

The Simple Truth Series #13

In the Beginning God...



*“Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth?
When the morning stars sang together,
and all the Sons of God shouted for joy?”
Job 38:4,7.*

The Desire of 'I AM' in Eternity, fulfilled in the 'Plan of God' in Creation.

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'And expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly.' Acts 18:26.

Contents

	Page
1 The Desire of 'I Am' in Eternity.	2.
2 <i>'In the beginning God...'</i>	4.
3 <i>'And called their name Adam.'</i>	6.
4 <i>'I will put enmity between...thy seed, and her seed.'</i>	8.
5 The Father. The Healer. The Saviour.	11.
6 Redemption.	13.
7 The Wise and Foolish Virgins.	16.
8 'We will not have this Man to reign over us.'	19.
9 New Heavens. New Earth. New Creation.	22.
10 The Judgement.	25.
11 The perfect fulfilment of the Desire of 'I Am' in Eternity.	28.

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1.

The Desire of 'I Am' in Eternity

'In the beginning God...' So, the Book of the Revelation of God to man begins. In the beginning... Time began with that very first Creative act. There was no beginning before that, there had only ever been Eternity. No start. No finish. No yesterday. No tomorrow. And 'God,' alone in Eternity, was *'I Am that I Am.'* He who is who He is. The Self-Existent One. He was a Spirit (*'God is a Spirit.'* John 4:24), alone in the Spiritual Realm. He had within Himself attributes that were unrealised, because they were unfulfilled.

He had the attribute to express Perfect Love (*'God is Love.'* 1 John 4:8), but He could not love, because, He did not have anything *to* love.

He had the attribute to be 'God,' (*'For there is one God.'* 1 Timothy 2:5), but He was not God, because 'God' means 'an object of Worship,' and He did not *become* 'God,' until He created Angels, and they *'Rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come,'* (Revelation 4:8.), worshipping Him.

He had the attribute to be a Creator (*'For by Him were all things Created, that are in Heaven, and that are in earth.'* Colossians 1:16), but He was not a Creator, because He had never Created anything yet.

He had the attribute to be a Father (*'Adam, which was the Son of God.'* Luke 3:38), but He was not a Father, and could not be, *until* He had Fathered children.

He had the attribute to be a Healer (*'Who healeth all thy diseases.'* Psalm 103:3.), but He was not a Healer, and never would be, until there was someone with a sickness, whom He *could* heal.

He had the attribute to be a Saviour (*'God our Saviour.'* 1 Timothy 1:1), but He was not, and could not be, until someone was lost Eternally, whom He *could* save.

So, within 'I Am' were these, and many other attributes, that He wanted to express, by making them a reality, so, He created Angels. Hebrews 1:14 declares they are *'ministering Spirits.'* Servants and Messengers. 'I Am,' and the Angels were all Spiritual Beings, in a Spiritual Realm. It wasn't until after the Creation of the Physical Realm, and the Fall of Man, that, *'the Word was made flesh'* (John 1:14), Emmanuel, God with us. *'For in Him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.'* (Colossians 2:9). *'God was manifest in the flesh'* and *'seen of Angels.'* (1 Timothy 3:16). *'Who is the image of the invisible God.'* (Colossians 1:15). The 'invisible God' revealed Himself in a form that could be seen by Angels, and by His earthly Creation.

But, in Eternity alone, 'I Am' had a desire to *become* a Creator, a God, a Father, and express His Perfect Love to His children, in intimacy. So, He created Angels, but they were to perform their duties at His Will, not out of love for Him. His ultimate Desire

was to have someone who would love Him, simply because they *chose* to, with no strings attached. No *reward* if they did, or *punishment* if they didn't. Someone who would have the freedom to choose to live their lives without Him, yet would choose *instead*, to *want* to know Him, because they *could*. Someone who would have a *desire* to express their love, in the way He did.

So, 'I Am' designed every one of those whom He would Create. He saw their faces, and spoke their names tenderly, in anticipation. He lovingly chose their hair colour, eye colour, and skin colour; their stature and build, and their temperaments, personally, and individually. He chose everything with more care than a Goldsmith, exerts while selecting the jewels for the finest crown. All had to be perfect, because He was perfect. He chose every part of their anatomy, in love, as a perfect Gift. Then He wrote their names in the Book of Life, because they were the one's He would give Life to, and love, and cherish, and put His Name upon.

They were predestined to all that He had fore-planned, *if* they chose it. He would give them Free-will, and let them go free, completely free. He would not bind their hands, nor shackle their feet, nor close their mouths. He would reveal Himself to each one, during their lifetimes; but, their response to Him was their choice, and theirs alone. Of course, by foreknowledge, He knew what choice each one would make, before they were created.

Being Omniscient, He foresaw the Fall of Man, and the earth being populated with the Serpent's Seed, who would always be in conflict with His own Children. He anticipated His need to step on to the earth in a body of flesh and blood, to die as one of them, as the only way to redeem His fallen Children back to Himself.

He ordained the 'Church' as His Spiritual Body upon the earth, from His crucifixion, until His return, to take them from the earth before the destruction, at the end. He fore-ordained which Ministry each one of them would have as their personal part of His Body, during the Age when they lived upon the earth.

He chose the day of their birth, as the day He would see them walk before Himself, in flesh. He also knew the Fall would have to bring Death to His Creation. There was no death in perfection, and there would never have been a single death, if the earth was not marred by imperfection, Sin. Death was so foreign to Him, that it was later recorded, '*Precious in the sight of the Lord, is the death of His Saints.*' (Psalm 116:15). It was also heard from His lips, "*I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked.*" (Ezekiel 33:11).

2.

'In the beginning God...'

Creation began with Angels, in the Spiritual Realm in Eternity. Much went on there, before the Creation of our own Realm was begun. As St Paul reminded us in 1 Corinthians 13:12, we *'see through a glass darkly,'* when it comes to that other Realm. Veiled from us, we only glimpse those snatches of it, revealed in the Word of God, or to those Servants of the Lord to whom He chooses to reveal His secret things. We won't go into it here, for, *'Then shall I know even as also I am known,'* (1 Corinthians 13:12), when we take our own step into that Realm, at the finish of this earthly sojourn.

So, we will begin with the Spoken Word, *'Let there be...And there was,'* that began the Creation of our Physical Realm, and started the clock ticking. *'In the beginning God created the Heaven and the earth....and the evening and the morning were the first day.'* (Genesis 1:1). Beginning, comes from the Hebrew word 'Resit,' The *first*. The first physical thing created, the first day of Time. The new Physical Realm being Created was another reality living in Time, that was separate from the Spiritual Realm, that dwelt in Eternity. In that other Realm, the Home of the 'I Am' who had no beginning and can have no ending, there is no yesterday, today, or tomorrow, only a constant Eternal 'Present.' To us hearing about it from this side of the Veil, it is strangely unfamiliar, especially in comparison to our world of *'evening and morning.'* *'In the beginning God.'* We can understand that easily, because we can pinpoint it in 'Time.' *'God created the Heaven and the earth.'* We believe that too, because we see it with our own eyes. But Eternity? As was revealed to us through St Paul, *'Then shall I know...'*

'In the beginning God created the Heaven and the earth.' (Genesis 1:1). On the very first day, God 'Spoke' the Heaven and the earth into existence, as a Physical home for those whom He would later Create, and for a trysting place, where He could personally Fellowship with them. All was clothed in darkness, until He Spoke again, *"Let there be Light: and there was Light...And God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day."* This was the location for all He had Planned, in His Desire in Eternity.

"Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters..." (Gen.1:6). Then, He separated the waters which covered the earth, from the waters which were above it, to Create a *'firmament* (An expanse), in between. *'And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day.'* (Gen.1:8) This was the space He needed, to prepare what would be the perfect Paradise, where He could live with His sons and

daughters.

“Let the waters under the Heaven be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” (Gen.1:9). At the end of Time, this Heavens and earth will pass away (Matthew 24:35), and there will be a *‘new Heavens and a new earth’* (Revelation 21:1), and a holy city, the *‘new Jerusalem’* (Revelation 21:2), *‘prepared as a Bride adorned for her husband.’* That is the *‘new’* Creation the Eternal one, after the *‘old’* earth has been cleaned off with fire, to remove the 6000 years of Mankind’s sin. But, when it was originally Created here, *‘God saw that it was good.’* And He was going to clothe it so it would also be *‘prepared as a Bride adorned for her husband.’* It was going to be as beautiful, as beauty could ever be.

So, He Spoke again, *“Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind...and it was so.”* *‘It was so...’* That was an understatement. *‘It was so...’* It was more than magnificent. It was above stupendous, above glorious, mere words could only *begin* to describe it. The earth was clothed in lush green pastures, with forests of swaying trees, painted greens, reds, yellows, browns, purples, where only darkness had been previously. It truly was, *‘Prepared as a Bride adorned...’* It was Paradise. *‘And the evening and the morning were the third day.’* (Gen. 1:13).

“Let there be lights in the firmament of the Heaven to divide the day from the night: and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years...to give light upon the earth.” (Gen.1:14-15). *‘And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: He made the stars also.’* Now, here it is, Paradise gained. Clothed in beauty, and all bathed in warm light. Now the land and the seas were ready, for living, moving, breathing, creatures. *‘And the evening and the morning were the fourth day.’* (Gen.1:19).

“Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of Heaven.” (Gen.1:20). *‘And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind.’* This abundance of plant and animal life was created specifically for the delight of His Children. So, the sea and the sky had brought forth abundantly, now it was time to fill the land with living creatures. *‘And the evening and the morning were the fifth day.’* (Gen.1:23).

“Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind.” (Gen.1:24). The land, the sea, and the sky, now swarmed with life, all *perfect* life. No lame, no halt, no blind, no disease, no death. Not a withered leaf, not a bleeding cut, not a stained feather. It was all pronounced *‘very good’* by its Maker Himself. Now came the moment He had longed for. The very *purpose*

for all that had thus far been Created. The Creation of the ones He had so thought about when He was alone, back in Eternity. The ones who would not be put in a cage, not have their hands bound, nor their feet shackled. The ones who would be as free to roam away as any other creature of Creation, but would also have the freedom to come to Him in love, if they chose to. No strings attached. No reward if they did, nor punishment if they didn't. The ones who would have the freedom to choose to live their lives without Him, yet would be able to choose instead to want to know Him, because they could. To these ones, He would give Free-will, so the only reason they would have for any choice they made, would be *desire*.

3.

'And called their name Adam'

"Let us make man in our image, after our likeness." (Gen.1:26). The part of Adam made in the likeness of God was his Spirit, because, *'God is a Spirit.'* (John 4:24). Animals don't have a Spirit. Nor do plants. Only Man was Created in the *'image and likeness'* of his Creator, as a Spirit. So, the Lord created a body from dust, and put the Man's Spirit within it, so they could Fellowship in the Paradise He had created. *'And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.'* (Gen.2:7). (Hebrew 'Nephesh,' Breath, Adam 'breathed'). Adam was the pinnacle and end of Creation. With the end of Creation, the Lord *'rested'* and spent his time in fellowship with Adam, in the Garden of Eden.

In chapter five of Genesis, when Moses recorded the lineage of Adam, he wrote, *'This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God made He him; Male and female created He them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created.'* (Gen.5:1-2). He called their name Adam, because both the male and female Spirits were within Adam. Adam and Eve were one. And even after Eve was separated from Adam, to *'become flesh'* they were still one, as Adam testified, *'they shall be one flesh.'* This speaks of those who were in the mind of *'I Am'* in Eternity. They were part of Him then, and even after they are separated from Him, to *'become flesh'* on this earth, they are still *'one'* with Him.

So, the Lord God fellowshiped with Adam, in the Garden of Eden, and this fulfilled the Desire *'I Am'* had in Eternity, to be a Father. Then the Lord decided, *'It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet (helper fit) for him.'* (Gen.2:18). So, the Lord looked outside Adam for a *'help meet'* for him among the animals, as Adam named them, *'but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him.'* (Gen.2:20).

The I Am still had the attributes to be a Healer, and a Saviour and He couldn't intentionally harm Adam, just so He could heal him; or lose him, so He could 'save' him, that wouldn't be just. And, as Creation was now finished, they were living in the time of rest. But, part of the Divine Plan of 'I Am' back in Eternity, was to 'make' another creature; outside of perfection, and outside of the time when He had pronounced everything to be 'very good.' Someone less than perfect, with a weakness that, *if* it failed, would allow the 'I Am' to express Himself as a Healer, and as a Saviour.

So, the Lord God would make a helpmeet for the man, from a part of the man, and put the feminine part of Adam's Spirit within her. *'And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and He took one of his ribs, and he closed up the flesh instead thereof; And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made He a woman, and brought her unto the man. And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.'* (Gen.2:21-25).

They were living in innocence. Adam and Eve. The perfect couple, in the most perfect Paradise. But the woman was less than perfect. She had been made with a weakness that could allow her to believe something that was not true, and be deceived by it. And it wasn't long before it was exploited by another creature in the Garden. The Serpent.

'Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made.' (Gen.3:1). Subtil, meaning cunning, crafty, or deceptive. A con artist. The Serpent was what the world seeks as the 'Missing Link' between Humans, and Apes. He could walk and speak, and reason. This was before the Fall, and before the Serpent was cursed to *'go on his belly.'* The Lord had warned Adam, *"Of every tree of the Garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."* (Gen.2:16-17).

The Serpent lied to Eve, in contrast to what the Lord had said, *"Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil."* (Gen.3:4-5). What was Eve to do? Believe the Lord? Or believe the Serpent? One of them was lying. But, who?

The same temptation would be tried on the Second Adam, 4000 years later; but His reply to the Tempter was, *"It is written."* To Him, God's Word was Truth. But on this morn of Humanity, in the Garden of God, Eve was deceived into believing the Serpent's word was true, over God's Word. *'And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, was in the transgression.'* (1 Timothy 2:14). Adam, being made in the image of God, believed God's Word was Truth. But Eve, being made in the image of Adam, was deceived. Sin is unbelief. And Eve, disbelieving God's Word, and eating from the tree, had sinned.

Now, the perfect Creation of God, was marred by imperfection. It was no longer the

perfect dwelling place for God and Mankind together. The same One who had Spoken in Love saying, *"Let there be..."* Now had to Speak in Judgement, because of imperfection. *"Because thou hast done this..."* There was a terrible price to be paid for Sin. The Serpent was cursed to *'go upon his belly.'* The Man and Woman were taken out of the Presence of God, to toil in a land, that was cursed with hardship, everywhere they trod. This was a far cry from the Perfection of the Garden of God, and, they would learn God's Word was true. They would die.

4.

'I will put enmity between.. Thy seed and her seed'

'And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years.' (Revelation 20:2). Satan, in the Serpent *'beguiled,'* or seduced Eve. The Bible tells us she *'ate.'* When Solomon described a woman committing adultery, he said, *'Such is the way of an adulterous woman; she eateth, and wipeth her mouth, and saith, I have done no wickedness.'* (Proverbs 30:20).

'And Adam 'knew' Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the Lord. And she again bare his brother Abel.' (Genesis 4:1-2). Eve conceived twice, once from Adam, fathering Abel; and once previously from the Serpent who had already *'known'* her, when he *'beguiled'* her. There were twins in her womb.

Satan was in the Serpent trying to pervert God's Creation (which was *'very good'*), by fathering other children through the Serpent, who weren't the Children of God, or in the Plan of God. Why did God allow this? Why did He allow Lucifer (Satan), to rebel against Him in Heaven, with one third of the Angels in the first place? Why didn't He just annihilate them? Nobody knows. But it did allow Him to be a Healer, and to be a Saviour, and to express Himself as Perfect Love. Outside of Eden and His Presence, it allowed real pain, real loss, heartfelt longings, and the almost inexpressible joy of happiness to be expressed. This made life a reality, not a fairy tale where everyone would live happily ever after. Maybe it allowed *'all things to work together for good,'* through Lucifer, and the Fall of Man, to bring His Desire to pass.

Eve was pregnant, and the child of the Serpent was named Cain. *'Not as Cain who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother.'* (1 John 3:12). Cain is never called a Son of God, because he wasn't one. Neither is he mentioned in Adam's genealogies, because he wasn't one of his *'seed.'* *'And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she*

was the mother of all living.' (Genesis 3:20). Eve was the mother of Cain, and Adam's children, so, she was the one whom *everyone* on earth was descended from. Adam was only the 'Father' of the righteous line.

When the Lord confronted Adam, Eve, and the Serpent, He said to the Serpent, *"I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed."* (Genesis 3:15). Whenever the Bible mentions 'seed' it is referring to descendants. The woman's 'seed' were Adam's descendants through her (the Sons and Daughters of God). The Serpent's 'seed' were the Serpent's descendants through Cain.

After Abel had been murdered by Cain, the woman did not have 'seed' any longer. *'And Adam knew his wife again; and she bare a son, and called his name Seth: For God, said she, hath appointed me another 'seed' instead of Abel, whom Cain slew.'* Adam's 'seed' would come through Seth, and his future sons and daughters.

The 'Desire' of I Am in Eternity, being a 'Father' to those whom He designed and predestinated, was to become a reality through Adam and his descendants beginning with Abel. But now, there were two lines of 'seed' upon earth, The Serpent's seed (the ungodly line), and Adam's seed (the Godly line). The Serpent's seed have a 'spirit' the same as Adam's seed. And because they have a spirit, they have a desire to Worship. The Serpent's seed are Religious, we saw that in the Serpent's first son, Cain, as recorded in Genesis chapter four;

3. *'And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the Lord.*

4. *And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the Lord had respect unto Abel and to his offering.*

5. *But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect.'*

'By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain.' (Hebrews 11:4). What is Faith? It's a Revelation of the Will of God, to you personally. It was revealed to Abel, the son of God, that the *'wages of sin is death,'* (Romans 6:23), therefore the Lord required a Blood Atonement in Worship, because, *'without shedding of blood is no remission,'* (Hebrews 9:22). So, he offered a blood sacrifice, *'and the fat thereof.'*

But it wasn't revealed to Cain, the Serpent's son. So, he offered the best of the fruits and vegetables he had grown (his good works), to please the Lord. *'But, to his offering He had not respect.'* Religion is our 'works' done to try to appease, and please, God. Christianity is God's 'works,' Creating us, saving us, and *'presenting us spotless'* before Himself, at the end of time. The Serpent's 'seed' have many 'religions' today, and, like the first one started by their father Cain, they are all religions of 'works.' They have their false 'holy books,' they have their false 'prophets,' but they do not have an atonement for the sin that separated us from our Creator in the first place. They are still in darkness, and lost for Eternity.

Judaism was a shadow of *'the good things to come.'* Christianity, is the fulfilment of those things. Only these two are the Revelation from the Creator Himself. *'God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself,'* restoring His people to all that Adam lost for them in the Garden. God and man restored to the Fellowship 'I Am' desired in Eternity. When the Atonement was completed, Jesus cried, *"It is finished!"* The work of Redemption was finished. It was done. It was completed. It was all over. *'There is one Name under Heaven, given among men, whereby we must be saved.'* One Name. Jesus Christ. The Serpent's seed won't tell you that.

Many people believe all the Lord requires of us is sincerity. Cain was sincere and his Worship was rejected. The Lord Jesus taught the same when He said, *"Howbeit in vain do they Worship Me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men."* (Mark 7:7). The Lord revealed what He requires, and nothing but that will be accepted by Him.

The Lord rebuked the Pharisees by telling them, *"Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it."* (John 8:44). These are the same people who were scheming all the time, to have Him killed. Why? Because there was 'enmity' between Adam's seed; and the Serpent's seed.

The enmity between Adam's seed, and the Serpent's seed kept their bloodlines separate (apart from Cain marrying his half-sister), for most of the first 2000 years. The bloodlines should have been kept separate forever. *'And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.'* Ephesians 5:11). But then, *'The sons of God (Adam's descendants) saw the daughters of men (Cain's descendants) that they were fair; and took to them wives of all which they chose.'* (Genesis 6:2). After that, the bloodlines were all mixed up in the gene pool, and intermarriage blurred the lines between the seed so much, that no-one knew who was of what line. So, the Lord decided it was enough, when, *'God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.'* (Genesis 6:5). He would destroy His Creation that had started out as *'very good,'* and begin again with Noah and his family.

But there was a stowaway aboard the Ark. Ham, Noah's middle son, was of Cain's line, so the Serpent's seed, was perpetuated on earth even after the flood. From Ham's line came forth such as Nimrod (who founded Babel), and all the peoples who were the perpetual enemies of the Israelites, because, there was enmity between them. Besides this, as both 'seeds' were mixed up in the loins of Noah, they were also mixed up in the loins of his sons, and everywhere they went they sowed both seeds.

In the Lord's-day, they controlled the worship in the Temple, in Israel. And, as Cain tried to worship in his own way, they will always be among the worshippers. What do we do about it? The Lord told us to do nothing. In the parable of the wheat and tares,

of Matthew chapter 13, He explained the parable to His Disciples saying;

37. *“He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man.*

38. *The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the Kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one;*

39. *The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the Angels.*

40. *As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world.*

41. *The Son of man shall send forth His Angels, and they shall gather out of His Kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity;*

42. *And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.*

43. *Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the Kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.”*

The wicked, (the Serpent’s seed), will be bound together in the World Council of Churches first, and later in the World Religion, ready for the atomic burning of World War three, after the wheat have been safely gathered into the garner, in the Rapture. The Lord warned His seed not to join them;

“Come out of her (Rome and the World Religion), My people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.” (Revelation 18:4). If you sleep with dogs, you get fleas, or in this case, the plagues of the Tribulation.

In the bigger picture, the Serpent bruised the heel of the woman’s ‘seed’ (Jesus Christ), by crucifying Him. But He bruised the Serpent’s head, by His resurrection from the dead, winning the Victory for Adam’s race forever.

5.

The Father. The Healer. The Saviour.

‘Thus the Heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had made.’ (Gen.2:1-2). It was finished. But, those whom He had Created it all for, were now separated from Him. With the curse had come sickness, but they would learn, *‘I am the Lord that healeth thee,’* for any who would trust Him. They were also now cursed with death, and with separation from their Creator. But in 2000 years-time, This same One, Who had Created all, would be

sentenced to death, and nailed to a Cross, by His own Creation, to pay the price for their sins. And He would cry, *"It is finished,"* once again, when He paid the price for Eve's Sin, and restored His Creation back into Fellowship with Himself. He would be a Father to His own, providing all their needs, as was evidenced in the Garden of Eden, and in His promise, 'My God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.' (Philippians 2:19).

God had created perfection. Satan cannot create anything, he can only pervert what God has already Created. God Created perfect health. Satan pervert's health with sickness and disease. All sickness comes from him. God Created sex within marriage. Satan perverts it into fornication, adultery, and deviancy. God, *'Gives us richly all things to enjoy.'* (1 Timothy 6:17). But Satan, perverts those things, to make men and women into gluttons, drunkards, thieves, liars, and murderers.

God gives His children a desire to worship their Creator. But Satan gives the Serpent's seed a desire to worship the sun, the moon, their ancestors, or even idols they have made with their own hands.

For His children, who were now living in a world that was subject to sickness and disease; the 'I Am' became, *'the Lord that healeth thee.'* Their Healer.

What had gone wrong in the meantime? Absolutely nothing. Nothing is hidden from Him Who is 'Omniscient.' He knows all things. His Plan was much, much, vaster than any of us, toiling through our 'three score years and ten,' could have anticipated. He knows exactly what will happen on any square foot of this earth, on any day, of any year, of time. Nothing surprises Him. He knew before Creation began, how many tears would be shed, upon this earth. And, from the very beginning, He was trying to give us Hope, by revealing His Plan of Salvation, and Redemption. He wanted us to know, that He had not forgotten us. And more importantly, that He would provide for us a Sacrifice.

Why did the Lord take six days to Create everything, when He could have done it in one day, or even six minutes? He was revealing His Plan of Salvation, to give us hope. *'One day with the Lord is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.'* (2 Peter 3:8) He took six days (Six thousand years), to Create everything, then He rested 'the seventh day.' Did He begin Creating again on the eighth day? No, there was no eighth day. It was Eternity after that. We have six thousand years of labour upon this earth, then we have the Millennium (The thousand years of rest), before time ends, and we are back in Eternity, for Eternity, with our God, fulfilling the Desire of 'I Am' perfectly. This is also revealed in the Sabbath rest. *'Six days thou shalt do thy work, and on the seventh day thou shalt rest.'* (Exodus 23:12). There is no eighth day. The seven days are a constant reminder every week, that there is an Eternity to follow all this, He was revealing the hope of that from the very beginning.

The old Heavens and earth, that were Created when Time began, will be destroyed, and Time that began with them, will end with them, after the Great White Throne

Judgement. They will be replaced by the New Heavens, and the New Earth, populated by the New Creation. (2 Corinthians 5:17), living in Eternity.

6. Redemption

Redemption is the central theme of the New Testament. Redemption simply means, 'to buy back.' You cannot buy something *back*, if you did not *own* it in the first place. It's like having an object in a Pawn Shop. If you pawned it, to borrow money, then the Pawn Shop owns it now, and the only way it can be returned to your ownership, is if you pay the price to redeem it. No-one else but you can do that, within a certain period of time.

Redemption in the New Testament, is the same. We were God's in Eternity, *because* He chose us, and predestined us to be with Him upon this earth. Then we were lost in the Fall in the Garden of Eden. Our Soul is our intellect, and consciousness, and it's our Soul that makes the decision to Sin; therefore, it's our Soul that must pay the penalty for Sin, which is death. (*'The soul that sinneth it shall die.'* Ezekiel 18:20). And, because our Soul is our intellect and consciousness, the death of the Soul is the end of existence.

So, it's our Soul that has to be redeemed (bought back), for us to be saved. (*'None of them can by any means redeem his brother, nor give to God a ransom for him: For the redemption of their Soul is precious, and it ceaseth for ever.'* Psalm 49:7-8).

You cannot Redeem (buy back), something you did not own in the first place. So, the *only* ones whom the Lord can redeem, are the Seed of Adam (*'Adam, which was the son of God.'* Luke 3:38), because they were part of God in Eternity, and they were to be manifested in flesh as Adam's descendants. He cannot buy back the Serpent's descendants, because they never *were* the descendants of God, and can never *become* the descendants of God.

Redemption speaks of 'Ownership.' We are not God's because we give Him permission to come into our lives and join us. We are His, because He Created us; and because He Created us, He owns us. We were His at the moment He put our names in the Book of Life in Eternity, and, we *are* His, from that moment forward, *forever*.

Redemption is well explained to us via three Greek words;

Agorazo. 'To buy in the market.' The underlying theme here is of a Slave Market. You are buying someone, who is not the owner of their own life. It has been forfeited for some reason. So, now, you purchase them, and you own them. (*'Ye were the servants of sin.'* Romans 6:17).

Exagorazo. 'To buy out of the Market.' You paid the price to own them, so now they are yours, to take away from the Market, and they are no longer for sale. (*'Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.'* Romans 6:6).

Lutroo. 'To set free by paying a price.' They were for sale in the Slave Market, but their price of redemption has been paid, so they are now free. (*'Ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.'* 1 Corinthians 6:20).

Redemption is central to the New Testament, because it was part of the Plan of God in Eternity. We were His in Eternity, when He chose us; and Adam's Race were His in Eden, when He Created us, but we were separated from Him by sin. The penalty for sin is death, and that penalty must be paid. So, the only way He could buy us back, was by dying the death we had to die, to pay for our Sin. The innocent for the guilty. Then the guilty go free. *"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man would lay down His life for His friends."* (John 15:13).

Adam was sinless on the day he was created, and he had the most perfect fellowship with the Lord that anyone has ever had. When we confess our sins, they are *forgiven*, and *forgotten* by the Lord, and we are as *sinless* in His sight, as *Adam* was on the day of his *Creation*, and we have unhindered access into His Presence. Calvary restored us to that rightful Position that was ours before the Fall. Romans 8 teaches us that;

28. *'And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His Purpose.'*

29. *For whom He did foreknow, He also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the first born among many brethren.'*

30. *Moreover whom He did predestinate, them He also called: and whom He called, them He also justified: and whom He justified, them He also glorified.'*

St Paul is talking about those who are *'the called according to His Purpose.'* Each one of them were *'foreknown'* by Him in Eternity. And because they were *'foreknown,'* He *'predestinated'* them to be *'conformed to the image of His Son.'* (Become Christ-like). And because He *'predestinated'* them, He also *'called'* them, and *'justified'* them, and *'glorified'* them. If you notice, those states, *'called,' 'justified,'* and *'glorified,'* are all in the *past tense*. Those are our *Position* in Christ *now*.

We find this mirrored in Ephesians chapter 1;

3. *'Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.'*

4. *According as He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we*

should be holy and without blame before Him in love:

5. Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His Will.'

How do we see ourselves? As the Lord sees us? Justified? Glorified? Holy and without blame before Him? Or do we see ourselves through our weaknesses, and our times of failure? As one Servant of the Lord advised us, "It's better to believe what the Bible says you are, than what you *know* you are."

When the Death Angel was going to pass through the land of Egypt, and kill all the first-born in the land; the Israelites were warned to kill a lamb, and strike the lamb's blood onto the two side posts, and upper door post of their home, and the Death Angel would Pass-Over that home, and the first born within it would be safe. (Exodus 12:7). Even though they were all the Children of Abraham, without that Blood on the door-posts, they would not be safe from death.

And even though the Lord Himself paid the penalty to redeem His Children, they have to accept it personally, and believe it for themselves, for it to be applied to them. '*When I see the blood I will pass over you.*' (Exodus 12:13). He has to see it on each one of us, placed there by ourselves. His Desire in Eternity was, a people who would love Him, because they *chose* to. A people who had the freedom to spend their lives in selfish pleasure, ignoring Him, but who would choose *instead* to walk into His Presence on their own two feet, fulfilling the desire of their own heart. Free-will meant there was no compulsion, no demands, and no hand of Fate pushing them in the right direction.

In Evangelizing, and sharing the Gospel, we are not trying to convince 'neutral' people to believe God's Word, and be saved. We are trying to find the Sons and daughters of God, among the Serpent's seed. If they are God's Elect, they will recognise God's Voice, "*My sheep hear My Voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.*" (John 10:27). They recognise Him speaking, whether it is an audible Voice, or in His written Word, and respond to it. '*As many as were ordained to Eternal life believed.*' (Acts 13:48).

The Free Pardon is offered to every one of God's Children, but they still have to accept it to be saved. '*For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.*' (Ephesians 2:8). Like Moses, do we '*Esteem the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt?*' (Hebrews 11:26). We are allowed to choose one or the other, Free-will gives us that opportunity.

7.

The wise and foolish Virgins

In Matthew 25:1-13, we have the parable of the 'wise and foolish Virgins,' which we will print here in its entirety;

1. *'Then shall the Kingdom of Heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom.*

2. *And five of them were wise, and five were foolish.*

3. *They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them:*

4. *But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.*

5. *While the Bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept.*

6. *And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold the Bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet Him.*

7. *Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps.*

8. *And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out.*

9. *But the wise answered, saying, Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves.*

10. *And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with Him to the Marriage: and the door was shut.*

11. *Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us.*

12. *But He answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not.*

13. *Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of Man cometh.'*

The first thing to note, is that all of these women are virgins. They are all pure, and waiting for the return of the bridegroom (Jesus Christ). They are not the Serpent's seed, they are Adam's seed. They are typed as women (the Bride of Christ), so they represent women *and* men. Why were they left behind when the Wise Virgins went with the bridegroom? Because they weren't ready to meet Him, as verse ten plainly says. They did not have Oil in their lamps. They were still in darkness.

In the Scriptures, Oil *always* represents the Holy Spirit. The Lord Jesus also pointed this out, when He spoke to Nicodemus. *"Except a man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God."* (John 3:3). When he is 'born again' he can see the Kingdom of God, he is no longer blind to it. *"Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God."* (John 3:5). 'Seeing' the Kingdom is one thing, 'entering into it' is another. As He said here, *'born of water and of the Spirit.'*

The Wise Virgins believed the whole Word of God, and were baptized and filled with the Holy Spirit. The Foolish Virgins truly loved the Lord, but their Christian Experience

had not progressed beyond being *'babes in Christ,'* and they had *not* been baptized with the Holy Spirit. Mostly, our Foolish Virgins had heard the Call of God in their lives, and had responded to it. They go to 'Church' regularly, read the Bible superficially, and pray seldom, and for very short periods. They never 'wait on the Lord' long enough to get into His Presence. They never trust the Lord for anything, and no-one would be more surprised than them, if a prayer was answered.

They have been Christians for most of their lives, but they have the Spiritual understanding of a one-year-old 'Christian.' They are retarded. What would you think of a thirty-year-old, who wants to spend all day playing with model cars, in the sandpit? A thirty-year-old should be supporting himself with an occupation. The Foolish Virgins really are foolish. They will be hunted down by the Serpent's seed during the Tribulation, and murdered. They should have read the Bible, as the Word and Will of God; instead of just being pew-sitters. They were *'hearers'* of the Word, and not *'doers.'* They heard it, then went away, and forgot it. They believed foolishly, that they could get by without the Holy Spirit.

How essential is it for us to receive the Holy Spirit? St Paul warned us, *'But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His.'* (Romans 8:9). We are told here, that we are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit (Born Again), if the Spirit of God dwells in us. He also states at the end, if we do not have the *'Spirit of Christ,'* we are not His yet.

What is the Holy Spirit? It is Jesus Christ in Spirit form. In Romans 8:9, it mentioned the Spirit of God dwelling in you, it also mentioned having the Spirit of Christ (dwelling in you). The Spirit of God, the Spirit of Christ, and the Holy Spirit, are one and the same.

Why do we receive the Holy Spirit? *'And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are **sealed** unto the day of redemption.'* (Ephesians 4:30). It's a Seal. It shows the Lord has recognised the work of Redemption is finished in us, *'sealed unto the day of redemption'* (for Eternity). It's all completed. Our works are finished, and we can rest now, forever. Abraham was given a seal to show that his righteousness was recognised by God. *'And he received the sign of circumcision, a **seal** of the righteousness of the faith which he had yet being uncircumcised.'* (Romans 4:11).

What does the Holy Spirit do in us? *'But ye shall receive **power**, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be **witnesses** unto Me...'* (Acts 1:8). It is the power, and Presence of God, within us for Service. *'For it is God which **worketh** in you both to **will** and to **do** of His good pleasure.'* (Philippians 2:13). It is God who works from within us, but, He can't work in us, if He isn't Personally **in** us **to** work. After the Lord's resurrection, His Disciples were eager to get on with the work. But the Lord told them to, *"tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, **until** ye be **endued** with **power** from on high."* (Luke 24:49).

How did they receive that power? They waited in Jerusalem, as they were told, until, *'...suddenly there came a sound from Heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues*

like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost.' (Acts 2:2-4).

What about us? How can we receive the Holy Spirit ourselves? When the Disciples were asked by the onlookers, what they should do, after they saw the Disciples receive the Holy Spirit, Peter replied, *"Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the Name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call."* (Acts 2:38-39). This promise is to *"as many as the Lord our God shall call,"* which includes every person He calls in our day.

"Repent and be baptized in the Name of Jesus Christ." Why is it associated with baptism? Because baptism is *'the answer of a good conscience toward God.'* It's our testimony to the world that we are dead to the old life (when we were buried under the water), and are now resurrected to live a new life for Jesus Christ (by coming up out of the water, alive). We must have repented of our old life and works, or we will go into the water a dry sinner, and come out a wet sinner.

'Be baptized...in the Name of Jesus Christ.' In *His Name*. He is the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, but those are only His *Titles*. Back in Eternity, He planned to be a Father to His children. He planned to be the Son, living in flesh among them. And He planned that He, the Holy Spirit (the *'I Am'*), would live within them. His *Name* is Jesus Christ, and the promise was, that those who were baptised in His Name, would receive His Spirit. The promise was not to those who were baptised in His Titles, of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. *'And we are His witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey Him.'* (Acts 5:32). *"Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the Voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken (to the Word of God), than the fat of rams,"* as Samuel reminded King Saul. (1 Samuel 15:22).

The difference between the Wise and Foolish Virgins, was simply that the Wise had obeyed the Word of God, and been baptised with the Holy Spirit because of it. What can we do if we know we have not received the Spirit of God yet? Be obedient to His Word.

'Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain Disciples, He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.' (Acts 19:1-2). Paul found these Disciples, who had not yet received the Holy Spirit, and, knowing the promise was to *'all our God shall call,'* he asked them, *"Unto what then were ye baptised?"* knowing the Presence of God followed baptism in the Name of Jesus Christ. *"Unto John's baptism,"* they replied. So, he informed them, *"John verily baptised with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on Him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus."* And what was their response to the revealed Will of God? *'When they heard this, they were baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy*

*Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.’ (Acts 19:5-6). He gives the Holy Ghost to those who **obey** Him.*

8.

We will not have this Man to reign over us

During the ‘Last days’ before the Lord’s return, the ‘*Enmity*’ between the ‘*Woman’s seed*’ and the ‘*Serpents seed*’ will reach its peak, and God the Creator, will be completely rejected by the Serpent’s descendants. They will malign His Creation of the Universe, only allowing it to be said or taught anywhere, that everything, including all matter, evolved from nothing, which it did, at the command of God, but not by accident. The Sons and Daughters of God know they are not an accident. They are alive in this world, because God gave them life, and put them here. The Serpent’s seed will not suffer God's Children to Pray to Him, anywhere they are in control. They will even re-write history, and write Him and His works out of it, when it really was, His Story, after all. They will refuse to have Him to reign over them.

It was all ‘very good’ in the beginning, but at the end, it has all gone as far away from Him, as it could possibly go. Then, the real trouble starts. They turn on His Children. They form a ‘World Government’ under their control, with the Creator, and anything to do with Him being banned. Outlawed. They form a ‘World Religion,’ that welcomes every Pagan religion, everything Satanic, every myth and imagination of men’s hearts; but He, their Creator, is excluded. They form a ‘World Financial System,’ that controls every financial transaction in the world, so that anyone who will not toe *their* line, and take *their* Mark, will not be allowed to ‘buy or sell.’ It is all done by the Serpent’s seed, to target Adam’s seed.

They do not allow Adam’s seed to buy or sell, because they would not accept the Mark. They cannot work, because they cannot be paid. They cannot drive their cars, because they cannot buy gasoline. They are evicted from their homes, because they cannot pay their bills. Their children are taken from them, because they cannot buy food to feed them. They cannot even receive a meal from a soup kitchen, without the Mark. They are marked, without being Marked.

‘And others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection: And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented; (Of whom the world was not worthy).’ (Hebrews 11:35-38).

But there are two things that can never be taken away from them; their Heritage, and their Faith. They are Sons and Daughters of God. They pray. They pray as they have never prayed before. In anguish, and despair, from the depths of their hearts, from the deepest need they have ever had. They were mostly well-off, in terms the world would understand. But now, all that glitters is gone, it has all been stripped away from them. They have nothing but the little they can carry, and even that is not secure. There is no Law for them, no protection. There is nothing to anchor them to this world any longer. So, with arms raised high, they cry out in desperation, "Even so, come Lord Jesus, deliver us!"

'For the Lord Himself shall descend from Heaven with a shout, with the voice of the Archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words.' (1 Thessalonians 4:16-18).

They had been comforting one another with those words for some time now, but finally, *'The iniquities of the Amorites were full.'* The day had come, and they were going, up. The 'Rapture.' The Lord was taking them off the earth to safety, before he repaid the Serpent's seed, for their persecution of *His* Sons and Daughters. For those whom they had beaten and starved. For the grieving parents, and the terrified children. For the many they had murdered. For the millions they had martyred over the centuries. There was a terrible toll to exact.

There would be 3 1/2 years of *'Great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to that time, no nor ever shall be.'* (Matthew 24:21). He would repay them a hundredfold, a thousandfold, until they would cry out for the rocks to fall on them and hide them from Him, the Creator of all things, whom they had rejected.

Daniel also prophesied of this time, *'And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people (Israel): and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book. And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.'* (Daniel 12:1-2).

During the Tribulation, the period also known as *'the time of Jacob's (Israel's) trouble,'* Satan, through the World Government, and the World Religion, will unleash his fury upon Israel, because they are the only ones left on earth now, in Service to the *'I Am,'* the Church having been Raptured. *'Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! For the Devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.'* (Revelation 12:12).

The Lord will then reveal Himself to Israel, unto whom as St Paul told us, *'Blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in,'* (Romans 11:25), and Seal them, so the coming plagues will not harm them. *'Hurt not the earth, neither*

the sea, nor the trees, till we have Sealed the Servants of our God in their foreheads. And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel.' (Revelation 7:3-4). We see them again in Revelation 14:1, when the Lord stands with them. *'And I looked, and lo, a Lamb stood on the Mount Sion, and with Him a hundred and forty and four thousand having His Father's Name written in their foreheads.'*

Zechariah 12:10, tells us what will happen at that time. *'And I will pour upon the House of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon Me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for Him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for Him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.'* *'And one shall say unto Him, What are these wounds in Thine hands? Then shall He answer, Those with which I was wounded in the house of My friends.'* Zechariah 13:6.

The Lord's two Hebrew Prophets of Revelation 11, will be among this number. Most Christian Teachers refer to them as Moses and Elijah, because they have the same powers that Moses and Elijah had. *'And I will give power unto My two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and three score days (3 1/2 years), clothed in sackcloth....These have power to shut Heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophesy: and have powers over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will.'* (Revelation 11:3,6).

As it was in Egypt when Angels held the plagues in vials, until Moses spoke, "Let there come frogs," etc, when the Angel would pour the plague upon the land, so, it will be during the Tribulation. Angels hold the plagues in vials (Revelation 16), and they cannot pour the plagues upon the earth, until one of the Prophets speaks the Word first. The plagues include;

-Sores upon those who have the Mark of the Beast. (Revelation 16:2).

-Sea became as the blood of a dead man: and every living soul died in the sea. (:3).

-The rivers and fountains of waters became blood. (:4).

-men scorched with great heat. (:9).

-a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake and so great. (:18). (This earthquake will be so devastating, that all buildings, walls, and trees, will be shaken to the ground. Mountains will crumble, islands will disappear. No wonder men cry out for the rocks to fall on them and hide them from the wrath of God).

-great hail, every stone about the weight of a talent. About 40 kgs. (:21).

The world will hate the Prophets so much, because of the plagues, that the World Government (U.N.) Armies will surround, and attack Jerusalem. *'For I will gather all Nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished.'* (Zechariah 14:2). The two Prophets will be killed. *'And when*

they shall have finished their testimony, the Beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them. And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified. (Jerusalem). And they of the people and kindreds and tongues and Nations shall see their dead bodies three days and a half, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put into graves. And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice over them, and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another; because these two Prophets tormented them that dwell on the earth.' (By calling the plagues forth. Revelation 11:7-10).

But that isn't the end of them, because their testimony isn't finished yet. *'And after three days and a half the spirit of life from God entered into them, and they stood upon their feet; and great fear fell upon them which saw them. And they heard a great Voice from Heaven saying unto them, Come up hither. And they ascended up to Heaven in a cloud; and their enemies beheld them.'* (Revelation 11:11-12).

After this, the Lord Jesus will return with His Saints, and the battle of Armageddon, which ends both Satan's, and Man's reign, upon the earth, will take place, before the setting up of the Lord's Millennial Kingdom, and His physical Presence upon earth, living among His redeemed people, as it was in the Garden of Eden.

9.

New Heavens. New Earth. New Creation.

'But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the Heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.' (2 Peter 3:10).

A thief in the night? You never even knew he was in your home, violating its sanctity. When you learn of it in the morning, everything you valued is gone. And it's too late to do anything about it. You should have been alert. You should have been watching. You re-live the night over and over, deciding what you could have done differently, or better. But it doesn't change anything. It's too late now.

As a thief in the night. That's how it will happen. That's how it will all end. An apocalypse. The old Heavens. The old earth. The old Creation. All *'melted with fervent heat.* 'And it's too late to do anything about it, once it starts. You weren't aware it was that late. Now it is *too* late. St Paul also knew it would happen this way;

'For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them.' (1 Thessalonians 5:3). Peace and safety? No wonder they weren't ready for the thief. They were asleep, secure in the knowledge all was safe. This was also foretold by Malachi, the last of the Old Testament Prophets;

'For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the Lord of hosts.' (Malachi 4:1,3). Before that day came, the Lord would send Elijah, to warn the people;

'Behold, I will send you Elijah the Prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord; And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.' (Malachi 4:5-6). John the Baptist fulfilled the first part of this prophecy, as foretold to his father Zacharias, by the Angel;

'And he shall go before Him (Jesus) in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children.' (Luke 1:17). John believed he was fulfilling the whole of Malachi's prophecy, before the day of the Lord, and the destruction of the wicked;

'O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? (The burning). And now also the axe is laid to the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.' (Matthew 3:7,10). Then he warned what the One whom he was introducing (Jesus), would do;

'He will thoroughly purge His floor, and gather His wheat into the garner; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.' (Matthew 3:12). But the Lord Jesus separated Malachi's prophecy into its two separate Ministries;

'And Jesus answered and said unto them, Elias truly shall first come, and restore all things. But I say unto you, That Elias is come already, and they knew him not...Then the disciples understood that He spake unto them of John the Baptist.' (Matthew 17:11-13).

Jesus foretold the *future* Ministry of Elijah, who would *'restore all things,'* before the *'day that will burn as an oven.'* And the *past* Ministry, *'Elijah is come already,'* fulfilled by John, who was dead by then. Both were part of the complete fulfilment of Malachi's

prophecy. After its fulfilment, there will come destruction.

'The day cometh that shall burn as an oven...And all that do wickedly...Shall be ashes under the soles of your feet.' (Malachi 4:1,3). Peter warned us *the 'Heavens being on fire shall be dissolved.'* (2 Peter 3:12). And the *'elements will melt with fervent heat'* There will be nothing recognizable afterwards. All will be ashes. And billions had to live, and die through it. Why would God do this they questioned in their last moments? Why? Why? But *He* didn't do it.

Mankind did it. The Serpent's seed. They were *'subtil,'* like their father. Cunning, crafty, deceptive. Con artists. They had their *'World Government,'* ruling the world without *'God.'* They had their *'World Religion,'* worshipping the sun, the moon, the stars, the Devil, everything but the Creator. He had warned His people to keep out of it. *'Come out of her, My people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.'* (Revelation 18:4). God's Eden had been perfect. This was Satan's Eden, an empire without God. But all the leaders were *'subtil.'* They all wanted to be *'God'* over it all. No wonder they said, *'peace and safety.'* They needed an *'agreement,'* a signed, promised, statement, they could trust in, to be sure no-one would backstab the others.

Vultures are friends, as long as they have a carcass to feast on, and gloat over. But, when there is no carcass, they will eye each other, as the next meal. *'Peace and safety?'* That was the look they gave each other when they were all satisfied. But, away from each other, they were nothing but vultures.

Who started it? That doesn't matter, because once it started, and everyone pushed the buttons, there could be no winners. Everyone lost. The Heavens passed away with a loud noise. The elements melted with fervent heat. The earth, and the works therein were burned up. In the beginning God Created....In the end man destroyed.

There was little left now. The thief had taken everything. The trees. The grass. The fish. The birds. The animals. Even the *'Heavens'* were a smoking ash filled *'firmament'* of fierce burning winds. Darkness was upon the face of the deep, once again. An empty darkness. An atomic night. It had been created as a haven for life, now it was the graveyard of creation.

The wealthier Nations were destroyed. They had destroyed each other. The poorer nations, those who could not afford to arm themselves with atomic weapons, had for the most part been left alone. But the air they breathed was poison to them, contaminated with radioactive dust. The survivors from the richer nations would seek safety in these poorer nations, just to survive a little longer.

The World Government will then amass its forces to attack and annihilate Israel. Israel had always been the enemy, since the founding of the *'United Nations.'* They met together under one roof, but they were never *'United'* in any sense. Israel had become the common enemy now, because Israel birthed the two Prophets who had tormented the ungodly Nations with the plagues.

But what of the old creation at His return? Everything was laid low, by the *'great earthquake.'* The sea and the fountains of waters became blood, and every creature in the sea died. The sea and rivers are a stinking, stagnant, mess. The air is polluted. The land is polluted.

'Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for New Heavens, and a New Earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.' (2 Peter 3:13). There will be a New Heavens and a New Earth, John saw them, *'And I saw a new Heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.'* (Revelation 21:1). Who will live upon this new earth? *'Therefore If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature, old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.'* (2 Corinthians 5:17). A *new* Heavens, and a *new* earth, for the *new* creation. Old things are passed away, behold *all things* are become *new*.

10. The Judgement

First, there is the Millennium. The thousand years of peace and rest on earth, after the Lord's return, for those who came up in the first resurrection. The Lord, living among His redeemed Children, sitting on the Throne of David. And when it's over, it's time for the Judgement.

'But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished.' (Revelation 20:5). All those who never came up in the first resurrection are resurrected back in their physical bodies, after waiting in the darkness of hell, since their physical deaths. *'And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the Books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were Judged every man according to their works.'* (Revelation 20:12-13).

It's like one of those Family get-togethers, that were planned years in advance, but then suddenly, it's here. "Oh no, how did it come so quickly?" everyone asks. But time was creeping toward it slowly, unnoticed, and undetected.

The Judgement was somewhere way off in the unimaginable future, but here it is. Now. Most people have the resigned acceptance of the condemned man, who stands before the gallows, studying the noose. It's too late to change anything. The common

thought is, "It will *all* be over soon." It will all be over. The Second death. The first death was the death of the body. The Second death is the death of the Soul, and the end of consciousness and existence, forever. It will all be over. No more words uttered, not even any more thoughts. It's all over.

Of course, there are those who object. "But I was a Priest..." "But I was only following orders..." "The devil made me do it!" Those who were caught red-handed, will stand with those who thought they had committed the perfect crime, and gotten away with it. But no-one gets away with anything here. All the dirtiest acts come spilling out, before Him who is Holy, Him who is Pure. There are no plea-bargains. No-one can reach for their wallet, and say, "I'm sure we can work this out somehow?" No-one can blame anyone else. There are no lies. There is no twisting of the truth. There are only the facts. The Truth, the whole Truth, and nothing but the Truth. There is nowhere to run, and nowhere to hide. It's over.

'Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.' (Revelation 20:6). They are truly blessed, and holy. *'Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.'* (Hebrews 12:14). The first resurrection was the resurrection of the dead Saints (the 'Church'), and their catching away (Rapture), with those still alive, to meet the Lord in the air. (1 Thessalonians 4:17). They are blessed, because, their sins were judged in Jesus Christ at Calvary. *All* their sins were atoned for. There is nothing in them to Judge any longer. *'On them the Second Death has no power.'*

But, they *will* all stand before the Judgement seat of Jesus Christ, to be rewarded for their faithfulness to Him, and for their loss of, *"house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for My sake, and the Gospel's."* (Mark 10:30). What a reward it will be, to hear those Words, *"Well done my good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of the Lord."*

The most surprising rewards of all will be when the Guilty stand before the White Throne, in Judgement, and the Lord Jesus will *"Separate them, one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats."* (Matthew 25:32). To them on His right hand He will say, *"Come, ye blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was an hungered, and ye gave Me meat; I was thirsty, and ye gave Me drink; I was a stranger, and ye took Me in: Naked, and ye clothed Me; I was sick, and ye visited Me: I was in prison; and ye came unto Me."* (Matthew 25:34-36).

But these people can't remember ever having served Him in this way. And they wonder, what He is talking about? *"Then shall the righteous answer Him, saying, Lord, when saw we Thee an hungred, and fed Thee? Or thirsty, and gave Thee drink? When*

saw we Thee a stranger, and took Thee in? Or naked, and clothed Thee? Or when saw we Thee sick, or in prison, and came unto Thee?" (Matthew 25:37-39).

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My Brethren, ye have done it unto Me." (Matthew 25:40). What? A reprieve on the eve of execution? They can't believe it. Not just a reprieve...But, rewarded! *"Come ye blessed of My Father..inherit the Kingdom prepared for you...For I was...And you..."*

His 'Church,' was His Body representing Him, on the earth. But to Him, they were more than *representing* Him. They were *'flesh of My flesh, and bone of My bone.'* They were the Love of His life. They are the *reason* for all of Creation. They are the reason for His Sacrifice on Calvary. They are the reason for the Eternity ahead, *'wherein dwelleth righteousness.'* And, *"Inasmuch as you've done it unto the least of these, you've done it unto Me."*

We read of the New Earth, and the Holy City, the New Jerusalem that has descended upon it. The Holy City, *'wherein dwelleth righteousness.'* Everything within that city is pure. *'For outside are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.'* (Revelation 22:15).

They will never step over the threshold, into the city itself. These are they who were sorcerers, adulterers, murderers, liars; but for their love and compassion, to *"The least of these,"* they were rewarded with Eternal Life. 'Outside the City.' But, even outside the Holy City it is the New Earth, the new Garden of Eden. No-one is more surprised than them, that they are here. They never did anything for reward. But they *are* rewarded, and their reward is so much more than has *'entered into the heart of man.'*

And what of the Judgement itself? In 2 Timothy 4:8, we read of *'the Lord, the righteous Judge.'* He never asks for more than can be given, and He never takes more than what is owed. An *'eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, and a life for a life,'* was His dictum. His mandate was, that the punishment must fit the crime. But it was a terrible crime. Unbelief. Eve's first single act of unbelief, caused every sickness, every sorrow, every suffering child, every grieving parent, every moan and tear, every death. And this? *'He who is guilty in part, is guilty of all.'* There are no *big* sins, and no *little* sins. Before God, it's all filthy rotten sin, because it's all unbelief. We never believed our Creator. We called Him a liar. Not so much in word, but by our actions.

And now, the guilty stand before Him. Those who so brazenly slandered Him in life, now cower before Him at their Judgement. Mussolini once shouted to the sky, "If there's a God, strike me dead." And because he didn't fall dead, he lived as though there was no God. Now, he knows there is a God, and he wishes he had asked a different question, and waited for an answer. Castro and Guevara, the butchers of the Cuban people, now stand as fearful before their Judge, as the thousands whom they murdered, had trembled before them. Those who believed the end justified the means, all find

'the means' are the cause for *their* end. They're all here. All of them. The bullies. The self-righteous. Those who committed the crimes, and those who passed judgement on them. All the Priests of the inquisition, and those who piled up the wood, to burn, '*the least of these.*'

They're all here. '*And the Books were opened...And the dead were Judged out of those things which were written in the Books.*' Oh, no! It was all recorded. Every word. Every act. Even, every thought. All those times when things were whispered in confidence. All those times when it was promised, 'Nothing leaves this room.' All those times when the evidence was shredded. It was all recorded. And it all comes out, for all to hear. But none cast the first stone. None are without sin.

Soon, their sentence will be passed. Every dog has his day, and this is theirs. After this day of recompense is over, it will be Eternity again, when Time is no more. And, as the Lord revealed to Isaiah the Prophet, '*For, behold, I create New Heavens, and a New Earth: and the former shall not be remembered, nor come into mind.*' (Isaiah 65:17). '*Not be remembered, nor come into mind.*' Those who perished at the Judgement will never be remembered again. There will not even be a trace of them having lived. Nothing of the old earth and its deeds can be remembered there. The parents and friends whom you prayed for, for years. The wayward children. The agonies of heart. The tears shed for others. '*Shall not be remembered, nor come into mind.*'

This is Eternity. There is no yesterday, and no tomorrow, so, there is no history to remember. The former things *have* passed away. '*And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.*' (Revelation 21:4). "*Behold, I Create all things New.....Let there be....And there is...*"

11.

The Perfect Fulfillment of the Desire of 'I Am' in Eternity

Eternity, again. Time has passed away, behold all things are become new. A New Heaven. A New Earth. A New Creation. They were born in the old Creation, as Sons of Adam, but then, they were Born Again, a second birth, as Sons and Daughters of God. The new birth, uncontaminated by sin. All things are become New. Now, it's all fulfilled. The Desire of 'I Am' is a living reality. There is no more curse of that first sin. Only perfect Love can enter those gates, because, God *is* Love.

'And I saw a new Heaven and a new earth: for the first Heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the Holy City, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of Heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of Heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. And He shewed me a pure river of the water of Life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the Throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the Tree of Life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the Nations. And there shall be no more curse: but the Throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and His servants shall serve Him: And they shall see His face; and His Name shall be in their foreheads. And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign forever and ever.' (Revelation 21 1-4, and 22 1-5).

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Ed.D.