



THE VOICE of ELIJAH

Restoring the hearts of the fathers to the children

Take a Parable and a Literal Statement; Mix Well.

3. But since parables admit of many interpretations, what lover of truth will not acknowledge, that for them to assert God is to be searched out from these, while they desert what is certain, indubitable, and true, is the part of men who eagerly throw themselves into danger, and act as if destitute of reason? And is not such a course of conduct not to build one's house upon a rock which is firm, strong, and placed in an open position, but upon the shifting sand? Hence the overthrow of such a building is a matter of ease.

1. Having therefore the truth itself as our rule, and the testimony concerning God set clearly before us, we ought not, by running after numerous and diverse answers to questions, to cast away the firm and true knowledge of God. But it is much more suitable that we, directing our inquiries after this fashion, should exercise ourselves in the investigation of the mystery and administration of the living God, and should increase in the love of Him who has done, and still does, so great things for us; but never should fall from the belief by which it is most clearly proclaimed that this Being alone is truly God and Father, who both formed this world, fashioned man, and bestowed the faculty of increase on His own creation, and called him upwards from lesser things to those greater ones which are in His own presence, just as He brings an infant which has been conceived in the womb into the light of the sun, and lays up wheat in the barn after He has given it full strength on the stalk. But it is one and the same Creator who both fashioned the womb and created the sun; and one and the same Lord who both reared the stalk of corn, increased and multiplied the wheat, and prepared the barn.

2. If, however, we cannot discover explanations of all those things in Scripture which are made the subject of investigation, yet let us not on that account seek after any other God besides Him who really exists. For this is the very greatest impiety. We should leave things of that nature to God who created us, being most properly assured that the Scriptures are indeed perfect, since they

Continued on back cover

Continued from inside front cover

Wielding the Full Armor of God, and explains the tactics the True Believer can use to triumph over the “winds” that “blow” against them, seeking to shape them into their image and likeness.

In *Here Is One of the Keys to the Kingdom: “That’s Not Me!”* (from *The Voice of Elijah*®, April 2017), Larry again explains tactics the True Believer can use to triumph over the “winds” and how to overcome the training the “winds” instilled in the “old man” so the Lord can shape Believers into His image and likeness in the “new man.”

The next eight videos in this series provide a summary of eight messages in the Old Testament the True Believer can use to triumph over the “winds.”

Pay Now or Pay Later; Either Way, You Are Going to Pay (from *The Voice of Elijah*®, October 2017) is the first of the eight videos in which Larry summarizes the eight Old Testament messages one can use to triumph over the “winds.” In it he discusses the lie that says, “our forefather Adam was created in the image and likeness of God.”

It Would Be Best to Not Call God a Liar (from *The Voice of Elijah*®, January 2018) is the second video covering one of the eight Old Testament messages. In it, Larry explains how God gave a *promise* to Adam and Eve and how both God and Jesus Christ made a will by which They transferred *the promise* to Their *heirs*. He concludes with a bibliography of other articles in which he discusses the same topic.

In *A Little Sleight of Hand Can Make a Fool Believe Something Stupid* (from *The Voice of Elijah*®, April 2018), Larry explains the *significance* of the designation “all Israel” as well as the phrase “fullness of the Gentiles” before moving on to show how the sons of Israel became “All Israel,” that is, *Corporate Israel*, at the time of the Exodus.

In *It Would Be Best Not to Count Your Eggs Before You Inherit* (from *The Voice of Elijah*®, July 2018), Larry explains how an individual member of *Corporate*

Israel could be “cut off from” *Corporate Israel*. He also explains why one cannot understand how Jesus Christ became *Corporate Israel* if one does not understand that God alone determines who is, and who is not, a member of that corporate body.

In *What’s the One Thing Every Heir of the Promise Has in Common?* (from *The Voice of Elijah*®, April 2019), Larry explains the three Old Covenants that God made with *the heir of the promise*. He discusses both *the blessing of Moses* (Deut. 33) and *the blessing of Jacob* (Gen. 49) as these *heirs of the promise hand down the promise* to *the next heir(s) of the promise*.

In *When You Say “New,” You Imply Something Else Is “Old”* (from *The Voice of Elijah*®, July 2019), Larry explains what the Prophets Jeremiah and Ezekiel say about the New Covenant. He then lays out the terms of the First, Second, and Third Old Covenants and New Covenant passages from both Jeremiah and Ezekiel before showing us that Paul quotes Jeremiah 31 to make the claim that Jesus *fulfilled* that *promise*.

In the video *In One “Way” or the Other, God Is Going to “Light You Up”* (from *The Voice of Elijah*®, October 2019), Larry discusses the “riddle” mentioned in Ezekiel 17 and shares various points regarding that passage that the people of Ezekiel’s day (and those today) needed to know. Finally, he expresses adamantly that he has never, and will never, claim the Church somehow “replaced” *Corporate Israel* as the covenant People of God.

In the video *The Quickest “Way” to Get Rich Quick Is to Inherit a Fortune* (from *The Voice of Elijah*®, January 2020), Larry concludes his explanation of the eight Old Testament messages and answers the question, Did Jesus leave a will?

Would you please help us distribute the Truth by sharing these videos on social media? Time is short.

In Him,

Marcia Harper

It Is Sometimes Best Not to Follow a Crowd

There is a passage in Matthew 7 that should send chills up the spine of anyone who has the slightest interest in knowing the Truth regarding the message of the Scriptures. It doesn't, and the reason why it doesn't is even more chilling than the words that Jesus spoke on the occasion Matthew describes. This is what Matthew tells us:

¹³"Come in through the narrow gate, because the gate that leads {men} away to eternal damnation {is} a thoroughfare; and **the way** {is} spacious*, and those who come in through it are many. ¹⁴How narrow {is} the gate and constricted **the way** that leads {men} away into His life? And those who find it are just a few.

¹⁵**Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but are avaricious wolves on the inside.** ¹⁶You can recognize them by their fruits. They do not, by any means, cull bunches of grapes from thorns or figs from thistles! ¹⁷So also, every good tree produces exceptionally good fruit; but the rotten tree produces nasty fruit. ¹⁸A good tree cannot produce nasty fruit; neither does a rotten tree produce exceptionally good fruit. ¹⁹Every tree that is not producing exceptionally good fruit is going to be cut off and thrown into a fire. ²⁰So then you can, indeed, recognize them by their fruits.

²¹**Not everyone who says, 'Your Majesty! Your Majesty!' to Me will come into 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?' ²³And then I will acknowledge the truth about them, that 'I**

never knew you! YOU WHO ARE COMMITTING THE LAWLESS DEED, DEPART FROM ME!'

²⁴Therefore, 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. ²⁵And the rain came down, and the rivers came up, and the winds blew. Then they prostrated themselves in that house, and it did not fall, for it had been founded on the rock. ²⁶And 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. ²⁷And the rain came down, and the rivers came up, and the winds blew. Then they stumbled in that house, and it fell, and its fall was tremendous."

²⁸And when Jesus completed these words, it happened that the crowds were astounded by His doctrinal teaching; ²⁹for He was teaching them like one who had authority, and not like their scribes.
(Matthew 7:13–29) —HSSB

Granted, it is quite easy to miss the point of what Jesus is saying in that passage if one does not know what He has in mind when He says, "The Way." The Truth is, "The Way" He had in mind is "The same Way" to which He was referring when He said the following to His disciples:

¹"Do not let your heart be disturbed; you **believe God's promise** about the {living} God; you must also **believe God's promise** about Me. ²There are a lot of dwelling places in My Father's house; but if not, I would have told you, because I am going to prepare a place for you. ³So if I go and prepare a place for you, **I am going to come again and take you to Myself, so that you also are wherever I AM.** ⁴**And you know The Way to where I am going."**

⁵Thomas tells Him, “Your Majesty, we do not know where You are going; how could we know The Way?”

⁶Jesus tells him: “I AM The Way and the Truth and the life; nobody is going to come to the Father except through Me. ⁷If you have known Me, you will also know My Father; and from this point on you are going to know Him. And You have {already} seen Him.”

⁸Philip tells Him, “Your Majesty, show us the Father; and it is enough for us.”

⁹Jesus tells him: “Am I with you so long a span of time, and you do not know Me, Philip? The one who has seen Me has seen the Father! How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I {am} in the Father, and the Father is in Me? I am not making the statements that I am making to you of My Own accord, but the Father Who remains in Me is doing His works.”

(John 14:1–10) —HSSB

In what He says there, Jesus is referring to *The Way* of Moses, which is “*The Way*” the Lord demands that we think. Since Thomas and Philip failed to comprehend what Jesus had in mind, they couldn’t understand what He said. The same holds true for those who read that passage today. Lacking an understanding of what Moses and the other Prophets of Israel have told us about “*The Way*,” there is no other “*Way*” for them to gain insight into how desperate their situation really is. Since I have already explained the basics concerning “*The Way*” in *The Mystery of Scripture, Volume 1*, I see no reason to get into that again here. But I will remind you that you are not going to gain any insight at all into the Truth by holding on to your most cherished beliefs or by speculating as to what may or may not be true. Isaiah put that stupidity to bed some twenty-seven hundred years ago, when he wrote this:

¹“[Woe!] [Everyone] [who is thirsty],
[come] [for {the} Water];
[And whoever] [has] [no] [Silver], [come {for the water}].
[Buy grain] [and eat], [and come {for the water}].
[Buy grain] [with no] [Silver],
[And [Wine] [and Milk] with nothing] [of Market Value].
²[Why] [would you weigh out] [Silver]
[for {what is} not] [Bread]—
[Your Production] [for {what has} no] [Satisfaction]?
[Listen] [carefully] [to Me] [and eat] [a Good Thing],
[So that your Soul] [may take delight] [in {the} Grease].

³[Cup] [your Ear] [and come] [to Me];
[Listen], [so that {your Soul} may live].
[Then I will cut] [an {eternally burning}
Legal Agreement] [for you]—
[Those who believe] [{the} Loving-kindnesses of] [David].
⁴[Guess what!] [Kinfolk have] [a Witness].
[I will make Him] [a Leader]
[and one who gives commands to] [Kinfolk].
⁵[Guess what!] [You will call] [a Nation]
[You do {not} know],
[And a Nation]—[they will {not} know You]—
[will run] [to You]
[For the sake of] [His Majesty], [Your God],
[And to [Israel’s] Holy One],
[When] [He has made You beautiful].”
⁶[Diligently seek] [His Majesty] [while He can be found];
[Call out to Him] [while He is] [near].
⁷[Let {a guilty {man}} abandon] [his Way];
[And a {contentious} Man], [his Thoughts],
[So that he may return] [to] [His Majesty],
[So that He may have compassion on him],
[And to] [our God]:

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

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

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

¹⁰(4) [Because],

(a) [just as] [The Rainfall] [and The Snow]
[Comes down] [from] [The Sea of Waters],
[And {he does {not} return} there]
[Unless]:

(i) [He satisfies the thirst of] [The] [Earth],
(ii) [And causes her to engender]
(iii) [And causes her to sprout],
(iv) [And gives] [Seed]
[for {the} one who is sowing]
[And Bread]
[for {the} one who is eating].

¹¹(b) [So also] [My Word] [will be]
[One Who] [goes out] [of My Mouth];
[He will [not] return] [to Me]
[without {doing} anything]
[Unless]:

- (i) [He does] [what] [I want],
- (ii) [And makes [what] [I sent Him {for}]]
successful].

¹²(5) [Because], [you will go out] [with Joy],
[And [you will be brought {back}]] in Peace].
[The Mountains] [and The Hills]
[will break out with] [a Joyful Shout] [before you],
[And all] [{the} Trees of] [The Field]
[will clap] [{the} Palms of {their} Hands].
¹³[Instead of] [The Prickly Bushes],
[a Cypress Tree] [will come up];
[And instead of] [The Nettle*],
[a Myrtle Tree] [will come up],
[And He will become] [His Majesty's] [Name]—
[An [eternally burning] Sign];
[He will [not] be cut off]."

(Isaiah 55:1–13) —my interim translation

The point of what the Lord says in that chapter is easy to understand if one is willing to do what He requires:

"[Listen] [carefully] [to Me] [and eat] [a Good Thing],
[So that your Soul] [may take delight] [in {the} Grease].
³[Cup] [your Ear] [and come] [to Me];
[Listen], [so that [your Soul] may live]."
(Isaiah 55:2b–3a) —my interim translation

Unfortunately, the Truth of the matter is exactly "The Way" Jesus describes it in this passage:

¹On that very day, after Jesus came out of the house, He was sitting by the sea; ²and huge crowds were gathered before Him. So then, after getting into a boat, He was sitting {in it}; and the whole crowd was standing on the shore. ³And He spoke many things to them in comparisons, saying: "Guess what! The one who sows went out to sow; ⁴and while he was sowing, some fell by the way; and when the winged creatures came, they devoured them. ⁵But others fell on the rocky places, where it did not have a lot of soil; and it emerged straight off, because of it not having a

depth of soil. ⁶So, after {the} sun rose, it was scorched; and because of it not having a root, it shriveled up. ⁷But others fell among the thorns, and the thorns came up and choked them out. ⁸But others fell on the soil that was exceptionally good; and it was making fruit: one, one hundred, another sixty, another thirty. ⁹Let the one who has ears hear."

¹⁰And when the disciples approached, they said to Him, "Why are You speaking to them in comparisons?"

¹¹So, in response, He told them that "it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of the heavens, but it has not been given to those individuals. ¹²For to him who has, it will be given, and he will have an excess; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. ¹³For this reason I speak to them in comparisons, because those who are looking at {the mysteries} are not looking at {the mysteries}; and those who are hearing {the mysteries} are not hearing {the mysteries}, neither do they comprehend {the mysteries}. ¹⁴And the full measure of the prophecy of Isaiah is going to be completely filled by them, the {prophecy} that says:

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

¹⁶But your eyes are fortunate, because they are looking at {the mysteries}; and your ears, because they are hearing {the mysteries}. ¹⁷For without doubt, I tell you that a lot of Prophets and those who were blameless desired to see the things that you are looking at, and they did not see {them}, and to hear the things that you are hearing, and they did not hear {them}. ¹⁸Therefore, you must listen to the comparison of the one who sowed:

¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not comprehend {it}, the one who is nasty comes

and snatches up the one that has been sown in his heart. This individual is the one who was sown by the way.

²⁰But the one who was sown on the rocky places? This individual is the one who hears the word and accepts it straightaway with joy; ²¹but then he does not have a root in himself, but is transitory. So, when turmoil or persecution occurs because of the word, he is offended straightaway.

²²But the one who was sown into the thorns? This individual is the one who hears the word, and concern about the current age—as well as the deceitfulness of its wealth—crowd out the word, and it becomes unproductive.

²³But the one who was sown on the exceptionally good soil? This individual is the one who hears the word and comprehends {it}; the one who, without question, bears and produces fruit—one, one hundred, another sixty, another thirty.”

(Matthew 13:1–23)—HSSB

In that passage, Jesus is *parabolically* describing how different people react to the Truth. His point is, lots of people get excited when they hear the Truth for the first time; but not all that many continue on to allow the Truth to change them. I see that quite often in the questions I am asked to respond to in the “Questions & Answers” column of this newsletter. Here’s a question I received over ten years ago and didn’t bother to answer simply because I could see the fellow who asked it had no real interest in the Truth other than using it to gratify his ego. His misrepresentation of the things he claims I had written told me he was already taking things I explained and mixing them with his own thoughts and ideas. He dropped off soon after sending his question, which confirmed he was just another one of the “tares” Satan has “planted” in “The Remnant” of the Church the Lord founded on the Rock of solid Truth:

A subscriber to the VOE newsletter received several of the Free Offer booklets we give to those who request them. He tells us:

“I have subscribed to the newsletter, purchased a package of three books, 6 CDs and have received the three free books you provide. To say that I am totally immersed in the thoughts and knowledge as provided by Mr. Harper would be an understatement. So far the only book unfinished is ‘Not all Israel Is Israel,’ nor have I listened to the 6 CDs that accompanied the order. I prefer by far to read

hard copy rather than listen on CDs or to read material on the computer monitors.”

This subscriber is requesting additional copies of the “hand-out books,” since he’s handed out his copies. He is active in the motorcycle ministry (CMA—an Evangelistic group, non-denominational) and used to be a Young Adult Sunday School teacher in his local Southern Baptist Church for over thirty years, with an emphasis on teaching basic biblical scriptural Truth and relating current events to biblical prophecy. But due to his “realization” in 2002 that what he was teaching on “some issues” just was not right, he quit teaching and began his search for biblical truth and discernment of God’s Word. He told us that due to much reading and studying over the past eight to nine years he has come to know more and more of the Truth of the Scriptures and a peek into the mystery that the Scriptures hold. His latest voyage through the material provided to date from **The Voice of Elijah®**, has both reaffirmed that which he believed to be the Truth and thrown new insights into many other matters of importance as well. He goes on to say:

“Your material and that of Mr. Harper has heightened my knowledge and understanding to a much greater level and for that I am so thankful. However, due to my recently received insights into some of the truths of the Bible, I was contemplating going back into the SS Class to teach. But due to the conflicts I now have with ‘some’ of the teachings of my church, my Pastor has requested that I no longer teach there. He even suggested I find a Hebrew Christian group to join, since my ‘beliefs’ seem to match up more with them than the SB doctrine. So I continue my journey for understanding. To date, I have a few questions that have come up from within my reading of your material: In order to receive the knowledge of the ‘Teaching’ of the early Church that Mr. Harper has to offer, what all do I need to read in order to get the complete picture? Is there a list of ‘back issues’ of the newsletter that has it in bits and pieces as Mr. Harper alludes to in some of his writings? If so then my problem is that I just cannot afford to buy them all nor do I have the time to read them all to dig out this info, even if I had the money to buy them. Will I have to join up with the Elijah Project in order to get this complete picture or can you provide me the complete list of what is needed to be able to receive this information?”

Mr. Harper states in one of his books that the ‘gift’ of teaching and evangelism, as with that of prophecy and Apostleship, is something provided by the Holy Spirit upon those whom it chooses to provide it to, and if chosen

to receive one of these gifts, then it needs to be passed on to that person by another that has been given the gift and the authority to exercise that gift. He further states that no one should take on the responsibility or assume that they have the authority to be allowed to Teach or Evangelize unless they have received from a person so gifted and authorized to do so by the laying on of hands by that person. He states even further that if provided a gift, it is one or the other. The teacher is for teaching within the Church to the body of believers and the evangelist is for outside the church to reach out to lost souls needing to hear the message of the Gospel. And one cannot do both, but must do one or the other. He then goes on to share that Timothy, however, was provided by Paul to do both, but was not an Apostle, who of course can do it all.

I have always 'felt' that my gift is to teach; in fact, I have been quite good at it over the years, with a strong following from students and those in attendance to some of my classes and other presentations that I have made over the years. I am quite well read, have loads of personal experience with people and the world at large, and very effective in communicating that which I learn to others. It is a gift that I have (I read/learn, then process, and then teach/share that which I have learned), which I have used in both business and in teaching SS classes, and leading in my local chapter of CMA, and with a Biker Bible Discussion Class that I started up. ... Yet if I read correctly what Mr. Harper says, I should refrain from doing either until such time as I can find 'someone' with one or the other 'gift' to confirm for me that I am being provided one or the other of those gifts, and that I will be allowed to receive the gift if it is indeed being given to me. Not sure how to reconcile what I 'believe I am being led to do by the Holy Spirit in my life' and the need to have it confirmed by another whom I do not know how to reach. I would like your thoughts on this. How does one find if they are 'called' to teach, or to evangelize, and, more importantly, equipped to do so? How does one find the person anointed to confirm that one is being provided the gift and authorized to pass the anointing and the authority on to you? I cannot go to the leadership of my Church, since they do not agree with my understanding of the scriptures, nor do they agree with that of Mr. Harper's either for that matter, to make my point that it is not about me personally. I also remember that somewhere in Mr. Harper's writing he makes a point to say that many who feel 'led or called' to a ministry are not called at all and are just pretenders, etc. So to say that I am confused about all of this is a gross understatement."

Could you help unravel this man's confusion?

It should be obvious to anyone of at least average intelligence that the fellow's only interest is in teaching what *he* thinks. He makes it clear he places no real value in what I have been called to explain when he says he can't afford to "buy" those materials and doesn't have the time to read them even if he could afford them. So you to be the judge: Why would I waste my time responding to his question when he won't do anything to help himself? He precisely fits "*The Way*" the Book of Proverbs describes those who are too intellectually lazy to consider the logic found in the Truth:

¹⁴[The Door] [will turn] [on] [its Hinge],
[And a Lazy Person] [on] [his Cot].

¹⁵[A Lazy Person] [hides] [his Hand] [in {the} Dish];
[He has a hard time] [bringing it back] [to] [his Mouth].

¹⁶[A Lazy Person] {is} [wiser] [in his {own} Eyes]
[Than seven] [who bring back] [Something Tasty].
(Proverbs 26:14-16) —my interim translation

The things I have stated over the years regarding the sanctity of the Truth is lost on such people. Their only concern is what they already think, feel, and believe to be true. It has never dawned on them there was an absolute Truth with which the Church was entrusted by the Lord, and the leaders of the Church somehow, someday lost it somewhere along the way. Jesus told His disciples to *hand down* the things He taught them, which *means* there was a coherent body of information He expected them to protect and that body of Truth can no longer be found in the Church:

¹⁶But the eleven disciples went into Galilee, to the mountain that Jesus had assigned to them. ¹⁷And after seeing Him, they paid homage; but some were dubious. ¹⁸So after Jesus approached, He spoke to them, saying: "All authority in Heaven and on Earth has been given to Me. ¹⁹Therefore, go! Make disciples of all the Gentiles:

(1) baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

²⁰(2) *teaching them to keep watch over everything—as much as I gave a commandment to you.* And guess what! I AM always with you, until the consummation of the current age."

(Matthew 28:16-20) —HSSB

The difficulty I face in restoring the Truth the Church lost lies primarily in finding people who have been born again and can still think coherently enough to realize Satan has been working within the Church for the past two thousand years to destroy every last shred of the Truth Jesus and the Apostles taught and replace it with counterfeit beliefs that sound good but stink to high Heaven. In other words, I have to find those who can “see” the fact that the Parable of the Tares happened just as Jesus said it would:

²⁴He set another comparison before them, saying: “The kingdom of the heavens is like a man who sowed exceptionally good seed in his field. ²⁵But while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and oversowed* tares in the midst of the wheat and went away. ²⁶So then, when the grass sprouted and produced fruit, the tares also appeared. ²⁷So, when the slaves of the owner of the house approached, they said to him: ‘Master, did you not sow exceptionally good seed in your field? Therefore, where did {the} tares it has come from?’

²⁸So he declared to them, ‘An enemy—a man—has done this!’

So his slaves say to him, ‘Therefore, do you want us to go cull them out?’

²⁹But he declares: ‘No, lest perhaps, while culling the tares out, you might, at the same time, uproot the wheat with them. ³⁰Let both of them grow together* until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, “First, cull out the tares and bind them into bundles* in order to burn them up; but gather the wheat into my storehouse.”’

(Matthew 13:24–30) —HSSB

A bit later, the disciples ask Jesus to explain the meaning of the parable; and He confirms He is referring to True Believers and Pretenders:

³⁶At that time, after leaving the crowds, He came into the house. And His disciples approached Him, saying, “Explain the comparison of the tares of the field in detail for us.”

³⁷So, in response, He said: “The One Who sows the exceptionally good seed is the Son of the man, ³⁸but the field is the world. And then the exceptionally good seed? These individuals are the sons of the kingdom. And then the tares? They are the sons of the one who is nasty. ³⁹And then the enemy, the one who sowed them? He is the false

accuser. And then the harvest? It is {the} consummation of {the} current age. And then the reapers? They are messengers.

⁴⁰Therefore, indeed, just as the tares are culled out and burned up in a fire, it will be like this at the consummation of the current age. ⁴¹The Son of the man will send His messengers, and they will cull all the deadfall traps and those who commit the lawless deed out of His kingdom, ⁴²and they will throw them into the furnace of the fire. Weeping and gritting of teeth will be there. ⁴³At that time, THOSE WHO ARE BLAMELESS WILL SHINE FORTH* LIKE THE SUN in the kingdom of their Father. Let the one who has ears hear.”

(Matthew 13:36–43) —HSSB

The reason why the “tares” in that parable depict both the lies “sown” in the Church by Satan and the people who believe them has to do with the fact that the person we are is determined by *what we choose to believe*. That is where the lies of Satan become the determining factor in whether one is “walking” on “The narrow Way” to Heaven or the broad road to Hell. Most folks here at the End of the Age will prove to be so enamored with Satan’s lies that they will not stop to consider whether the things I explain may be true. That is, the reality of what lies ahead for those who have no love for the Truth is going to be just as Paul described it in this passage:

¹(1) So, brothers, we are asking you {to do the following}

(a) for the sake of

(i) the coming of our Master, Jesus, the Anointed One, and

(ii) our assembling to Him,

²(b) so that you:

(i) would not be quickly shaken out of your mind, or

(ii) be alarmed—

(a) neither by a spirit

(b) nor by a word

(c) nor by a letter

(i) as if it were {written} by us—

(ii) as though it is currently the Day of His Majesty.

³(2) Do not let anyone dupe you in any way at all, that it may not be that:

- (a) the apostasy must come first and
- (b) the man of the lawless one—the son of eternal damnation—must be revealed,

⁴(i) the one who is opposed to, and exalts himself over, everything that is called “god” or an object of worship, with the result that he sits down in the sanctuary of the {living} God, presenting himself as convincing evidence that he is God. ⁵(Do you not remember that I was telling you these things while {I} was still with you? ⁶So you are aware of what is holding {them} fast now so that he can be revealed in his own time. ⁷For the mystery of the lawless one is already working in {them}—the one who is only holding {them} fast at this time until he comes out of {their} midst.) ⁸So then the one who is lawless will be revealed.

(ii) The one whom His Majesty, Jesus,

- (a) will put away by the spirit of His mouth and
- (b) abrogate by the appearance of His coming;

⁹(iii) the one whose arrival is in accordance with Satan’s energy: with all

- (a) supernatural power and
- (b) signs and
- (c) wonders—lies—¹⁰and with all
- (d) {the} deceitfulness of injustice

- (i) for those who are going to be done away with
- (ii) because they did not accept the love of the truth so that they could be saved.

¹¹(1) So for this reason the {living} God will send them a deceptive energy

- (a) so that they believe the lie,
- ¹²(b) so that all who did not believe the truth but were delighted with his injustice can be judged.

¹³(2) But we have an obligation to always give thanks to the {living} God for you, brothers—those who have been loved by His Majesty—because

(a) the {living} God preferred you {as} first fruits for salvation through:

- (i) the process of {your} Spirit being made holy and
- (ii) {your} **belief in God’s promise** concerning {the} truth. ¹⁴For which {salvation}

(b) He also invited you:

- (i) via the good news of **the fulfillment of the promise** we have,
- (ii) for an acquisition of {the} glory of our Master, Jesus, the Anointed One.

(2 Thessalonians 2:1–14) —HSSB

The situation facing folks in the Church today is exactly the same situation that was facing True Believers in the Apostolic Church. That is, Satan is a liar who controls what people believe by telling them lies. Jesus said that, but people still have a hard time maintaining contact with that reality because Satan does not want them to believe even that small bit of Truth. The Truth regarding the activity of Satan is just as Jesus described it:

³⁰While He was speaking these things, many **believed God’s promise** about Him. ³¹Therefore, Jesus was saying to the Jews who believed Him, “If you continue on in the word that I have, you truly are My disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

³³They responded to Him, “We are Abraham’s seed and have not ever been slaves to {anybody}; how can You say that ‘you will become free’?”

³⁴Jesus responded to them: “Without doubt! Without doubt, I tell you that anyone who commits sin is a slave of his sin. ³⁵But the slave is not GOING TO CONTINUE ON in The House INTO THE AGE TO COME; the Son IS GOING TO CONTINUE ON {in The House} INTO THE AGE TO COME. ³⁶Therefore, if the Son sets you free, you really will be free. ³⁷I am aware that you are Abraham’s seed; but you are seeking to kill Me, because the word that I have is not making room {for itself} in you. ³⁸I am talking about the things that I have seen with My Father, so therefore you are acting in accordance with the things that you have heard from your father.”

³⁹They responded and told Him, "Our father is Abraham!"

Jesus tells them: "If you were Abraham's children, you would be doing the works of Abraham. ⁴⁰But you are now seeking to kill Me, a Man Who has told you the Truth—what I heard from the {living} God. Abraham did not do this. ⁴¹You are doing the works of your father."

Therefore, they told Him, "We were not engendered on the basis of sexual promiscuity; we have one Father—the {living} God!"

⁴²Jesus told them: "If the {living} God were your Father, you would love Me; for I came out of the {living} God, and I have come, for I did not even come of My Own accord, but That Individual sent Me. ⁴³Why do you not know what I said? Because you cannot hear the word that I have! ⁴⁴You are part of your father, the false accuser; and you want to act in accordance with the selfish desires of your father. That individual has been a killer since the beginning; and he does not stand in the truth, because truth is not in him. Whenever he speaks the lie, he is speaking on the basis of his own {thoughts}, because he is a liar and the father of it.

⁴⁵But because I am speaking the truth, you do not believe Me. ⁴⁶Which one of you is going to reprimand Me with regard to sin? If I am telling {you the} truth, why do you not believe Me? ⁴⁷The one who is part of the {living} God hears the statements made by the {living} God. For this reason you do not hear {them}, because you are not part of the {living} God!"
(John 8:30–47) —HSSB

The current generation here on Planet Earth has no interest in knowing the Truth. They are perfectly content living in a fantasy of their own creation. Consequently, they would never believe the Truth even if someone could explain it succinctly in detail, which I can't. But the Apostle Paul has done a fairly good job of telling it like it is in the following passage:

¹(1) Are we beginning to commend ourselves again? Or not? Do we, like some, need letters of commendation*

- (a) to you or
- (b) from you?

²(2) You are our letter {of commendation}:

- (a) one that has been inscribed in our hearts;
- (b) one that is known and read by all men;
- ³(c) one that is becoming well-known, because you are a letter from the Anointed One;
- (d) one that was served by us;
- (e) one that has been inscribed:

- (i) not with black ink,
- (ii) but only with a living God's Spirit;
- (iii) not on tablets made of stone,
- (iv) but only on tablets of hearts made of flesh.

⁴(3) So we have a confidence like this before the {living} God through the Anointed One, ⁵not because we are worthy of consideration of ourselves, to reckon anything as from ourselves; but our consideration* {is} from the {living} God, ⁶the One Who also made us worthy of consideration as servants

- (a) of a New Testament—
- (b) not of something that has been written,
- (c) but of {the} Spirit. For

- (i) the thing that has been written kills, but
- (ii) the Spirit gives life.

⁷(4) But if the serving of death in something that had been written—that had been engraved*—on stones came with glory, so the sons of Israel could not stare at the face of Moses because of the glory of his face, which {glory} is going to be abrogated, ⁸how could the serving of the Spirit not be with even more glory?

⁹(a) For if {there was} glory in the serving of the death sentence, the serving of the declaration of not guilty is going to exceed {that glory} with a lot more glory.

¹⁰(b) For even the {face} that had been glorified on this part {of Israel} had not {actually} been glorified on account of the incredible glory {of God}.

¹¹(c) For if the {face} that is going to be abrogated {was} with glory, the {face} that is going to remain {is} with a lot more glory.

¹²(5) Therefore, we who have a hope like this use a lot of candor, ¹³and {are} not at all like Moses. He used to put a covering down over his face so that

- (a) the sons of Israel could not stare at the

consummation of the {face} that is going to be abrogated.¹⁴But

(b) their thoughts were turned to stone;

(i) for up to the time of day today, at the reading of the Old Testament the same covering—which has not been uncovered—remains, because it is abrogated in the Anointed One.

¹⁵(ii) But up to today, whenever it might be that Moses is read, a covering lies over their hearts.

¹⁶(a) Yet whenever it may be that one turns back to His Majesty, the covering is removed.

¹⁷(b) Yet His Majesty is the Spirit, so freedom {is} wherever the Spirit of His Majesty {is}.

¹⁸(c) Yet we who are looking at a reflection of the glory of His Majesty in a mirror* with a face that has been uncovered are all being transformed into the same image from {one} glory into {another} glory, even as from His Majesty's Spirit.

¹(6) For this reason, just as we have been shown mercy,

(a) we who have this service do not get discouraged.

²But

(b) we who are

(i) not walking in dishonesty

(ii) nor counterfeiting* the word of the {living} God, but

(iii) 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(7) So even if the good news of the **fulfillment of the promise** we have is covered, it is covered

(a) in those who are being done away with—

⁴(b) 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} cannot 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(8) For we do not preach ourselves

(a) but only His Majesty, Jesus, the Anointed One, (b) and then ourselves as your slaves for Jesus.

⁶(c) 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 3:1–4:6) —HSSB

The point of what Paul says in that passage has to do with something I have been explaining for more than three decades now—the difference between *meaning* and *significance*. As I have stated over and over again, it is possible to understand *what is said* (the *meaning*) without having a clue as to *why it was said* (the *significance*). The example I have used repeatedly over the years is one in which a person is standing on railroad tracks, not knowing an express train passes there at exactly 3:00 every day, when someone says, "It's 2:59." The *meaning* of *what is said* is clear and easy to understand, but the *significance* of *what is said* remains hidden to anyone who lacks knowledge of the express train schedule. That is precisely the case with the things the Prophets and Apostles recorded in the Scriptures. Therefore, you need to consider something else I have explained.

I told you more than twenty years ago that the Jews know Moses *received* both a *written Torah* (which reveals *what was said*) and an *oral Torah* (which reveals *why it was said*) when the Lord *handed down* the Truth to the sons of Israel at Mount Sinai. The Jews also tell us the *written Torah* is contained in the first five books of the Hebrew Scriptures—what is commonly known as the Pentateuch—which makes perfect sense. What doesn't make any sense at all is their assertion that the sons of Israel successfully *handed down* the *oral Torah* from the time of Moses until the time of Christ, when they recorded that *oral Torah* in what is known as the *Mishnah*. That claim is, in fact, completely debunked for a legitimate Christian by what Jesus says about the *oral tradition* of the Jews in this passage:

¹At that time, Pharisees and scribes from Jerusalem approach Jesus, saying: ²"Why do Your disciples deviate from the oral tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat bread."

³So then, in response, He said to them: "And why do you deviate from the commandment of the {living}

God because of your oral tradition? ⁴For the {living} God said: 'HONOR YOUR FATHER AND YOUR MOTHER,' AND 'LET THE ONE WHO SAYS AWFUL THINGS ABOUT {his} FATHER OR MOTHER COME TO AN END AT DEATH.' ⁵But you say, 'Whoever it might be who tells his father or his mother, "Whatever benefit it may be that you have gained from me {is} an offering.'" ⁶He will definitely not honor his father, so you invalidate the word of the {living} God because of your oral tradition. ⁷Hypocrites! Isaiah prophesied exceptionally well about you, saying:

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

¹⁰Then, after summoning the crowd, He told them, "Listen and comprehend: ¹¹the thing that comes into his mouth does not contaminate the man; but the thing that comes out of his mouth, this is what contaminates the man."

¹²At that time, after His disciples approached, they said to Him, "Are You aware that the Pharisees were offended when they heard the word?"

¹³So, in response, He said: "Every plant* that My heavenly Father did not plant will be uprooted. ¹⁴Leave 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 15:1–14) —HSSB

The point that Jesus is making in what He says there is easy to understand if one can get past the nebulous notion of the Jews that adherence to *The Law of Moses* was somehow intended to be a "Way" for an individual other than Corporate Israel to prove themselves worthy of *what God promised*. It wasn't. Never has been, never will be. Jesus laid that lie of Satan to rest by what He said on another occasion:

¹At that time, Jesus spoke to the crowds and to His disciples, ²saying: "The scribes and the Pharisees have sat down on the seat of Moses. ³Therefore, act in accordance with—and keep watch over everything—as much as it may be that they have told you; but do not act in accordance with their works, for they say {things} and do not act in accordance with {what they say}.

⁴So then they bind up oppressive and difficult to carry loads and place {them} on the shoulders of men, but they are not willing to move them with their finger. ⁵So then they do all their works in order to make sure men get a good look at {them}; for they make their phylacteries* wide and make the hems {of their garments} high. ⁶So then they are fond of the first place at the dinner meals and the first seats in the synagogues ⁷and the greetings in the public squares and to be called 'Rabbi' by men.

⁸But you should not be called 'Rabbi'; for your Teacher is One, but you are all brothers. ⁹And you should not call {anyone} your father on the Earth, for One is your Father—the heavenly One. ¹⁰You should not even be called 'leaders,' because your Leader is One—the Anointed One. ¹¹So the most important of you will be your servant. ¹²And then whoever elevates himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be elevated.

¹³But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees—hypocrites—because you lock up the kingdom of the heavens in front of men. For you are not going to come in, neither do you let those who are coming in, come in. ¹⁴

¹⁵Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees—hypocrites—because you travel around the sea and the dried-up {area} to make one proselyte; and when he becomes {one}, you make him twice as much a son of the trash pit as you.

¹⁶Woe to you, blind guides, who say: 'Whoever it might be who swears an oath by the sanctuary, it is nothing. But whoever it might be who swears an oath by the gold of the sanctuary, he is obligated.' ¹⁷{You are} stupid and blind! For which one is more important, the gold or the sanctuary that made the gold holy?

¹⁸Then {you say}, 'Whoever it might be who swears an oath by the sacrificial altar, it is nothing; but whoever it might be who swears an oath by the offering that is on top of it, he is obligated.' ¹⁹{You are} blind! For which one is more important, the offering or the sacrificial altar that makes the offering holy? ²⁰Therefore:

(1) the one who swears an oath by the sacrificial altar, swears an oath by it and by everything that is on it; ²¹and

(2) the one who swears an oath by the sanctuary, swears an oath by it and by the One Who dwells in it; ²²and

(3) the one who swears an oath by Heaven, swears an oath by the throne of the {living} God, and by the One Who is sitting on it.

²³Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees—hypocrites—because you give a tenth of your mint and dill* and cumin*, yet you let go of the more impressive {parts} of the law—sentencing and mercy and **belief in God's promise**. But one has to do these things and not let go of those things. ²⁴{You are} blind guides who filter out* the gnat* and then swallow up the camel!

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

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

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

³³{You are} snakes! Descendants of vipers! How could you flee from the sentence of the trash pit? ³⁴Guess what! For this reason I am going to send Prophets and those who are wise and scribes to you. You will kill and crucify some of them, and you will scourge some of them in your synagogues, and you will persecute {them} from city to city, ³⁵so that all {the} blameless blood poured out on the Earth comes upon you—from the blood of Abel, who was blameless, up to the blood of Zechariah, son of Berechiah*, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the sacrificial altar. ³⁶Without doubt I tell you, all these things will come upon this generation."

(Matthew 23:1–36)—HSSB

Some "Christians" today feel the Jews have knowledge of things that Church folks need to believe. That's nothing but a bald-faced lie that Satan is using to destroy every last vestige of the Truth of the Gospel

message that remains in the Church. Those who teach that nonsense are nothing more than the "false Apostles" that Paul describes in this passage:

¹(1) I really wish that you would put up with some of my foolishness for a little while, but you are putting up with even mine.

²(a) For I am jealous of you with God's jealousy; (b) for I betrothed* you to one Man—to present a pure virgin to the Anointed One.

³(c) **But I am afraid for fear that somehow, as the snake duped Eve with his dishonesty, your thoughts might be beguiled away from the generosity and purity that is in the Anointed One.**

⁴(i) For if:

- (a) someone who comes {to you} preaches another Jesus, one whom we have not preached; or
- (b) you **receive** a different spirit, one that you have not **received**; or
- (c) {you accept} a different good news of **the fulfillment of the promise**, one that you have not accepted, you do, in fact, put up with {it} exceptionally well.

⁵(ii) For I reckon that {I} do not at all come up short of the most illustrious Apostles. ⁶So even if {I am} ungifted in speech,

- (a) on the contrary, {I am} not in my knowledge of the truth.
- (b) On the contrary, {we} made {our knowledge of the truth} about everything well-known to you in every way.

⁷(2) Or did I commit a sin {by} humbling myself so that you would be elevated, because I proclaimed the good news of **the fulfillment of the promise** of the {living} God to you as a bequest?

- ⁸(a) I plundered* other summoned assemblies by accepting provisions for your service. ⁹And, when {I was} there with you and came up short,
- (b) I did not impose on anybody at all; for the brothers who came from Macedonia more than completely filled the full measure of what I lacked; and in everything

(c) I kept, and will keep, myself from being a burden* to you.

¹⁰(1) {The} truth of the Anointed One is in me; the fact is that this boasting {that is} in me will not be shut up in the regions of Achaia. ¹¹Why? Because I do not love you? The {living} God knows.

¹²(a) So what I am doing I will also do {in the future}, so that I may cut off the opportunity from those who want an opportunity to also be found to be just as we {are} in whatever they are boasting about.

¹³(i) For such men {are}

(a) false apostles*,
(b) guileful* workers who convert themselves into Apostles of the Anointed One.

¹⁴And {that is} not an amazing sight,

(ii) for Satan himself converts himself into a messenger of light. ¹⁵Therefore, {it is} nothing tremendous if his servants also convert themselves into {something} like servants of a declaration of not guilty—whose consummation will be in accordance with their works.

(2 Corinthians 11:1–15) —HSSB

Let me be perfectly clear about what I am telling you: The *oral Torah* that the Jews still falsely claim to have preserved from the time of Moses is actually a complete distortion of the *oral Torah* the Lord explained to Moses at Mount Sinai. That is, it flatly contradicts the significance of *what is written*. Jesus makes that clear in Matthew 15:1–9 by what He says about the *oral tradition* the Jews were *handing down* in His day.

In the Book of Galatians, Paul also refutes the ridiculous notion that the Jews were still *handing down* something Christians needed to learn from them. Yet here we are today, and the “tares” Satan has “planted” in the Church have somehow come to believe the *oral Torah* of the Jews is something Christians should believe. The reason for that incredible deception lies in an accurate understanding of the key that unlocks the meaning and significance of the things stated in the Book of Revelation—which you definitely need to know. So here it is:

¹(1) Then a tremendous sign was seen in Heaven:

(a) {there is} a woman who had been wrapped in the sun and
(b) the moon {is} underneath her feet and
(c) a crown of twelve stars {is} on her head, ²and
(d) {she is} one who has a baby in her tummy; and
(e) she is shouting while in labor and in torment to give birth.

³(2) Then another sign was seen in Heaven, and guess what!

(a) It was a large, fiery red sea serpent that has

(i) seven heads and
(ii) ten horns and
(iii) seven diadems on his heads. ⁴And

(b) his tail hauled in the third {part} of the stars of Heaven, and
(c) he threw them down to the Earth.
(d) And the sea serpent was standing before The Woman who was about to give birth, so that when she gave birth he could devour her child.

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

(a) her Child was snatched up

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

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

(Revelation 12:1–6) —HSSB

Let's go down the list of things you need to know about that passage before you can understand the significance of *what is written*:

1. “The Woman” is Corporate Israel—both before and after Jesus Christ became Corporate Israel.
2. The Sea Serpent is Satan.

3. The Son "The Woman" bears is Jesus Christ.
4. The "one thousand two hundred sixty days" are the final three and a half years at the End of this Age.
5. The "food" the Lord provides "The Woman" (the Church) during that time is the Truth she needs to continue to exist as Corporate Israel.

The point of Revelation 12:1–6 is to set the stage for what John tells us later. We need to know Satan, in keeping with the total idiot he is, was hell-bent on destroying the Truth long before the End of the Age, so it should not surprise True Believers living at the End of the Age to find him still doing what he has been doing all along—introducing lies that flatly contradict the Truth that Jesus and the Apostles taught. But those folks also need to know he failed miserably when he tried to take down the Lord (the Truth) at His First Advent, and he is going to fail just as miserably here at the Second:

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

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

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

⁹(b) So the sea serpent—

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

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

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

- (c) He was thrown down to the Earth, and
- (d) his messengers were thrown down with him.

¹⁰(5) Then I heard a loud voice in Heaven, saying: "At this time,

- (a) the salvation and
- (b) the supernatural power and
- (c) the kingdom of our God—and
- (d) the authority of His Anointed One—have come, because the accuser* of our brothers—the one who makes accusations against them day and night before our God—has been thrown down. ¹¹And they have triumphed over him

- (i) because of the blood of the Little Lamb and
- (ii) because of the word of their testimony, and
- (iii) {because} they did not love their soul up to the time of death.

¹²(e) For this reason the heavens and you who are camping out in them must celebrate.

(f) **Woe to the Earth and the sea because the false accuser—who has tremendous rage, aware that he has just a little time—has come down to you.**"
(Revelation 12:7–12) —HSSB

I have already given you the timeline that explains when True Believers can expect the idiot to show up and dupe every numbskull here on Planet Earth who thinks God is nothing but a fiction. (See "Satan's 'House' Is Beginning to Collapse," *The Voice of Elijah*®, April 2023, p. 21.) The appearance of that idiot and his moronic followers will occur right before the three-and-a-half-year persecution of True Believers begins:

¹³(6) Then when the sea serpent saw that he had been thrown down to the Earth, he persecuted The Woman who gave birth to the Male.

¹⁴(a) **So the two wings of the vulture—the great one—were given to The Woman, so that she could fly into the desert, to her place, where she is going to be provided food there for a time and times and half a time, away from the snake's presence.**

¹⁵(b) So the snake cast water out of his mouth like a river behind The Woman, so that he might cause her to be carried away by the river*.

¹⁶(c) So the Earth helped The Woman, and the Earth opened her mouth and swallowed up the river that the sea serpent cast out of his mouth.

¹⁷(d) *So the sea serpent became angry with The Woman and went away to make war with the rest of her seed—those who*

(i) keep the commandments of the {living} God and

*(ii) hold onto the testimony of Jesus—
and he stood on the sand of the sea.*

(Revelation 12:13–17) —HSSB

I realize most folks who read what John wrote about Satan as the “sea serpent” in Revelation 12–13 get all bound up in trying to determine the identity of the “beast” and how it relates to the sea serpent. Those things are nothing but a distraction. The point of Revelation 13 has to do with the idiot Satan continuing his idiotic attempts to stamp out the Truth even after he is booted out of Heaven—that is, out of the “Sea of Waters.” If you read John’s account carefully, it isn’t all that difficult to see that is the point of what he wrote:

¹(1) *Then I saw a beast that has*

(a) ten horns and

(b) seven heads—and

(c) ten diadems on its horns and

*(d) names of a false religious claim on its heads—
coming up out of the sea. ²And*

(2) the beast that I saw was just like a leopard, and*

(a) its feet {were} like a bear, and*

(b) its mouth {was} like a lion’s mouth. And

(3) the sea serpent gave it

(a) its supernatural power and

(b) its throne and

(c) tremendous authority. ³And

*(4) one of its heads {was} like one who had been
slaughtered, resulting in death, yet the lash of its
death was cured. And*

(5) the entire Earth {following} after the beast

(a) was amazed, ⁴and

*(b) paid homage to the sea serpent because he had
given his authority to the beast. And they paid*

*homage to the beast, saying, “Who is just like the
beast, and who can wage war with it?”*

⁵(6) *Then a mouth that speaks*

(a) tremendous things and

*(b) false religious claims was given to it, and it
was given an authority to act for forty and two
months.*

⁶(7) *So it opened its mouth to {make} false religious
claims against the {living} God, to make false
religious claims about His name and His tent—
those who are camping out in Heaven.*

⁷(8) *Then it was given to it*

(a) to make war with the holy ones and

(b) to triumph over them.

(9) So authority over every

(a) tribe and

(b) people and

(c) tongue and

(d) nation was given to it.

⁸(10) *Then all who are dwelling on the Earth—anyone
whose name has not been written since the establishment
of the world in the scroll of the life of the Little Lamb Who
has been slaughtered—will worship it.*

⁹(11) *If anyone has an ear, let him hear:*

¹⁰(a) *if anyone {is to go} into a concentration camp,
he is going to go into a concentration camp;*

*(b) if anyone {is} to be killed with a sword, he {is going}
to be killed with a sword. Here is the perseverance and
the belief in God’s promise that the holy ones have.*

¹¹(1) *Then I saw another beast coming up out of the
Earth; and*

(a) it had two horns, just like a little lamb; and

(b) it spoke like a sea serpent; ¹²and

*(c) it acts in accordance with all the authority of the
first beast before it. And*

*(d) it makes {it} so that the Earth and those who
dwell in her worship the beast—the first {one}, the
one whose lash of death was cured. ¹³And*

(e) it does tremendous signs, so that it even makes fire come down out of Heaven to the Earth in the presence of men. ¹⁴And

(f) it leads astray those who are dwelling on the Earth because of the signs that it has been given to do in the presence of the beast, telling those who are dwelling on the earth to make an image for the beast who has the lash of the sword yet has lived. ¹⁵And

(g) it was given {the ability} to give a spirit to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast could even speak and make {it} so that as many as it may be who would not pay homage to the image of the beast would be killed.

¹⁶(2) And it makes {preparation for} everyone—

- (a) the little ones and
- (b) the older {ones}, even
- (c) the wealthy and
- (d) the poor, even
- (e) the free men and
- (f) the slaves—

(i) so that they can give them a mark

- (a) on their hand, their right {one}, or
- (b) on their forehead, ¹⁷and

(ii) so that no one except the one who has the mark—the name of the beast or the number of its name—can

- (a) buy or
- (b) sell.

¹⁸(3) Here is the {necessary} wisdom: The one who has a mind must calculate the number of the beast, for its number is also a man's number—six hundred sixty-six. (Revelation 13:1–18) —HSSB

My point in showing you that is to put you on notice regarding what to expect going forward. Anyone with half a brain and one eye open should be able to “see” the Dispensational nonsense regarding the Rapture taking Believers out of harm’s way is just one more lie that Satan “planted.” If you expect to triumph, you might want to consider whether some things you believe are nothing more than Satan’s lie. Just a thought.

The Early Church understood the following passage is talking about the appearance of the Antichrist as the Messiah the Jews have been expecting:

¹And then He was telling them a comparison, so that they would always pray and not get discouraged, ²saying: “There was some judge in some city who was not afraid of the {living} God and did not pay deference to man. ³But there was a widow in that city; and she was continually coming to him, saying, ‘Take vengeance on my plaintiff for me.’ ⁴And for a span of time he was not willing; but after these things, he said to himself, ‘Even if I do not fear the {living} God nor pay deference to {any} man, ⁵yet because of this widow causing trouble for me, I will take vengeance for her, so that she does not give me a black eye by coming at the consummation.’”

⁶And then His Majesty said: “Listen to what the judge says about his injustice. ⁷So will the {living} God definitely not commit His act of vengeance for His chosen ones—those who cry out to Him day and night—and be patient with them? ⁸I tell you that He will commit His act of vengeance for them in a hurry. But when the Son of the man comes back, He will find belief in God’s promise on the Earth, won’t He?” (Luke 18:1–8) —HSSB

The “act of vengeance” the Lord has planned is laid out clearly in the Book of Revelation:

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

(a) saying: “Praise His Majesty!

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

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

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

(Revelation 19:1–2) —HSSB ■



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

Editor: After visiting VOE's Facebook page, a person left this message:

"There is one concern I have: The promise that the Righteous will live eternally in Heaven not Earth. Would you kindly refer me to one of your articles, books, or simply explain how that Promise is backed by the Scriptures?"

How would you respond to the issue raised?

Elijah: I have not addressed the topic in anything I have written to this point, so I will do so now. But, not knowing the person's mind-set with regard to the "place" called "Heaven," I will focus on the Truth and trust that I have provided at least some of the information requested. I assume the "one concern" he mentions stems from this statement on *The Voice of Elijah*® website:

WE BELIEVE two eternal destinies exist, and all men shall go to one or the other—those who demonstrate belief in the Living Word of God revealed in the Scriptures shall go to Heaven; those who do not shall go to Hell.

Before I can explain the Truth with regard to "Heaven," I must first knock down the idiotic Dispensational notion that a "literal interpretation" of the Hebrew Scriptures is the correct way to understand

what Moses and the other Prophets of Israel wrote. That ridiculous nonsense is nothing more than Satan's way of covering up a monstrous lie he has long since foisted off on the Church. The Truth should be obvious to anyone with an intelligence level equal to, or greater than, that of a chimpanzee; but, as the Apostle Paul says:

³(7) *So even if the good news of the fulfillment of the promise we have is covered, it is covered*

(a) *in those who are being done away with—*

⁴(b) *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} cannot 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.*

(2 Corinthians 4:3–4) —HSSB

The Truth is, Moses and the other Prophets of Israel used what I call "parabolic imagery" all the time, just as the Prophet Hosea states in this passage:

⁹[But I {have been}] [His Majesty], [Your God],
[Since {the} Land] [of Egypt].
[I will [once again] make You dwell
[In Tents] [as {in the} Days of] [{The} Appointed Time].
¹⁰[So I have spoken] [to] [The Prophets];
[And I] [have increased] [{their} Visions].
[I have [also, by {the} Hand] [of The Prophets],
likened one thing to another].
(Hosea 12:9–10) —my interim translation

That is my current translation of those two verses; but this is how the same passage is translated in the New American Standard Bible:

⁹But I have been the LORD your God
since the land of Egypt;
I will make you live in tents again,
As in the days of the appointed festival.
¹⁰I have also spoken to the prophets,
And I gave numerous visions;
And through the prophets I gave parables.
(Hosea 12:9–10)

As you can see, the Hebrew verb that I have translated as "likened one thing to another" has been

translated as “gave parables” by the translators of the New American Standard Bible. The question is, Why would they do that? And why would I not just take the easy route and go with their accepted translation? Well, the answer to the first question is, they do it because, like other translators, they just pick and choose one among several “acceptable” words that supposedly represent the original. I, on the other hand, am trying to produce a “standardized” translation of the Bible in which every Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek term has but one consistent English definition, not several. I have already completed my translation of the Greek Scriptures, and I am currently translating the Hebrew Scriptures. My goal is to provide anyone who reads my “standardized” translation the opportunity to “see” what other translators have consistently covered up.

In spite of the endemic hit-or-miss nature of the New American Standard Bible translation, its translation of the following verses discloses the actual *meaning* of the Hebrew verb that I have translated as “liken one thing to another”:

*For who in the skies is comparable to the LORD?
Who among the sons of the mighty **is like** the LORD?
(Psalm 89:6)*

*I **resemble** a pelican of the wilderness;
I have become like an owl of the waste places.
(Psalm 102:6)*

*Man **is like** a mere breath;
His days are like a passing shadow.
(Psalm 144:4)*

*Unless the LORD of hosts
Had left us a few survivors,
We would be like Sodom,
We **would be like** Gomorrah.
(Isaiah 1:9)*

*To whom then **will you liken** God?
Or what likeness will you compare with Him?
(Isaiah 40:18)*

*“To whom then **will you liken** Me
That I should be his equal?” says the Holy One.
(Isaiah 40:25)*

*“To whom **would you liken** Me
And make Me equal and compare Me,
That **we would be alike**?”
(Isaiah 46:5)*

*“Son of man, say to Pharaoh king of Egypt,
and to his multitude,
‘Whom **are you like** in your greatness?’”
(Ezekiel 31:2)*

In each and every one of those verses, the Hebrew verb **damah**—which I have translated as “likened one thing to another” in Hosea 12:10—occurs in parallel with a grammatical construction that clearly indicates it *means* “to be like.” That *meaning* is further confirmed by the fact that **damah** is cognate with the Hebrew noun **demuth**—which the New American Standard Bible has consistently translated as “likeness” in the following verses:

*Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our **likeness**; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”
(Genesis 1:26)*

*This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day when God created man, He made him in the **likeness** of God.
(Genesis 5:1)*

*When Adam had lived one hundred and thirty years, he became the father of a son in his own **likeness**, according to his image, and named him Seth.
(Genesis 5:3)*

Now that you know the basic *meaning* of the Hebrew verb **damah**, which the New American Standard Bible has translated as “gave parables” in Hosea 12:10, let me show you where the New American Standard Bible translates the Hebrew noun **mashal** as “parable.” That noun occurs forty times in the Hebrew Scriptures, but the New American Standard Bible translates it as “parable” only four times out of those forty. Here is the first one:

*I will open my mouth in a **parable**;
I will utter dark sayings of old.
(Psalm 78:2)*

It doesn't take an Einstein to "see" why translators would translate the Hebrew noun *mashal* as "parable" in that verse. They do it because Jesus quotes the verse in Matthew 13:35, where the Greek term *parabole* is always transliterated into English as "parable":

³⁴*All these things Jesus spoke to the multitudes in parables, and He did not speak to them without a parable,³⁵ so that what was spoken through the prophet might be fulfilled, saying,*

*"I WILL OPEN MY MOUTH IN PARABLES;
I WILL UTTER THINGS HIDDEN
SINCE THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD."
(Matthew 13:34–35)*

The Apostles who wrote the Gospels used the Greek term *parabole* to refer to what we call "parables" because the Greek-speaking Jews who produced the Septuagint translation of the Hebrew Scriptures around 250 B.C. used it to translate the Hebrew term *mashal* into Greek. Those Jews were not at all uncertain as to how to translate that Hebrew term simply because they knew the meaning of both the Hebrew term *mashal* and the Greek term *parabole* is exactly the same. So they did a much better job of "standardizing" their Greek translation of the Hebrew term *mashal* than English translators do today. In the majority of cases, they used the Greek term *parabole* to translate the Hebrew term *mashal*, which I have decided to "standardize" as "comparison" in both cases because that is precisely what those two terms actually mean.

If you keep in mind the fact that the English term *comparison* in my translation of the Hebrew Scriptures is always a translation of the Hebrew term *mashal*, it will be easier for you to "see" how Moses and the Prophets of Israel concealed the Truth in what they wrote; if you don't, it won't. Just sayin'. It makes no difference to me what you choose to believe; I'm just doing what God called me to do—restore the Truth for those who still have ears to hear and eyes to see. *Believe it if you care to; disbelieve it if you dare to.*

To help you understand how the Prophets used what are commonly called "parables" today, I need to give you my interim (somewhat "standardized") translation of Psalm 78:2—that is, the verse from the New American Standard Bible that I quoted above—because translators often go totally toddler and color way too far

outside the lines when they translate that verse. The Hebrew term *chidah*, which is the word the New American Standard Bible translator arbitrarily chose to translate as "dark saying," occurs seventeen times in the Hebrew Scriptures and is normally translated "riddle." But—to add insult to injury—it is translated as "dark saying" only once in the New American Standard Bible; and you guessed it, that's in Psalm 78:2. So here is my interim translation of the context in which that verse occurs:

¹[Asaph's] [Insight]:

[My People], [give ear to] [My Teaching];
[Cup] [your Ear] [for {the} Statements of]
[My Mouth].

²[I will open] [My mouth] [with a Comparison];
[I will articulate] [Riddles] [from] [Qedem],

³[What] [we have heard] [and know],
[And our Fathers] [have recounted] [for us].

⁴[We will [not] hold back the Truth] [from their Sons],
[So {the} [final] Generation] [may recount]
[{the} Praises of] [His Majesty],
[Even His Supernatural Force] [and {the}]
[Incomprehensible Works] [that] [He has done].

⁵[When He confirmed] [{the} Testimonies]
[in Jacob],

[He placed] [in Israel] [a Teaching]
[That] [He commanded] [our Fathers]
[To make known] [to their Sons],

⁶[So that] [{the} [final] Generation]
[would know {the Truth}].

[Sons] [would be engendered], [rise up],
[And recount {the truth}] [to their Sons],

⁷[So that they would place] [their Confidence]
[in God]

[And [not] forget] [God's] [Practices]
[And safeguard] [His Commandments],

⁸[So that they would [not] be] [like their Fathers]—
[A Generation] [that was stubbornly rebellious],
[Even [a Generation] that rebelled],
[A Generation] [that did [not] prepare] [his Heart]
[And [whose Spirit] did [not] believe] [God].

(Psalm 78:1–8) —my interim translation

Only a fool would deign to deny the fact that the author of that psalm knew God gave an oral *Torah* to the sons of Israel at the same time that He gave the written *Torah* to Moses, or that He expected the sons of

Israel to *hand* that *oral Torah down* from one generation to the next, which they abysmally—and repeatedly—failed to do.

Christians are totally ignorant of the fact that God gave Moses both a *written Torah* and an *oral Torah* at Mount Sinai; this in spite of the fact that believing Jews have been making that claim for over two thousand years, as well they should. What the Jews say about Moses *receiving* an *oral Torah* in addition to the *written Torah* in the Pentateuch is true; the lie is in the claim that the Pharisees were still in possession of the *oral Torah* that Moses *handed down* to the numbskulls who wandered around in the wilderness for forty years, refusing to believe. But if you believe what Jesus said about the *oral tradition* of the Pharisees in Matthew 15 and Mark 7, you already knew all that.

Enough about that; for the time being you might also want to pay close attention to what the psalmist who wrote Psalm 72 says in verse 6. That event could easily be happening right under your nose and you just can't "see" it, so I am going to explain what you need to know. Before you can even begin to understand what lies hidden in the *oral Torah* of *The Teaching of Moses*—which is precisely what the Prophet who wrote Psalm 72 had in mind—I also need to show you an example of what the Hebrews called a *chidah*—that is, a "riddle." You know what I *mean*? It's one of those notable, nebulous, and perhaps even nefarious "dark sayings" mentioned in Psalm 78:2. So here is a perfect example:

¹[Then [Samson] went down] [to Timnah], [and he saw] [a Woman] [in Timnah]—[one of {the} Daughters of] [{the} Philistines]. ²[So he went up] [and told [his Father] [and his Mother] about {her}] [and said], "[I saw] [a Woman] [in Timnah]—[one of {the} Daughters of] [{the} Philistines]—[so [you must take] [her] now] [as a Woman] [for me]."

³[Then [his Father] [and his Mother] said] [to him], "[Is there no] [Woman] [among {the} Daughters of] [Your Brothers] [or among all] [My People] [that] [You] [would go] [to take] [a Woman] [from {the} [uncircumcised] Philistines]?"

[But [Samson] said] [to] [his Father], "[Take] [her] [for me] [because] [she is {the} right {one}] [in my Eyes]."

⁴[Now his Father] [and his Mother] [did [not] know] [that] [it was] [from His Majesty] [because] [He] [was seeking] [an Opportunity] [from {the} Philistines]. [And at [That] Time], [{the} Philistines] [had control] [over

Israel]; ⁵[so [Samson] [and his Father] [and his Mother] went down] [toward Timnah] [and came] [as far as] [{the} Vineyards of] [Timnah]; [then guess what!] [an Alpha Lion] [of Lionesses] {came} [roaring] [to meet him]. ⁶[{The} Spirit] [of His Majesty] [rushed] [over him] [and he split it apart] [as one would split apart] [The Baby Kid]—[and [there was not] anything] [in his Hand]—[but he did [not] tell] [his Father] [and Mother] [what] [he had done]. ⁷[Then he went down] [and talked to] [{the} Woman], [and she was {the} right {one}] [in [Samson's] Eyes], ⁸[so he came back] [after some Days] [to take her]. [Then he turned aside] [to take a look at] [the] [Place Where [The Lion] Fell], [and guess what!] [a Swarm of] [Bees]—[and Honey]—{were} [in {the} Body of] [The Lion]. ⁹[So he took it out] [into] [his Palms] [and walked on]—[walking] [and eating]—[and he walked] [to] [his Father] [and to] [his Mother] [and gave {it}] [to them]. [And they ate {it}], [but he did [not] tell] [them] [that] [he had taken [The Honey] out] [of {the} Body of] [The Lion].

¹⁰[So [his Father] went down] [to] [The Woman], [and [Samson] made] [a Celebratory Feast] [there] [because] [The Chosen Sons] [made {one}] [like this]. ¹¹[But it happened] [that [when they saw] [him] they took] [thirty] [Close Neighbors] [and they were] [with him]. ¹²[So [Samson] said] [to them]: "[Please] [let me pose] [a **Riddle**] [for you]; [if] [you can [accurately] tell] [it] [to me] [{during the} seven] [Days of] [The Celebratory Feast] [and find {the meaning}], [I will give] [you] [thirty] [Linen Garments] [and thirty] [Changes of] [Clothes]. ¹³[But if] [you are [not] able] [to tell [me] {the meaning}], [then you must give] [me] [thirty] [Linen Garments] [and thirty] [Changes of] [Clothes]."

[So they said] [to him], "[Pose] [Your **Riddle**] [so that we may hear it]."

¹⁴[So he said] [to them]:

"[Out [of The Eater] came]
[Something to Eat],
[And out [of The Strong] came]
[Something Sweet]."

[But they were [not] able] [to tell {him the meaning}] [of The **Riddle**] [{for} three] [Days], ¹⁵[so it happened] [on [the fourth] Day] [that they said] [to [Samson's] Woman], "[Beguile] [Your Man] [so that he tells] [us] [{the meaning of} The **Riddle**]—[so that we do [not] burn] [You], [and] [Your Father's] [House], [with Fire]. [You invited] [us] [to take possession of our possessions], [didn't {you}]?"

¹⁶[So [Samson's] [Woman] wept] [in front of him] [and said]: "[You [only] hate me], [and You do [not] love me]. [You posed] [The **Riddle**] [to {the} Sons of] [My People], [but You did [not] tell [me] its {meaning}]."

[So he said] [to her], "[Guess what!] [I have [not] told] [my Father] [or my Mother], [but [I should tell] You]?"

¹⁷[But she wept] [in front of him] [The [seven] Days] [that] [they] [had] [The Celebratory Feast]; [so it happened] [on [the seventh] Day] [that he told [her] {the meaning}], [because] [she pressed him hard]; [and she told] [{the} Sons of] [her People] [{the meaning of} The **Riddle**]. ¹⁸[So [on [the seventh] Day], [before] [The Sun] [went in], [{the} Men of] [The City] said] [to him]:

"[What is] [sweeter] [than Honey]?
[And what is] [stronger] [than a Lion]?"

[Then he said] [to them]:

"[If it were not that] [you plowed] [with my Heifer],
[You would [not] have found out]
[{the meaning of} my **Riddle**]."

¹⁹[Then [{the} Spirit] [of His Majesty] rushed] [over him], [so he went down to] [Ashkelon] [and viciously attacked] [thirty] [of their] [Men]. [Then he took] [What he Took Off of them] [and gave] [The Changes {of clothes}] [to those who told {him}] [{the meaning of} The **Riddle**]. [But [his Anger] was inflamed], [so he went up to] [his Father's] [House], ²⁰[and [his Close Neighbor]—[who] [had been friends] [with him]—had] [Samson's] [Woman].
(Judges 14:1–20) —my interim translation

Here's something to keep in mind: When a word occurs several times in one passage of Scripture—as the word *chidah* ("riddle") does in that passage, you can be absolutely certain the Prophet who wrote it is telling you to pay attention. That is, he wants you to know the term is *significant*. In this case, Jeremiah is giving a graphic example of a riddle; so pay attention and remember what the Prophet who wrote Psalm 72 has already told you: He and his fellow Prophets knew the oral *Torah* of The Teaching of Moses was hidden in *mashalim* ("parables") and *chidoth* ("riddles"). Believe it if you care to; disbelieve it if you dare to. Either "way," the Truth is eventually going to "dawn" on you—at "dawn" on the seventh "day" of Creation. But when it does, it will be too late for it to do you any good, since

both the Apostle Paul (2 Cor. 6:2) and the unknown fellow who wrote the Book of Hebrews (Heb. 3:7–4:7) tell us "today"—the sixth "day" of Creation—is the only "day" of salvation God has provided for you to *decide what you believe*. So you might want to *choose wisely*.

Now that I've shown you what a *chidah* ("riddle") is, I am going to show you the three other verses in which the translators of the New American Standard Bible have translated *mashal* as "parable." Maybe then you will be able to "see" why an English translator would translate it that way in those three cases as well. To "see" the Truth, you need to keep in mind what I have already told you about the Hebrew terms *mashal* ("parable") and *chidah* ("riddle"). Here is the next verse in which the translators of the New American Standard Bible have translated *mashal* as "parable":

"Son of man, propound a riddle and speak a **parable** to the house of Israel."
(Ezekiel 17:2)

This is my current translation of the larger context in which Ezekiel 17:2 occurs:

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

As you can see, I have translated the Hebrew word *mashal* as “comparison” in verse 2 because that is what the term actually means. You should also be able to “see” the “comparison” in that passage to which the Lord refers is a typical Greek *parabole* (“parable”). But the Lord plainly says that *mashal* (“parable”) is also, in some way or another, a *chidah* (“riddle”). So now you should be able to “see” why a “parable” is ordinarily defined as “a story with a hidden meaning.” That’s because every *mashal* (“parable”) of Moses, the Prophets, Jesus, and the Apostles also contains a *chidah* (“riddle”).

As you read my translation, just keep in mind what I have told you: I translate both the Hebrew term *mashal* and the Greek term *parabole* as “comparison” rather than using the nebulous transliteration “parable.” I do that because the “parables” of Moses, the Prophets, Jesus, and the Apostles are always comparing—that is, likening—one thing to some other thing and, in most cases, never giving the reader anything more than the slightest clue as to what that other thing is. So if you want to understand the Truth, you need to know what

the other thing is before you can understand what they wrote. Over the next few years, I am going to explain those things for you; but for now, we need to take a look at the next verse in which the New American Standard Bible translates *mashal* as “parable”:

Then I said, “Ah Lord GOD! They are saying of me, ‘Is he not just speaking parables?’”
(Ezekiel 20:49)

Let’s see what we can learn from my interim translation of the context in which that verse occurs:

⁴⁵[Then [{the} Word] [of His Majesty] came] [to me],
[saying]: ⁴⁶“[Son] [of Adam], [set] [Your Face on] [{the} Way] [toward The South] [and drip] [against] [The South Wind] [and prophesy] [against] [{the} Forest] [of The Open Field] [of The Negev], ⁴⁷[and say] [to {the} Forest] [of The Negev], ‘[Listen to] [{the} Word] [of His Majesty]; [this is what] [My Master], [His Majesty], [has said]: “[Guess what! I am] [going to start] [a Fire] [in You], [and it will consume] [every] [moist] [Tree] [and every] [dried up] [Tree] [in You]. [The [flaming] Flame] [will [never] be extinguished] [and [every] [Face]—[from {the} Negev] [to Zaphon] will be seared*] [by it]. ⁴⁸[Then [all] [Flesh] will see] [that] [I], [His Majesty], [burned it]; [it will [never] be extinguished].”’” ⁴⁹[Then I said], “[Oh! No!] [My Master], [Your Majesty]! [They] [are going to say] [about me], ‘[Is [he] [not] speaking in] [Comparisons]?’”

(Ezekiel 20:45–49) —my interim translation

In a wee bit of serendipity, the translators of the New American Standard Bible have provided a most appropriate and nearly perfect example of how the Prophets used *chidoth* (“riddles”) to hide the meaning of their *mashalim* (“parables”). So if we pay close attention, we can learn a few things we need to know. To decipher the meaning of any *mashal* (“parable”), one first has to identify and decipher the component parts of the *chidah* (“riddle”) it contains. You know, do what Samson’s addlepat Philistine “friends” could not do—break the code:

*“[Out [of The Eater] came]
[Something to Eat],
[And out [of The Strong] came]
[Something Sweet].”*
(Judges 14:14b) —my interim translation

The code in Samson’s *chidah* (“riddle”) tells us precisely what we need to know about the relationship between the *chidoth* (“riddles”) and the *mashalim* (“parables”) handed down to us by Moses, the Prophets of Israel, Jesus, and the Apostles. To understand what their *mashalim* (“parables”) mean, you have to “break the code” by finding where the Prophets have defined the component parts of the *chidah* (“riddle”) hidden in the *mashal* (“parable”). Then you have to take your understanding of what those things represent and use it to understand the *comparison* (“parable”). That is, you must use it to “see” how that IS LIKE something else.

If you can accept the simple facts I just explained, you now know why Satan has worked so assiduously over the past two centuries to instill his asinine “literal theory of interpretation” stupidity in the minds of those who find it impossible to think logically. Any lamebrain who stubbornly clings to the ridiculous Dispensational nonsense that Satan has been peddling in that regard will never be able to “see” the Truth that Moses and all the other Prophets of Israel hid in their *mashalim* (“parables”). As Isaiah says in the following *mashal*, that is as it should be:

¹[A Wilderness] [and a Parched Area] [will be elated],
[And [a Desert Plain] will be happy];
[Then She will blossom] [like a Rose].
²[She will [definitely] blossom];
[She will [definitely] be happy] [with Happiness]
[and shout joyfully].
[{The} Glory] [{of} Lebanon] [will be given] [to Her]—
[{The} Splendor] [{of} Carmel]
[and The Plain of Sharon].
[They] [will see] [{the} Glory] [{of} His Majesty]—
[{The} Splendor] [{of} our God].
³[Strengthen] [infirm] [Hands],
[And [make [stumbling] Knees] unyielding].
⁴[Say] [to those {with} racing] [Heart]:
“[Be strong]! [You must [not] fear].
[Guess what!] [Your God] [will come]
[{with} Vengeance];
[He {is}] [{the} One weaned by] [God];
[He will come], [and He will save you].”
⁵[At that time], [{the} Eyes of] [those who are blind]
[will be opened];
[Even {the} Ears of] [those who are deaf]
[will be opened].
⁶[At that time], [One Who Is Lame]

[will leap] [like a Deer];
 [And [{the} Tongue] [{of} One Who Is Mute]
 will shout joyfully,
 [Because] [Waters] [will be split open]
 [in the Wilderness];
 [And Gullies], [in {the} Desert Plain].
⁷[Then [an Intensely Hot Environment]
 will become] [a Wetland];
 [And a Thirsty Ground], [Sources of] [Water];
 [A Place for Her to Lie Down] {is} [in {the} Habitat]
 [{of} Jackals]—
 [An Abode] [for Reeds] [and Rushes].
⁸[But [a Highway*]—[even {The} Way]—
 will be] [there],
 [And [it] [will be called] “{The} Way]
 [{of} The Holy One].”
 [One Who Is Unclean] [will [not] cross over on it],
 [But it] {will be} [for him] [who is walking]
 [{in The} Way],
 [So Idiots] [will [not] wander around {on it}].
⁹[A Lioness] [will [not] be] [there],
 [And a vicious] [Animal]
 [will [never] climb up {on it}];
 [It will [not] be found] [there].
 [But [those who are being redeemed]
 will walk {on it}];
¹⁰[Those who are being ransomed by] [His Majesty]
 [will return],
 [And they will enter] [Zion] [with Joyful Shouts]
 [And [eternally burning] Joy] [on] [their Head].
 [They will attain] [Elation] [and Joy],
 [And [Sorrow] [and Moaning] will flee]!
 (Isaiah 35:1–10) —my interim translation

Just like Samson’s simple *chidah* (“riddle”), the *chidah* in Isaiah’s *mashal* (“parable”) is fairly easy to decipher—provided you are aware of one simple Truth: Moses, the Prophets of Israel, Jesus, and the Apostles all refer to the oral *Torah* of *The Teaching of Moses* as “*The Way*.” If you didn’t already know that, you are far and a “way” behind the curve. You might want to consider stepping up the pace and going all out to catch up with the front-runners before they reach the finish line. How’s that for something that is somewhat like a *mashal*?

Here are the seven constituent elements in the *chidah* (“riddle”) that currently conceals the meaning of the *mashal* (“parable”) in Ezekiel 20:45–49:

Fire = the nuclear fire of God
Flame = the blast from a nuclear device detonating
Forest = any place with a human population
Negev = Earth (a Wilderness/Realm of the Dead)
South Wind = any lie originating on Earth
Tree = a person
Zaphon = Heaven (the Mountain of God)

I’ll let you plug the meaning of those code words into Ezekiel’s *mashal* at the appropriate spot and you can decide whether you *choose* to believe my understanding of what the *mashal* actually means. Do I expect very many to believe what I “see” in the text? Not on your life. But if you should happen to be one of those who can “see” it, you also need to know you are one of the rare ones. That’s just the awesome power of the “South Wind” that “blows” out of “the *Negev*.” He spreads his lies all the way into high Heaven.

Now that you know the drill, let’s move on to the final verse where the New American Standard Bible translates *mashal* as “parable”:

“And speak a *parable* to the rebellious house, and say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD,

“Put on the pot, put it on, and also pour water in it.””
 (Ezekiel 24:3)

Here is my interim translation of the context in which that verse occurs:

¹[Then [{the} Word] [of His Majesty] came] [to me]
 [during [the ninth] Year], [during [the tenth] New Moon],
 [on {the} tenth] [of {the} New Moon], [saying]: ²“[Son]
 [of Adam], [write] [for Yourself] [{the} Name] [of The
 Day], [This] [very same] [Day]. [{The} King] [of Babylon]
 [laid hands] [on] [Jerusalem] [on [This] very same] [Day].
³[So make] [a Comparison] [to] [the rebellious] [House]
 [and say] [to them], ‘[This is what] [my Master], [His
 Majesty], [has said]:

“[Set {it} on the fire]! [Set [The **Pot**] on the fire]!
 [And also] [pour [Water] out] [into it]!

⁴[Round up] [her **Pieces**] [into her],
 [Every] [good] [**Piece**]—
 [Thigh] [and Shoulder];
 [Fill {the pot} with] [choicest] [**Bones**].

⁵[Take] [{the} choicest] [of The **Flock**]

[And also] [a Generation] [of The **Bones**]
[instead of her].
[Bring {her} to a boil], [her Boiling Point],
[Even after] [they have cooked] [her **Bones**]
[in her Midst]."

⁶[Therefore], [this is what] [My Master], [His Majesty],
[has said]:

"[Woe to] [{the} **City**] [of The Bloodshed]—
[A **Pot**] [whose **Rust**] is] [in her],
[And her **Rust**] [has [not] gone out] [of her]!
[Make it go out of her] [**Piece**] [by **Piece**],
[Do [not] let [an **Allotment**] fall] [to her],
⁷[Because] [her Blood] [was] [in her Midst];
[She put it] [on] [a Radiantly White Spot] [of a Crag].
[She did [not] pour it out] [on] [The Earth]
[To completely cover [it] with] [Dirt].

⁸[To bring up] [a Rage] [to take] [Vengeance],
[I have put] [her Blood]

[on] [a Radiantly White Spot] [of a Crag]
[So that {it can} not] [be covered]."

⁹[Therefore], [this is what] [my Master],
[His Majesty], [has said]:

"[Woe to] [{the} **City**] [of The Bloodshed]!
[I] [will make [The **Pyre**] [even] larger].

¹⁰[Increase] [The **Trees**]!

[Make [The **Fire**] hotly pursue {them}]!
[Completely finish {off}] [The Flesh]

[And blend in the spices] [of The Spice Jar]
[And let [The **Bones**] be scorched].

¹¹[Then make her stand] [empty] [on]

[her **Burning Coals**]

[So that] [she is warm]

[And her Bronze] [is scorched]

[And her Uncleaness] [is poured out] [in her Midst]

[And her **Rust**] [is completely finished {off}].

¹²[She has given Me a hard time]

[with Contentiousness],

[But a lot of] [her **Rust**] [will [not] come out] [of her].

[Into {the} **Fire**] [{with} her **Rust**]!

¹³[Your Uncleaness] {is} [Perversion].

[Simply because] [I tried to cleanse You]

[And You would [not] be cleansed]

[of Your Uncleaness],

[You will [not] be cleansed] [again]

[Until] [I cause [My Rage] to rest] [on You].

¹⁴[I], [His Majesty], [have spoken]. [It is coming],
[and I will do {it}]; [I will [not] be unrestrained], [and I
will [not] be concerned], [and I will [not] feel sorry]. [They
will judge You] [according to Your Ways] [and according to
Your Deeds], " [declares] [my Master], [His Majesty]."
(Ezekiel 24:1–14) —my interim translation

The *chidah* ("riddle") in that *marshal* ("parable") is somewhat more complex than the one in Ezekiel 20. A relatively minor clue needed to solve the *chidah* ("riddle") lies in the second person personal pronouns that are used to refer to the "pot." The "pot" is masculine, the "city" is feminine; yet both genders are used to refer to the "pot" in verses 3 through 6, letting the reader know the "pot" represents the "city." But before I explain anything more, I need to list the constituent elements of the *chidah* ("riddle") so that you can "see" where I get my general understanding of the meaning of the *marshal* ("parable"):

Pot = "{the} city of the bloodshed" (v. 6)

Piece = a person

Bone = a person

Flock = entire population of Planet Earth

City = Mystery Babylon/Planet Earth (Rev. 18)

Rust = "uncleaness" (v. 11)/sinfulness of Planet Earth

Allotment = inheritance of what was promised

Pyre = all nuclear arsenals combined

Tree = a person

Fire = the nuclear fire of God

Burning Coals = residual radioactive contamination

If I seem to have picked the *significance* of those things out of thin air, believe me; I haven't. It's one of those "a little bit is here, a little bit is there" situations. What one Prophet defines, another Prophet uses; what one Prophet uses, another Prophet defines. My point is, it does not matter whether one Prophet lived before or after the other; God is the author of the text; and He lives both before and after all the Prophets, so get over it. You will find the *significance* of all the code words the Prophets used has been scattered here and there throughout the text of the Hebrew Scriptures. All you have to do is begin with a basic understanding of the oral *Torah* of The Teaching of Moses and everything else fits neatly into that framework.

As an example of the sort of thing I have in mind, a major clue needed to break the code of the *chidah*

("riddle") in Ezekiel's *mashal* ("parable") has been tucked away in the Book of Job (Job 41:19–20, 31), where Job describes the same "Leviathan" (Antichrist) that John mentions in Revelation 12–13. Job tells us that fool is going to make the oceans boil LIKE a "pot" (v. 31) and use the same "spice jar" that Ezekiel mentions in verse 10. Another major clue lies in the first chapter of the Book of Zephaniah (Zeph. 1:7–8), in Zephaniah's comparison of the "city" of Mystery Babylon to a "communal sacrifice" and goes on to describe how that "city" is going to be "burned" at the End of the Age.

The sad fact is, you would still not understand the significance of any of that if you did not know Ezekiel was a priest (Ezek. 1:3) and the parabolic "pot" he mentions in this *mashal* ("parable") is a very specific and literal pot. It is, in fact, the pot that Jeremiah tells us was used to boil the various parts of a communal sacrifice the people presented at the sanctuary (1 Sam. 2:14). Just so you know: The communal sacrifice implied in Ezekiel's *mashal* ("parable") is the same one that will provide food for the meal that John mentions in Revelation 19:17–18. *Believe it if you care to.*

Now that I have explained a bit about what you need to know about the component parts of "parables," let's review the question that was asked:

"There is one concern I have: The promise that the Righteous will live eternally in Heaven not Earth. Would you kindly refer me to one of your articles, books, or simply explain how that Promise is backed by the Scriptures?"

As I said, I believe that question pertains to the statement of belief on *The Voice of Elijah*® website:

WE BELIEVE two eternal destinies exist, and all men shall go to one or the other—those who demonstrate belief in the Living Word of God revealed in the Scriptures shall go to Heaven; those who do not shall go to Hell.

If you compare those two quotes, you should be able to see the statement of belief says nothing at all about Believers not dwelling on Earth; but now that I have brought it up, I should tell you the question also makes a completely unwarranted assumption concerning the relationship between Heaven and Earth. The Truth is, the resurrected body of the "Righteous" will dwell simultaneously in Heaven and on Earth. But the Truth in that regard can only be understood if one

knows the Truth about the nature of the "place" that is commonly called "Heaven." And the Truth in that regard is, as I have stated previously on more than one occasion: "Heaven begins where your skin ends." That is because Adam and Eve were booted out of Heaven and ended up here on Earth without any access to the "place" they had previously been able to access.

To understand what I am *talking about*, you need to take a good look at Moses' account of what some folks like to call "The Fall":

[So He drove [The Adam] away] [and caused [The Cherubim] [and the Flame] [of The [constantly turning] Sword] to take up residence] [away from Qedem] [at the Garden] [of Eden], [to stand watch over] [The Way] [to the} Tree] [of Those Who Are Living].
(Genesis 3:24) —my interim translation*

Make note of what that verse says about "The Way." Moses is mocking those who read what he has written but do not know what "The Way" is. The Truth is, "The Way" to which he is referring is, in fact, the *oral Torah* of The Teaching of Moses. That "Way" is "The same Way" the author of the Book of Hebrews had in mind when he wrote the following text:

¹(1) [Therefore], [The] [First {Testament}] [did, [in fact], [also] have]

(a) [Legal Requirements] [of a Priestly Service] [as well as]

(b) [The] [Holy Place] [in this physical realm].

²(i) [For] [a Tent]—[The] [First {Tent}], [which] [is called] "[a Holy Place]"—[was constructed], [in] [which] {there was}

(a) [both] [The] [Lampstand] [and] [The] [Table],

(b) [as well as] [The] [Presentation] [of The] [Loaves of Bread].

³(ii) [But] [behind] [The] [second] [Curtain] {there was} [a Tent] [that] [is called] "[a Holy Place] [of Holy Things]," ⁴[which had]

(a) [an Incense Altar*] [made of gold] [and]

(b) [The] [Box] [of The] [Testament] [that had]

been covered completely] [on all sides] [with Gold], [in] [which] {was} [a Jar*] [made of gold] [that held]

- (i) [The] [Manna] [and]
- (ii) [The] [Staff] [of Aaron] [that] [had sprouted] [and]
- (iii) [The] [Tablets] [of The] [Testament].⁵[And then] [up above] [it] {were}
- (iv) [{the} Cherubim*] [of Glory] [that were providing a shadow for*] [The] [Mercy Seat]—[about] [which] [there is] [not] {time} [now] [to say {anything}] [about] [{any} Part {of it}].

⁶(2) [But] [when [These Things] had been constructed] [like this],

- (a) [The] [Priests] [did, [on the one hand], go in] [to] [The] [first] [Tent] [at] [all times], [accomplishing] [The] [Priestly Service];
- ⁷(b) [but on the other hand], [The] [High Priest] {went} [into] [The] [Second {tent}], [only] [one time] [during The] [Annual Religious Cycle], [not] [without] [Blood], [which] [he brings and presents] [for] [himself] [and] [The] [Ignorant Deeds*] [of The] [People].

⁸(3) [The] [Spirit] [that is] [holy] {is} [making [This] obvious]: [That [The] [Way] [of The] [Holy Ones] has [not yet] been made well-known] [while [The] [first] [Tent] [still] has] [Standing], ⁹[which] {is} [a Comparison] [to] [The] [Time] [that] [currently is], [in accordance with] [which {comparison}] [both]

- (a) [Offerings] [and]
- (b) [Sacrifices] [are brought and presented] [that can] [not]—[with respect to] [Conscience]—[complete] [the one who] [serves as priest]. ¹⁰{They are} only [Legal Requirements] [of {the} Flesh] [that are laid] [on]

- (i) [Food] [and]
- (ii) [Beverage] [and]
- (iii) [different] [Baptizings] [until] [a Time] [of Reformation*].

¹¹(4) [But] [after [The Anointed One] arrived] [as High Priest] [of The] [Good Things] [that have come into

being] [via] [The] [more important] [and] [more complete] [Tent] [not] [made by human hands]—[that] [is], [not] [of] [This] [Creation]—¹²[He came in] [to] [The] [Holy Things] [once and for all], [after finding] [eternal] [Redemption],

- (a) [not even] [via] [{the} Blood] [of Goats] [and] [Calves],
- (b) [but] [via] [His] [Own] [Blood].

¹³(5) [For] [if]

- (a) [The] [Blood] [of Goats] [and] [Bulls] [and]
- (b) [{the} Ashes] [of a Heifer*] [sprinkling on] [those who] [have had sexual intercourse] [makes {them} holy] [with regard to] [The] [Cleanness*] [of The] [Flesh], ¹⁴[how much] [more] {will} [The] [Blood] [of The] [Anointed One]—[Who], [via] [an [eternal] Spirit], [brought and presented] [Himself] [to The] [{Living} God] [unblemished]—[cleanse] [our] [Conscience] [of] [dead] [Works] [so as] [to] [serve [a living] God] as priests?]

¹⁵(1) [So] [for] [This Reason] [He is] [Mediator] [of a [new] Testament], [so that]—[after [{His} Death] occurred] [for] [{His} Emancipation] [from The] [Violations] [against] [The] [first] [Testament]—[those who] [have been invited] [could **receive**] [The] [Promise] [of The] [eternal] [Inheritance].

- ¹⁶(a) [For] [where] {there is} [a Testament], {there is} [a Pressing Need] [to bear] [{the} Death] [of the one who] [made the bequest by the testament].
- ¹⁷(b) [For] [a Testament] {is} [confirmed] [by] [Those Who Are Dead], [since] [it [never] has the ability {to convey **the inheritance**}] [when] [the one who] [made the bequest by the testament] [is living].
- ¹⁸(c) [Consequently], [not even] [The] [First {Testament}] [was initiated] [without] [Blood].

¹⁹(2) [For] [after [every] [Commandment] had been spoken] [to all] [The] [People] [by] [Moses] [in accordance with] [The] [Law],

- (a) [after taking]

- (i) [The] [Blood] [of The] [Calves], [with]
- (ii) [Water] [and]

(iii) [scarlet] [Wool] [and]
 (iv) [Hyssop], [he sprinkled [it] on] [both] [The]
 [Scroll] [and] [all] [The] [People], ²⁰[saying],
 “[THIS] {is} [THE] [BLOOD] [OF THE]
 [TESTAMENT] [THAT] [THE] [{LIVING} God] [GAVE]
 [TO] [YOU] AS A COMMANDMENT].” ²¹[Then]

(b) [he, [likewise], sprinkled] [both]

(i) [The] [Tent] [and]
 (ii) [all] [The] [Containers] [of The] [Priestly
 Ministry] [with The] [Blood]. ²²[So] [nearly]
 [everything] [is cleansed] [with] [Blood]—[in
 accordance with] [The] [Law]—[and] [without]
 [Bloodshed*], [Forgiveness] [does [not] occur].

²³(3) [Therefore],

(a) [on the one hand], {there is} [a Pressing Need]
 [that [The] [Perfect Examples] [of the things that
 are] [in] [The] [Heavens] be cleansed] [by These
 {Sacrifices}];
 (b) [but on the other hand], [the [same] things] {are
 cleansed} [in Heaven] [by [better] Sacrifices] [than]
 [These].

²⁴(4) [For] [The Anointed One] [did [not] come]

(a) in] [to]

(i) [Holy Things] [made by human hands],
 (ii) [Copies] [of those that are] [real],

(b) [but] [into] [Heaven] [itself], [to be made to make
 an appearance] [now]

(i) [in The] [Presence] [of The] [{LIVING} God]
 (ii) [for [our] sake].

²⁵(5) [Neither] {did He do it} [so that] [He would bring
 and present] [Himself] [often]—[indeed, just as] [The]
 [High Priest] [comes in] [to] [The] [Holy Things] [with]
 [another’s] [Blood] [each and every] [Annual Religious
 Cycle]—²⁶[since] [He] [would have had] [to suffer]
 [often], [from [The Establishment] [of The World] on].

(6) [But] [He became visible] [one time]

(a) [now]—

(b) [at] [{the} Consummation] [of The] [Ages]—
 (c) [for] [a Disregarding] [of our] [Sin] [via] [His]
 [Sacrifice].

²⁷(7) [And] [in] [as much as] [it is held in store] [for]
 [Men] [to die] [one time] [and then], [after] [This], [{the}
 Sentencing], ²⁸[so] [also] [The] [Anointed One], [after
 being brought and presented]

(a) [one time] [so as] [to] [take [{the} Sins] [of Many]
 up to {God}], [will be seen] [for]

(b) [a Second Time]—[without] [Sin]—[by those who]
 [eagerly look forward to] [Him] [for] [Salvation].
 (Hebrews 9:1–28) —HSSB

Pay close attention to what I am going to tell you here; you will eventually find it to be a fundamental *parabolic image* without which you will never be able to “see” the Truth hidden in *The Teaching of Moses*. In verse 9, the author of this text plainly says the things he is describing are part of a *parabole* (“parable”). You need to know that; because they are, in fact, an integral part of the *parabolic pantomime* that I call “The Passover Parable.” But take note of the fact that, in verse 23, where he is *talking about* Jesus going through the “curtain” in the Tabernacle to enter into the Holy of Holies, he says the Holy of Holies is in both “the heavens” and “Heaven.” Go figure; then add that bit of information to the fact that the “curtain” in the Tabernacle that he mentions in verse 3 is the same “curtain” he mentions in this passage:

¹³(1) For, after making a **promise** to Abraham, since He did not have {anybody} more important to swear an oath against, the {living} God swore an oath against Himself, ¹⁴saying, “WHILE BLESSING, I WILL CERTAINLY* BLESS YOU, AND WHILE INCREASING, I WILL INCREASE YOU!” ¹⁵And so, after being patient, he gained possession of **the promise**. ¹⁶(2) For men swear an oath against the most important thing, and for them {the} end of every dispute {is} the oath—for confirmation.

¹⁷(a) By which {oath}, the {living} God—Who was a lot more determined to show the unchangeableness of His decision to **the heirs of the promise**—became a Mediator* by an oath!

¹⁸(b) So that—by two unchangeable things in which {it is} impossible for the {living} God to lie—we who have taken refuge to hold onto the hope that is lying before

{us} would have a mighty encouragement,¹⁹ which {hope} we have as an anchor of our soul both certain and confirmed, and one that comes into the inner {side} of **the curtain**,²⁰ where Jesus went in as a scout* for our sake, after becoming a High Priest “IN THE AGE TO COME IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK.” (Hebrews 6:13–20) —HSSB

Now take a look at the third time the author of the Book of Hebrews mentions that same “curtain”:

¹⁹(1) Therefore, brothers, since **you have**:

(a) **self-assurance for entrance into the holy things by the blood of Jesus**—²⁰which {entrance} He initiated for us as a recently slain* and living way

(i) **through the curtain (that is,**
(ii) **through His flesh);**²¹ and

(b) a tremendous Priest over the house of the {living} God,

²²(i) we must approach with a true heart—

(a) with absolute certainty on the basis of {our} **belief in God’s promise**—

(b) after our hearts have been sprinkled {clean} of a nasty conscience and our body has been bathed with clean water.

(Hebrews 10:19–22) —HSSB

Did you “see” what he said in verse 19? He *parabolically* equated the “curtain” in the Tabernacle with the “flesh” of Jesus Christ and said “The only Way” we have to get back to the “place” from which Adam and Eve were booted out is by believing the *oral Torah* of The Teaching of Moses. His point is, Christ chose to die so that Believers could **inherit the promise** and then go on to **inherit what was promised**. My point is, the *parabolic imagery* he uses is describing an empirical reality; but to understand what empirical reality he has in mind, one needs to know “Heaven” and “the heavens” are exactly the same thing, as Matthew indicates when he says this:

³¹He 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; ³²the

{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.”

³³He spoke another comparison to them, “**The kingdom of the heavens** is just like leaven that a woman, after accepting {it}, hid in three twelve-quart measures of wheat flour until the entirety was leavened.” (Matthew 13:31–33) —HSSB

Matthew confirms what we saw in Hebrews 9:23; “Heaven” and “the heavens” are exactly the same thing. But how could that be? Well, the Prophet who wrote the following explains how it came to be:

¹[My Soul], [bless] [His Majesty]!

[Your Majesty], [my God], [You are [exceedingly] great];
[You have clothed Yourself with] [Majesty] [and Splendor].

²[You have wrapped [Light] around You]
[like a Cloak]—

[{By} stretching out] [The Sea of Waters]
[like a Tent Curtain].

(Psalm 104:1–2) —my interim translation

If you care to dispute what I just told you, be my guest. In so doing, you are doing nothing more than aptly demonstrating the Truth illustrated by the *parabolic pantomime* in which Moses wore a veil over his face:

¹²(5) Therefore, we who have a hope like this use a lot of candor, ¹³and {are} not at all like Moses. He used to put a **covering** down over his face so that

(a) the sons of Israel could not stare at the consummation of the {face} that is going to be abrogated. ¹⁴But
(b) their thoughts were turned to stone;

(i) for up to the time of day today, at the reading of the Old Testament the same **covering**—which has not been uncovered—remains, because it is abrogated in the Anointed One.

¹⁵(ii) But up to today, whenever it might be that Moses is read, a **covering** lies over their hearts.

¹⁶(a) Yet whenever it may be that one turns back to His Majesty, the **covering** is removed.
(2 Corinthians 3:12–16) —HSSB ■

Continued from front cover

were spoken by the Word of God and His Spirit; but we, inasmuch as we are inferior to, and later in existence than, the Word of God and His Spirit, are on that very account destitute of the knowledge of His mysteries. And there is no cause for wonder if this is the case with us as respects things spiritual and heavenly, and such as require to be made known to us by revelation, since many even of those things which lie at our very feet (I mean such as belong to this world, which we handle, and see, and are in close contact with) transcend our knowledge, so that even these we must leave to God. For it is fitting that He should excel all [in knowledge]. For how stands the case, for instance, if we endeavour to explain the cause of the rising of the Nile? We may say a great deal, plausible or otherwise, on the subject; but what is true, sure, and incontrovertible regarding it, belongs only to God. Then, again, the dwelling-place of birds—of those, I mean, which come to us in spring, but fly away again on the approach of autumn—though it is a matter connected with this world, escapes our knowledge. What explanation, again, can we give of the flow and ebb of the ocean, although every one admits there must be a certain cause [for these phenomena]? Or what can we say as to the nature of those things which lie beyond it? What, moreover, can we say as to the formation of rain, lightning, thunder, gatherings of clouds, vapours, the bursting forth of winds, and such like things; or tell as to the storehouses of snow, hail, and other like things? [What do we know respecting] the conditions requisite for the preparation of clouds, or what is the real nature of the vapours in the sky? What as to the reason why the moon waxes and wanes, or what as to the cause of the difference of nature among various waters, metals, stones, and such like things? On all these points we may indeed say a great deal while we search into their causes, but God alone who made them can declare the truth regarding them.

Irenaeus, "Against Heresies," Book ii, Chaps. xxvii–xxviii, in Roberts and Donaldson (Eds.), *The Ante-Nicene Fathers* (1885), Vol. 1, p. 399.

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All correspondence
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A Note From the Editor

“For the Times They Are a’Changin’”

We’ve come to the end of an era. As of the publication this issue of *The Voice of Elijah*®, this newsletter will no longer be published in print form as it has been since 1990. Going forward, each newly published issue will be posted digitally on voiceofelijah.org as soon as the articles are completed. Digital delivery of *The Voice of Elijah*® newsletter will make it available around the world—something that has been cost prohibitive because of the high cost of international postage for printed copies. Voice of Elijah will have archive copies available in print while supplies last. Contact Royce Gonzalez at 972-635-2021 or acquire newsletters online at voiceofelijah.org.

Monthly Contributors will soon have an online website where they will be provided digital access to both *The Voice of Elijah*® and *The Voice of Elijah*® *Update*. All back issues of *The Update* will be immediately available to current Monthly Contributors and will gradually be made available for new Monthly Contributors on a predetermined schedule. The site also includes information regarding The Next Step program and provides access to the application for that program.

The Next Step participants currently have a website where they have access to The Next Step recordings and transcripts, as well as many other materials that are only available to participants in this program. Positive feedback from participants has been overwhelming, especially regarding access to the site/materials on their phones: instant access—24/7!

More Digital Content Available

Please share links to the playlists currently on the YouTube channel [@voiceofelijah](https://www.youtube.com/@voiceofelijah). Following is a brief overview of videos currently posted:

The Biblical Message—A Summary touches on the high points concerning meaning and significance, Malachi’s prophecy regarding Elijah, Nathan’s prophecy to David in 2 Samuel 7, the Creation Account, and more. In addition, this video warns that Zephaniah’s prophecy concerning the End of the Age is yet to be fulfilled. Three major ideologies are going to be dominant during the End of the Age. The question is, What are you going to decide to believe?

In *Wanna Hear a Whopper You Undoubtedly Won’t Believe?* (from *The Voice of Elijah*®, April 2022), Larry exposes “conventional wisdom” regarding Jim Jones and the Jonestown tragedy for the lie it actually was and the Truth it definitely was not. Audio excerpts from first-hand witnesses and Jim Jones himself provide indisputable evidence that what is still considered a fanatical religious cult was actually anything but.

The video *It Ain’t No Fun Tryin’ ta Stand Up in a Hurricane* (from *The Voice of Elijah*®, January 2017) is the first in the 10-part series *The Art of*

Continued on page 29