



THE VOICE of ELIJAH

Restoring the hearts of the fathers to the children

One Should Not Take Lightly God's Provision of "Light"

1. After this fashion also did a presbyter, a disciple of the apostles, reason with respect to the two testaments, proving that both were truly from one and the same God. For [he maintained] that there was no other God besides Him who made and fashioned us, and that the discourse of those men has no foundation who affirm that this world of ours was made either by angels, or by any other power whatsoever, or by another God.

For if a man be once moved away from the Creator of all things, and if he grant that this creation to which we belong was formed by any other or through any other [than the one God], he must of necessity fall into much inconsistency, and many contradictions of this sort; to which he will [be able to] furnish no explanations which can be regarded as either probable or true. And, for this reason, those who introduce other doctrines conceal from us the opinion which they themselves hold respecting God, because they are aware of the untenable and absurd nature of their doctrine, and are afraid lest, should they be vanquished, they should have some difficulty in making good their escape.

But if any one believes in [only] one God, who also made all things by the Word, as Moses likewise says, "God said, Let there be light: and there was light;" and as we read in the Gospel, "All things were made by Him; and without Him was nothing made;" and the Apostle Paul [says] in like manner, "There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father, who is above all, and through all, and in us all"—this man will first of all "hold the head, from which the whole body is compacted and bound together, and, through means of every joint according to the measure of the ministration of each several part, maketh increase of the body to the edification of itself in love."

And then shall every word also seem consistent to him, if he for his part diligently read the Scriptures in company with those who are presbyters in

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A Note From the Editor

I lost my mom last month. She was a loving, funny, and quirky little woman; we have always been close and enjoyed each other thoroughly. But in the wake of my sudden and heartbreaking loss, I find myself looking forward and not back. My mind is laser-focused on the futility of this world with gratitude that this pitiful life is not all there is. Each day brings us closer to the End of the Age; and in the Lord's mercy, True Believers have the opportunity to escape the inevitable destruction of this civilization. We've been warned that it is coming, and I firmly believe it is coming sooner rather than later.

Isaiah, Zephaniah, and John have also been on my mind... a lot. The entirety of Isaiah 47, but most especially these verses:

⁸"[So now], [listen to] [this], [voluptuous* {one}]—

[The one who is dwelling] [securely],

[The one who is saying] [in her Heart]:

'[I] {am}, [and there is no one] [besides me].

[I will [not] sit] {as} [a Widow],

[And I will [not] know] [Bereavement].'

⁹[Yet [These [two] Things] will come] [to You] [in a Moment]:

[In [one] Day], [Bereavement] [and Widowhood]

[Will come] [on You] [to their fullest {extent}]—

[Via {the} Large Amount] [of Your Sorceries],

[Via {the} Potency] [of Your [many] Spells].

¹⁰[You trusted] [in Your Badness];

[You said], '[There is nobody] [who sees me].'

[Your Wisdom] [and Your Knowledge]?

[It] [has turned You back],

[So that You say] [in Your Heart],

'[I {am}], [and there is no one] [besides me].'"

(Isaiah 47:8–10) —Larry's interim translation

[Neither] [their Silver] [nor] [their Gold]

[Will be able] [to snatch them away]

[On {the} Day] [{of the} Unbounded Rage] [of His Majesty],

[When [The [entire] Earth] [will be consumed] by {the} Fire]

[of His Jealousy];

[Because] [He will make] [a Complete End]—

[One that is [definitely] frightening]—

[Of all] [the Inhabitants of] [The Earth].

(Zephaniah 1:18) —Larry's interim translation

⁴(2) [Then] [I heard] [another] [Voice] [out] [of] [Heaven] [saying]: "[Come out] [of] [her], [My] [People],

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(a) [so that] [you do [not] have commonality]
[with her] [in her] [Sins]—[and]
(b) [so that] [you do [not] receive] [any] [of] [her]
[Lashes]; ⁵[because]

(i) [her] [Sins] [have joined {themselves} together]
[as far as] [Heaven], [and]
(ii) [The] [{Living} God] [has remembered] [her]
[Immoral Acts].

⁶(a) [Pay [her] back] [even] [as much as] [she]
[paid {you}], [and]
(b) [double*] [the {ingredients}] [twice as
much] [in accordance with] [her] [Works]; [in]
[The] [Cup] [that] [she mixed],
(c) [mix] [twice as much] [for her]. ⁷[As much
as] [she glorified] [herself] [and] [lived sensually],
(d) [give] [her] [so much] [Torment] [and]
[Mourning]; [because] [she says] [in] [her]
[Heart] [that] 'I am sitting] [as a Queen]!' [and]
'I am] [not] [a Widow]!' [and] 'I will [definitely
not] see] [Mourning].'

⁸(3) [For] [This Reason] [her] [Lashes] [will come]
[on] [one] [Day]—

(a) [Death] [and]
(b) [Mourning] [and]
(c) [Famine]—

[and] [she will be burned up] [in] [a Fire], [because]

(i) [His Majesty],
(ii) [The] [{Living} God]—
(iii) [the One Who] [has judged] [her]—

{is} [mighty].

(Revelation 18:4–8) —HSSB

I've been comforted by Isaiah's warning to those of us who have insight into the Truth here at the End of the Age. Those of you in The Next Step program will recognize the Scripture Song that has been going through my mind, as well:

²⁰[Get out] [of Babylon],
[Flee] [from {the} Chaldeans].
[Tell {them}] [with {the} Sound] [of a Joyful Shout],
[Make {this} heard].
[Make it go out] [as far as] [{the} End]
[of The Earth].

[Say]: "[His Majesty] [is going to redeem] [Jacob]—
[His Slave]!

²¹[And they will [not] thirst] [when He makes them
walk] [among {the} Ruins].

[He will make [Water] flow down] [from a Rock]
[for Him];

[He will even split open] [a Rock]
[and [Water] will flow]."

²²[His Majesty] [says],
"[There will not be any] [Peace]
[for those who are guilty]!"

(Isaiah 48:20–22) —Larry's interim translation

Mom's Memorial Service flowers that were so comforting and beautiful are now faded and gone. Isaiah encourages me with:

⁶[A Voice] [will say], "[Proclaim]!"
[But he will say], "[What] [should I proclaim]?"
"[All] [Flesh] {is} [Grass]!
[And all] [His Loving-kindness] {is} [like a Flower]
[of The Field]!

⁷[Grass] [will dry up]; [a Flower] [will droop],
[When] [{the} Spirit] [of His Majesty]
[shoos [him] away]."

[The People] {is} [most definitely] [Grass]!

⁸[Grass] [will dry up]; [a Flower] [will droop].
[But {the} Word] [of our God] [will rise up]
[to an Eternal Burning]!

(Isaiah 40:6–8) —Larry's interim translation

The Voice of Elijah[®] mission is "to prepare ALL True Believers for the appearance of the Antichrist." I pray you will "arise from sleep" (Rom. 13:11) and "get out of Babylon." No one is guaranteed tomorrow.

In Him,

Marcia Harper

In One “Way” or the Other, God Is Going to “Light You Up”

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 seventh 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. 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 insists 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, the meaning and significance of 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 reminded you again:

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*)

Then 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 told you to compare *the blessing* of Moses—who was *the heir of the promise* in his day—and *the blessing* of Jacob—who was *the heir of the promise* in his day.

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.

July 2019

In the article I wrote for the July 2019 issue of this newsletter, I repeated the sixth item on my summary of

the Old Testament message that I gave you in the April 2017 issue:

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.

Then I reiterated 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:

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.

I told you that 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. I said the basic takeaways from Leviticus 26—the first passage essential to your accurate understanding of the message of the Scriptures—are fairly easy to understand. Then I gave you my translation of the chapter and pointed out a few things one should make note of in the text:

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.

Then I emphasized the two *promises* God made the sons of Israel through Moses 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

Then I pointed out the fact that the first of those two *promises* is conditioned on the individual members of Moses (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.

After I explained those things, I told you that you need to know what God said to the sons of Israel when the time came for Moses to *hand down the promise* before he died. I reminded you he did that by means of *the blessing* recorded in Deuteronomy 33, and I gave you my interim translation of what Moses said.

I told you that 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*. I then explained how, in Deuteronomy 27:1–31:30, all the sons of Israel became members of *Corporate Israel* instead of just members of Moses' "house."

I told you the takeaways from Deuteronomy 27 are just as easy to understand as those from Leviticus 26, provided you are willing to accept them:

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*.

I told you the emphasis on the obligation of the *Corporate body* of "all Israel" continues on in the next chapter, Deuteronomy 28. So with very few exceptions, the second person personal pronouns are all singular—to indicate that the obligation for adherence to the terms of the legal agreement falls on the *Corporate body*.

I said that 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. I also told you that, knowing Moses addresses the People as separate individuals should make it obvious that God had no confidence the People would ever respond to Him with unity during their forty years in the wilderness.

I said 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 yet a third legal agreement—the one in Deuteronomy. But the sad fact is, 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.

I told you the essence of the legal agreement the sons of Israel accepted that day is laid out in Deuteronomy 27–28; and then I showed you Deuteronomy 29:14–15, which indicates 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. Then I showed you Deuteronomy 30, where 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, he begins to speak *prophetically*.

I said Moses consistently uses the singular form of the second person personal pronoun in Deuteronomy 30, because he is speaking in regard to the future of *Corporate Israel*. But he is describing what will happen after Jesus Christ becomes *Corporate Israel* and *Corporate Israel* finally does what God requires. I said that is why Paul quotes Deuteronomy 30:11–14 in Romans 10:6–8. Then I told you Moses goes on in Deuteronomy 31 to describe the *parabolic pantomime* God orchestrated in which Moses, as *the heir of the*

promise, had to die so that those he had previously *blessed* could *parabolically inherit what was promised*.

I next showed you was how God changed the terms of the Old Covenant each time He offered 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.

I told you those are the basic differences between the three "covenants" that God made with the sons of Israel, but I also told you that 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. I pointed out the following facts:

1. 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**.

2. God never provided any means of atonement for *Corporate Israel*.

3. The foundational motive driving God 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.

Then I told you that if you want to understand the message of the Scriptures, you have to start 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 said the Truth will escape the notice of those who have not read and understood the things I have already explained with regard to Genesis 1:26–27. I also told you the Truth is, those two verses are describing what happened when Christ was resurrected—that is, when He was transformed into the image and likeness of God Himself.

I reminded you that, when God booted Adam and Eve out of the Garden of Eden, He gave them *the promise* that anyone could be made in the image and likeness of God if they believed and held on to *the promise* until they died. That is, He *promised* them they could be resurrected as His "Children," full-fledged members of His "House," His "People." And I told you that if you start reading in Genesis 5 and 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*.

I said 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.

Then I showed you Exodus 6:2–8, where God declares He intends to "take" the sons of Israel to be

His "People." I said God's plan has always been to "reside" "in the midst of" His "People." And I showed you that is the point He made in Exodus 25:8–9 and Exodus 29:45, when He told Moses to build a Tabernacle just like the one he saw on Mount Sinai. But I also pointed out Exodus 33:1–3, where He changed His plans a bit after the sons of Israel sinned.

I told you the change in God's plans is clearly reflected in Leviticus 26:11–12, since *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 would be obligated to *fulfill the promise*. Since some folks 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 continues on for the fortunate few who have experienced the phenomenal effects of the new birth that God *promised* through Jeremiah and Ezekiel.

Those two Prophets make it clear that 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" of the Gospel (whatever that *means*). 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 New Covenant passages I showed you, all of which are easily identified by their paraphrase of *the promise* recorded in Leviticus 26:11–12.

I told you, 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? But I also told you I would cut that Gordian knot in the next issue of this newsletter. I said it is enough that you know why God changed the terms of the legal agreement He had made with *Corporate Israel* by offering its terms to every *individual* member of that *Corporate* body. I said your understanding the Truth depends on your knowing the *significance* of Ezekiel 18:1–4.

I told you Ezekiel explains what God had in mind—*individual* responsibility for sin. But I also said some dim light might claim Ezekiel was referring to what was already the case; that is, that every *individual*

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 and Ezekiel responded by telling them it would not be that way under the terms of the New Covenant. In Jeremiah 31:29–34, the Prophet explains the case clearly; and the Apostle Paul (the author of the Book of Hebrews) quoted that passage in Hebrews 8:6–13 to make the claim that Jesus *fulfilled the promise* Jeremiah made.

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.

"Replacement" Theology Is Stupid

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

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.

Satan has made a concerted effort to represent what I teach as "replacement theology." The Truth is, I have never, and will never, claim the Church somehow *replaced* *Corporate Israel* as the covenant People of God. That is not what happened. After Jeremiah and Ezekiel told *Corporate Israel* that God planned to make a New Covenant with the *individual* members of *Corporate Israel*, *Corporate Israel* continued on as it had previously;

but Jesus Christ *became* Corporate Israel when John the Baptist offered the *individual* members of Corporate Israel a New Covenant relationship to God and they were "cut off from" Corporate Israel. But to understand how that happened, you need to be aware of the things I explained in *Not All Israel Is Israel*. I summarized those things this way:

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*.

The Truth is, Jesus Christ did not replace Corporate Israel, the Jews lost their position in Corporate Israel when God "cut" them "off from" it just as John the Baptist told them He was already in the process of doing—and just as I explained in *Not All Israel Is Israel*:

¹[Now] [in] [Those] [Days], [John] [The] [Baptist] [arrives], [preaching] [in] [The] [Desert] [of] [Judea] ²[and] [saying], "[Apologize], [for] [The] [Kingdom] [of] [The] [Heavens] [has drawn near]." ³[For] [This Individual] [is] [the one who] [was spoken of] [via] [The] [Prophet] [Isaiah], [who says]:

"[THE] VOICE [OF ONE WHO IS CRYING OUT]
[IN] [THE] [DESERT],
[PREPARE] [THE] [WAY] [OF HIS MAJESTY];
[MAKE] [HIS] [WELL-WORN PATHS] [A STRAIGHTAWAY]!"

⁴[Now] [John] [himself] [had] [his] [Clothing] [{made} out] [of Camel's] [Hair], [and] [a Belt] [made of leather] {was} [around] [his] [Loins], [but] [What [he] Ate] [was] [Locusts] [and] [wild] [Honey]. ⁵[At that time], [Jerusalem]—[as well as] [all] [Judea] [and] [The] [whole] [Area Around] [The] [Jordan]—[began going out] [to] [him]; ⁶[and] [those who were admitting the truth

concerning] [their] [Sins] [were being baptized] [by] [him] [in] [The] [Jordan] [River].

⁷[But] [after seeing] [Many] [of The] [Pharisees] [and] [Sadducees] [coming] [for] [his] [Baptism], [he said] [to them]: "[{You} Descendants] [of Vipers]! [Who] [gave] [you] an indication] [that {you} should flee] [from] [The] [Anger] [that is going to come]? ⁸[Therefore], [produce] [Fruit] [worthy] [of your] [Apology]; ⁹[and] [do] [not] assume] [that {you} can say] [to] [yourselves], '[We have] [Abraham] [as a Father], '[for] [I tell] [you] [that] [The] [{Living} God] [can] [raise up] [Children] [for Abraham] [out] [of] [These] [Stones]. ¹⁰[But] [The] [Axe] [is] [already] [laid] [at] [The] [Root] [of The] [Trees]; [therefore], [every] [Tree] [that is] [not] producing] [exceptionally good] [Fruit] [is going to be cut off] [and] [thrown] [into] [a Fire].

¹¹[On the one hand], [I] [am baptizing] [you] [with] [Water] [for] [an Apology]; [but on the other hand], [the One Who] [is going to come] [after] [me] [is] [mightier than] [I], [Whose] [Sandals] [I am] [not] [worthy of consideration] [to carry]. [He] [will baptize] [you] [with] [a] [holy] [Spirit] [and] [Fire], ¹²[Whose] [Winnowing Fork] [is] [in] [His] [Hand]; [and] [He will cause] [His] [Threshing Floor] [to be cleaned thoroughly*], [and] [He will gather] [His] [Wheat] [into] [The] [Storehouse], [but] [He will burn up] [The] [Chaff] [in an] [unquenchable] [Fire]."

(Matthew 3:1–12) —HSSB

The very essence of John's ministry is summed up in the following verse, where he *parabolically* depicts the *individual* members of Corporate Israel as "trees":

"[But] [The] [Axe] [is] [already] [laid] [at] [The] [Root] [of The] [Trees]; [therefore], [every] [Tree] [that is] [not] producing] [exceptionally good] [Fruit] [is going to be cut off] [and] [thrown] [into] [a Fire]."

(Matthew 3:10) —HSSB

If you were not aware that the Prophets and Apostles repeatedly use the *parabolic image* of a "tree" to depict a man, you obviously haven't paid all that much attention to what they say. The following is a good example of how Jesus used that *parabolic image* to weave the *parabolic statements* of the Prophets into the parables He told. In it, He not only *parabolically* depicts men as "trees," He also *parabolically* depicts Himself and Satan as two "houses" that will face the horror of events that are yet to come in our day:

¹⁵[Beware] [of] [The] [False Prophets], [who] [come] [to] [you] [in] [Sheep's] [Clothing], [but] [are] [avaricious] [Wolves] [on the inside]. ¹⁶[You can recognize] [them] [by] [their] [Fruits]. [They do [not by any means] cull] [Bunches of Grapes] [from] [Thorns] [or] [Figs] [from] [Thistles]! ¹⁷[So also], [every] [good] [Tree] [produces] [exceptionally good] [Fruit], [but] [The] [rotten] [Tree] [produces] [nasty] [Fruit]. ¹⁸[A [good] Tree] [can] [not] [produce] [nasty] [Fruit]; [neither] [does] [a [rotten] Tree] [produce] [exceptionally good] [Fruit]. ¹⁹[Every] [Tree] [that is] [not] [producing] [exceptionally good] [Fruit] [is going to be cut off] [and] [thrown] [into] [a Fire]. ²⁰[So then] [you can, [indeed], recognize] [them] [by] [their] [Fruits].

²¹[Not] [everyone] [who] [says], 'Your Majesty!' [Your Majesty]!' [to Me] [will come in] [to] [The] [Kingdom] [of The] [Heavens], [but only] [the one who] [acts in accordance with] [The] [Will] [of] [My] [Father], [Who is] [in] [The] [Heavens]. ²²[Many] [will say] [to Me] [on] [That] [Day], 'Your Majesty!' [Your Majesty]! [Did we [not] prophesy] [in] [Your] [Name] [and] [cast out] [Demons] [in] [Your] [Name] [and] [do] [a lot of] [Supernaturally Powerful Things] [in] [Your] [Name]?' ²³[And] [then] [I will acknowledge the truth about] [them], [that] 'I [never] knew [you]! [You [who] [are committing] [The] [Lawless Deed], depart] [from] [Me]!'

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

(Matthew 7:15-27) —HSSB

In that passage, Jesus is mocking the fools among us who have not a clue as to how He became not only "The House" of Judah but also "The House" of Israel, when all the other Jews were "cut off from" those two "Houses." But His ridicule of such fools fairly drips with sarcasm when He parabolically depicts Himself as "the Vine" that is Corporate Israel:

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

⁵[I] [Am] [The] [Vine]; [you] {are} [The] [Cuttings]. [The one who] [remains] [in] [Me], [and I] [in] [him], [This Individual] [is going to bear] [a lot of] [Fruit], [because] [apart from] [Me], [you can] [not] [do] [anything at all]. ⁶[If] [anyone] [does [not] remain] [in] [Me], [he has been thrown] [out] [and] [shriveled up] [like] [The] [Cutting]; [and] [they are going to gather [them] up] [and] [throw {them}] [into] [The] [Fire], [and] [they are going to be burned]. ⁷[If] [you remain] [in] [Me], [and] [The] [Statements I] [Make] [remain] [in] [you], [request] [whatever] [it may be that] [you want]; [and] [it will be done] [for you]."

(John 15:1-7) —HSSB

If you are not familiar with what the Prophets tell us about the Messiah Who will become Corporate Israel, what Jesus says in that passage will elude you; so let me point it out for you. Here is one of the passages in the Prophets that Jesus had in mind when He made those statements about Himself as Corporate Israel:

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

[Why] [did I wait eagerly {for Him}] [to make] [Grapes],
[And He made] [Stinking Gourds]?

⁵[So now] [let Me make known to] [you]

[What] [I] [am going to do] [to My Vineyard]:

[I am going to remove] [His Hedge*],

[And it will become] [something to be burned];

[{I am} going to make a breach in] [His Wall],

[And He will become] [What Is Trampled].

⁶[Then I will designate Him for] [Ruin*].

[He will {not} be pruned],

[And He will {not} be hoed].

[So [Briars] [and Thorns] will come up],

[And [I will give a command] to] [The Thunderheads]

[Not to cause [Rain] to fall] [on Him]."

⁷[Because] [The Vineyard] [of His [Supreme] Majesty]
[is] [{the} House] [of Israel],

[And {the} Man] [of Judah]

[is] [{the} Plant] [of those who enjoy Him].

[So He has waited expectantly]

[for a Decision Based on Truth],

[But guess what! There has been] [a Breach of Trust*];

[For a Declaration of Not Guilty],

[But guess what! There has been] [an Outcry].

⁸[Woe to] [those who cause [a House] to make contact]
[with a House].

[They will bring [a Field] together] [with a Field]

[Until] [there is no] [Place],

[And [you alone] dwell] [in the midst of] [The Land].

⁹[His [Supreme] Majesty] {has spoken} [in my Hearing]:

"[Many] [big] [and good] [Houses]

[Will {most definitely} be] [devastated],

[Without any] [Inhabitants].

¹⁰[Because] [ten] [Acres of] [Vineyard]

[Will make] [one] [Bath],

[And a Homer] [of Seed]

[Will make] [an Ephah]."

¹¹[Woe to] [those who get up early] [in the Morning];

[They pursue] [Liquor].

[Those who delay] [at Twilight],

[Wine] [hotly pursues them].

¹²[So [their Celebratory Feasts] are] [Lyre] [and Lute],

[Tambourine] [and Flute]—[and Wine];

[But] [they will {not} look at]

[{the} Deed [His Majesty] Has Done],

[So [they will {not} see] What [His Hands] Have Made].

¹³[Therefore], [My People] [will go into exile]

[Because of a lack of] [Knowledge];

[And His Glory]—[Adult Males]—{will be} [hungry],

[And His Multitude] {will be} [dehydrated]—[thirsty].

¹⁴[Therefore], [The Sea of El] [has enlarged] [her Soul];

[And she has opened [her Mouth] wide]—

[without] [Limit].

[But [her Splendor] will go down],

[Even her Multitude] [and her Clamor]

[and {the} Jubilation] [in her].

¹⁵[Then [an Adam] will be cast down],

[And [a Man] will be brought down].

[But {the} Eyes of] [those who are exalted]

[will {also} be brought down].

¹⁶[Then [His [Supreme] Majesty] will be exalted]

[by a Decision Based on the Truth],

[And the [holy] God] [will be made holy]

[by a Declaration of Not Guilty].

¹⁷[Then [Sheep] will graze]

[in accordance with {the} Word they have],

[But those who are residing temporarily] [will consume]

[{the} Ruins of] [Fattened Sheep].

¹⁸[Woe to] [those who draw out]

[The Reprehensible Activity]

[With {the} Ropes of] [The Deception],

[And [Sin] as with the Cords of] [the Cart]!

¹⁹[The ones who say]: "[Let Him be quick]!

[Let Him make [What He Does] happen quickly]

[so that] [we may see]!

[And let [The Plan of] [the Holy One] [of Israel]

come close];

[And let it come to pass] [so that we may know]!"

²⁰[Woe to] [those who tell]

[The bad {person}], "[Good]!"

[And the good {person}], "[Bad]!"

[Those who turn] [Darkness] [into Light]

[And Light] [into Darkness]!

[Those who turn] [bitter] [into sweet]

[And sweet] [into bitter].

²¹[Woe to] [those who are wise] [in their {own} Eyes]!

[And [those who have understanding] right in front of]

[their Face]!

²²[Woe to] [Gibbors] [for drinking] [Wine]!

[And Men of] [an Entourage] [for mixing] [Liquor]!

²³[Those who declare [a Guilty Person] not guilty]

[because of] [a Bribe],

[And [remove] {the} Declaration of Not Guilty of]

[Those Who Are Not Guilty].

²⁴[Therefore], [as [a Tongue] [of Fire]

consumes] [Straw],

[And Dry Grass] [slacks off] [into a Flame],

[Their Root] [will be] [like Rottenness],
 [And their Blossom] [will go up]
 [like a Dusty Powder],
 [Because] [they have rejected] [The Teaching of]
 [His [Supreme] Majesty],
 [And] [they have treated [The Statement of]
 [the} Holy One of] [Israel] with contempt],
²⁵[With the result that], [the Anger of] [His Majesty]
 [has become inflamed] [against His People].
 [So He will stretch out] [His Hand] [against Him],
 [and He will viciously strike Him].
 [Then [The Mountains] will be disturbed]
 [And [their Corpses] will be] [like Rubbish*]
 [within] [The Streets].
 [During all] [this], [His Anger] [will [not] turn back];
 [And [His Hand] will [still] be outstretched].
²⁶[Then He will lift up] [an Ensign]
 [for {the} Gentiles] [from a long ways away],
 [And He will whistle] [to Him]
 [from {the} End] [of The Earth].
 [Then guess what!] [He will come] [quickly]—[swiftly].
²⁷[There is not anyone] [weary],
 [and there is not anyone] [stumbling], [in Him].
 [He will [not] doze], [and He will not fall sleep];
 [And [The Binding] [{on} His Hips]
 will [not] be opened],
 [And {the} Strap] [of His Sandals]
 [will [not] be pulled away].
²⁸[Whose] [Arrows] [are sharpened],
 [and all] [His Bows] [are flexed].
 [{The} Hooves of] [His Horses] [are considered to be]
 [like Flintstone*],
 [And His Wagons] [like a Medicane].
²⁹[He has] [a Roar] [like a Lioness With Cubs],
 [But He will roar] [like {the} Alpha Lions].
 [Then He will growl] [and take hold of]
 [Something Consumable],
 [But He will rescue {it}], [and there will not be any]
 [one who snatches {it} away].
³⁰[Then He will growl] [over it] [on That] [Day]
 [Like {the} Growling of] [{the} Sea].
 [And He will look] [at {the} Earth],
 [But guess what!] [Darkness], [Distress]!
 [Even Light] [will be dark] [in her Dense Clouds*].
 (Isaiah 5:1–30) —my interim translation

I don't see how Isaiah could have stated the *meaning* of his parable any more clearly than he did here:

[Because] [The Vineyard] [of His [Supreme] Majesty]
 {is} [{the} House] [of Israel],
 [And {the} Man] [of Judah]
 {is} [{the} Plant] [of those who enjoy Him].
 [So He has waited expectantly]
 [for a Decision Based on Truth],
 [But guess what! There has been] [a Breach of Trust*];
 [For a Declaration of Not Guilty],
 [But guess what! There has been] [an Outcry].
 (Isaiah 5:7) —my interim translation

The parabolic image in which Corporate Israel is a "vineyard" forms the basis for a couple of the parables that Jesus told. Here is Matthew's version of the one in which He quotes a bit of what Isaiah said about Corporate Israel as a "vineyard":

³³[Listen to] [another] [Comparison]: [There was]
 [a Man]—[an Owner of a House]—[who] [PLANTED] [A
 VINEYARD] [AND] [PUT [A HEDGE] AROUND] [IT] [AND]
 DUG OUT] [A WINE PRESS] [IN] [IT] [AND] [BUILT] [A
 TOWER] [and] [rented [it] out] [to Cultivators] [and]
 [went abroad]. ³⁴[But] [when] [The] [Time] [for The]
 [Fruits] [drew near], [He sent] [His] [Slaves] [to] [The]
 [Cultivators] [to receive] [its] [Fruits]. ³⁵[And] [after]
 [The] [Cultivators] took] [His] [Slaves], [they punched]
 [One], [killed] [another], [threw stones] [at another].
³⁶[He [again] sent] [other] [Slaves]—[more than] [The]
 [First]—[and] [they did] [The Same Thing] [to them].
³⁷[But] [later], [he sent] [his] [Son] [to] [them], [saying],
 'They will pay deference to] [my] [Son].'
³⁸[But] [when] [The] [Cultivators] saw] [The] [Son], [they said] [among]
 [themselves]: '[This Individual] [is] [The] [Heir]! [Come
 on]! [We can kill] [him] [and] [have] [his] [Inheritance].'
³⁹[And] [after taking] [him], [they threw {him}] [out] [of]
 The] [Vineyard] [and] [killed {him}]. ⁴⁰[Therefore],
 [when] [The] [Owner] [of The] [Vineyard] [comes],
 [what] [will he do] [to] [Those] [Cultivators]?"

⁴¹[They tell] [Him], "[He will do away with]
 [those] [awfully] [Awful Persons] [and] [rent out]
 [The] [Vineyard] [to other] [Cultivators] [who] [will
 pay [Him] for] [The] [Fruits] [at] [their] [Times]."

⁴²[Jesus] [says] [to them]: "[Have you [never] read]
 [in] [The] [Scriptures]:

'[A STONE] [THAT] [THOSE WHO] [ARE BUILDING]
 [COMPLETELY REJECTED]?
 [THIS {STONE}] [HAS BEEN TURNED]

[INTO] [{THE} HEAD] [OF A CORNER].
[THIS] [CAME ABOUT] [FROM] [HIS MAJESTY],
[AND] [IT IS] [AMAZING] [IN] [OUR] [EYES].'

⁴³[For] [This Reason] [I tell] [you] [that] [The] [Kingdom] [of The] [{Living} God] [will be taken away] [from] [you] [and] [given] [to a Nation] [who produces] [its] [Fruits]. ⁴⁴[And] [the one who] [has fallen] [on] [This] [Stone] [will be shattered]; [but] [on] [whomever] [it might be that] [it falls], [it will winnow [him] out]."

⁴⁵[And] [when] [The] [High Priests] [and] [The] [Pharisees] heard] [His] [Comparisons], [they knew] [that] [He was talking] [about] [them]. ⁴⁶[Yet] [while] {they} were looking for] [Him] [to grab hold of {him}], [they were afraid of] [The] [Crowds], [since] [they regarded] [Him] [as] [a Prophet].

(Matthew 21:33–46) —HSSB

The following is Mark's version of what Jesus said. He confirms that Jesus was indeed pointing to what Isaiah said when He told that parable:

¹[Then] [He began] [to speak] [to them] [in] [Comparisons]: "[A Man] [PLANTED] [A VINEYARD] [AND] [PUT A HEDGE] AROUND {IT}] [AND] [DUG OUT] [A WINE VAT*] [AND] [BUILT] [A TOWER] [and] [rented [it] out] [to Cultivators] [and] [went abroad]; ²[and] [He sent] [a Slave] [to] [The] [Cultivators] [at The] [Time], [so that] [He could receive] [some of] [The] [Fruits] [of The] [Vineyard] [from] [The] [Cultivators]. ³[And] [after taking] [him], [they punched {him}] [and] [sent {him} away] [empty]. ⁴[Then] [He sent] [another] [Slave] [to] [them] [again], [and That One] [they hit on the head*] [and] [dishonored]. ⁵[So] [He sent] [another]; [and] [they killed] That One], [as well as] [a lot of] [Others], [punching] [some], [killing] [others].

⁶[He had] [One] [more], [a [beloved] Son]; [He sent] [him] [to] [them] [last], [saying] [that] '[they will pay deference to] [my] [Son]'. ⁷[But] [Those] [Cultivators] [said] [to] [one another] [that] '[This Individual] [is] [The] [Heir]! [Come on]! [We can kill] [him], [and] [The] [Inheritance] [will be] [ours]!'

⁸[So], [after taking {him}], [they killed] [Him] [and] [threw] [him] [out] [of The] [Vineyard]. ⁹[Therefore], [what] [will] [The] [Owner] [of The] [Vineyard] do? [He will come back] [and] [do away with] [The] [Cultivators] [and] [give] [The]

[Vineyard] [to Others]. ¹⁰[Have you [not even] read] [This] [Scripture]:

'[A STONE] [THAT] [THOSE WHO] [ARE BUILDING] [COMPLETELY REJECTED]?

[THIS {STONE}] [HAS BEEN TURNED]

[INTO] [{THE} HEAD] [OF A CORNER]';

¹¹[THIS] [HAS COME ABOUT] [FROM] [HIS MAJESTY],
[AND] [IT IS] [AMAZING] [IN] [OUR] [EYES]."

¹²[Then] [they were looking for {an opportunity}] [to grab hold of] [Him]—[yet] [they were afraid of] [The] [Crowd]—[for] [they knew] [that] [He had spoken] [The] [Comparison] [against] [them]. [So], [after leaving] [Him], [they went away].
(Mark 12:1–12) —HSSB

The part about God taking "the vineyard" away from the Jewish leaders and "giving" it to others should convince any rational person that something is going on that they don't understand, but it won't. Maybe Luke will convince them by adding his weight to the evidence:

⁹[And then] [He began] [to tell] [This] [Comparison] [to] [The] [People]: "[Some] [Man] [planted] [a Vineyard] [and] [rented [it] out] [to Cultivators] [and] [went abroad] [for considerable] [Spans of Time]. ¹⁰[And] [in Time], [he sent] [a Slave] [to] [The] [Cultivators] [so that] [they would give] [him] [some] [of The] [Fruit] [of The] [Vineyard]; [but] [The] [Cultivators], [after punching] [him], [sent {him} away] [empty]. ¹¹[Then] [he added] [another] [Slave] [to] {his workforce}] [to send to {them}]. [But] [after punching] [and] [dishonoring] [That One], [they also] [sent {him} away] [empty]. ¹²[Then] [he added] [a third {slave}] [to] {his workforce}] [to send to {them}]; [but] [after injuring] [This Individual], [they] [also] [threw {him} out].

¹³[Then] [The] [Owner] [of The] [Vineyard] [said]: '[What] [should I do]? [I will send] [my] [Son]—[my] [Beloved One]. [Maybe*] [they will pay deference] [to This Individual].'

¹⁴[But then], [after] [The] [Cultivators] saw] [him], [they were speculating] [with] [one another], [saying], '[This] [is] [The] [Heir]; [we should kill] [him], [so that] [The] [Inheritance] [becomes] [ours].'

¹⁵[So] [after throwing] [him] [out] [of The] [Vineyard], [they killed {him}]. [Therefore], [what]

[will [The] [Owner] [of The] [Vineyard] do] [to them]?
 16[Will he come back] [and] [do away with] [These]
 [Cultivators] [and] [give] [The] [Vineyard] [to
 Others]?"]

[So then], [after hearing {what He said}], [they—
 {the High Priests, Scribes, and Elders}—said],
 "[Certainly] [not]!"

17[But then], [after looking at [them] intently], [He]
 [said], "[Therefore], [what] [is] [This] [that] [has been
 written]:

[A STONE] [THAT] [THOSE WHO] [ARE BUILDING]
 [COMPLETELY REJECTED],
 [THIS {STONE}] [HAS BEEN TURNED] [INTO]
 [{THE} HEAD] [OF A CORNER]'?

18[Anyone] [who] [has fallen] [on] [That] [Stone]
 [will be shattered]; [but] [on] [whomever] [it might be
 that] [it falls], [it will winnow [him] out]."

19[Then] [The] [Scribes] [and] [The] [High
 Priests] [sought] [to put] [their] [Hands] [on] [Him]
 [at] [That] [very] [Hour], [for] [they knew] [that] [He
 had spoken] [This] [Comparison] [about] [them], [yet]
 [they were afraid of] [The] [People]. 20[So] [after carefully
 watching {Him}], [they sent] [Infiltrators*] [who were
 pretending*] [to be] [blameless] [themselves], [so that]
 [they could take hold] [of Him] [because of {His response
 to} a Question], [so as] [to hand [Him] over] [to The]
 [Rule] [and] [Authority] [of The] [Esteemed Leader].
 (Luke 20:9–20) —HSSB

Anyone with a lick of common sense should be
 able to "see" that God changed things up a bit when
 He showed up here in this hell-hole in which we live.
 But He did not plan to let Corporate Israel off easy; He
 fully intended to make Him pay—and pay dearly. That
 is exactly what He did when Jesus Christ—Corporate
 Israel—hung on the cross, suffering in sheer agony. But
 the Prophet Jeremiah tells us God imposed the curses
 of the Old Covenant on Corporate Israel because no one
 in Corporate Israel wanted to know the Truth. He
 describes it this "way":

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

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

[and {the} House of] [Judah]
[Have acted [completely] deceptively] [against Me],"
[Declares] [His Majesty].

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

[And said]: "[Not] [He];

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

[in Your Mouth];

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

[and it will consume them]."

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

That should be a warning to those who have no interest in knowing the Truth regarding the things God has done, or even the things He is planning to do. For you who do, pay attention: If you were watching, you saw that Jeremiah used the term *bunch stems* in verse 10. A bunch stem is the stem on a grape vine that produces grapes. Jeremiah is *parabolically* depicting Corporate Israel as a "vine" "from" which God is going to "cut off" those who have been a part of that "vine." Ezekiel is using the same *parabolic imagery* when he says this:

¹[Then [{the} Word] [of His Majesty] came] [to me],
[saying]: ²"[Son] [of Adam], [how] [could] [{the} Wood of]
[The Vine] be] [{better} than any] [Wood] [of The Slip of a
Vine] [that] [has been] [among {the} Trees of] [The Forest]?"

³[Can [Wood] be taken] [from it] [to make something] [for
Work], [or] [can they take] [some of it] [as a Stake] [on
which] [to hang] [any] [Container]? ⁴[Guess what! It is]
[going to be put] [into a Fire] [as Something to Consume]!
[The Fire] [is going to consume] [both of] [its Ends], [and
its Middle] [will be scorched]. [Will it be useful] [for
Work]? ⁵[Guess what!] [When it is] [complete], [it can
[not] be made something] [for Work]. [How much less,
when] [a Fire] [has consumed it] [and it has been scorched].
[Can it then [still] be made something] [for Work]?"

⁶[Therefore], [this is what] [My Master], [His
Majesty], [has said]: "[Just as] [{the} Wood] [of The Vine]
{is} [among The Wood] [of The Forest] [that] [I have given
up] [to a Fire] [as Something to Consume], [so also] [I have

given up] [{the} Inhabitants of] [Jerusalem]. ⁷[So I have
set] [My Face] [against them]; [they will come] [out of The
Fire], [but The Fire] [will consume them]. [Then they will
know] [that] [I am] [His Majesty]—[when I set] [My Face]
[against them]. ⁸[And I will make] [The Earth] [a Desolate
Area], [simply because] [they committed] [a Betrayal of
Trust]," [declares] [my Master], [His Majesty].
(Ezekiel 15:1–8) —my interim translation

A couple of chapters later, in Ezekiel 17, Ezekiel presents a "riddle" that can be a bit difficult to understand if one does not know the things I have written over the years in regard to Corporate Israel and also have insight into the fact that the Prophets depict men as both "trees" and "vines." The Prophet gives you all of the clues you need to understand what he says, but you have to pay close attention to detail if you really want to understand the point of the "riddle." Let's see if you are up to the task:

¹[Then [{the} Word] [of His Majesty] came] [to
me], [saying]: ²"[Son] [of Adam], [pose] [a Riddle] [and
make] [a Comparison] [concerning] [The House of]
[Israel]; ³[and say]: '[This is what] [my Master], [His
Majesty], [has said]: "[The [huge] Griffon-Vulture]—[The
Wings], {were} [huge]; [The Flight Feathers], [long]; [The
Plumage] [that] [he had], [full] [of Various Beautiful
Colors]—[came] [to] [The Lebanon Mountain Range]
[and took] [{the} Pinnacle of] [The Cedar]—⁴[he plucked]
[{the} Top] [of its Suckers]—[and brought him] [to]
[{the} Land] [of Traders]. [He placed him] [in a City] [of
Merchants].

⁵[Then he took] [some of {the} Seed] [of the Land]
[and put it] [in a Field of] [{the} Seed] [{that} he took].
[He placed it] [as a Willow] [beside] [many] [Waters].
⁶[Then it sprouted] [and became] [a [low], [sprawling]
Vine], [its Leafage] [rising up] [to turn back] [toward
itself], [and its Roots] [were] [under it]. [So it became] [a
Vine] [and made] [Separate Parts] [and sent out] [Leafy
Branches].

⁷[But there was] [another] [huge] [Griffon-
Vulture]—[huge] [Wings] [and [a lot of] Plumage]. [And
guess what!] [This] [Vine] [bent] [its Roots] [toward him]
[and [sent out] its Leafage] [from {the} Terraces of] [{the}
Place he Planted it] [for him] [to water] [it]. ⁸[It had been
transplanted] [into] [a [good] Field] [with] [many]
[Waters] [to make] [Limbs] [and to bear] [Fruit]—[to
become] [a [splendid] Vine]!"

⁹[Say]: '[This is what] [my Master], [His Majesty], [has said], "[Will it be successful?]" [Will He [not] snap] [its Roots] [and] [strip off] [its Fruit], [so that it dries up]—[so that [every] [Consumable Thing of] [its Sprout] dries up], [so as [never], [by a [huge] Arm] [or by [many] People], to be raised up] [from its Roots]? ¹⁰[So guess what!] [It had been transplanted!] [Will it be successful?] [Will it [not] dry up] [as soon as [the} Spirit] [of The East Wind] makes contact] [with it]? [It will dry up] [on] [the} Terraces where] [it sprouted].'"

¹¹[Then [the} Word] [of His Majesty] came] [to me], [saying]: ¹²"[Please] [say] [to [the rebellious] House], '[Do you [not] know] [what [these things] {mean}]?' [Say]: '[Guess what!] [The King] [of Babylon] [came] [to Jerusalem] [and took] [her King] [and her Princes] [and brought] [them] [to himself] [in Babylon]. ¹³[Then he took] [one of [the royal] Seed] [and cut] [a Legal Agreement] [with him] [and brought] [him] [under Oath]. [Then] [he took] [The Rams of] [The Land] ¹⁴[so that [The Kingdom] would be] [low], [so as to not] [elevate itself], [to stand watch over] [his Legal Agreement] [so that it would stand]. ¹⁵[But he rebelled] [against him] [by sending] [his Messengers] [to Egypt] [so that {he} would give] [him] [Horses] [and [many] People].

[Will he be successful?] [Will [the one who does] [These Things] escape]? [And can he make [a Legal Agreement] null and void] [and escape]? ¹⁶[I] [swear on My life], [declares] [My Master], [His Majesty], '[He will [most definitely] die] [in the Midst of] [Babylon]—[in {the} Place] [of The King] [who made [him] king], [the one] [whose] [Oath] [he despised] [and whose] [Legal Agreement] [he made null and void]. ¹⁷[But [Pharaoh], [with a [huge] Entourage] [and a Congregation] [of many], will not make it happen for] [him] [by War]—[by pouring out] [a Ramp] [and building] [a Siege Wall] [to cut off] [many] [Souls]. ¹⁸[Now he despised] [an Oath] [so as to make [a Legal Agreement] null and void], [and guess what!] [He gave] [his Hand], [then did] [all] [These Things]. [He will [not] escape].'"

¹⁹[Therefore], [this is what] [My Master], [His Majesty], [has said]: "[I] [swear on My life], [I will [most definitely] put] [My Oath] ([which] [he despised]) [and My Legal Agreement] ([which] [he made null and void]) [on his Head]. ²⁰[So I will spread] [My Netting] [over him], [then he will be taken hold of] [by My Loop-Snare]. [Then I will bring him] [to Babylon], [and I will judge [him] [there] concerning] [{the} Betrayal of Trust] [that] [he committed] [against Me]. ²¹[But] [all] [his Choicest {men}] [among

all] [his Troops] [will fall] [by {the} Sword], [and those who are left as a remnant] [will be laid out] [by [every] Spirit]. [Then you will know] [that] [I], [His Majesty], [have spoken]."

²²[This is what] [my Master], [His Majesty], [has said]: "[Then [I] will take] [from [the esteemed] Pinnacle] [of The Cedar], [and I will give] [a delicate {one}] [from {the} Top] [of his Suckers]. [I will pluck] [and transplant {Him}] [on] [a [high] [and towering] Mountain]. ²³[I will transplant Him] [on a Mountain], [{the} Highest Point] [of Israel], [so that He bears] [Limbs] [and makes] [Fruit] [and becomes] [a [majestic] Cedar]. **[Then [every] [Bird]—[every] [winged {creature}]—will reside] [under Him]. [They will reside] [in {the} Shadow] [of His Leafage].** ²⁴[Then [all] [{the} Trees of] [The Field] will know] [that] [I] {am} [His Majesty]. [I bring down] [a [tall] Tree]; [I exalt] [a [low] Tree]; [I dry up] [a [moist] Tree], [and I make a [dried up] [Tree] blossom]. [I] {am} [His Majesty]. [I have spoken], [and I will do {it}]."

(Ezekiel 17:1–24) —my interim translation

Ezekiel sums up the point of that passage in the final three verses; but before he does that, he makes sure we have all the information the people of his day needed to know. Since you are not one of those, you have undoubtedly missed some of the points he makes. Here are the most obvious:

1. The first griffon-vulture is the king of Babylonia.
2. The second griffon-vulture is the king of Egypt.
3. The cedar is the royal dynasty of David.
4. The first pinnacle of the cedar is the king of Judah.
5. The vine is the collective members of Corporate Israel.
6. The second pinnacle of the cedar is Jesus Christ.

Knowing that, you should also know why Jesus quoted just a part of what Ezekiel wrote when He depicted Himself *parabolically* as the Kingdom of Corporate Israel:

³¹[He set [another] [Comparison] before] [them], [saying], "[The] [Kingdom] [of] [Heaven] [is] [just like] [a Grain] [of Mustard] [that] [a Man], [after accepting {it}], [sowed] [in] [His] [Field]; ³²[the {grain} that], [on the one hand], [is] [smaller than] [all] [The] [Seeds], [but on the other hand], [when] [it has been made to grow], [is] [larger than] [The] [Cultivated Plants] [and] [becomes] [a Tree], [with the result that] **[THE] [WINGED CREATURES]**

[OF] [HEAVEN] [COME] [AND] [MAKE A NEST] [IN] [ITS] [BRANCHES]."

(Matthew 13:31–32) —HSSB

³⁰[And] [He was saying]: "[How] [should we liken] [The] [Kingdom] [of The] [{Living} God], [or] [with] [what] [Comparison] [should we put [it] down]? ³¹[Like] [a Grain] [of Mustard] [that], [when] [it has been sowed] [on] [The] [Earth], [is] [smaller than] [all] [The] [Seeds] [that are] [on] [The] [Earth]. ³²[Yet] [when] [it has been sowed], [it comes up] [and] [becomes] [larger than] [all] [The] [Cultivated Plants]; [and] [it produces] [large] [Branches], [with the result that] [THE] [WINGED CREATURES] [OF] [HEAVEN] [CAN] [MAKE A NEST] [UNDER] [ITS] [SHADOW]."

(Mark 4:30–32) —HSSB

¹⁷[And] [while [He] was saying] [These Things], [all] [who] [were opposed] [to Him] [were embarrassed]; [and] [The] [whole] [Crowd] [was rejoicing] [over] [all] [The] [glorious] [Things] [that] [were being done] [by] [Him]. ¹⁸[Therefore], [He was saying]: "[Just [what] [is] [The] [Kingdom] [of The] [{Living} God] like], [and] [to] [what] should I liken [it]? ¹⁹[It is] [just like] [a Grain] [of Mustard] [that] [a Man], [after accepting {it}], [put] [in] [his own] [Garden]; [and] [it grew] [and] [turned] [into] [a Tree]. [THEN] [THE] [WINGED CREATURES] [OF] [HEAVEN] [MADE A NEST] [IN] [ITS] [BRANCHES]."

(Luke 13:17–19) —HSSB

My point in showing you all these things is to make sure you understand the Church did not "replace" Corporate Israel. Not at all. The Jews in the time of Christ were "cut off from" Corporate Israel through the ministry of John the Baptist until only One Member of Corporate Israel remained. He thereby became Corporate Israel in and of Himself.

The only good news in that message is, after God "cut off" all the other Jews "from" Corporate Israel before He made Him endure the agony of death on a cross and then sent Him to Hell to endure all the curses of the Old Covenant in order to atone for the sins of all the other members of Corporate Israel, both past and present. The Jews in the time of Christ were given the opportunity to be "grafted back in" to Corporate Israel just as the Apostle Paul tells us in Romans 11. He plainly states the case in regard to that reality when he says the Jews have been "cut off" and have to be "grafted in" to the "Tree" that Corporate Israel—Jesus Christ—is

before they can participate in God's plan for that Corporate Body:

¹[Therefore] [I say], "[Has [The] [{Living} God] [not] repudiated] [His] [People]?" [Certainly] [not]! [For] [I] [am] [also] [an Israelite], [one] [of] [Abraham's] [Seed], [of] [Benjamin's] [Tribe]. ²[The] [{Living} God] [has] [not] repudiated] [His] [People]—[Whom] [He knew before]. [Or] [are you] [not] aware of] [what] [The] [Scripture] [says] [about] [Elijah] [when] [he was filing a petition with] [The] [{Living} God] [against] [Israel]? ³"[Your Majesty], [THEY KILLED] [YOUR] [PROPHETS]; [THEY DEMOLISHED] [YOUR] [SACRIFICIAL ALTARS], [AND I] [HAVE BEEN LEFT] [ALONE] AS A SMALL REMNANT*, [AND] [THEY ARE SEEKING] [MY] [SOUL]."

⁴[But] [what] [does] [The] [Divine Communication*] say] [to him]? "[I HAVE LEFT BEHIND] [for Myself] [SEVEN THOUSAND*] [MEN] [WHO] [HAVE] [NOT] BENT] [A KNEE] [TO BAAL*]." ⁵[So also], [therefore], [at] [The] [present] [Time] [there has] [also] come to be] [a Remnant*] [in accordance with] [{their} Choice] [of a Favor]. ⁶[But] [if] {salvation is} [by a Favor], {it is} [no longer] [on the basis] [of Works], [otherwise] [The] [Favor] [would] [no longer] be] [a Favor]. ⁷[What] [therefore]? [Israel] [has] [not] gained possession of] [This Thing] [that] [it is diligently seeking]! [The] [One Who Is His Choice] [has] [now] gained possession of {it}, [but] [The] [Rest of {the members of Israel}] [have been turned to stone]; ⁸[just as] [it has been written]:

"[THE] [{Living} GOD] [GAVE] [THEM] [A SPIRIT] [OF DEEP SLEEP*]; [EYES] [THAT] [CAN] [NOT] SEE, [AND] [EARS] [THAT] [CAN] [NOT] HEAR, [UP TO] [THE] [DAY] [TODAY]."

⁹[And] [David] [says]:

"[LET] [THEIR] [TABLE] BE TURNED] [INTO] [A SNARE] [AND] [INTO] [A TRAP*], [EVEN] [INTO] [A DEADFALL TRAP] [AND] [INTO] [PAYBACK] [TO THEM].

¹⁰[LET] [THEIR] [EYES] BE DARKENED], [SO THAT] [{THEY} CAN] [NOT] SEE, [AND] [BEND] [THEIR] [BACK*] DOWN*] [AT] [ALL TIMES]."

¹¹[Therefore] [I say], [did they] [not] trip] [so that] [they fell]? [Certainly] [not]! [But] [The] [Salvation] [for The] [Gentiles] {is}

- (1) [because of] [their] [Transgression]
 (2) [so as] [to] [make [them] jealous].

¹²[But] [if] [their] [Transgression] {is} [The World's] [Wealth]; [and] [their] [Failure], [{the} Gentiles'] [Wealth]; [how much] [more] {will} [their] [Fullness] {be}? ¹³[But] [I am speaking] [to you], [The] [Gentiles]. [Therefore], [for] [as long as] [I] [am] [an Apostle] [of Gentiles], [I do, [in fact], glorify] [my] [Service], ¹⁴[if] [somehow] [I could make] [my] [Flesh] jealous [and] [save] [some] [of] [them]. ¹⁵[For] [if] [His] [Scrapping] [of them] {is} [The World's] [Reconciliation], [what is] [their] [Admission*] [if] [not] [Life] [from] [Those Who Are Dead]?

¹⁶(1) [But] [if] [The] [First Fruit] {is} [holy], [The] [Lump] {is} [also]; [and] [if] [The] [Root] {is} [holy], [The] [Branches] {are} [also].

¹⁷(2) [But] [if] [some] [of The] [Branches] [were broken off], [and then] [You], [who are] [a Wild Olive Tree], [were grafted in] [among] [them] [and] [became] [a Fellow Partaker] [of The] [Sap*] [of The] [Root] [of The] [Olive Tree], ¹⁸[do [not] speak derisively about] [The] [Branches].

(3) [But] [if] [You are speaking derisively about] {them}, [You] [are [not] carrying] [The] [Root], [but] [The] [Root] {is carrying} [You].

¹⁹[Therefore], [You will say], "[Branches] [were broken off] [so that] [I] [could be grafted in]."

²⁰[Well Said!]

- (1) [They were broken off] [because of their] [Lack of Belief in God's **Promise**], [but]
 (2) [You] [stand] [because of Your] [Belief in God's **Promise**].

[You must [not] have Your mind set on] [Thoughts That Are Impressive], [but] [be afraid]. ²¹[For] [if] [The] [{Living} God] [did [not] spare] [The] [Branches] [{that are} in accordance with] [Nature], [neither] [will He spare] [You]. ²²[Therefore], [take a look] [at [God's] Benevolence] [and] [Harshness]:

- (1) [On the one hand], [Harshness] [for] [those who] [fell];
 (2) [but on the other hand], [God's] [Benevolence] [for] [You]—[if] [You stay there] [in His] [Benevolence], [since] [You] [could [also] be cut off].

²³[But] [even Those Individuals], [if] [they do [not] stay there] [in their] [Lack of Belief in God's **Promise**], [will be grafted in]; [for] [The] [{Living} God] [is] [able] [to graft [them] in] [again].

²⁴(1) [For] [if] [You]—[{those who are}, in accordance with] [Nature], [part] [of The] [Wild Olive Tree]—[were cut off] [and], [contrary to] [Nature], [grafted in] [to] [a Cultivated Olive Tree*], [how much] [more] [will] [These Individuals] [who are] [in accordance with] [Nature] be grafted in] [to their] [own] [Olive Tree]?

²⁵(2) [For] [I do [not] want] [you], [Brothers], [to not understand] [This] [Mystery] [so that] [you are] [not] "[sensible]" [in yourselves]. [Because]

(a) [a Hardening] [of] [a Part] [in] [Israel] [has occurred] [until the time] [when] [The] [Fullness] [of The] [Gentiles] [has come in].

²⁶(b) [Then] [just as] [it has been written], [all] [Israel] [will be saved]—[in this way]:

"[THE ONE WHO] [DELIVERS] [WILL COME] [FROM] [ZION]; [HE WILL TURN [THOSE WHO ARE DEPRAVED] AWAY] [FROM] [JACOB].

²⁷[AND] [THIS] {IS} [THE] [TESTAMENT] [FROM] [ME] [FOR THEM], [When] [I take away] [their] [Sins]."
 (Romans 11:1–27) —HSSB

Anyone who has not been completely blinded by the lies of Satan should be able to understand that, when Paul uses the verbs translated "broken off" and "cut off," he is using the Hebrew idiom "cut off from" to refer to the fact that God had "cut off" all the Jews save One "from" Corporate Israel, leaving Jesus as "The Remnant" of the sons of Israel. Unfortunately, the Truth regarding that is just as Jesus stated it in this passage:

²⁰[Now] [some] [of] [those who] [were going up], [so that] [they could pay homage] [during] [The] [Feast], [were] [Greeks]. ²¹[Therefore], [These Individuals] [approached] [Philip], [who was] [from] [Bethsaida] [of] [Galilee], [and] [were asking] [him], [saying], "[Master], [we want] [to see] [Jesus]!"

²²[Philip] [comes back] [and] [tells] [Andrew]; [Andrew] [and] [Philip] [come back] [and] [tell] [Jesus]. ²³[So] [Jesus] [responds] [to them], [saying]: "[The] [Hour] [has come], [so that] [The] [Son] [of The] [Man]

[may be glorified]! ²⁴[Without doubt]! [Without doubt] [I tell] [you], [if] [The] [Grain] [of] [Wheat] [that has fallen] [onto] [The] [Earth] [does not] die, [He] [is going to continue on] [alone]; [but] [if] [He dies], [He is going to bear] [a lot of] [Fruit]. ²⁵[The one who] [is fond of] [his] [Soul] [is going to do away with] [it], [and] [the one who] [hates] [his] [Soul] [in] [This] [World] [will keep] [it] [for] [Life] [eternal].

²⁶[If] [anyone] [is going to serve] [Me], [he must follow] [Me]; [then] [wherever] [I] [Am], [The] [Servant] [that] [I have] [will be] [there] [also]. [If] [someone] [serves] [Me], [My] [Father] [will honor] [him]. ²⁷[Now] [My] [Soul] [has become disturbed], [so] [what] [should I say]? 'Father, [save] [Me] [from] [This] [Hour]?' [But] [I have come] [to] [This] [Hour] [for] [This Reason]! ²⁸[Father], [glorify] [Your] [Name]."

[Therefore], [a Voice] [came] [out] [of] [Heaven], "[I have [both] glorified {My name}, [and] [I will glorify {My name}] [again]."

²⁹[Therefore], [The] [Crowd] [that] [was standing around] [and] [heard {what was said}] [was saying] [that there had been] [Rolling Thunder]. [Others] [were saying], "[A Messenger] [spoke] [to Him]."

³⁰[Jesus] [responded] [and] [said]: "[This] [Voice] [did not] come [for] [Me], [but only] [for] [you]. ³¹[The] [Sentencing] [of] [This] [World] [is] [now]; [The] [Ruler] [of] [This] [World] [will be thrown] [out] [now]. ³²[Also, [if] [I am elevated] [from] [The] [Earth], I [will drag] [everyone] [to] [Myself]."

³³[But] [He was saying] [This], [indicating] [what kind of] [Death] [He was going] [to die].

³⁴[Therefore], [The] [Crowd] [responded] [to Him]: "[We] [have heard] [from] [The] [Law] [that] [The] [Anointed One] [is going to continue on] [into] [The] [Age to Come], [so] [how] [can] [You] say [that] 'The] [Son] [of] [The] [Man] [has] [to be elevated]?' [Who] [is] [This Individual], [The] [Son] [of] [The] [Man]?"

³⁵[Therefore], [Jesus] [told] [them]: "[The] [Light] [is going to be] [among] [you] [a short] Span of Time] [more]. [As long as] [you have] [The] [Light], [walk] [so that] [Darkness] [can not] grasp] [you]. [The one who] [is walking around] [in] [The] [Darkness] [is not] [even] aware of] [where] [he is going to go]. ³⁶[As long as] [you have] [The] [Light], [believe God's promise] [about] [The] [Light], [so that] [you become] [Sons] [of Light]."

[Jesus] [spoke] [These Things] [and], [after going away], [hid] [from] [them]. ³⁷[Even then], [after

[He] had done] [so many] [Signs] [in front] [of them], [they did not] believe God's promise] [about] [Him], ³⁸[so that] [The] [Word] [of Isaiah] [The] [Prophet]—[what] [he said]—[would be fulfilled]:

"[YOUR MAJESTY], [WHO] [HAS BELIEVED]

[THE] [NEWS] [WE HAVE]?

[AND] [TO] [WHOM] HAS [THE] [ARM] [OF HIS MAJESTY] BEEN REVEALED?"

³⁹[For] [This Reason] [they could] [not] [believe God's promise], [because] [Isaiah] [said] [again]:

⁴⁰"[HE BLINDED] [THEIR] [EYES]

[AND] [TURNED] [THEIR] [HEART] TO STONE,

[SO THAT] [THEY WOULD NOT] SEE [WITH THEIR] [EYES]

[AND] [UNDERSTAND] [WITH THEIR] [HEART]

[AND] [TURN AROUND] [AND] [I WOULD HEAL] [THEM]."

⁴¹[Isaiah] [said] [These Things] [because] [he saw] [His] [Glory] [and] [talked] [about] [Him]. ⁴²[Nevertheless], [however], [even] [a Lot] [of] [The] [Rulers] [believed God's promise] [about] [Him]; [but] [because of] [The] [Pharisees] [they were not] acknowledging {it}, [so that] [they would not] be [expelled from the synagogue]; ⁴³[for] [they loved] [The] [Glory] [of] [Men] [more than]—[a lot more than*]—[The] [Glory] [of] [The] [{Living} God].

⁴⁴[So] [Jesus] [shouted to {them}] [and] [said]: "[The one who] [believes God's promise] [about] [Me] [does not] believe God's promise] [about] [Me], [but] {God's promise} [about] [the One Who] [sent] [Me]; ⁴⁵[and] [the one who] [observes] [Me] [observes] [the One Who] [sent] [Me]. ⁴⁶[I] [came] [into] [The] [World] [as a Light], [so that] [anyone] [who] [believes God's promise] [about] [Me] [would not] remain] [in] [The] [Darkness].

⁴⁷[So] [if] [anyone] [hears] [The] [Statements] [I] Make] [and] [does not] guard {them}, [I] [am not] going to judge] [him]; [for] [I did not] come [so that] [I could judge] [The] [World], [but only] [so that] [I could save] [The] [World]. ⁴⁸[The one who] [disregards] [Me] [and] [does not] accept] [The] [Statements] [I] Make] [has] [the thing that] [is going to judge] [him]—[The] [Word] [that] [I have spoken]. [That {word}] [will judge] [him] [on] [The] [last] [Day], ⁴⁹[because] [I] [have not] spoken] [of] [My Own accord]; [but] [The] [Father] [Who sent] [Me], [He] [has given] [Me] [a Commandment]—[what] [I should say] [and] [what] [I should speak].

⁵⁰[And] [I am aware] [that] [His] [Commandment] [is] [eternal] [Life]; [therefore], [I am speaking] [the things that] [I] [am speaking] [this way], [just as] [The] [Father] [told] [Me]."
(John 12:20–50) —HSSB

The parabolic image in which Christ is "The Light" of the Living Word of God comes directly out of the Passover Parable. It depicts the Truth that God stated in Scriptures as a "Light" that comes on when someone believes it. So to those who read the things I have written and choose not to believe them, I say exactly the same thing that Jesus said about those who chose not to believe the Truth in His day:

¹²[At that time], [after] [His] [Disciples] approached], [they say] [to Him], "[Are You aware] [that] [The] [Pharisees] [were offended] [when they heard] [The] [Word]?"

¹³[So], [in response], [He] [said]: "[Every] [Plant*] [that] [My] [heavenly] [Father] [did not] plant] [will be uprooted]. ¹⁴[Leave [them] alone! [They are] [blind] [Guides] [of Those Who Are Blind]. [So] [if] [a Blind Man] [guides] [a Blind Man], [both of them] [will fall] [into] [a Pit]."
(Matthew 15:12–14) —HSSB

The Apostle Paul uses the same parabolic imagery to say the same thing when he says the following. You can believe it if you care to, disbelieve it if you dare to. It makes no difference to me one way or the other; I'm just doing what God called me to do:

¹[For] [This Reason]

(1) [just as] [we have been shown mercy],
(2) [we [who have] [This] [Service] do [not] get discouraged].
²(3) [But] [we [who are

(a) [not] walking] [in] [Dishonesty]
(b) [nor] [counterfeiting*] [The] [Word] [of The] [Living} God], [but]
(c) [commending] [ourselves] [to] [every] [Man's] [Conscience] [in the sight of] [The] [Living} God] [by our] [Disclosure] [of The] [Truth]

have renounced*] [their] [shameful] [Secrets]. ³[So]

[even] [if] [The] [Good News of the Fulfillment of the Promise] [we have] [is] [covered], [it is] [covered] [in]

(1) [those who] [are being done away with]—

⁴(2) [those [in] whom] [The] [God] [of] [This] [Current Age] [has blinded] [The] [Thoughts] [of] [Those Who Do Not Believe God's Promise]

[so] [that] [{they} can [not] distinctly see*] [The] [Illumination] [of The] [Good News of the Fulfillment of the Promise] [of The] [Glory] [of The] [Anointed One], [Who] [is] [{the} Image] [of The] [Living} God].
⁵[For] [we do [not] preach] [ourselves]

(1) [but only] [His Majesty], [Jesus], [The Anointed One],

(2) [and then] [ourselves] [as [your] Slaves] [for] [Jesus].

⁶[Because] [The] [Living} God], [Who] [said], "[A Light] [will shine] [out] [of Nether Darkness]," {is} [the One Who] [has shone] [in] [our] [Hearts] [with] [an Illumination] [of The] [Knowledge of the Truth] [concerning The] [Glory] [of The] [Living} God] [on] [{the} Face] [of Jesus], [The Anointed One].
(2 Corinthians 4:1–6) —HSSB

My point is, there are some who can "see" the Truth in what I teach, but others—the vast majority—do not have the ability to "see" because they have not been "enlightened":

⁹[The] [Light] [was] [the] [real {Light}], [the One Who] [provides light for] [every] [Man] [who comes] [into] [The] [World]. ¹⁰[He was] [in] [The] [World], [and] [The] [World] [came into being] [via] [Him], [yet] [The] [World] [did not] know [Him]. ¹¹[He came] [to] [His] [Own], [and] [His] [Own] [did not] take [Him] to themselves]. ¹²[So then] [to as many as] [accepted] [Him], [to them]—[to those who] [believe God's promise] [about] [His] [Name]—[He gave] [Authority] [to become] [God's] [Children]. ¹³[those who] [were not] engendered]

(1) [by] [Blood] [or]

(2) [by] [{the} Will] [of Flesh] [or]

(3) [by] [{the} Will] [of Man],

[but {were} only] {engendered} [by {the will}] [of God].
(John 1:9–13) —HSSB ■



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

The Old Testament Prophets had the mind-set of the Lord, a mind-set that we do not have, but need, if we are ever to understand the things they say. So let me explain a bit about a concept that you may have a hard time accepting, considering the lies that are currently being propagated by those who are desperately seeking to hide from the Truth. Isaiah states the case succinctly when he says this:

¹"[They will feel sorrowful]!
[My People] [will feel sorrowful]!"
[Your God] [will say]:
²"[They will speak] [to] [{the} Heart] [of Jerusalem];
[And they will call] [to Her]
[When] [She has filled] [Her Army],
[When] [She has made amends for]
[Her Reprehensible Activity],
[When] [She has received]
[from {the} Hand] [of His Majesty]
[Double] [for all] [Her Sins]!"
³[A Voice] {is} [going to call] [in {the} Wilderness]:
"[Put a surface on] [{the} Way] [of His Majesty]!
[Make [a Highway] [for our God] straight]
[through {the} Desert Plain]!"
⁴[Every] [Hollow] [will be raised up],
[And every] [Mountain] [and Hill]
[will be brought down]!
[And [The Steep Incline] will become] [a Plain],
[And The Narrow Gorges*], [a Broad Valley]!
⁵[Then {the} Glory] [of His Majesty]

[will be uncovered],
[And [all] [Flesh] [together] will see {it}],
[Because] [{the} Mouth] [{of} His Majesty] [will speak].
⁶[A Voice] [will say], "[Proclaim]!"
[But he will say], "[What] [should I proclaim]?"
"[All] [Flesh] {is} [Grass]!
[And all] [His Loving-kindness] {is}
[like a Flower] [{of} The Field]!
⁷[Grass] [will dry up]; [a Flower] [will droop],
[When] [{the} Spirit] [{of} His Majesty]
[shoos [him] away]."
[The People] {is} [most definitely] [Grass]!
⁸[Grass] [will dry up]; [a Flower] [will droop].
[But {the} Word] [{of} our God] [will rise up]
[to an Eternal Burning]!
(Isaiah 40:1-8) —my interim translation

Take a look around you. Anyone but an abject idiot should be able to see one irrefutable Truth: Sooner or later, you are going to die. Drive down any road in America and you will see signs directing you to this or that cemetery. So face it: Every *body* (of every living creature) is dying. For most people, the only question that remains open is this one: "When will it happen?" But a much bigger question is, "How does God view this phenomenon?" To which Isaiah replies:

"[All] [Flesh] {is} [Grass]!
[And all] [His Loving-kindness] {is}
[like a Flower] [{of} The Field]!
⁷[Grass] [will dry up]; [a Flower] [will droop],
[When] [{the} Spirit] [{of} His Majesty]
[shoos [him] away]."
[The People] {is} [most definitely] [Grass]!
⁸[Grass] [will dry up]; [a Flower] [will droop].
[But {the} Word] [{of} our God] [will rise up]
[to an Eternal Burning]!
(Isaiah 40:6b-8) —my interim translation

The Truth is, God considers your *physical body* to be no different than the grass that withers and dies. But that's not something that folks who have been trained to focus on the physical will ever consider to be true. They want to keep on believing this life is all there is. Unfortunately for them, that is not so. The physical is nothing more than an amalgamation of chemical elements that has a semblance of life, the spirit is where true life resides; and the Apostle Peter understood the

chemical elements that make up your physical body are destined for a complete makeover at the End of this Age:

¹[Beloved Brothers], [I am [already] writing] [This] [second] [Letter] [to you], [by] [which] [I am {trying to} wake up] [your] [unalloyed] [Understanding {of the truth}] [with] [a Reminder] ²[so that {you} would recall]:

(1) [The] [Statements] [that were made beforehand] [by] [The] [holy] [Prophets]; [and]

(2) [The] [Commandment] [of your] [Master] [and] [Savior], {that was spoken} [via your] [Apostles],

³[knowing] [This], [first of all], [that] [in] [The] [last] [Days] [Mockers] [will come] [with] [Mockery*]—[those who are

(a) walking] [in accordance with] [their] [own] [Selfish Desires] ⁴[and]

(b) [saying]: “[Where] [is] **[The] [Promise]** [of] [His] [Coming]? [For] [ever since] [The] [Fathers] [fell fast asleep]—[since] [The Beginning] [of Creation]—[everything] [continues to be] [the same].”

⁵[For] [wanting] [This] to be {true}, [it has escaped] [their] notice [that]

(1) [{the} Heavens] [were] [from long ago] [and]

(2) [{the} Earth]

[stood up together with {them}]

(a) [out] [of Water] [and]

(b) [through] [Water]

(c) [by The] [Word] [of The] [{Living} God], ⁶[by] [which] [The] [World] [at that time], [which was flooded by*] [Water], [was done away with].

⁷(1) [So] [now] [The] [Heavens] [and] [The] [Earth], [which have been stored up] [by The] [same] [Word], [are] [being kept] [for a Fire] [on] [{the} Day] [of {the} Sentencing] [and] [Eternal Damnation] [of] [depraved] [Men].

⁸(2) [So] [do [not] let [this] [One Thing] escape [your] notice], [Beloved Brothers], [that] [with] [His Majesty] [one] [Day] {is} [like] [one thousand] [Years]; [and] [one thousand] [Years] {are} [like] [one] [Day].

⁹(a) [His Majesty] [is [not] delaying] **[The] [Promise]**—[as] [some] [deem] [a Delay*]—[but]
(b) [He is being patient] [with] [you], [determined]

(i) [that [no] [one] would be done away with], [but]

(ii) [that [everyone] would make room] [for] [an Apology].

¹⁰(3) [So] [{the} Day] [of His Majesty] [will come] [like] [a Thief], [on] [which {day}]

(a) [The] [Heavens] [will pass away]—[whistling*]—[and then]

(b) [Elementary Things], [which are going to be incinerated], [will be undone], [and]

(c) [{the} Earth] [and] [The] [Works] {done} [on] [her] [will be found to be {what they are}].

¹¹(1) [Since [all] [These Things] are going to be undone] [like this], [what sort of {person}] [should] [you] [be] [in] [holy] [Behavior] [and] [Godliness], ¹²[while expecting] [and] [hurrying] [The] [Arrival] [of The] [Day] [of The] [{Living} God], [because of] [which {day}]

(a) [{the} Heavens] [will be undone] [by being burned], [and]

(b) [Elementary Things] [is going to be melted*] [by being incinerated]?

¹³(2) [But] [in accordance with] [The] [Thing That [He] **Promised**], [we are expecting]

(a) [new] [Heavens] [and]

(b) [a [new] Earth] [in] [which] [a Declaration of Not Guilty] [dwells].

(2 Peter 3:1–13) —HSSB

The descendants of the “mockers” that Peter mentions at the beginning of that passage are still with us, so I know the majority of the eight billion or so inhabitants of Planet Earth will never believe what I am about to tell you. But just so you know where this is headed, you might want to consider the fact that what Peter describes regarding the physical elements of this realm melting and being incinerated sounds an awful lot like a nuclear holocaust. Just sayin’.

Peter is not alone in his description of what will occur when this Age comes to an abrupt end. The

Prophet Zephaniah clearly indicates an inferno of some kind is going to happen right before the seventh “day” of Creation—what the Prophets and Apostles call “the Lord’s Day”—begins:

¹[{The} Word] [of His Majesty] [that] [came] [to] [Zephaniah], [Son] [of Cushi], [Son] [of Gedaliah], [Son] [of Amariah], [Son] [of Hezekiah], [in {the} Days of] [Josiah], [Son] [of Amon], [King] [of Judah]:

²“[I will [most definitely] bring [everything] [Above] [{the} Surface of] [The Ground] to an end],” [Declares] [His Majesty].

³“[I will bring [{the} Descendants of Adam] [and {the} Beast] to an end]; [I will bring [{the} Flyer] [of The Sea of Waters] to an end]

[As well as The Fish of] [The Sea], [Even The Stumbling-Blocks] [along with] [Those Who Are Guilty];

[And I will cut off] [The Descendants of Adam] [Above] [{the} Surface of] [The Ground],” [Declares] [His Majesty].

⁴“[But I will stretch out] [My Hand] [over] [Judah] [And over] [all] [{the} Inhabitants of] [Jerusalem]. [Then I will cut off] [from] [this] [Place] [{The} Remnant] [of its Owner]— [The Name] [of The Idolatrous Priests] [along with] [The Priests].

⁵[Both] [those who are prostrating themselves] [on] [The Roofs]

[To {the} Army] [of The Sea of Waters], [And] [those who are prostrating themselves], [swearing an oath] [to His Majesty]

[But swearing an oath] [by their King],

⁶[Both] [those who have pulled back] [from following] [His Majesty], [And {those} who] [have [not] sought] [His Majesty] [Or have [not] diligently sought Him].”

⁷[Keep quiet] [in the presence of] [My Master], [His Majesty]!

[Because] [The Day] [of His Majesty] {is} [near], [Because] [His Majesty] [will prepare] [a Communal Sacrifice],

[He will make [those He called {to the feast}] holy].

⁸“[And it will be] [on {the} Day] [of His Majesty’s] [Communal Sacrifice]

[That I will levy] [against] [The Princes]—

[against] [{the} Sons of] [The King]— [And against] [all] [who clothe themselves with] [a [foreign] Garment].

⁹[Then I will levy] [against] [all] [who leap] [over] [The Threshold] [on [that] Day]— [Those who fill [{the} House] [of their Master] with] [Maliciousness] [and Deceit].

¹⁰[And [on [that] Day],” [declares] [His Majesty], “There will be] [{the} Sound] [of an Outcry] [from [The Fish] Gate],

[A Wailing] [from] [the second {gate}], [And [great] Brokenness] [from The Hills].

¹¹[{The} Inhabitants of] [The Grinder*] [will wail], [Because] [all] [{the} People] [of Canaan] [will be put to sleep];

[All] [{who are} laden with*] [Silver] [will be cut off].

¹²[And it will be [at [that] Time] that] [I will search] [Jerusalem] [with Lamps], [And I will levy] [against] [The Men] [Who become solid] [on] [{the} Dregs], [Who say] [in their Heart],

‘[His Majesty] [will [not] do good things], [And He will [not] do bad things]!’

¹³[But [their Entourage] will become] [Loot]; [And their Houses], [a Desolate Area]; [So they may build] [Houses], [But they will [not] dwell in {them}], [And they will plant] [Vineyards], [But they will [not] drink] [their Wine].”

¹⁴[{The} [great] Day] [of His Majesty] {is} [near], [Near], [and moving [very] quickly]; [The Sound] [of {the} Day] [of His Majesty] {is} [bitter]!

[A Gibbor] [will sound a war-cry] [there].

¹⁵[That] [Day] {is} [A Day] [of Unbounded Rage], [A Day] [of Distress] [and a Reason for Anxiety], [A Day] [of a Devastating Storm]

[and Total Devastation], [A Day] [of Darkness] [and Nether Gloom], [A Day] [of Cloud] [and Dense Fog],

¹⁶[A Day] [of Trumpet] [and Teruah] [Against] [The [enclosed] Cities]

[And against] [The [high] Corners].

¹⁷[Then I will be hostile]

[to {the} Descendants of Adam]; [And they will walk] [like those who are blind], [Because] [they sinned] [against His Majesty]; [So their Blood] [will be poured out] [like Dust]

[And their Bowels] [like Dung].
¹⁸[Neither] [their Silver] [nor] [their Gold]
 [Will be able] [to snatch them away]
 [On {the} Day] [{of the} Unbounded Rage]
 [of His Majesty],
 [When [The [entire] Earth] [will be consumed]
 by {the} Fire] [of His Jealousy];
 [Because] [He will make] [a Complete End]—
 [One that is [definitely] frightening]—
 [Of all] [the Inhabitants of] [The Earth].
 (Zephaniah 1:1–18) —my interim translation

In case you need additional confirmation that the Prophets knew all Hell is going to break loose before the Lord wraps things up all neat and tidy at the End of this Age, take a look at what Malachi says about that:

¹⁶[At that time], [each one of] [those who fear] [His Majesty] [will speak] [with] [his Neighbor], [and [His Majesty] will pay attention] [and listen]; [and [a Scroll] will be written] [{as} a Reminder] [before Him] [for those who fear] [His Majesty] [and for those who have regard for] [His Name]. ¹⁷[And they will be] [Mine],” [says] [His [Supreme] Majesty], “[on The Day] [that] [I] [make {them}] [a Treasured Possession]; [and I will take pity] [on them] [just as] [a Man] [takes pity] [on] [his Son]—[the one who works for] [him]. ¹⁸[Then you will come back to {Me}], [and you will see {the difference}] [between] [One Who Is Not Guilty] [and One Who Is Guilty]—[between] [one who works for] [God] [and one who] [does not] work for Him].

¹[Because], [guess what!] [The Day] [is coming], [burning] [like an Oven]; [and all] [who are arrogant] [and all] [who are doing] [Something That Incurs Guilt] [will be] [Straw]. [And [The Day] [that is coming] will set [them] afire],” [says] [His [Supreme] Majesty], “[so that] [it does not] leave [Root] [nor Limb] [for them]. ²[But [for you] [who fear] [My Name], [{the} Sun] [{of} a Declaration of Not Guilty] will rise] [with Healing] [in Her Wings]; [and you will go out] [and jump around] [like Calves] [{from} a Stall]. ³[And you will tread on [Those Who Are Guilty] like grapes*] [because] [they will be] [Ashes] [under] [{the} Soles of] [your Feet] [on {the} Day] [that] [I] [am making],” [says] [His [Supreme] Majesty]. ⁴[You must remember] [The Teaching of] [My Slave] [Moses]—[{the} Statutes] [and Decisions Based on the Truth] [for] [all] [Israel] [that] [I commanded] [him] [in Horeb]. ⁵[Guess what!] [I]

[am going to send] [The Prophet] [Elijah] [to you] [before] [The [great] [and fearsome] Day] [{of} His Majesty] [comes]. ⁶[And he will restore] [{the} Heart] [{of} Fathers] [to] [Sons] [and {the} Heart] [{of} Sons] [to] [their Fathers], [so that I do not] come] [and viciously attack] [The Earth] [{as} Someone Under the Ban].”
 (Malachi 3:16–4:6) —my interim translation

I don’t know about you, but if I truly believed the Scriptures are the revealed Word of God, I would be on the lookout for an individual whose calling is to “restore {the} heart of fathers to sons and {the} heart of sons to their fathers.” Especially so, since no less a witness than Jesus Christ Himself clearly indicated—after John the Baptist had already been beheaded—that such an individual would come along to “restore everything” before the End of the Age:

¹⁰[And] [The] [Disciples] [asked [Him] a question], [saying], “[Therefore], [why] [do [The] [Scribes] say] [that] [Elijah] [has] [to come] [first]?”

¹¹[And then], [in response], [He] [said]: “[On the one hand], [Elijah] [is going to come]; [and] [he will restore] [everything]; ¹²[but on the other hand], [I tell] [you] [that] [Elijah] [has [already] come]; [and] [they did not] recognize [him], [but] [they did] [as much as] [they wanted to] [with] [him]. [The] [Son] [of The] [Man] [is [also] going] [to suffer] [like this] [under] [them].”
 (Matthew 17:10–12) —HSSB

I don’t claim to be the individual that both Malachi and Jesus said would come along at some time in the future, I merely claim to be *doing* what God called me to *do*. So if anyone makes any other claim regarding my calling, that is what *they have chosen* to believe. What you *choose to believe* about me is your responsibility, just as they are responsible for what *they have chosen* to believe. But I digress. This is a column in which I “forecast” coming events under the *parabolic imagery* of a “storm.” So here it is:

¹⁴[{The} [great] Day] [of His Majesty] {is} [near], [Near], [and moving [very] quickly];
 [The Sound] [of {the} Day] [of His Majesty]
 {is} [bitter]!

[A Gibbor] [will sound a war-cry] [there].

¹⁵[That] [Day] {is} [A Day] [of Unbounded Rage],
 [A Day] [of Distress] [and a Reason for Anxiety],

**[A Day] [of a Devastating Storm]
[and Total Devastation],**

[A Day] [of Darkness] [and Nether Gloom],
[A Day] [of Cloud] [and Dense Fog].
(Zephaniah 1:14–15) —my interim translation

The author of the Book of Revelation actually describes how the “firestorm” of God’s burning wrath comes about. Take a look:

¹(1) [Then] [One] [of] [The] [seven] [Messengers] [who] [have] [The] [seven] [Bowls] [came] [and] [spoke] [with] [me], [saying]: “[Come on]! [I will show] [You] [The] [Judgment] [of The] [Prostitute]—[The] [Great One], [the one who] [is sitting] [on] [many] [Waters]—[with] [whom]

²(a) [The] [Kings] [of The] [Earth] [were sexually promiscuous], [and]
(b) [those who] [dwell on] [The] [Earth] [became intoxicated] [by] [The] [Wine] [of] [her] [Sexual Promiscuity].”

³(2) [Then] [He carried] [me] away [in] [{the} Spirit] [into] [a Desert]; [and]
(3) [I saw] [a Woman]

(a) [sitting] [on] [a [scarlet] Beast] [that has]

(i) [seven] [Heads] [and]
(ii) [ten] [Horns]—
(iii) [{ten} Names] [that are full] [of False Religious Claims]. ⁴[And] [The] [Woman] [was]

(b) [wrapped in] [purple] [and] [scarlet], [and]
(c) [gilded with]

(i) [Gold] [and]
(ii) [valuable] [Stones] [and]
(iii) [Pearls],

(d) [holding] [a Cup] [made of gold] [in] [her] [Hand]—
[one that is full] [of]

(i) Abominations] [and]
(ii) [The] [Unclean Things] [of] [her] [Sexual Promiscuity].

⁵(4) [And] {there was} [a Name]—[a Mystery]—[that had been written] [on] [her] [Forehead]:

“[Babylon] [the] [great], [the] [mother] [of the] [prostitutes] [and] [abominations] [of the] [Earth].”

⁶(5) [Then] [I saw] [The] [Woman]—[who was intoxicated]

(a) [by] [The] [Blood] [of The] [Holy Ones] [and]
(b) [by] [The] [Blood] [of The] [Witnesses] [of Jesus]—
[and]

(6) [I was amazed] [after seeing] [her]—[a [tremendously] Amazing Sight].

⁷(7) [Then] [The] [Messenger] [said] [to me]: “[Why] [are you amazed]? [I] [will tell] [You] [The] [Mystery] [of]

(a) The] [Woman] [and]
(b) [The] [Beast],

(i) [the one that] [is carrying] [her]—
(ii) [the one that] [has]

(a) [The] [seven] [Heads] [and]
(b) [The] [ten] [Horns].

⁸(8) [The] [Beast] [that] [You saw]

(a) [was], [and]
(b) [is] [not], [and]
(c) [is going] [to come up] [out] [of The] [Abyss] [and]
(d) [is going to go on] [to] [Eternal Damnation].

[Yet] [those who] [dwell] [on] [The] [Earth]—[those whose] [Name] [has] [not] been written] [on] [The] [Scroll] [of] [Life] [from] [{the} Establishment] [of The World]—[will be amazed] [when {they} see] [that] [The] [Beast]

(i) [was], [and]
(ii) [is] [not], [and]
(iii) [will be here].

⁹[Here] {is} [The] [Mind] [that] [has] [Wisdom]: [The] [seven] [Heads] [are] [seven] [Mountains] [where]—[on] [which]—[The] [Woman] [is sitting].

¹⁰(9) [They are] [also] [seven] [Kings]:

(a) [The] [Five] [have fallen],

(b) [The] [One] [is],
 (c) [The] [Other] [has [not yet] come]; [and] [when] [he comes], [he] [has] [to continue on] [just a little while].

¹¹(10) [And] [The] [Beast] [that]

(a) [was] [and]
 (b) [is] [not]
 (c) [is] [himself] [also] [an Eighth], [yet]
 (d) [is] [one] [of The] [Seven] [and]
 (e) [is going on] [to] [Eternal Damnation].

¹²(11) [And] [The] [ten] [Horns] [that] [You saw] [are] [ten] [Kings] [who]

(a) [have [not yet] received] [a Kingdom], [but]
 (b) [are going to receive] [an Authority] [as] [Kings] [with] [The] [Beast] [for [one] Hour]. ¹³[These Individuals]
 (c) [have] [one] [Opinion] [and]
 (d) [are going to give] [their] [Supernatural Power] [and] [Authority] [to The] [Beast]. ¹⁴[These Individuals]
 (e) [will wage war] [with] [The] [Little Lamb].

(12) [And] [The] [Little Lamb] [will triumph over] [them], [because] [He is]

(a) [Master] [of Masters] [and]
 (b) [King] [of Kings].

(13) [And] [those who are] [with] [Him] {are}

(a) [invited] [and]
 (b) [chosen] [and]
 (c) [trustworthy]."

¹⁵(14) [Then] [he tells] [me]: "[The] [Waters] [that] [You saw]—[where] [The] [Prostitute] [is sitting]—[are]

(a) [Peoples] [and]
 (b) [Crowds] [and]
 (c) [Nations] [and]
 (d) [Tongues].

¹⁶(15) [And] [The] [ten] [Horns] [and] [The] [Beast] [that] [You saw]? [These Individuals] [will hate] [The] [Prostitute]; [so]

(a) [they will make] [her]

(i) [deserted] [and]
 (ii) [naked], [and]

(b) [they will]

(i) eat] [her] [Flesh] [and]
 (ii) [burn [her] up] [in] [a Fire].

¹⁷[For] [The] [{Living} God] [has put {it}] [in] [their] [Hearts]

(a) [to act in accordance with] [His] [Opinion]—[even]
 (b) [to act in accordance with] [one] [Opinion]—[and]
 (c) [to give] [their] [Kingdom] [to The] [Beast] [up to the time when] [The] [Words] [of The] [{Living} God] [are completed].

¹⁸(16) [And] [The] [Woman] [that] [You saw] [is] [The] [City]—[The] [Great One]—[that] [has] [a Kingdom] [over] [The] [Kings] [of The] [Earth]."
 (Revelation 17:1–18) —HSSB

If you want to know what is yet to come, you need to read that chapter extremely carefully; it describes events that are already in the works, events that are moving rather quickly down the pike. Pay especially close attention to what it says about the "ten horns" that "receive an authority" as ten kings. Those fools are going to do exactly what God wants them to when they "act in accordance with His opinion." That is, they are going to burn Planet Earth—"The Harlot"—with a fire that is hotter than the surface of the sun. And the storm winds generated by that nuclear holocaust—winds that are several times stronger than a hurricane—are going to rip things up one side and down the other while generating a black rain.

Who will those "ten horns" be? Well, contrary to popular opinion regarding the revived Roman Empire, they are going to be the dim lights who have control over ten nations with the nuclear capability sufficient to destroy this civilization dozens, if not hundreds, of times over. Here is a current list: USA, Russia, China, United Kingdom, France, India, Pakistan, North Korea, and Israel. Count 'em, there are nine; the tenth is most likely Iran, maybe Saudi Arabia. ■

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the Church, among whom is the apostolic doctrine, as I have pointed out. For all the apostles taught that there were indeed two testaments among the two peoples; but that it was one and the same God who appointed both for the advantage of those men (for whose sakes the testaments were given) who were to believe in God, I have proved in the third book from the very teaching of the apostles; and that the first testament was not given without reason, or to no purpose, or in an accidental sort of manner; but that it subdued those to whom it was given to the service of God, for their benefit (for God needs no service from men), and exhibited a type of heavenly things, inasmuch as man was not yet able to see the things of God through means of immediate vision; and foreshadowed the images of those things which [now actually] exist in the Church, in order that our faith might be firmly established; and contained a prophecy of things to come, in order that man might learn that God has foreknowledge of all things.

1. A spiritual disciple of this sort truly receiving the Spirit of God, who was from the beginning, in all the dispensations of God, present with mankind, and announced things future, revealed things present, and narrated things past—[such a man] does indeed “judge all men, but is himself judged by no man.” For he judges the Gentiles, “who serve the creature more than the Creator,” and with a reprobate mind spend all their labour on vanity. And he also judges the Jews, who do not accept of the word of liberty, nor are willing to go forth free, although they have a Deliverer present [with them]; but they pretend, at a time unsuitable [for such conduct], to serve, [with observances] beyond [those required by] the law, God who stands in need of nothing, and do not recognise the advent of Christ, which He accomplished for the salvation of men, nor are willing to understand that all the prophets announced His two advents.

Irenaeus, “Against Heresies,” Book iv, Chap. xxxii, in Roberts and Donaldson (Eds.), *The Ante-Nicene Fathers* (1867), Vol. 1, pp. 505–506.

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