of His Slaves];
[And [He will pay back] Vengeance] [to His Adversaries],
[And He will atone for] [His Ground]—[His People].”

⁴⁴[Then [Moses] came] [and spoke] [all] [{the}
Words of] [this] [Song] [in {the} Ears of] [The People]—
[He] [and Hosea], [Son] [of Nun]. ⁴⁵[When [Moses]

finished] [speaking] [all] [these] [Words] [to] [all] [Israel],
⁴⁶[then he said] [to them], “[Take] [to Heart] [all] [The
Words] [that] [I] [am testifying] [against you] [Today],
[because] [you must command] [your Sons] [to stand
watch over]—[to act in accordance with]—[all] [{the}
Words of] [This] [Teaching]:

⁴⁷(1) [Because] [He] {is} [not] [an [empty] Word];
(2) [because] [He] {is} [your Life],

[and by [this] Word] [you may extend] [{your} Days]
[on] [The Ground] [where] [you] [are crossing over] [The
Jordan] [to take possession of it].”

⁴⁸[Then [His Majesty] spoke] [to] [Moses] [that]
[very same] [Day], [saying]: ⁴⁹“[Go up] [into] [this]
[Mountain] [of The Abarim]—[Mount] [Nebo], [which]
{is} [in {the} Land] [of Moab], [which] {is} [in front of]
[Jericho]—[and see] [{the} Land] [of Canaan], [which] [I]
[am going to give] [to {the} Sons of] [Israel] [as
Property]. ⁵⁰[Then You must die] [there] [on The
Mountain] [that] [You] [are climbing] [and be rounded
up] [to] [Your People]—[just as] [Your Brother] [Aaron]
[died] [on [Mount] Hor] [and was rounded up] [to] [His
People]:

⁵¹(1) [because] [you {two} betrayed [My] trust] [in the
Midst of] [{the} Sons of] [Israel] [at {the} Waters of]
[Meribah]—[Kadesh], [Wilderness] [of Zin],
(2) [because] [you did [not] treat [Me] as holy] [in the
Midst of] [{the} Sons of] [Israel]. ⁵²[So] [You will see]
[The Land] [right out in front of {You}], [but [You will
[not] go in] there]—[to] [The Land] [that] [I] [am giving]
[to {the} Sons of] [Israel].”

(Deuteronomy 32:1–52) —my interim translation

Ate Any “Sour Grapes” Lately?

Now that you know God ratified three separate legal agreements with the sons of Israel rather than just one, as most folks seem to think, you might want to ask yourself a simple question: Why would He stop at three? Why not four; maybe even five? And here’s a question for you to chew on while I show you God’s *promise* that He planned to offer Corporate Israel a “New Covenant” even after they had made the third legal agreement null and void: Why would anyone in their right mind think the structure of the third legal agreement must remain the same when God offers the

fourth? After all, we have already seen Him change the terms a bit each time He offers the sons of Israel a “new covenant”:

1. First Old Covenant:
 - a. Creates *Corporate* Israel.
 - b. *Corporate* Israel is *the heir of the promise*.
 - c. Individuals are members of *Corporate* Israel.
 - d. No atonement is provided for anyone.
 - e. If one sins, all are guilty.
 - f. Aaron and his sons are the Priests.
 - g. God will “reside” in the midst of His “People.”
 - h. Agreement is null and void at God’s discretion.
2. Second Old Covenant:
 - a. *Corporate* Israel is retained.
 - b. Moses is the only member of *Corporate* Israel.
 - c. Moses is *the heir of the promise*.
 - d. Everyone else is a member of Moses’ “house.”
 - e. Atonement is provided for individuals.
 - f. No atonement is provided for *Corporate* Israel.
 - g. If one sins, all are guilty.
 - h. Aaron and his sons are the Priests.
 - i. God will “walk” in the midst of His “People.”
 - j. Agreement is null and void at God’s discretion.
3. Third Old Covenant:
 - a. *Corporate* Israel is retained.
 - b. *Corporate* Israel is *the heir of the promise*.
 - c. Individuals are members of *Corporate* Israel.
 - d. Atonement is provided for individuals.
 - e. No atonement is provided for *Corporate* Israel.
 - f. If one sins, all are guilty.
 - g. The Levites are the Priests.
 - h. God’s desire is to dwell in their midst.
 - i. Agreement is null and void at God’s discretion.

Those are the basic differences between the three “covenants” that God made with the sons of Israel. But if you ever intend to gain any insight at all into God’s reason for ratifying those three legal agreements with the sons of Israel, you would do well to look at what He retained in each one, rather than focusing on the differences. Just sayin’.

I could choose to focus on the fact that God continued to retain *Corporate* Israel after He used the first legal agreement to create that corporation and make it *the heir of the promise*, but I won’t. I could just as easily focus on

the fact that He never provided any means of atonement for *Corporate* Israel, but I won’t. I will simply tell you the foundational motive driving Him to continue dealing with a recalcitrant bunch of imbeciles was His desire to dwell in the midst of His Own People. That is, He desired to have Children—a “House”—that He could call His Own. If you didn’t catch that one, you are obviously still sleeping. Should that be the case, I offer you the following admonition—since I do my best not to give advice:

¹³[But] [Every Last Thing] [that is reprimanded] [by] [The] [Light] [is going to become visible], [for] [anything] [that] [becomes visible] [is] [Light]. ¹⁴[Wherefore], [He says]:

“[You—[the one who] [is sleeping]—get up] [And] [rise] [from] [The] [Dead], [And] [The] [Anointed One] [will dawn on*] [You]!”

¹⁵[Therefore], [watch out for] [how] [accurately] [you walk],

(1) [not] [as] [unwise*],
(2) [but] [as] [wise], ¹⁶[buying back] [The] [Time], [because] [The] [Days] [are] [nasty].
(Ephesians 5:13–16) —HSSB

Here’s the deal: If you want to understand the message of the Scriptures, you have to begin at the beginning and follow the story through the Scriptures, hopping from one passage to the next, wherever you find one text quoted in another. I realize that bit of wisdom will elude the majority, but it is true nonetheless. And it will escape the notice of those who have not read and understood the things I have already explained with regard to these two verses:

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].
(Genesis 1:26–27) —my interim translation

Some folks can't see an obvious fact even after it slaps them upside their bonehead; but the Truth is, Genesis 1:26–27 is describing what happened when Christ was resurrected—that is, when He was transformed into the image and likeness of God Himself—on that first Easter morning. But I've been explaining that for the past quarter century, so I'll move on.

Let's review: When God booted Adam and Eve out of the Garden of Eden, He gave them *the promise* that they and their children would be made in the image and likeness of God if they believed and held on to *the promise* until they died. Another way of saying that is, they could be resurrected as His “Children,” full-fledged members of His “House”—that is, His “People.” If you know your Bible, you may already see where I am heading with this train of thought. If you don't, you won't. The Truth is, except for an occasional jackass, every species normally produces offspring in its own image and likeness. That's what Moses had in mind when he wrote this:

[When [Adam] had lived] [a hundred and] [thirty] [Years], [he engendered {a son}] [in his Likeness]—
[like his Image]—[and he called] [his Name] “[Seth].”
(Genesis 5:3)—my interim translation

The Seth mentioned in that verse is the one who became *the heir of the promise* after Cain killed his brother Abel. If you know the story, you already know Seth *handed the promise down* to his son Enosh, the next *heir of the promise*; and Enosh *handed the promise down* to his son, and so on. I won't get into naming all the names of those who were *heirs of the promise* before Noah landed that role; you can read all about that in Genesis 5. If you continue reading from there all the way through Genesis 50, you can find every name on the long list of men who were, at one time or another, *the heir of the promise*. Since I have already explained those things in *The Inheritance of the Believer, Volume 1*, I need not cover that same ground here.

The only point I need to make in this connection is, God used the three “covenants” that He ratified with the sons of Israel to make sure *Corporate* Israel became *the Heir of the promise* Who had responsibility for *handing the promise down* to the next *heir of the promise*. That's where the “New Covenant” fits into His plan regarding *the fulfillment of the promise* He made to Adam and Eve. It provided the mechanism

whereby God could not only *hand the promise down* to the next generation, but also ensure there would never again be any need for a brainless bunch of deadheads to get their act together and do what God required. But I'm getting a bit ahead of my story, so I'll get down off my soapbox and show you a few places where God gives the alert reader a bit of insight into His plan to create a second “Adam” in His Own image and likeness—that is, to make a motley mob of morons into His “House,” His “People.” Stay tuned, I'll get there eventually; but you need to see a few other things first.

The first thing you need to see is where God declares He intends to “take” the sons of Israel to be His “People”:

²[Then [God] spoke] [to] [Moses] [and said] [to him]: “[I] {am} [His Majesty], ³[and I appeared] [to] [Abraham] [and to] [Isaac] [and to] [Jacob] [as El] [Shaddai]; [but [I was [not] made known] [to them] {by} My Name], ‘[His Majesty].’ ⁴[And [I confirmed] [My Legal Agreement] [with them] also], [to give] [them] [{the} Land] [of Canaan], [{the} Land] [of their Places of Sojourning] [in] [which] [they resided temporarily]. ⁵[And [I] [have heard] [{the} Groaning of] [{the} Sons of] [Israel] also], [whom] [{the} Egyptians] [are compelling to work]; [and I have remembered] [My Legal Agreement]. ⁶[Therefore], [say] [to {the} Sons of] [Israel]: ‘[I] {am} [His Majesty], [and I will bring [you] out] [from under] [{the} Compulsory Services of] [{the} Egyptians]. [And I will snatch [you] away] [from their Physical Labor] [and redeem] [you] [with [an outstretched] Arm] [and with [great] Judgments]. ⁷[Then I will take] [you] [as [My] People] [and I will be] [your] [God]. [Then you will know] [that] [I] {am} [His Majesty], [your God], [the One Who brought [you] out] [from under] [{the} Compulsory Services of] [{the} Egyptians]. ⁸[I will bring [you] in] [to] [The Land] [that] [I raised up] [My Hand] [to give] [to Abraham], [to Isaac], [and to Jacob]; [and I will give] [it] [to you] [as a Possession]. [I] {am} [His Majesty].’”
(Exodus 6:2–8)—my interim translation

Let me show you something I wrote concerning this passage nearly thirty years ago—something that is just as true today as it was the day I wrote it:

The phrase, “I will take you for My People,” reveals God did not intend His relationship with Corporate

Israel to be the one-sided relationship it had been with **the heir of the promise** up to that time. It not only tells us God is going to continue to be the God of **the Heir of the promise** who holds equitable title to **what was promised**; it also says He intends to “take” all potential **heirs of the promise** as His “People.” He will do so, however, through their collective membership in Corporate Israel, **the Heir of the promise**.

What God meant by the statement “I will take you for My people, and I will be your God” is most likely obscure to modern readers. But that is only because there is no adequate English term with which to translate the Hebrew word that is normally translated “people.” Even so, one cannot imagine how a term so significant to The Mystery hidden in the Hebrew Scriptures could have been treated with more disregard. The Hebrew word routinely translated “people” is ‘am. It actually means something like “descendants,” “posterity,” “progeny,” or “offspring”—in biblical Hebrew as well as in other ancient Semitic languages. It also carries an underlying sense of “kin” or “family.”

The Mosaic Covenant accomplished God’s parabolic adoption (“taking”) of Corporate Israel as His Firstborn Son. Under the terms of that covenant, God agreed to “take” the members of Corporate Israel as His “descendants,” “progeny,” “posterity,” or “offspring”—that is, His “kinsmen.” In that one corporate Body, the individual members of Corporate Israel became God’s “family”; but as God’s “People,” Corporate Israel would eventually become exactly what God had already declared Him to be: His Firstborn Son.

God affirmed His intention to “take” Corporate Israel as His “People” again while the sons of Israel were preparing to ratify the covenant at Mt. Sinai. He specifically states that, out of “all the peoples,” the members of Corporate Israel were His:

“Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine; and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.” (Exodus 19:5–6a)

(Larry D. Harper, *Not All Israel Is Israel*, pp. 88–90)

Now that you know God planned to use the legal agreements He made with the sons of Israel to create both “male and female” Believers in His Own image

and likeness (Gen. 1:26–27)—that is, He plans to “take” the physical bodies of some of the descendants of Adam and use that dirt to create Children for Himself—that insight puts a slightly different take on the passages I have shown you, doesn’t it? But I trust you will believe me when I tell you that insight into the Truth doesn’t end with that bit of information, not by a long shot; so keep on reading, there’s a whole lot more where that came from.

The next thing you need to know is God’s plan has always been to “reside” “in the midst of” His “People.” That is the point He makes when He tells Moses to build a Tabernacle just like the one he saw on Mount Sinai:

⁸“[Then they must make] [a Sanctuary] [for Me] [so that I may reside] [in their Midst]. ⁹[And [you must make {it}] like this]: [In accordance with everything] [that] [I] [am going to show] [You]—[the] Pattern [of The Residence] [and The Pattern] [of all] [its Things].” (Exodus 25:8–9) —my interim translation

“[Then I will reside] [in {the} Midst of] [{the} Sons of] [Israel] [and I will be] [their] [God].” (Exodus 29:45) —my interim translation

Those passages tell us what God planned to do when He ratified the first legal agreement with the sons of Israel. Unfortunately, His plans changed a bit when the sons of Israel sinned:

¹[Then [His Majesty] spoke] [to] [Moses], “[Go]! [Go up] [from here]—[You] [and The People] [that] [You brought up] [out of {the} Land] [of Egypt]—[to] [The Land] [that] [I swore an oath] [to Abraham], [to Isaac], [and to Jacob], [saying], ‘[I will give it] [to Your Seed]’; ²[I will even send] [a Messenger] [before You] [and I will drive away] [The Canaanite], [The Amorite], [The Hittite], [The Perizzite], [The Hivite] [and The Jebusite)] ³[to] [a Land] [flowing] [{with} Milk] [and Honey], [because] [I can [not] go up] [within You], [lest] [I finish You off] [in {the} Way], [because] [You] {are} [a [hard]-[Neck] People].” (Exodus 33:1–3) —my interim translation

The change in God’s plans is clearly reflected in a passage from Leviticus 26 that I have already shown you:

¹¹“[Then I will put] [My Residence] [in **your** Midst] [and My Soul] [will [not] detest] [**you**]. ¹²[And I will move about] [in **your** Midst]; [and I will be] [**your**] [God], [and **you**] [will be] [My] [People].”
(Leviticus 26:11–12) —my interim translation

The promise in that passage is clearly contingent on every *individual* son of Israel doing what is required under the terms of the second legal agreement before God is obligated to *fulfill the promise*. Since some folks would prefer to believe otherwise, I merely point out again the fact that the Tabernacle was already “in the midst” of the sons of Israel at that time, so the text has got to be speaking of a time yet to come. The Truth is, that time has already come and gone; but in the wisdom of God, it still continues for the fortunate few who experience the phenomenal effects of the “New Covenant” that Jeremiah and Ezekiel *promised*.

I am *talking about* the new birth. You are most likely not aware of it; but Jeremiah and Ezekiel make it clear you can’t come to God, asking for forgiveness, and just “work it up.” By that I *mean* the new birth is not attained by *intellectually* accepting the Truth, it is only gained when your apology for sinning against the Lord is both *honest and sincere*. If it isn’t, God won’t accept it; and you won’t *receive* a new “heart” and a new “spirit” so that you can be *mentally* transformed into His Child. Jeremiah and Ezekiel make that point in the following New Covenant passages, which are easily identified by their paraphrase of *the promise* above:

“[Then I will give] [them] [a Heart] [to know] [Me]—[that] [I] {am} [His Majesty]. [Then **they will be**] [My] [People]; [and I] [will be] [their] [God], [when] [they return] [to Me] [with all] [their Heart].”
(Jeremiah 24:7) —my interim translation

“[Then **you will be**] [My] [People],
[And I] [will be] [your] [God].”
(Jeremiah 30:22) —my interim translation

“[At That] [Time],” [declares] [His Majesty], “[I will be] [{the} God] [of all] [{the} Families of] [Israel], [and **they**] [will be] [My] [People].”
(Jeremiah 31:1) —my interim translation

¹⁹“[Then I will give] [them] [one] [Heart], [and I will put] a [new] Spirit [within you]. [Then I will remove]

[The Stone] [Heart] [from their Flesh] [and give] [them] [a Heart] [of Flesh], ²⁰[so that] [they can walk] [in My Statutes] [and] [observe] [My Decisions Based on the Truth] [and act in accordance] [with them]. [Then **they will be**] [My] [People], [and I] [will be] [their] [God].”
(Ezekiel 11:19–20) —my interim translation

²⁶“[And I will give] [you] [a [new] Heart] [and I will put] a [new] Spirit [within you]. [Then I will remove] [The Stone] [Heart] [from your Flesh] [and give] [you] [a Heart] [of [Flesh]]. ²⁷[And] [I will put] [My Spirit] [within you] [and make {it} happen] [that] [you walk] [in My Statutes] [and] [observe] My Decisions Based on the Truth] [and act in accordance with {them}]. ²⁸[Then you will dwell] [in The Land] [that] [I gave] [to your Fathers], [and **you will be**] [My] [People], [and I] [will be] [your] [God].”
(Ezekiel 36:26–28) —my interim translation

²²“[Then I will make] [them] [one] [Nation] [on The Land]—[on {the} Mountains of] [Israel]—[and [one] King] [will be] [King] [for all of them], [and they will be] [two] [Nations] [no] [more], [and they will be divided] [into two] [Kingdoms] [no] [more]. ²³[And they will make themselves unclean] [no] [more] [with their Idols] [and with their Disgusting Things] [and with [all] their Transgressions], [but I will save] [them] [from all] [their Places of Habitation] [in] [which] [they sinned], [and I will cleanse] [them]. [Then **they will be**] [My] [People], [and I] [will be] [their] [God].”
(Ezekiel 37:22–23) —my interim translation

I realize I am way ahead of my explanation in more ways than one. First of all, I am a Gentile; so how could I ever lay claim to a *promise* that was made to the sons of Israel? I will cut that Gordian knot in the next issue of this newsletter. For now, it is enough that you know why God changed the terms of the previous legal agreement by offering its terms to every *individual* member of *Corporate Israel*. Understanding depends on your knowing the *significance* of the following passage:

¹[Then [{the} Word] [{of} His Majesty] came] [to me], [saying]: ²“[What] {is it} [with you]? [You] [who are making] [this] [Comparison] [concerning] [Israel’s] [Ground], [saying]:

‘[{The} Fathers] [eat] [Sour Grapes],
[And [The Sons’] Teeth] [tingle].’

³[I swear on [My] life],” [declares] [My Master], [His Majesty], “[There will [never] [again] be] [one [of you] making] [this] [Comparison] [in Israel]. ⁴[Guess what!] [All] [these] [Souls] [are Mine]—[the} Soul] [of The Father] [as well as {the} Soul] [of The Son]. [They] [are Mine]. [The Soul] [that sins]? [That One] [will die].” (Ezekiel 18:1–4) —my interim translation

Ezekiel goes on to explain in detail what God had in mind—*individual* responsibility for sin. But some dim light might erroneously claim that refers to what was already the case; that is, every *individual* already had to offer sacrifices for his own atonement. But that is not what the passage is *talking about*. The people were facing deportation to Babylon, and the Prophets were telling them God was punishing *Corporate* Israel for the sins of prior generations. In response, the people were using a nifty little saying to blame God for their sorry predicament, telling the Prophets it was not right that they were expected to suffer for the sins of their fathers. So guess what? Jeremiah responded by telling them it would not be that way under the terms of the New Covenant. He says this:

²⁹“[In [those] Days] [they will [no] [longer] say]:

‘[The} Fathers] [ate] [Sour Grapes],
[And {the} Sons] [Teeth] [tingle].’

³⁰[But] [everyone] [will die] [for his own Reprehensible Activity]; [{the} Teeth of] [every] [Descendant of Adam] [who eats] [The Sour Grapes] [will tingle].

³¹[Guess what!] [Days] [are coming],” [declares] [His Majesty], “[when I will cut] [a [new] Legal Agreement] [with] [{the} House] [of Israel] [and] [{the} House] [of Judah], ³²[not] [like {the} Legal Agreement] [that] [I cut] [with] [their Fathers] [on {the} Day] [when I took hold] [of their Hand] [to bring them out] [of {the} Land] [of Egypt]—[when] [they] [made] [My Legal Agreement] null and void, [even though I] [owned] [them],” [declares] [His Majesty]. ³³“[Because] [this] [is] [The Legal Agreement] [that] [I will cut] [with] [{the} House] [of Israel] [after] [Those] [Days],” [declares] [His Majesty], “[I will put] [My Teaching] [within them], [and] [I will write it] [on] [their Heart]; [then I will become] [their] [God], [and they will become] [My] [People]. ³⁴[And they will [no] [longer] teach]—[each one] [his Neighbor] [and each one] [his Brother]—[saying],

‘[Know] [His Majesty],’ [because] [all of them] [will know] [Me]—[from {the} least of them] [even up to] [{the} greatest of them],” [declares] [His Majesty], “[because] [I will forgive] [their Reprehensible Activity], [and] [I will [no] [longer] remember] their Sinful Act].” (Jeremiah 31:29–34) —my interim translation

You may already know the Apostle Paul (the author of the Book of Hebrews) quoted that passage to make the claim that Jesus *fulfilled the promise* Jeremiah made. But just in case you don’t, here it is:

⁶[But] [He has [now] obtained] [a [much different] Priestly Ministry], [by as much as] [He is] [also] [Mediator] [of a [better] Testament]—[one that] [has law made] [on the basis of] [better] [Promises]. ⁷[For] [if] [That] [First {Testament}] [had been] [faultless], [a Place] [would] [not] [have been sought] [for a Second {Testament}]. ⁸[For] [finding fault with] [them], [He says]: “[Guess what!] [Days] [are going to come],” [says] [His Majesty], “[when] [I will complete] [a [new] Testament] [with] [The] [House] [of Israel] [and] [for] [The] [House] [of Judah]; ⁹[Not] [in accordance with] [The] [Testament] [that] [I made] [for] [their] [Fathers] [on] [{the} Day] [that] [I] took hold] [of] [their] [Hand] [to lead [them] out] [of] [{the} Land] [of Egypt]; [because] [they] [did] [not] continue on] [in] [My] [Testament], [I also] [neglected] [them],” [says] [His Majesty]. ¹⁰“[Because] [This] [is] [The] [Testament] [that] [I will make as a bequest] [to The] [House] [of Israel] by a testament] [after] [Those] [Days],” [says] [His Majesty]: “[While putting] [My] [Laws] [into] [their] [Understanding], [I will] [also] [inscribe] [them] [on] [their] [Hearts]. [And] [I will become] [their] [God], [and] [they] [will become] [My] [People]. ¹¹[And] [each one] [will] [definitely not] teach] [his] [Fellow Citizen]; [and] [each one], [his] [Brother], [saying], ‘[Know] [His Majesty],’ [because] [all] [of them], [from] [smallest] [up to] [largest], [will know] [Me]. ¹²[Because] [I will be] [gracious] [regarding] [their] [Immorality], [and] [I will] [definitely not] recall] [their] [Sins] [any longer].” ¹³[When] [He] [said], “[New],” [He has made] [The] [First {Testament}] grow old; [but] [the thing that] [is growing old] [and] [becoming old] [is] [near to] [Disappearance*]. (Hebrews 8:6–13) —HSSB

In the next issue of this newsletter, I will explain how God *fulfilled the promise* He made. Maybe even explain how He *fulfilled* a few others as well. ;-) ■

Continued from front cover

illumination, and perfection, and washing: washing, by which we cleanse away our sins; grace, by which the penalties accruing to transgressions are remitted; and illumination, by which that holy light of salvation is beheld, that is, by which we see God clearly.

Now we call that perfect which wants nothing. For what is yet wanting to him who knows God? For it were truly monstrous that that which is not complete should be called a gift (or act) of God's grace. Being perfect, He consequently bestows perfect gifts. As at His command all things were made, so on His bare wishing to bestow grace, ensues the perfecting of His grace. For the future of time is anticipated by the power of His volition.

Further release from evils is the beginning of salvation. We then alone, who first have touched the confines of life, are already perfect; and we already live who are separated from death. Salvation, accordingly, is the following of Christ: "For that which is in Him is life. "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth My words, and believeth on Him that sent Me, hath eternal life, and cometh not into condemnation, but hath passed from death to life."

Thus believing alone, and regeneration, is perfection in life; for God is never weak. For as His will is work, and this is named the world; so also His counsel is the salvation of men, and this has been called the church. He knows, therefore, whom He has called, and whom He has saved; and at one and the same time He called and saved them. "For ye are," says the apostle, "taught of God." It is not then allowable to think of what is taught by Him as imperfect; and what is learned from Him is the eternal salvation of the eternal Saviour, to whom he thanks for ever and ever. Amen. And he who is only regenerated—as the name necessarily indicates—and is enlightened, is delibered forthwith from darkness, and on the instant receives the light.

Clement of Alexandria, "The Instructor," Book i, Chap. vi, in Roberts and Donaldson (Eds.), *The Ante-Nicene Fathers* (1885), Vol. 2, pp. 215–216.

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