



**An Outline of the Teachings of the
Christian Israelite Church**

explaining

**The Hope
of the
Life of the Body**



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THE HOPE OF THE LIFE OF THE BODY

INTRODUCTION

This book brings together an outline of the teachings of the Christian Israelite Church. The information is not new, and indeed the beliefs expressed have been widely dispersed for more than one hundred and fifty years.

In short, Christian Israelites hold the hope of the life of the body - the hope of immortality - that is, to be preserved alive by the Power of God Almighty until the return of Jesus Christ to rule and reign on this earth. This hope, we believe, will be the fulfilment of the promises in Scripture to a remnant of the descendants of Israel - namely the one hundred and forty four thousand spoken of in Revelation - Christian Israelites.

But to understand what is embraced in this hope requires a clear definition of the terms and words used, for without this clarification discussions usually end at cross purposes.

The information in this book has been presented in a logical sequence of development - starting with what we have here and now, then looking to its origin, its purpose and its final objective. Any readers still unsure in their own minds about God's Power and His role in creation may care to look closely at Part 2 as a starting point. Some readers may prefer to approach the teachings in a chronological order (eg. in the sequence parts 2,3,5,7,1,8,4 and 6) or some may refer to just a single topic. It is noted, however, that terms used are defined as they arise in the presented sequence, and in general are assumed to be understood in following parts of the book.

Please note it is emphasised that these teachings are seen as stepping stones to assist each person to develop a deeper personal relationship with God. Belief in "the teachings" alone does not make a Christian nor a Christian Israelite. This comes through belief in God, faith in the sacrifice of Jesus and a dedication of one's life to serve the Lord.

We trust that all who read this book will receive a blessing from God as they study His word.

The Trustees of the Christian Israelite Church, March 1983.

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PART 1
Three Parts of Man - Spirit and Soul and Body.

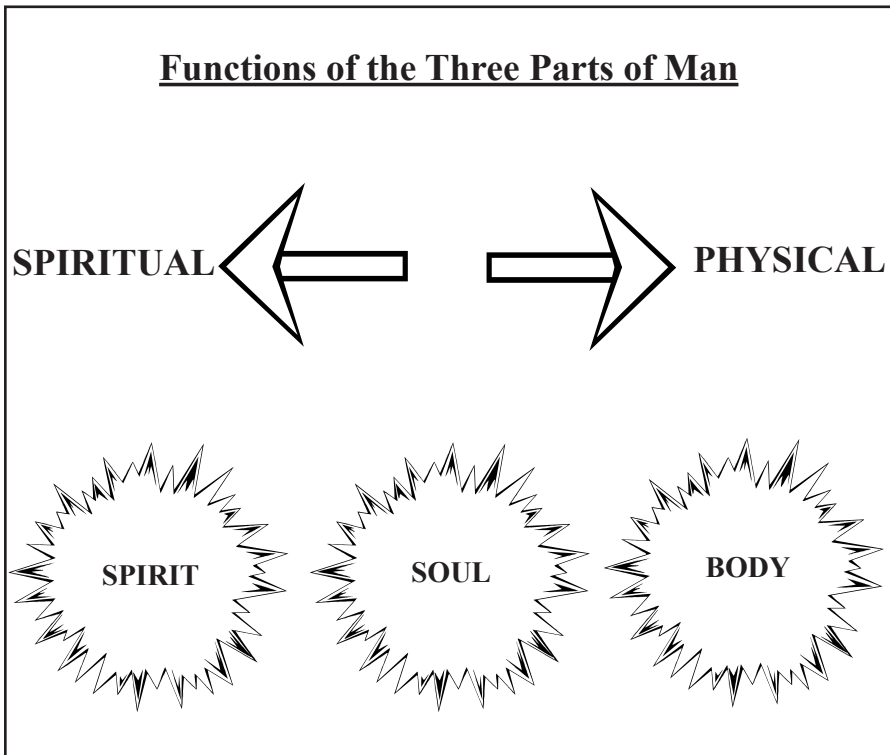
Summary

Each living person has three parts - a spirit, a soul, and a body - forming his or her being. Each has an individual spirit, which pre-existed with God, which is the life-source of the person. If God withdraws the spirit, then the body or person dies.

The body is the physical part of each being. The body is generated from the seed which is procreated from one generation to the next.

The soul is the seat of man's intellect and emotions. Each receives a soul at life, and it is the soul that contains man's controllable conscious mind. Further, the soul is responsible to answer in the day of judgment for actions committed whilst the person was in this life.

The soul serves as an interface between physical and spiritual consciousness, for, as well as having a continuing awareness of the world we are in, at times our conscious mind gains insights of spiritual understanding.



1.1. The Spirit

The spirit of each person, we believe, pre-existed with God and is united with the body and soul in this life. Death comes when the spirit is withdrawn from the body by God. At death *“the spirit returns to God who gave it”* Ecclesiastes 12:7. (Also read Ephesians 1:4,11,12 and James 2:26). Each person has an individual spirit especially sent from God. The spirit has knowledge of its existence with God in heaven but because of the veil (ie. from the evil associated with our life of blood - Romans 8:20) it is unable to communicate this knowledge to us (1 Corinthians 13:9-12). At times, however, we can experience spiritual awareness or feeling (1 Corinthians 2:10-12).

“God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in Spirit and in truth” John 4:24.

“The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord” Proverbs 20:27.

1.2 The Soul

The soul contains the learning part of man, the intellect, and emotions. Like a computer, it can store knowledge. From experience and knowledge so stored it is able to make decisions. It has the ability to choose between what is right and what is wrong (ie. the agency of obedience - Genesis 3:5). Man’s soul takes counsel (Psalm 13:2). It refuses things (Job 6:7). It is capable of grief (Job 30:25). It is satisfied with good things (Psalm 63:5). It feels bitterness of sorrow (Job 10:1; Mark 14:33,34). It is the seat of man’s emotions (1 Samuel 8:1). At death, the soul, as a thinking part of a person, ceases to function.

“His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth, in that very day his thoughts perish” Psalm 146:4. That is, his consciousness or ability to interact with this world exists no long. HOWEVER, the soul itself is not destroyed at death. The soul “sleeps” in the grave in either happiness or misery - depending on its relationship with God in this life - until the resurrection (Psalm 49:15; Daniel 12:2; 2 Esdras 4:40,41).

After a person has died, nothing can be done by other people to affect that person’s state in the grave. The soul “sleeping” is somewhat like our present physical sleep in which state we know nothing of what is going on around us, but yet sometimes can be aware of being in a distressed state of mind. This will not be clear until all souls awake to consciousness at Jesus Christ’s return (see John 5:25,28,29).

The soul is responsible in the day of judgment to give an account of man’s deeds done during his mortal life on earth (Revelation 20:14).

The soul may also be compared to the germ in a grain of wheat, and although the husk or kernel may be damaged, or even destroyed, the germ can live. It can germinate when the conditions are right (ie. at the resurrection) - 1 Corinthians 14:36-38.

1.3 The Body

The body is the material part of man, the part that can be seen by the mortal eye. At death, we know the physical body returns to dust (Genesis 3:19). It is totally destroyed and is not resurrected (Acts 2:27-29; 13:35,36; Ecclesiastes 9:5,6,10; Job 14:7-10; Job 34:14,15). The resurrected body of soul and spirit is not a physical body.

While the spirit is non-physical and the body physical, the soul acts as an interface between them. The living conscious mind (soul) has continuing awareness of the physical world, but at times it gains insight into the spiritual or immaterial world (1 Corinthians 2:14). These insights or gifts of understanding can vary enormously from person to person.

To further clarify the difference between the spirit, soul and body we need to ask two questions.

1.4 What is the Grave?

The grave as referred to in the Bible, is a resting place, which can be anywhere at all (Job 14:7-14, Revelation 6:9-11). After death the soul sleeps in the grave, either in happiness or misery, waiting until the resurrection, and while there it has no knowledge of this life (John 5:25-29; Isaiah 38:18; 57:1,2; Ecclesiastes 9:10).

1.5 What is the Resurrection?

The resurrection is the rejoining of the spirit and soul by God causing an awakening and forming a celestial being (1 Corinthians 15:44; John 11:24; 2 Corinthians 5:1). This will take place at Jesus Christ's return.

The spirit and soul both have the same shape and form as the body (1 Samuel 28:12,14; Luke 24:39) but cannot normally, at present, be seen by the mortal eye (see for example 2 Kings 6:17). When the spirit is returned to join with the soul, it does not make the resurrected being physical as it was before death, but the resurrected being will be able to be seen then as all eyes will be capable of seeing spiritual things.

The physical body that once breathed on earth does not return; once decayed away, it is lost forever (Job 14:7-12). So the resurrection beings will be without blood or physical substance, each being spirit and soul combination. Celestial beings can pass through material objects such as walls, and are not subject to time and space.

King David realised that the spirit of man at death returns to God, but the soul of man is laid in the tomb with the body, for he wrote in Psalm 49:15, "*God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave*". He was speaking of His resurrection.

1.6 Further References to show difference between the spirit and the soul.

Jeremiah 1:15 says, “*Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee*” ie. God knew his spirit in heaven before his body was formed (reference Job 38:4-7; John 8:58; 17:5).

Hebrews 4:12 shows again that the spirit and soul are separate parts “*dividing even asunder of soul and spirit*”.

Mary, the mother of Jesus, said, “*My soul doth magnify (indicates present acquired knowledge) the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced (past fore-knowledge, note the tense) in God my Saviour*” Luke 1:46-47. St. Paul prayed that future generations (ie. of the children of Abraham) would be preserved alive in the latter days, prepared for the second coming. He knew there was three parts of man, for he said “*I pray God that your whole spirit, soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ*” 1 Thessalonians 5:23.

When considering Jesus at His crucifixion, we see the three components distinctly identified. When on the cross, He said, “*Father, into they hands I commend my spirit*” Luke 23:46, and Peter tells us in Acts 2:31 of the soul of Jesus being in hell (the grave) and his body (flesh) also being in the grave but not seeing corruption. Note, his body, of course, being without evil did not decay. If we die, the inherited curse on, and evil in our bodies, would cause them to corrupt.

1.7 Recap

The spirit was a pre-existing knowledge of God before it comes to this life, but in this life is unable to impart this knowledge to the soul because of the presence of a veil - the evil. The evil is in the blood. It is the blood that keeps our physical bodies alive (Romans 7:23,24; Leviticus 17:11).

The soul commences this life with no knowledge at all, and acquires understanding in conjunction with physical growth as life progresses. Every child’s soul begins life with an equal chance to learn the difference between good and evil.

Whilst the soul and body type that each person has contain genetically inherited factors received from our earthly parents (Exodus 1:5), the spirit of an individual is given directly from God. Different types of spirits exist (“*Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of*” Luke 9:55). The type of spirit each receives is foreknown by God only.

So, a spirit, soul and body are required to make up a complete mortal being in this life.

PART 2 Pre Existence in Spirit

Summary

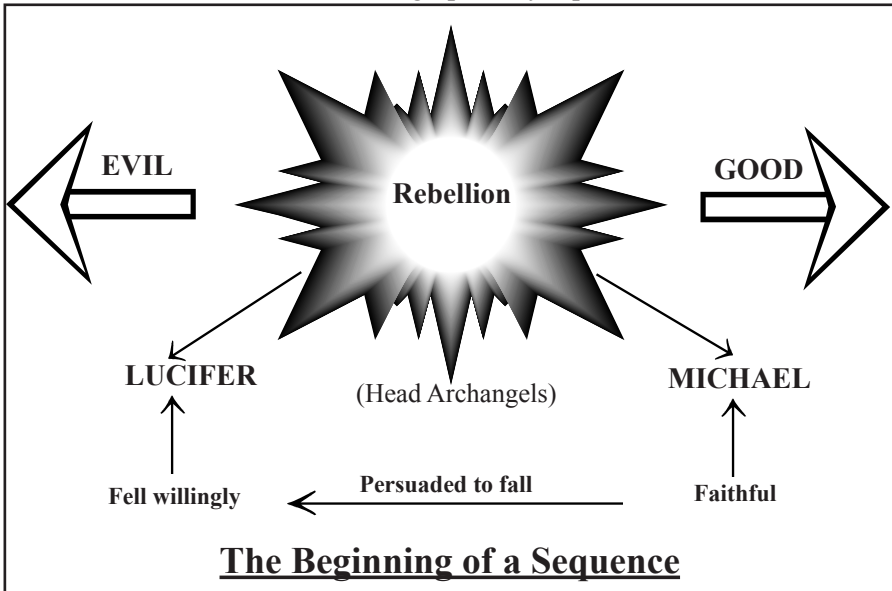
In studying God's Plan, there are many events of which we can learn "what" and "when" but not understand exactly "how" or "why". The happenings prior to our physical creation (referred to as "The First Estate") fall into such a category.

We understand that God created a large number of beings without physical substance, called spirits. Each spirit had a duo-nature, that is, both male and female combined. God also created evil, and allowed it to appear in Lucifer, the Head Archangel, to prove that ultimately good would prevail over evil.

Lucifer sought to gain the allegiance of the created beings, which should have been directed to God. As a result, there was a "rebellion" in this "heavenly state" and the created beings (spirits) were divided into three basic groups - those who supported Satan, those who were persuaded to fall and those who remained faithful to God.

Another archangel, Michael by name, is mentioned in the Scriptures. Michael, we believe, was the Head Archangel, who stood for God and good, and who, with the faithful spirits, cast Lucifer and the fallen spirits out from the presence of God ("The Heavenly State").

The result of the rebellion is graphically represented below:



2.1 The Beginning of a Sequence

Although there is not a great amount written in the Bible that tells an explicit story about the earlier phases of creation, there are quite a few passages which infer that we indeed belonged to a spiritual “heaven” before we were born into this earthly sphere. Man was initially a spirit (without a body or soul) in that state, unable to be seen by mortal man because of the “*spirit of slumber; eyes that they should not see*” Romans 11:8 and 2 Kings 6:17.

“Now when I prepared the world, which was not yet made, even for them to dwell in that now live, no man spake against Me. For then everyone obeyed” 2 Esdras 9:18,19.

“For God is a Spirit....” John 4:24 and *“...God created man in His own image....”* Genesis 1:27, which indicates that man was a spirit when first created.

2.2 A Flash of Hidden Memory

Have you ever experienced the ‘deja-vu’ feeling, that is that you have thought you have visited a place or said the same thing to a certain person before? Yes, although you are quite certain you have never met that person or visited that place, you feel that you have. You have a flash of memory that you have been through it all before! Not understanding what it is, you dismiss it from your mind. Ecclesiastes 3:15 says, *“That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been; and God requireth that which is past”*.

Indications are that in God’s Plan for this world, He has built from a sequence of prior activities, ie. from the first creation, or former estate (Jude 6), the spirit creation. Jesus said, *“Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of”* (Luke 9:55), indicating a prior existence, and, *“Before I formed thee in the belly (physical), I knew thee”* (Jeremiah 1:5), inferring an acquaintance before physical birth.

2.3 God: Supreme Being - Creator of All

“And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands” Hebrews 1:10.

Jeremiah 51:15 reads, *“He hath made the earth by His power; He hath established the world by His wisdom, and hath stretched out the heaven by His understanding”* (also read verse 16).

Other readings which relate to this point are - Isaiah 43:10,11; 44:6; Psalm 40:2; 2 Esdras 6:1-6.

“O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was” John 17:5.

2.4 God the Beginning and the End

In Revelation 22:13, the Lord says, *“I am the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last”*.

We are also told that God Jehovah is a Spirit possessing three persons: *“the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost”* Matthew 28:19. This is further clarified in 1 John 5:7. John 1:14 tells us that *“the Word was made flesh”* and the Power of God was manifested to mankind through Jesus Christ.

2.5 God Meditates and Formulates His Great Plan

“There is no God beside me”. “I am the Lord, and there is none else... I form the light, and create the darkness; I make peace, and I create evil: I the Lord do all these things. Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness: let the earth open, and let them bring forth salvation, and let righteousness spring up together; I the Lord have created it” Isaiah 45:5,7,8.

2.6 Hidden Information

In Isaiah 14 there is a parable concerning the King of Babylon, which describes the universal conflict between good and evil. Throughout the Bible, Babylon is seen as a figure of evil - see in particular Revelation 18. This chapter in Isaiah tells us of the long standing conflict between God and Satan.

Ezekiel 28 relates a discussion of God’s Judgment on the prince of Tyre. If verse 6 is compared with 2 Thessalonians 2:4 which tells of Satan deceiving mankind, and verses 12-15 with events in the Garden of Eden, we quickly see that this is also an allegory of Satan’s (Lucifer’s) deception of the spirits in the pre-physical creation.

“God hath not cast away his people which He foreknew” Romans 11:2.

2.7 The Created Beings in the Pre-Physical World

From Genesis 1:27 we learn the created spirits were duo by natures *“male and female created He them”*.

God did not create all these spirits equal. He made the Archangels, the Seraphim and the Cherubim, which we read about in the Bible.

In Isaiah 6:2 we read about Seraphim and in Genesis 3:24 and Ezekiel 10:5,16,19 Cherubim are mentioned.

The head Cherub was called the anointed Cherub (Lucifer) and Ezekiel 28:15 says that *“Thou was perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee”*.

All these were spirits in God’s Kingdom of Heaven, and their habitation

(spiritual only, without body or soul) is called in Jude 6 “*their first estate*”. Note Jesus’ implication of this state in the Lord’s Prayer (Luke 11:2).

Some of the angels were given greater responsibility than others. In 1 Thessalonians 4:16 and 2 Esdras 4:36 we read of archangels. Some are named Uriel, Michael, Gabriel and Raphael (Daniel 12:1; Luke 1:26).

2.8 The Rebellion

Lucifer, one of God’s Head Archangels, was overcome by the evil and it took hold of him. Iniquity was found in him (ie. covetousness, arrogance, boastfulness, pride, etc.). He was “*perfect in all his ways until iniquity was found in him*”. “*...and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God... so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God*” 2 Thessalonians 2:3,4.

Note, however, that God had created the evil, “*...shall there be evil in a city, and the Lord hath not done it?*” Amos 3:6, to prove His creation, and in the hope that the created beings would choose to serve Him (see Romans 8:20).

So Lucifer under the allurements of evil, and trapped by it, wanted all the spirits in heaven to support him and to become evil as he then was. He attempted to overthrow the power of God, and obtain absolute power to rule over his followers and all of God’s creation.

Some of the spirits in heaven gave him full support, proclaiming him as sovereign and supreme creator, whilst others under the leadership of the Archangel Michael, withstood his obviously deceptive allures. These were those who remained steadfastly faithful to God.

There were, however, still the majority of the spirits who initially gave their allegiance to neither group, but later were overcome and went with Lucifer and supported him. Some went willingly and others through persuasion.

God cast Satan out of heaven forever, “*Yet thou shalt be brought down to Hell, to the sides of the pit*”, and he also said, “*They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee*” (read Isaiah 14:12-16). Satan was to become totally immersed in the influence of evil and enslaved by it; total prisoner unable to escape from it forever and ever, doing its terrible work. Such passages as Ecclesiastes 4:8 talk of the futility of Satan’s endeavours.

Satan, by his rebellious action against God, had divided the spirit beings basically into three groups:-

1. Those who assisted and fell with Satan;
2. Those who were persuaded to fall; and,

3. Those who remained faithful to God.

2.9 Retrial on Earth

We have noted that at this stage each being possessed a spirit only - no soul which allows the ability to think, to reason and to understand, and no physical body with this world's consciousness.

God, therefore, did not hold the spirits completely responsible for their actions. In this world He is sending each of them again, but now equipped with a soul and body to choose between right and wrong, with knowledge.

NOTES

PART 3

The Physical Creation

Summary

A pictorial summary is included and is intended as an aid to this explanation. The letters in brackets refer to the pictorial explanation.

In the Heavenly State, when all the spirits were created, they were commanded to be obedient to God, their Creator. Lucifer, one of the head Archangels whom God had placed over some of His works, endeavoured to get all spirits to give allegiance to him and not God. Some went fully with him, others endeavoured to resist him and only gave him partial allegiance, while the third group stood loyal to God and gave no allegiance to Lucifer at all.

God is now giving those of the second group an opportunity to prove their loyalty and obedience to Him through the means of a body and soul.

God initially created a physical body called Adam, and sent one of the duo-spirits to “*breathe life*” into it. Later he separated the male and female portions and created a second body - called Eve. After eating of the forbidden fruit, Adam and Eve each possessed a physical body, with a life of blood, kept alive by the influence of the spirit which had then been driven out of the body. The spirit ceased to be the direct life-source of the body. Both received a soul which had the same shape and form as the body although not physical, and which was to learn the difference between good and evil (see Figure 1).

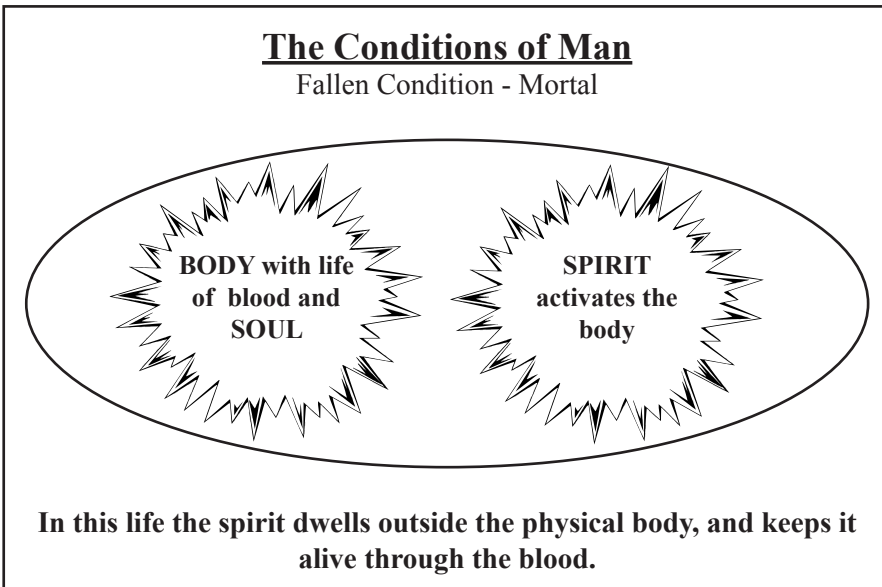
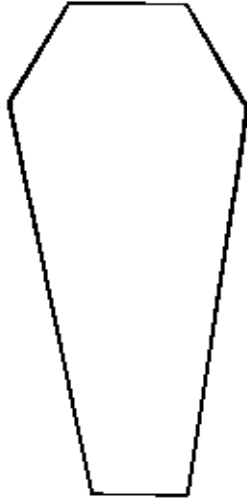


Figure 1

DEATH

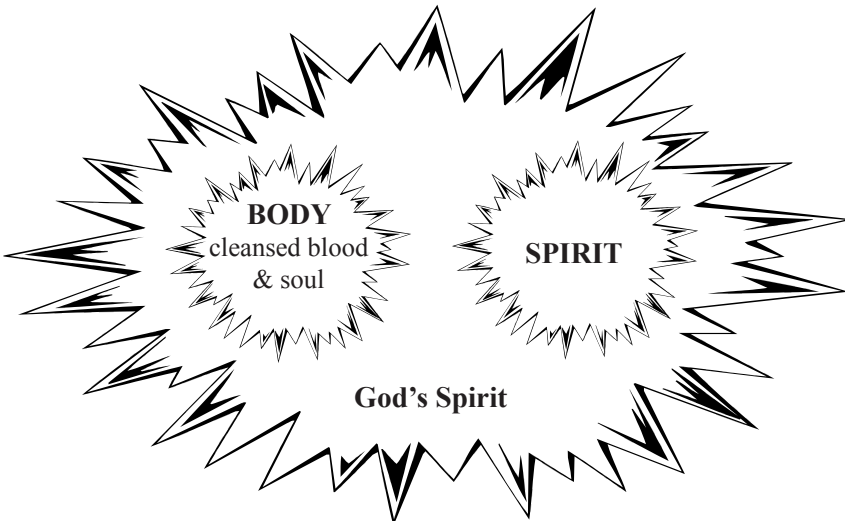
Awaiting Resurrection



The spirit is separated from the soul and body.

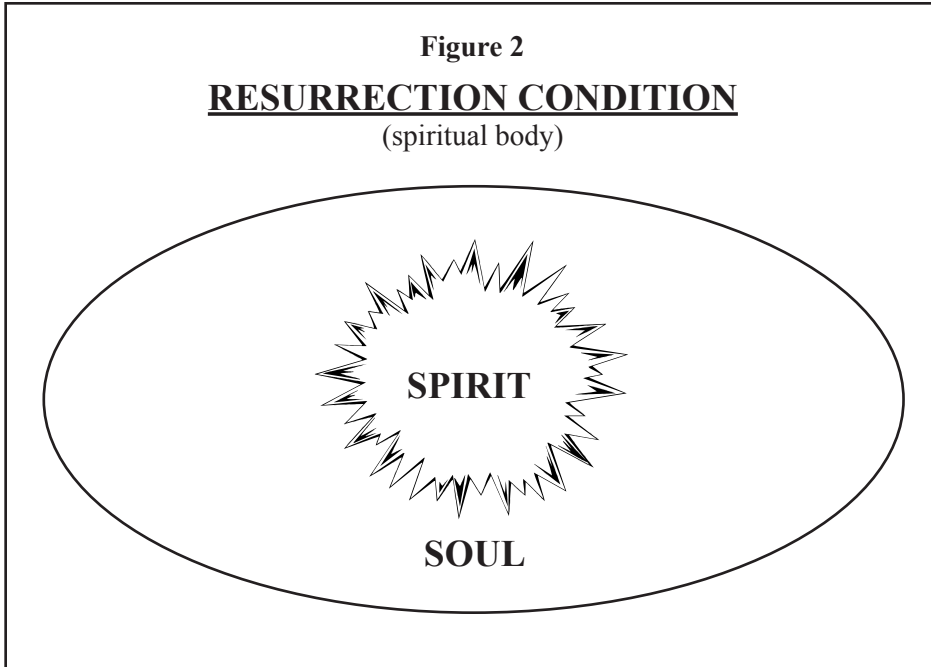
NO DEATH

Partial Redemption Condition



Man dwells wholly in God's Spirit.

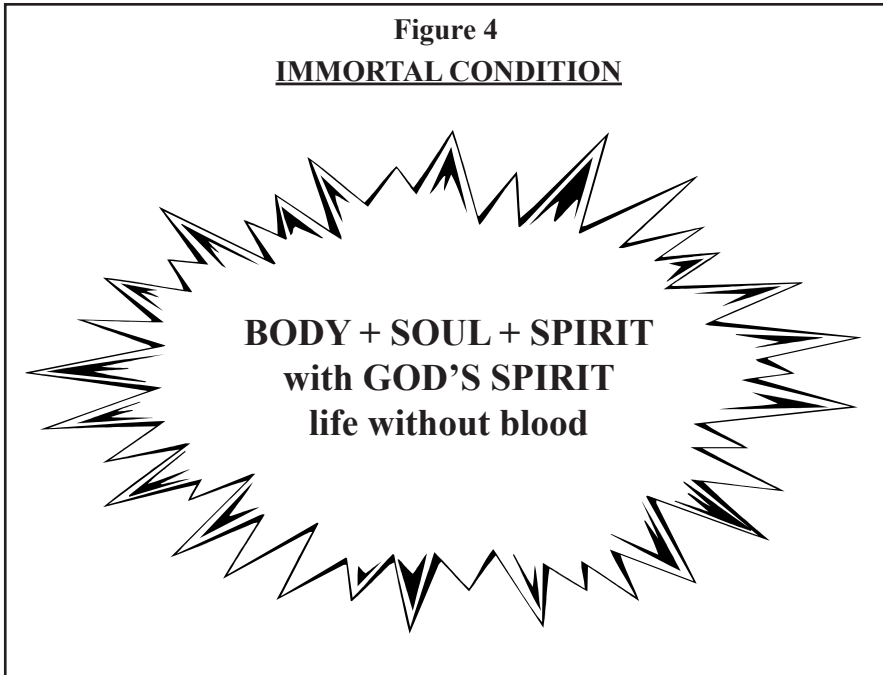
Physical death has reigned over the bodies of all who have come of Adam - with just a few exceptions. After death, the spirit returns to God who gave it. The body returns to dust in the grave, where the soul “*sleeps*” until the resurrection and day of judgment (see Figure 2).



At our Saviour’s return each who has believed will arise with a “*spiritual*” body - the soul being as a “*house*” for the spirit to dwell in (see Figure 3).

Figure 3
**The soul and spirit form a
non-physical body.**

There will, however, be a small number who will overcome the power which Satan has in causing man to die physically. These people, while in this life, will enter fully into the presence of God's Spirit, into a condition referred to as "*Partial Redemption*" (see Figure 4).



Then, at Jesus' return, their spirits with God's Spirit will enter their souls and bodies, and become the life of them (see Figure 5).



There will no longer be a need for blood to be their life source, as these people will have immortal physical bodies. They will have life by the indwelling Power of God, as Adam when first created, except that they will then be greater because they will have souls allowing knowledge of good and evil, and not be subject to Satan's temptations again.

3.1 The Reason Behind the Physical Creation

As we have read, it was Lucifer the head Cherub (being the evil force called Satan) who instigated the rebellion in God's Kingdom of spirits.

God planned to give the spirits who were persuaded to fall a retrial through His physical creation (Romans 9:20-23). Here each has an opportunity to choose or refuse God's Goodness with knowledge, and hence to determine the state of their spirit to eternity (Romans 8:20). The spirits who did not fall to the allure of Lucifer but who stood faithful to God, are given as the individual spirits to those people who are to be alive on earth and become as Jesus Christ at His return. The bodies of these spirits will not see physical death.

According to God's Plan, Jesus Christ will not return to earth until all these spirits are born to physical bodies.

The spirits who accepted and willingly stood with Lucifer against God are never to be born to earthly physical bodies. They are chained in darkness (ie. not to come to knowledge, or to receive physical bodies), awaiting the end of the seven thousand years (ie. the end of the Millennium). They are referred to as "*the devil and his angels*" in Jude 6.

3.2 The Soul is Given to Distinguish Right from Wrong

The spirits who were persuaded to fall were in the majority; God had no intention of abandoning all these spirits, nor would He punish them for deserting Him because they possessed no faculty to distinguish between good and evil. So He created the earth as part of a physical creation. By placing each spirit in His newly created physical world, and giving each a soul, whilst still leaving Satan there as a spirit and able to tempt them, God provided a way to prove His absolute Power, and a way for each being to make its own decision.

God's absolute Power will be proved at the end of the appointed time. Read Acts 17:31; Revelation 20:11-15; 2 Peter 3:7.

It was not God's intention that His created beings should remain as disembodied spirits forever. Once given a soul, however, and a body to house that soul, each spirit had the potential to become a completed work - either as a spiritual being of soul and spirit or a glorified physical being with a spirit, soul and body (2 Corinthians 4:17).

3.3 Adam and Eve 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" Genesis 2:7, ie., a spirit from the spirit creation now gave life to the newly created physical body.

“And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man” Genesis 2:22.

Remember in Part 2, **Pre-existence in Spirit**, we saw that the spirits in heaven were duo in nature, i.e., they were a male/female combination (Genesis 5:1,2). Now God made them separate beings, one a man and one a woman (read Genesis 2:22,23).

“And Adam called his wife Eve” Genesis 3:20. God promised Adam and Eve that they would live forever, physically, as long as they were obedient to His laws (remember their original condition was as spirits, and not subject to physical death). He commanded them not to eat of the fruit of the tree *“which is in the midst of the garden, lest ye die”* - see the first part of Genesis chapter 3.

3.4 The Fall of Man

Satan or Lucifer, the serpent (Revelation 20:2) however, was present and *“said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die”*. Eve was ‘misled’ by Satan. Even though she was created with a soul, having knowledge of good and evil, it did not allow her to physically resist temptation because she did not seek to God for guidance, but acted on the words of Satan. Both she and Adam disobeyed God’s command. The nature of this transgression is explained more fully later in the Mosaic commands.

“Therefore the Lord God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken” Genesis 3:23. This means that Adam’s spirit was driven out of his body, and blood, not his spirit, now became the life source of it. Man’s spirit attracted the body from outside, and the soul within maintained his consciousness. As a result, the curse of physical death was placed on the body of mankind (1 Corinthians 15:21,22). Evil was manifested in the blood of man (Leviticus 17:11).

Adam and Eve would now have to work for survival, no longer was their life to be one of ease with the Garden of Eden supplying all of their needs so abundantly.

“In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground (indicating that the days of their life were no longer eternal); *and unto dust shalt thou return”* Genesis 3:19. Further, their children and all future generations would receive the curse of evil which would be transmitted through the life of blood (see Romans 5:14).

3.5 The Creation Continues

We can read on through Genesis the account of the events which followed in the creation sequence, but it is not our intention to present these

in detail in this article. A brief outline should suffice here, with a suggestion that the reader refer to the Bible and follow the information in detail.

3.5.1 The Birth of Cain and Abel

Cain was the first child born to Eve, but because of Cain's attitude through his fallen nature, God did not accept his offering when he went to give a sacrifice.

Abel was the second child, and God was well pleased with him and accepted his sacrifice. Cain was angry and became jealous of Abel, so when an opportunity arose, he murdered him. This was the first murder, showing the influence of Satan in the physical world.

"And Cain went out from the presence of the Lord, and dwelt in the land of Nod, on the east of Eden" Genesis 4:16.

3.5.2 The Birth of Seth

"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...then began men to call upon the name of the Lord" Genesis 4:25,26.

But God had pronounced death on mankind because of the working of the evil (Genesis 3:24) and no one thereafter was to live for more than one day, that is one thousand years (reference Romans 5:14 and 2 Peter 3:8).

3.5.3 Translation of Enoch (an exception to physical death)

Enoch was in the seventh generation from Adam.

"And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him" Genesis 5:24. Seth's seed carried a righteous line through to Abram (later called Abraham by God), which God proved by taking Enoch physically to heaven.

3.5.4 The Promise to Abraham

Abraham was about twenty generations from Adam. It was Abraham with whom God re-established His covenant of life.

"And God said unto Abraham, Thou shalt keep my covenant therefore, thou, and thy seed after thee in their generations" Genesis 17:9. The promise was that his seed may live without physical death, at the appointed time (Psalm 102:18-20).

Abraham already had a son, Ishmael, who had been born of Hagar his bond-servant, but his true wife, Sarah, had no children. God promised she would bear a son, Isaac, and it was to be through his seed that God would establish his continuing covenant, not through Ishmael the firstborn.

3.5.5 Sarah gives Birth to Isaac

Sarah gave birth to a son as promised, and so through Isaac was given the everlasting covenant of physical immortality. It was further passed down through to Jacob (Israel) and to his twelve sons, the children of Israel.

Today these people are those referred to as the Jews (two tribes) and the *“lost ten tribes of Israel”* or *“the twelve tribes scattered abroad”* - God’s special people - see Part 4 of this booklet.

3.6 The Ultimate Purpose

Satan will have no victory over a remnant of Israel in the latter days, either spiritually or physically, as the promise is that they will be preserved physically. This is the promise of physical immortality reserved for those of the group of spirits who originally remained faithful to God.

This promise will only be realised at the second coming of Jesus Christ and will embrace the full purpose of the Physical Creation (read Revelation 14:1-7).

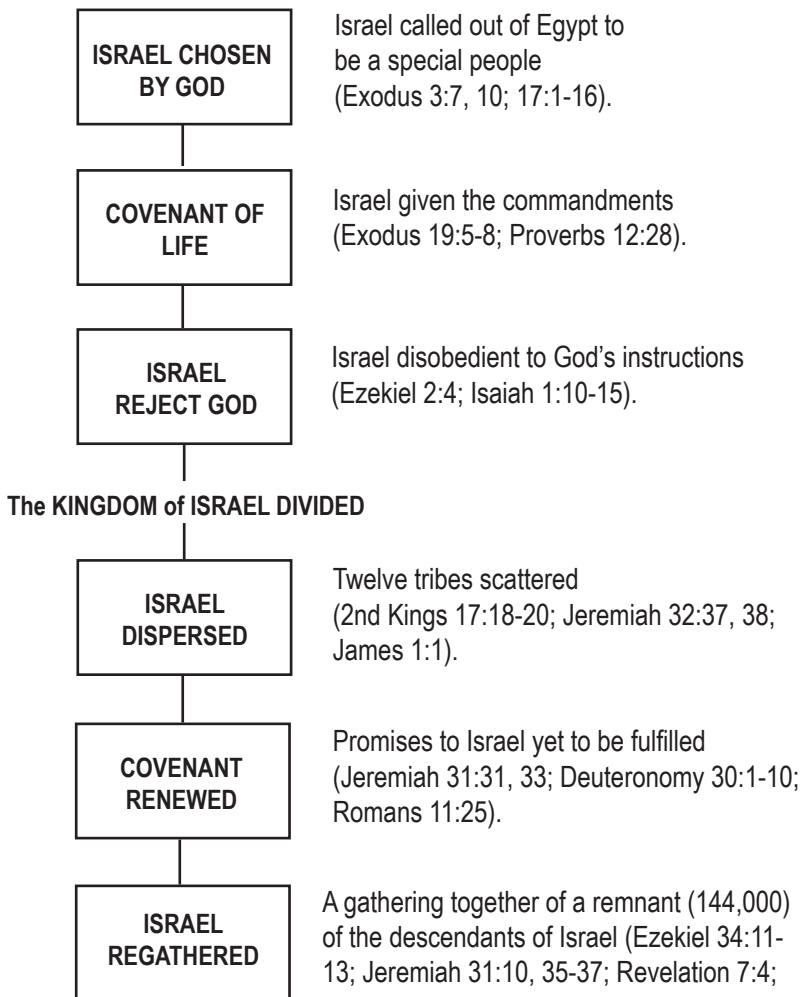
NOTES

PART 4

Israel - God's Special People

Summary

In the Scriptures we see that God has chosen a special people to be a “*peculiar treasure*” to **HIM**. There had always been a God-fearing line from the time of Adam, but God especially chose Abram, and from him proceeded the Children of Israel. The relationship between God and Israel since that time is presented as an illustration.



4.1 Chosen By God

To keep alive the hope and promises God had for man (Genesis 3:2,3; 9:11), He chose a special people. To these people God gave instructions and promises and showed them the way He wanted them to live.

In Genesis 17 we read how God called Abram and changed his name to 'Abraham' meaning "*father of many nations*". Verse 7 says, "*And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee*".

Abraham had a son named Isaac and he (Isaac) had two sons, Esau and Jacob. God next called Jacob and we read in Genesis 28 how God promised protection to Jacob, "*And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth...and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed*" (verse 14 and 15). Then in chapter 32 we read about Jacob wrestling with God and God changed his name to 'Israel', "*for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men and hast prevailed*". Jacob was to be the father of many nations. He had twelve sons and from these came the twelve tribes of Israel.

So, from this time onward we read of the Israelite people. It is important to note that it was God that chose this special people, Israel, "*For thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God...the Lord loved you and because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your fathers*" Deuteronomy 7:6,8.

It is interesting to look back on the history of the Israelites. They journeyed to Egypt to buy corn because of the famine in the land and stayed in Egypt for 430 years. In this time they multiplied and were made slaves to the Egyptians. God had promised that they would be freed from their oppressors and He called Moses to lead the children of Israel through the wilderness to the Promised Land. You will know the stories of the Israelites being freed from the Egyptians, the plagues, and of Pharaoh refusing to let the people go; then the crossing of the Red Sea and the wonderful deliverance from the Egyptians (Exodus chapters 3-14).

4.2 The Covenant of Life - Israel Given New Commandments

During the wandering in the wilderness, God was able to instruct His people by giving them the Ten Commandments and Laws by which He wanted them to live. These were given for their own good (Deuteronomy 6:4). It took forty years before the Promised Land was reached.

During the time in the wilderness God promised protection and blessings in return for obedience. "*If ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: and ye*

shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation” Exodus 19:5. The commandments and laws given to the Israelites covered the way the people should respect and love God, their treatment of each other and the way to live. The way to make atonement for sin was dealt with also - how to offer sacrifices and how to seek forgiveness of sins. During this period of time the Israelites saw many wonders and God revealed Himself to them in many ways. They were given manna each day (except the Sabbath), water was struck from a rock in time of thirst and a cloud of light protected them wherever they went. Yet even though God revealed Himself so wonderfully to them, they had very little faith and kept doubting God’s protection and leadership. Many times they turned from God and yet God received them again, showing them His loving protection and care.

After Moses, Joshua led the people into the Promised Land and in Joshua 1:9 we read, *“Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest”*. God had continually promised the Israelite people protection and blessing (see Deuteronomy 28:1-9). Verse 9 says, *“The Lord shall establish thee an holy people unto himself, as he hath sworn unto thee, if thou shalt keep the commandments of the Lord thy God, and walk in his ways”*.

For a time the children of Israel did settle into their new land and were ruled by Judges; some of the better remembered judges were: Othniel, Abimelech, Jephthah, Samson, Eli and Samuel.

4.3 Israel Reject God - Israel Disobedient to God’s Instructions

The children of Israel became discontented and wanted to have a King of their own (1 Samuel 8:5-7). Saul was anointed the first King over Israel. Saul grew away from God, and God anointed David as the next King. You will remember the stories of how the boy, David, whom Saul chased as an enemy, was made king over all Israel.

During this time, Israel came under the influence of other nations and were influenced by their gods. Over the period the Israelite people broke their ties to their God and broke the Covenant that God had made with them (Exodus 24:7). God withdrew His protection from these people and we find, about 975BC, after the reign of Solomon, the kingdom was divided.

It is interesting to think back over the history of this period and consider why God rejected the people and why the people turned away from God. The Israelite people were influenced by the neighbouring nations. It is important to realise that this casting aside on God’s part was only for a time (Romans 11:1-36. Zechariah 2:6; Micah 5:8), and we see it was all part of God’s plan to allow His people to be scattered into all the earth so that His word could

be spread. Some of the promises which God had made to Israel are still kept in trust today and will be claimed by the descendants who keep His commandments (Jude 3; Romans 8:23; Jeremiah 31:33,34).

4.4 Israel Dispersed - The Twelve Tribes Divided

As mentioned above, when Rehoboam, Solomon's son, came to the throne, there was a rebellion against him. Two tribes remained with him and ten tribes, who revolted, chose Jeroboam as their king and they became known as the Kingdom of Israel (1 Kings chapter 12). If we look back at Deuteronomy 28:58 and 64 we read how God promised if the Israelites would not observe the words of the Law they would be scattered among all nations of the earth and serve other gods. If they broke the covenant of keeping the Law and Commandments God would turn His face from them.

During the years that followed, Israel and Judah had many 'see-saw' days, having kings and prophets of various characteristics. Some kings were weak and led the people into worshipping other gods, others were strong and kept to God's instructions. Most of the time God instructed the prophets to keep in touch with the people. Such prophets as Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Jonah, Haggai, Malachi, and others, ministered to the people.

The ten-tribe kingdom stood for about 250 years, until about 723 BC, when they were carried away as captives by the King of Persia, Shalmaneser. The two tribes remained a kingdom a little longer (about 587BC) until taken away by Nebuchadnezzar. To date, the twelve tribes have not been regathered (James 1:1; Acts 26:7).

4.5 The Covenant Renewed

4.5.1 The Covenant with Israel

In Jeremiah 32:37-38 we read of a promise, "*Behold, I will gather them out of all countries, whither I have driven them in mine anger,...and they shall be my people, and I will be their God*". This, with many other promises, is yet to be fulfilled.

Today we can see that the 12 tribes of Israel are still divided. The two tribes who call themselves the Jews and the ten tribes of Israel who are scattered throughout all nations, have not been regathered, but we believe that it is God's plan to bring these lost tribes together again. We believe that God has not cast away His people permanently, but that it has all been part of His plan to allow salvation to all mankind.

God allowed His Son Jesus to come to this earth, to be born as a human baby, to live a life of example and show mankind how to live, but above all, to be a sacrifice for all mankind.

In the Old Testament, God had promised that an animal sacrifice would atone for the sins of the people. In the New Testament we see that God allowed His Son, Jesus, to be the sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Jesus took the place of all animal sacrifices, such sacrifices having been only a figure of the true sacrifice to come. By belief in Him, remission of sins can be obtained by all.

It was part of God's great plan to scatter the ten tribes of Israel, to allow His Son to die for the sins of the world, and to come again in the future to set up His Kingdom here on earth.

Just as God made a covenant with the Children of Israel that if they kept His laws and commandments they would live, and that He would protect and bless them, so too, we believe that God will make a **NEW COVENANT** with this people and then many of the promises that have been kept in trust, will be fulfilled.

4.5.2 Promises Yet to be Fulfilled

In Romans 11:25 we read, "*...that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in*".

Again in Jeremiah 31:31-33, we read: "*Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the Lord: but this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people*". See also Hebrews 8:7-13.

We believe that this promise has been kept in trust through the ages, for people to receive. Just as God made the first covenant conditional on obedience, so too, this new covenant will be taken up by those who believe it. As the heavens cannot be measured, so God's promises remain (Jeremiah 31:35-37).

Much discussion takes place about literal or spiritual Israel. We believe that the promise is there for the taking. No one knows if they are literal descendants of the Lost Tribes of Israel, but if one hears the promises and accepts the challenge as referring to them, then we believe that God will accept this as a true feeling of discipleship and the promises will be offered to them (2 Timothy 2:19).

Romans 11:2 says, "*God has not cast away His people whom He foreknew*". Good will renew His covenant with those who desire to serve

Him. It is all a matter of whether one feels that these messages and promises are to themselves or someone else. Salvation has been given to all, but the keeping of God's laws and instructions based on the original covenant which He made to the Israelites of old, is still open to all those who desire to accept it as a personal commitment.

4.6 Israel Regathered

With the birth and life of Jesus, we have been shown an example of how we should seek to live (John 14:15). Through the power of Christ and the Holy Ghost (the Comforter) we have come to know and understand so much more fully what is required of us. Jesus promised the Comforter to those who believe and seek for strength to obey. The Comforter is the Spirit from God the Father...the Heavenly Mother (Galatians 4:26), which first came to the disciples at Pentecost. This is a topic of its own, but the important issue here is that the Helper, or Comforter, can, and will, help the people in this day and age to come closer to understanding and keeping God's commands and laws (see John 17:26; 14:16,17,26).

We believe that we are living in the latter days when God will regather His people. See, for example, Jeremiah 31:10: "*He that scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him, as a shepherd doth his flock*" and in Revelation 7:4, "...and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel". Read through to verse 8, where each tribe is mentioned by name.

This indicates that these special people are known to God by their tribe, and that they have come through persecutions to keep the commandments of God and faith in Jesus. In Revelation 14 we read of the culmination of God's plan for this world; of a gathering of a remnant of 144,000 who are descendants of Israel. How are they descendants of Israel? Because they have taken up the challenge offered to their forefathers and have lived lives close to the life of Jesus, their Master. They have kept, with God's help, His commandments and laws. This state of perfection can only be achieved if God does the work in us. All this, we believe, will happen very soon. The end of time is close at hand. Jesus will return to claim His own. Jesus will be King of Kings and Lord of Lords and will set up His Kingdom here on earth.

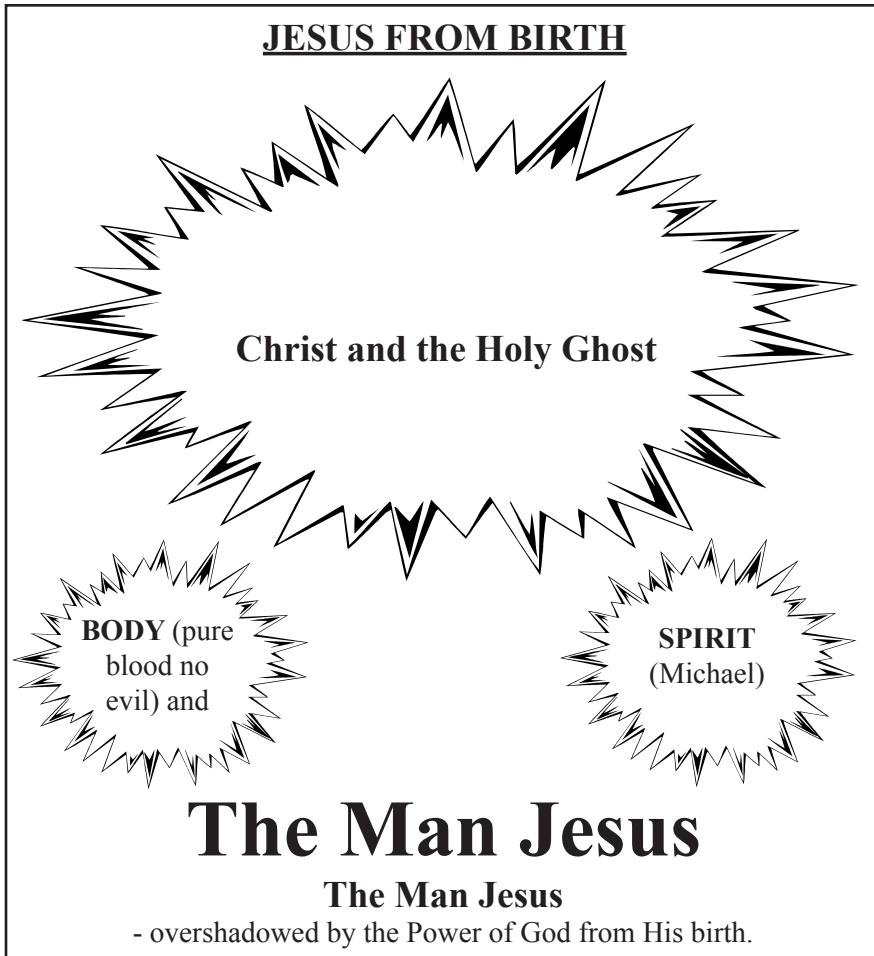
"*Hath God cast away His people?*" Romans 11:1. No, but in God's good time "*a remnant*" will be regathered to be 'overcomers' of the evil. This is all part of God's plan, part of His plan for a special people, whom He formed for Himself. These special people will 'overcome' evil and will live, physically, with Jesus in the thousand years - the Millennium - yet to come.

Have you thought where you fit into this picture?

PART 5
The Manifestations of God

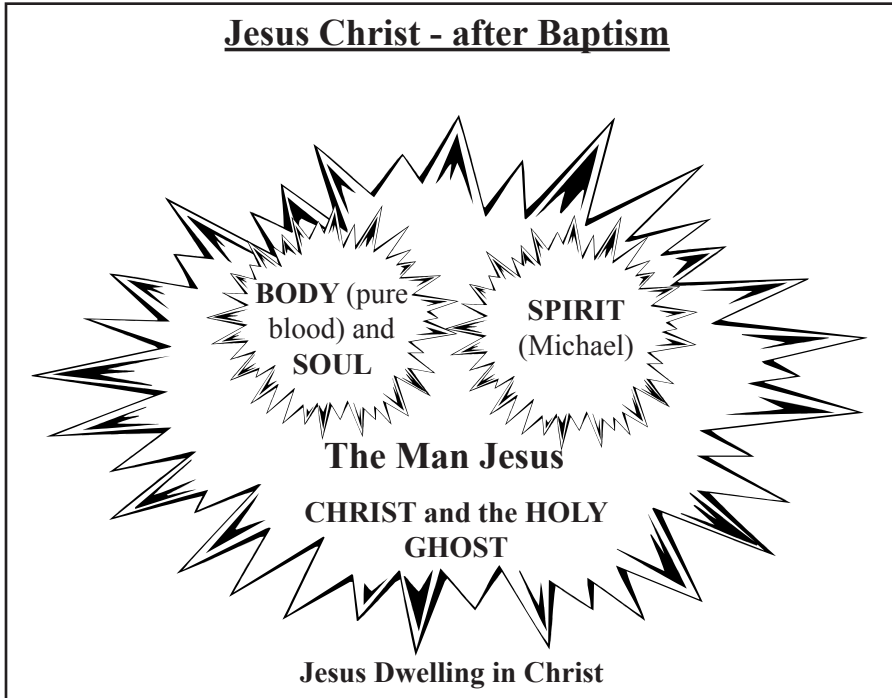
Summary

When the baby Jesus was born, He possessed a spirit and a soul and a body. His spirit, we understand, was called **Michael** - who had stood for God and good in the spirit rebellion. His body, born of the seed of the woman without an earthly father, had no evil in it- He was born with pure blood. Because there was no evil, His soul was not limited in receiving knowledge and understanding from His spirit. As Jesus grew He was overshadowed by the Spirit of the Father - Christ, and the Heavenly Mother - the Holy Ghost.



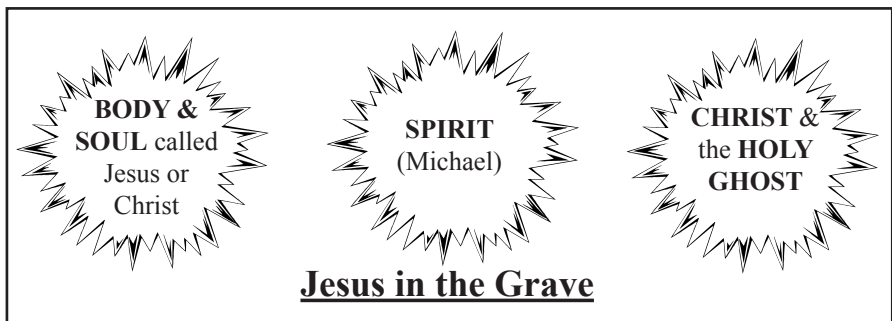
Jesus Christ - after Baptism (surnamed Christ)

At His baptism, Jesus entered fully into the presence of God (Christ and the Holy Ghost), which was as a tabernacle or tent, in which He dwelt. God's Spirit now did not only rest on Him, but He dwelt in it.



Jesus the Man-Crucified

During Jesus' trial, the Father (Christ) and the Holy Ghost, withdrew, leaving the man Jesus to suffer and bear the reproach. When He died, His spirit returned to God and His soul and body went to the grave. His blood was shed as the atonement for the sins of all mankind.

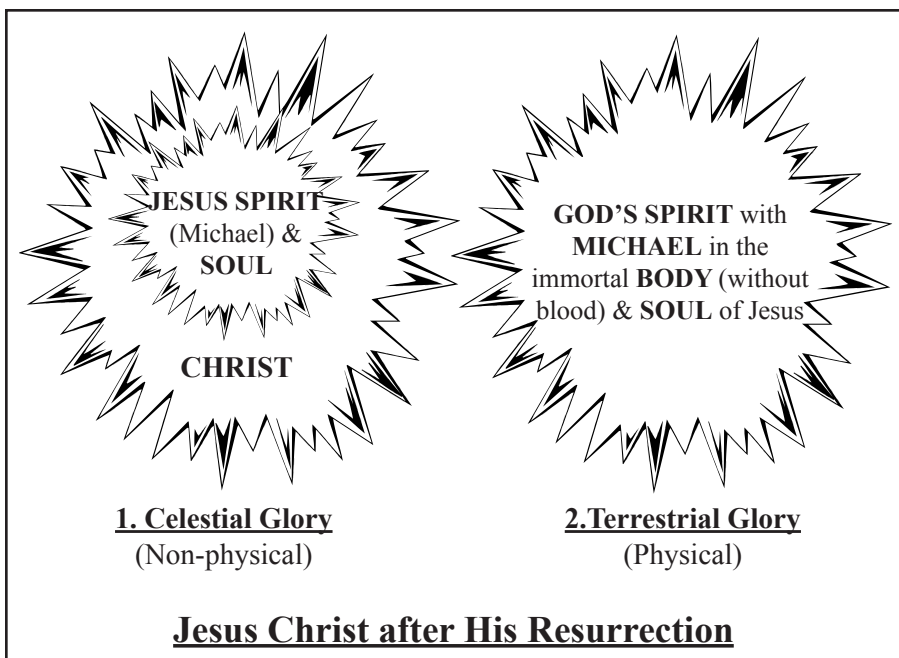


The Resurrected Lord

In His resurrection, Jesus showed two glories:

1. The spiritual or celestial (incorruptible) when His spirit and soul appeared to Mary; and
2. The glorified physical or terrestrial (immortal) when He appeared to the disciples with God's Spirit and His own spirit dwelling within His body.

He could appear in either form, or in His fully glory as He did to John in Patmos, and John could not look on Him (Romans 8:11 and Revelation 1:13-17).



5.1 Jesus

The birth of Jesus had been foretold from the time of the fall of man in the Garden of Eden - that the woman's seed would bruise the serpent's head (Genesis 3:15). We see further promises to Noah (Genesis 9:15), Abraham (Genesis 22:8), Moses (Deuteronomy 18:15) and so on. The Messiah (Deliverer or Saviour), as He was called, was announced by the angel to Mary (Luke 1:30-35). He was of the seed of Abraham through David, and was to sit on his father David's throne. He called himself "*the Son of man*" (Matthew 8:20).

However, because He was conceived by Mary, who was overshadowed by the Power of God, He truly was the Son of God. Because He had no earthly father, He was free of that inherent evil which we all have received from Adam. As shown in the illustrated summary, we believe that the baby Jesus was given a special Spirit to minister to His body and soul - the Spirit which had stood with God against Lucifer in the spirit rebellion - the Spirit called Michael (Daniel 12:1; Revelation 12:7).

5.2 Christ

When the Jews asked John the Baptist, “*Who are thou?*” John made a distinction between “*Christ*”, “*that Prophet*”, and “*Elijah*” (John 1:19-21). Jesus later clarified that He, the man, was the son of David, and hence not Christ (see Matthew 22:41-46). He was ‘called Christ’ because the Power of Christ, the Word (John 1:1,2) was seen through Him.

Christ is the name of the Spirit of God, the Heavenly Father (1 John 2:20-23), who anointed the Holy One of God (Jesus) and made Him Christ the Lord - the Messiah wrought upon by the Power of God (John 14:20). It was Christ plus the Heavenly Mother, the Holy Ghost or “*the other Comforter*” (Luke 3:21,22; John 14:16) that did the work of redemption in the man, Jesus (John 3:34,35).

5.3 Jesus Christ

Jesus, “*the Son of man*”, but also the physical son of God, the Messiah, was anointed with the Power of His Father, Christ. Thus in a dual way He took on the surname of Christ - Jesus Christ - indicating the closeness of His relationship with God (Colossians 2:9).

5.4 The Sacrificial Lamb

Jesus, through the nature of His conception and the righteousness of His life, was acceptable to fulfil the requirements of a perfect sacrifice (Romans 3:25; 1 John 2:2, 4:10; Genesis 9:5). Thus Jesus the man was offered as the sacrifice. The Power of God (Christ) had left Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane (compare Luke 22:51 and Mark 14:51,52 - Jesus’ Power to heal had been withdrawn), and when on the cross, Jesus declared His manhood when He exclaimed, “*My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?*” Mark 15:34.

However, because Jesus bore the surname of the Father, Christ, He was still called Christ even after the Power of Christ had left Him (refer to the illustration in the summary).

5.5 The Resurrected Lord

When Jesus' body rose from the grave, it did not possess a life activated by blood - this had been shed on the cross. His life was then by the indwelling of Power of His own Spirit, Michael, and the Godhead - Christ and the Other Comforter (refer to the illustration in the summary). This gave Him a glorified body of flesh and bone (physical - Luke 24:39) with properties not constrained to our physical dimensions of space and time - an aphysical or immortal body. This is the firstfruits of those who will live (physically) and not die.

5.6 The Trinity

Jesus also showed the firstfruits of *“them that sleep”* when Michael raised the soul of Jesus and showed it a spiritual body. These two types are described by Paul in Romans 8:11. The Trinity of Father (Christ), Son (Jesus), and Holy Ghost (the Heavenly Mother) was manifested in Jesus after His resurrection. This is the Trinity of man. God Himself also forms a Trinity - the Trinity of Spirits (One in Three). God Almighty Jehovah, who manifests Himself in the Power of Christ and in the Power known as the Holy Ghost.

5.7 The Godhead

The manifestation of Christ and the Holy Ghost is the Godhead which emanates from God, Almighty Jehovah. The Godhead, cojoined with Jesus Christ, forms the Trinity as it is most commonly known (Ecclesiastes 4:12; Colossians 2:9).

NOTES

PART 6

The Return of the Saviour and the End of the World

Summary

Events towards the end of the world will be along these lines.

As the return of Jesus approaches, there will be a 'falling away' from the Christian faith by man. Social forces will tend to divide the world into those who believe in and seek to follow God, and those who do not. In the period just prior to Jesus' return, God will pour out His Spirit to prepare a group of people to be His witnesses to all the earth.

The brightness of Jesus at His coming will physically destroy the living bodies of all those who have not come to follow Him. At that time, all souls will be called forth with their individual spirits to give an account of the deeds done during their life on earth. After this judgment, if they are found to be righteous, they will become spiritual beings, their spirits and souls being permanently reunited. The souls of the unrighteous will be returned to the grave for 1,000 years. There will, however, be people alive at the time of Jesus' coming who will not be physically destroyed. Some will receive the promise made to the seed of the lost tribes of Israel. They will be a people who will have the Law and Gospel written on their hearts. The number of the people will be 144,000, being 12,000 out of each of the 12 tribes of Israel. There will also be others preserved physically, the number of which is not specifically given in Scripture. These people will attain to different 'mansions' in the new kingdom. The 144,000 will be of the faithful group of spirits whose allegiance was to God and Good in the former creation.

During the 1,000 years following the return of Jesus Christ (the Millennium), Satan will be bound, but will be loosed again for a 'little season' after the millennium. He will then work again on the people born during the millennium who have never experienced his attraction on their evil, to tempt them to do wrong.

The unrepentant souls who will still be awaiting the final resurrection will watch these activities. They will then come to a realisation that Good is better than Evil, and they will acknowledge God and His power, "*...every tongue shall confess*". The consciousness of these souls who have been separated from God during the millennium will cause them great torment. This is the state commonly referred to as '**hell**'.

After a 'little season', Satan himself will be brought to judgment with those whom he had deceived, both in that period and during life. It will be acknowledged that Satan was the author of all sin and his power will be taken

from him. In doing so, all souls which he has held in the grave (or hell) will become subject to God, and reconciled to Him through the effectiveness of the sacrifice of Jesus. This is the **second resurrection**.

Summary of Events at the End of the World

End Approaches	Attitudes in the world turn away from God. God prepares a special group to meet Jesus Christ.
Jesus Christ's Return	His brightness destroys most living beings. Some are preserved alive in spirit, soul and body.
First Resurrection and Judgment	Righteous souls united with their spirits - Spiritual Beings. Unrepentant souls returned to the grave - Hell.
Millennium	Satan restrained - no evil active during this time.
Satan Released at End of Millennium	Satan works on those born during the millennium. In the grave the unrepentant souls realise Satan's deception.
Final Resurrection and Judgment	Satan stands trial and his power is taken away. Unrepentant souls reconciled to God.
The Victory Complete	All souls saved from Satan's power. Israel puts on immortality of Spirit, Soul and Body. God All in All.

6.1 The Return of the Saviour

Although we speak of the return of the Saviour and the end of the world, we do not mean He is coming to totally destroy the actual earth, but rather, coming to change life on earth as it now exists (Hebrews 1:10-12). His intention is to bring back the earth to its original beauty. Man once was given the earth to look after, but could not do this well because he departed from God's way and received a nature mixed with Good and Evil (Genesis 3:16-18). Only mankind without evil would be able to look after a new world the way God intended (Zephaniah 3:13,15; Joel 3:21; Hebrews 8:7-13). Jesus Christ's Second Coming will mean the end of life as we know it (Isaiah 65:17,18).

We believe, from studying the Scriptures, that God has given Satan 6,000 years to rule over this earth. There are 4,000 years from Adam to Jesus, so, assuming the calendars are correct, we believe that sometime around the year AD 2000 Jesus Christ will again return to this earth. *"We, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness"* 2 Peter 3:13. This is the appointed time for His return (Matthew 24:22; Acts 17:31).

From the earliest times, the truth of Christ's second coming was believed and taught. Enoch, Job, Abraham, David and Isaiah all prophesied concerning our Lord's coming as a mighty King (read Jude 14; Job 19:25-27; Hebrews 11:8-16; Psalm 102:16 and Isaiah 25:9).

Concerning the promise of our Lord's return to this earth, we read, *"For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry"* Hebrews 10:37.

Below are some points found in the Bible about the return of the World's Saviour.

(a) How certain is Jesus Christ's return?

"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also" John 14:3 (read also Hebrews 9:28 and Acts 1:9-11).

(b) What did Jesus tell the Scribes and Pharisees about His return?

"For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord" Matthew 23:39.

(c) At His trial, what did Jesus promise about His return?

"Jesus saith unto him, Thou hast said: nevertheless I say unto you, Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right

hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven” Matthew 26:64.

- (d) The Apostle James also mentions the return of Jesus Christ.**

“Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord... Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh” James 5:7,8.

- (e) What assurance did Jesus give John the Divine concerning His return?**

He repeated three times the truth of His second coming in Revelation chapter 22. *“Behold I come quickly” Revelation 22:7,12,20.*

This uniform testimony should be enough to convince all that Jesus Christ is coming again. There is no doubt, Jesus Christ will return!

6.2 The End of the World

Conditions on the earth prior to His coming, could fall into five major categories. Let us look briefly at each.

- (a) What are the political conditions?**

“And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars...” Matthew 24:6 (Revelation 11:18; Joel 3:9-14), also there will be many efforts towards peace but “when they shall say, peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them” 1 Thessalonians 5:2,3 (read Jeremiah 6:14 also).

- (b) How does God describe the worldwide economic situation?**

“Your gold and silver is cankered” James 5:3.
“Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are motheaten. Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days. Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth: and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of sabaoth” James 5:1-4 (see also Isaiah 2:20).

- (c) What does the Bible predict concerning scientific discoveries?**

“But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased” Daniel 12:4.

(d) What great signs will there be in the religious world?

Peter said there would be scoffers (read 2 Peter 3:3,4). Paul mentions 19 prevalent sins, *“For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, truce-breakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away”* 2 Timothy 3:2-4.

There will also be deceivers. *“For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect”* Matthew 24:24.

(e) What can we expect to see taking place in the physical world around us?

“...and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places” Matthew 24:7.

See also 2 Peter 3:10; Nahum 1:2-10; Isaiah 13:13, etc.

6.3 A Special People

The inhabitants of the earth in these last days may be divided into three basic groups -

1. Those who do not believe in God;
2. Those who nominally do; and
3. Those who truly hold the faith that the Spirit of God will prepare them fully to meet with Jesus Christ.

The remnant of the 12 tribes of Israel will be amongst the third group.

As to the manner of Jesus Christ's coming, there can be no doubt. It will not be hidden from the eyes of men. He will be seen by all those living on earth, but only those prepared to meet Him will not lose their physical bodies in the brightness of His Glory. There will be no secret rapture. The Lord will appear openly when He comes. There will be, however, a period of preparation in which God will protect those who truly believe in Him from the tribulations taking place in the world (see Titus 2:13; Colossians 3:4; 1 Peter 1:7;5:4; 1 John 2:28; 3:2; 1 Timothy 6:14; 2 Timothy 4:1; Matthew 24:30).

“Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him” Revelation 1:7.

6.4 Sequence of Events at Jesus Christ's Return

At His coming, the following events will take place. This will begin the Millennium. These points are supported in Revelation chapter 20, Matthew chapter 24 and 1 Corinthians 15:22-24.

- a) Only those who are prepared will not be destroyed by His brightness (see 2 Thessalonians 2:8; John 1:5; Exodus 33:18-23) and will remain alive wholly in spirit, soul and body. Evil cannot exist in God's presence, and hence a physical body, unless cleansed of the inherent evil that it possesses, could not stand before Jesus Christ in His Glory. It would physically be destroyed (Romans 7:18,23,24). Thus, in preparation, many believers will seek to God to remove the evil from within their very physical beings (refer Hosea 14:1; Zechariah 13:1 and Ezekiel 16:60,68,69). (The one hundred and forty four thousand will be amongst this group.)
- b) The dead in Christ shall rise first, and be united in spirit and soul (1st Resurrection), as heavenly beings and shall live with Him one thousand years.
- c) After judgment the wicked will be returned to the grave for one thousand years to await the second and final resurrection.
- d) Satan will be bound, *"that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled"* Revelation 20:1-3.

6.5 Sequence of Events at the End of the Millennium

During the thousand years of the Millennium, Jesus Christ will reign as King over all the earth. There will be no sin, sickness, suffering or death because the power of Satan is bound. Without Satan to work as the evil, there is no sin. The earth will return to the condition it was in when it was first created.

The events marking the closing of the Millennium will be as follows:

- a) Satan loosed (Revelation 20:7). The devil will be free to continue his nefarious work of deception among those children born during the Millennium who have evil, but have not known sin.
- b) The nations of Gog and Magog come against God and are devoured by fire.
- c) The wicked resurrected (Revelation 20:5) - and judged again - the 2nd Resurrection (Jeremiah 33:2,3; 1 Corinthians 2:5; Ephesians 3:20). All souls acknowledge God and every tongue shall confess Jesus Christ as Lord (Revelation 20:10).
- d) Satan cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, death and hell destroyed (Revelation 20:10).

6.6 The New World Begins

A new Heaven and new Earth - the Holy City, New Jerusalem, appears; and on the walls thereof, are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel (Revelation 21:22) and the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb (Revelation 21:14). They held a faith, the substance of which their descendants would receive.

God the Light of the City - Death shall be no more; the final victory is over Satan and death. "*The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death*" 1 Corinthians 15:26.

"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 for ever and ever" Revelation 22:5. (An eternal life of perfect righteousness to eternity).

"Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city" Revelation 22:14.

We believe Jesus Christ came into this world for a two-fold purpose. *"A light to lighten the Gentiles (through the sacrifice at His first coming) and (He will be) the Glory of (God's) people Israel"*, they gaining complete victory over sin and evil - physically and spiritually - at His second coming (see Luke 2:32).

"For behold, I create new heavens (the incorruptible) and a new earth (the immortal): and the former (under the influence of Satan) shall not be remembered, nor come into mind" Isaiah 65:17.

NOTES

PART 7

Law and Gospel Joined

Summary

The Christian Israelite Church, as the name implies, teaches the joining of the Old and New Testaments (Law and Gospel). Church members believe that in these latter days a “*remnant*” will be prepared for the second coming of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. These people will be true followers of Him and will have kept God’s Laws and Commandments, and in the process of preparation will have had the evil taken away from their hearts and minds.

In the Old Testament are the Laws which God gave to Israel through Moses. God promised that if Israel were obedient to these Laws they would receive blessings from Him, including life (of the body) without death. Because of the influence of Satan in attracting the evil in man and causing him to do wrong, the Law, “*which was ordained to life, was found to be unto death*” (Romans 7:10). The Law is Holy, but a problem exists because of man’s inability to keep it, and through disobedience it condemns man in God’s sight.

The Law also allowed that, after transgression, those requiring reconciliation to God, could offer the blood of an animal to make atonement for their souls. This, however, could not make man perfect.

Jesus then came, and, in accordance with the sacrificial requirements of the Law, offered Himself to reconcile all men to God, thus fulfilling the sacrificial requirements of the Law.

Since that time salvation of the soul has been offered to all people by Grace through faith in Jesus. Even though we sin and do not obey the Laws, through repentance, forgiveness and faith, we can be counted as ‘righteous’ before God. This is referred to in the Bible as “*the righteousness of faith*” or “*imputed (counted) righteousness*” - not of works but a gift of God.

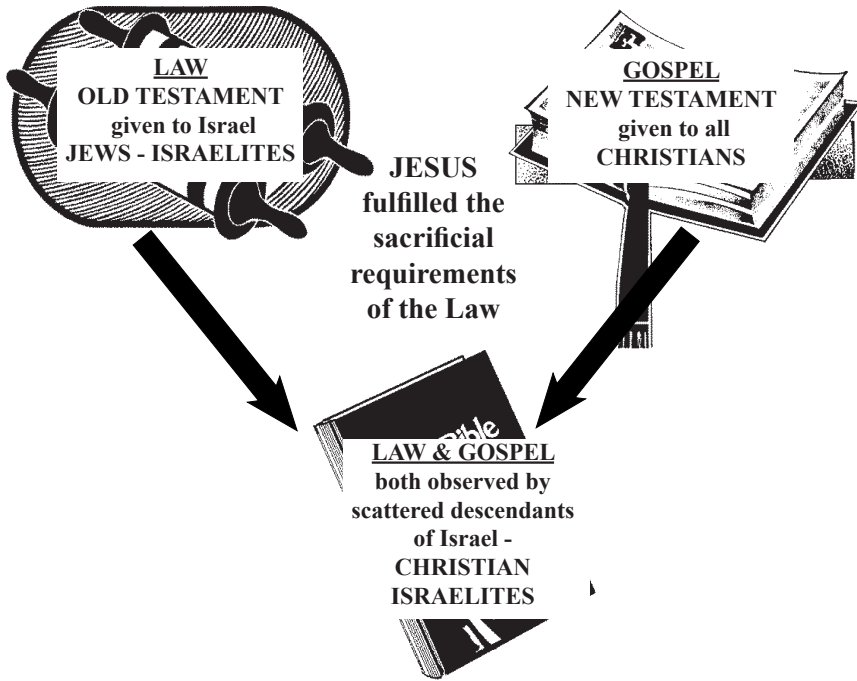
However, a remnant of the scattered descendants of Israel, in these latter days, will join both Law and Gospel. Through the Power promised in the Gospel they will attain to a standard of true righteousness by obeying God’s instructions for life as set out in the Law.

7.1 How are the Law and Gospel Joined?

7.1.1 Background

Originally, the Israelite people were God’s people and they believed in Him and followed the Laws of the Old Testament. They searched for continuing physical life - the fulfilment of God’s original promise to His chosen people, to be gained through faith and works.

Jesus Christ was sent by God to Israel (Matthew 10:5,6, 15:24) but when



The Law & Gospel Joined

they rejected Him, He then extended His Mission to the rest of the people of the earth, ie., the Gentiles (1 Timothy 4:10).

Jesus' works on earth are recorded in Matthew, Mark, Luke and John - the Gospels. People who believe in Jesus Christ are called Christians (Acts 11:26). Christians believe Jesus died on the cross for forgiveness of their sins and that their souls will be saved at the Resurrection, ie., at Jesus' second coming to the earth. The soul is saved by Grace through faith - not works (Ephesians 2:8,9).

Christians, while acknowledging much of the Old Testament (eg., the Ten Commandments), do not generally follow God's other commands contained therein (eg., clean and unclean meats - Leviticus chapter 11 and Acts 15:19). They do not realise that those Laws show the way to the physical redemption of the body at the second coming (John 14:15-21).

The Jewish people keep the Old Testament laws, but believe that God has not yet sent His Son to earth, but still await His first coming. Thus, they do not acknowledge the Gospel (New Testament), nor Jesus Christ as God's Son, the Saviour and Redeemer (Matthew 21:42,43).

7.1.2 The Joining Begins

In 1822, John Wroe, a prophet and messenger of God, began preaching the joining of Law and Gospel to bring about the "life of the body" to Israel.

His message in these latter days shows that the time of the second coming is close, and that the people should begin preparing themselves for it.

John Wroe, as an instrument for the Spirit, set about gathering the scattered remnant of Israel. He preached the renewal of the Covenant of the Life of the Body as well as the salvation of the soul (Jeremiah 31:31-33; Hebrews 8:7-13).

The old Laws, then and now, are taught by the light of the Gospel. *“The Commandment is a lamp; and the Law is light”* Proverbs 6:23. And the Lord continues giving and renewing the former Laws by little and little, according to the words of Isaiah, *“For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: for with stammering lips and another tongue (English) will he speak to this people”* Isaiah 28:10,11.

7.2 Why was the Law and Gospel Joined?

To show the way to gather together the people of Israel.

“And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set His hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left...” Isaiah 11:11.

It is worthwhile here to read 2 Peter 1:10-21.

Jude 3 says, *“...ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints”*.

“And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel (ten lost tribes scattered amongst the Gentiles), and gather together the dispersed of Judah (two Jewish tribes) from the four corners of the earth” Isaiah 11:12.

And now the Spirit of Truth (Jerusalem Above, the Holy Ghost), which Jesus said should come is bringing all things to the remembrance of Israel, which are written in the Scriptures, and is opening the seals through understanding (John 14:26; Revelation 6:1-3).

That Spirit is the Comforter (which Jesus promised) because it announces unto man the joyful tidings that his sorrows and woes will terminate shortly, i.e., for those who receive the Testimony and obey the command of His Spirit (Revelation 14:1,4,12).

Therefore the Law and Gospel are joined in the latter days to regather the remnant of Jacob. *“And the remnant of Jacob shall be among the Gentiles in the midst of many people”* Micah 5:8. *“For I have spread you abroad as the four winds of the heaven, saith the Lord”* Zechariah 2:6, that His Laws and Commands might prove who are Israelites and who are not, and prepare a people for the second coming of Jesus Christ.

7.3 How is this Continued Today?

In the Christian Israelite Church.

A book, **‘The Laws of God as Given to the Prophets’**, is read to the members each ‘Law Sunday’. In the Friday evening meeting of the same weekend **‘The Commandment of the Law’** is read.

‘The Commandment of the Law’ is a summary of God’s Plan divided in to time order (dispensations), each dispensation being two thousand years. It follows through the explanation of the Creation of Man, Translation of Enoch, the Flood, etc., up to the future ingathering of Israel and ‘Visitation of the Comforter; Branch of Christ or Spiritual Child; and the Purification of the Mortal Body of the Seed of Israel’, to prepare for Jesus Christ’s reappearance on earth.

On the Sunday morning in the eleventh hour, that is from 10am to 11am, ‘the Laws’ are read to the members. It was the custom in Old Testament times to read aloud the laws to the people.

‘The Laws’ are divided in to 3 sections, each termed a Book. There are twelve laws in Books 1 and 2 and one law in Book 3. The First Book contains general laws, and the other Books contain laws relating to a more dedicated life.

Many of these laws are additional to the Ten Commandments, although most of the Ten Commandments are included, eg, lying, stealing, murder, other gods, etc.

Some of the additional commandments cover such things as circumcision of males, not wearing materials of mixed composition, not eating offal, not eating meats which God has set apart as unclean to Israel, against blasphemy of the Holy Ghost, of tithing, etc., (see Genesis 17:10; Leviticus 19:19; 3:14,15; 20:25; 27:30 and Mark 3:29).

Remember, Jesus said, *“Think not that I am come to destroy the law,... but to fulfil”* Matthew 5:17.

We believe that the understanding of the joining of the Law and Gospel, and its message, is a special gift given by God. Those who receive this understanding experience a special joy as they seek to live a life patterned on their Saviour, Jesus Christ.

John Wroe was an instrument of God, chosen to proclaim the joining of the Law and Gospel to the people living in the latter days. Had any of the churches existing in his time been found who accepted the responsibility of joining the Law and Gospel, there would have been no need for a new Church, the Christian Israelite Church, to have been established.

PART 8
Salvation and Redemption

Summary

In God’s Kingdom that will be established there will be many different orders of beings, or as Jesus said, “*many mansions*”.

A comparison is used to explain these different orders by St. Paul in 1 Corinthians 15, where he speaks of the glory of the sun, the moon and the stars. The degree of brightness of light is a comparison of the relative glory in the new Kingdom.

Three basic glories apply to three basic groups as follows:

1	The immortal condition of preservation of spirit and soul and body without death.
2	The first resurrection glory - which non-believers will receive after having been separated from God during the millennium; which will apply to those who believe in this life - the house becomes a house for the spirit to dwell in.
3	The final resurrection glory - which non-believers will receive after having been separated from God during the Millennium.

The saving of the soul and spirit is known as the “*common salvation*”, for it is the salvation common to all through the Love and Grace of God, and is obtained through the sacrifice of Jesus and belief in God.

The requirement for the preserving of spirit, soul and body, referred to as ‘redemption’ is belief in God, coupled with obedience to His Laws and Commands. The glory of immortality (the glory of the sun) is promised to a remnant of the seed of the lost tribes of Israel, and thus lineal descent (known by God alone) plays a part in establishing the identity of the 144,000 who will receive this Glory.

8.1 Differing Glories

Jesus spoke of “*many mansions*” in Heaven, and by this we believe He was referring to the different Glories in the New World after His Second Coming (1 Corinthians 15:50; Luke 24:39; John 14:1-3). At His Second Coming there will be changes made to every person alive or who has ever lived (1 Corinthians 15:52,53).

Those fully preserved until His coming will have had their blood cleansed during the time of preparation, so they no longer will be overcome by the attraction of Satan. They will instantly change from mortal to immortal at His appearance (1 Corinthians 15:51-57; 2 Corinthians 5:4, 8:23)

Then the first resurrection will take place. All souls will appear before the judgment seat of God. The souls of those people who have repented before death, their own spirits will enter into them, raising them to life, and they will enjoy eternal life as spiritual beings in the Kingdom of Heaven. They will be higher than they were in the pre-physical creation, because each will now have a soul as a celestial body for the spirit to dwell in.

Those souls that are found unrepentant at judgment will then suffer what is termed the second death; for they are returned to the grave until the final resurrection. The second death is not connected with the natural body (which is already lost), but acts upon the soul, causing its second separation from its spirit until the end of the Millennium, “*the soul that sinneth it shall die*”, or in other words, suffer further separation.

No souls will be destroyed. God could do this, but it is not His intention to do so (Ezekiel 18:20; Matthew 10:28; Revelation chapter 20).

When St. Paul in 1 Corinthians 15:35-38 explains these changes, or states of being, he likens them to the glories of the sun, moon and stars, “... *the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another*”. Note verse 23, “...*but every man in his own order*”.

Briefly these states are outlined below.

8.2 The Redeemed

The Redeemed will be physical Christian Israel - a remnant of the twelve tribes (Revelation 7:3,4). One hundred and forty four thousand people are to be preserved fully (spirit, soul and body) and be changed into immortal beings at His Second Coming (1 Corinthians 15:51). Their own spirits and God’s two Immortal Spirits enter into their bodies to become their life. The life of blood is swallowed up by the Spirit. “*Flesh and blood cannot inherit the Kingdom of God*” 1 Corinthians 15:50, but we know that “*flesh and bones*” does (Luke 24:39).

8.3 The 'Common Salvation'

The 'Common Salvation' is the glory received by those who have died, and whose souls are raised to life in the resurrection (1 Peter 1:3-10). There are two groupings:

- a) **The Repentant or Righteous** - those who accepted Jesus' sacrifice before they died will be raised at the first resurrection (*"the dead in Christ shall rise first"*).

Included in this group are all the people who died before Jesus came, and who had endeavoured to follow God's instructions (Ephesians 4:8; 1 Peter 3:19,20). As Jesus Christ had not come, they could not be expected to believe specifically in His Sacrifice. These people will be with God as the Millennium commences and enjoy eternal life with Him (Mark 10:30) as spirit and soul (celestial) beings. *"Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation (salvation of the soul), it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith (redemption of spirit, soul and body) which was once delivered unto the saints"* Jude 3.

- b) **The Unrepentant or Unrighteous** - the people who have died unbelieving and who are judged at the first resurrection as such, will be separated from God during the one thousand years of the Millennium, that is, returned to the grave. They will not be raised again until the second, or final resurrection. This is referred to as being *"cast into hell"* as they will suffer torment because they will be aware of God and good, but unable to be with Him.

Eventually they will acknowledge Jesus Christ in accordance with Romans 14:11 and Isaiah 45:23, *"That unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear"*.

Finally, these people will have their inheritance among the celestial beings, but will not be among the inheritors of physical immortality (terrestrial beings). They will be as the distant stars in the heavens.

The 'common salvation' is referred to as such (Revelation 5:11 and Mark 10:30) because it is a salvation common to all mankind, regardless of colour, race or creed. It is given by Love and Grace from God, and obtained through belief in Him. It is the 'saving' of the soul from the power of Satan.

8.4 Redemption - Terrestrial Glory

The first state outlined above, known as the Redeemed (Revelation 7:4; 14:1-5) requires further explanation.

Those that receive this glory need not only to believe, but to be totally obedient to all God's Laws and Commandments (John 14:15). As well, they must be of the seed of the twelve tribes of Israel (with identities known to God).

Thus there are three requirements to be fulfilled. Full redemption, which means not experiencing physical death, i.e., preserving of spirit, soul and body at the second coming, is made possible by the following:

1. The gift of Grace offered by God through Jesus (the Son), accepted by belief in Him, His Sacrifice, and His Resurrection, which saves the soul (Ephesians 2:8; Acts 8:20; Romans 10:9,10). *“Even so in Christ shall all (ie., the souls of all who have physically died) be made alive”* 1 Corinthians 15:22.
2. The gift of Spiritual Power to keep God's Law which is offered through the 'Other Comforter' (the Holy Ghost), also referred to as *“Jerusalem Above”* and *“the Mother of us all”*, accompanied in operation by the Heavenly Father (Christ) the Masculine Power, hence a duo-unit - *“The Spirit (Christ) and the Bride (the Holy Ghost) say, Come”* Revelation 22:17.
3. The gift of permanent life of the body (when cleansed from evil and sin), which is as an inheritance, given by God Almighty, and is especially promised through Abraham and his seed (Genesis 17:1-8 [the land also refers to the physical body]; Ezekiel 18:31,32; Romans 8:28-31.

8.5 Who Will Receive Full Redemption?

Although the elect remnant of Israel is known only to God, those aspiring to couple both Law and Gospel together in these latter days would be contending heirs to the promise of full redemption (read Matthew 5:17,19).

Why would anyone want to endeavour to fulfil all God's requirements? People surely would reject the necessity to obey the Mosaic Laws of the Old Testament if they did not have a special hope of the life of the physical body at the second coming (Revelations 14:1,4,12)!

“If ye were Abraham's children ye would do the works of Abraham” John 8:39.

“And one shall say, I am the Lord's (Christians), and another shall call himself by the name of Jacob (Jews); and another shall subscribe with his hand unto the Lord, and surname himself by the name of Israel (Christian Israel)” Isaiah 44:5. Read also Psalm 78:5-8.

The gift of immortal life (without death) is inherited (given by God) and redeems the body; the power to keep His Law and Gospel joined is given through Christ and the Other Comforter. The gift of Grace, offered through

faith in Jesus, saves the soul.

So God will show His complete Power over Satan through Redemption and Salvation (1 Corinthians 15:54-58; Hosea 13:14).

At that time, the ultimate victory of God over Satan will be seen in the redeemed, glorified physical bodies of His Elect, the one hundred and forty four thousand - the remnant of the twelve tribes of Israel, and the ultimate purpose of the physical creation will be fulfilled when they receive their hope - immortality - **the Life of the Body.**

EPILOGUE

This book has presented an outline of some of the teachings of the Christian Israelite Church. However, it should be emphasised again that membership of the Church is more than just acceptance of certain teachings.

The joint names, Christian and Israelite, means that the Church embraces the teachings of the Christian (New Testament) and the Israelite (Old Testament), or teachings commonly thought of as being Jewish.

When a person signs to the faith of our Church, they are required to state that they believe that the four Books of Moses in the Old Testament and the four Gospels in the New Testament were given by the inspiration of God. This means that that person believes that God created the earth, all living things, Adam and Eve, etc., that evil and sin entered the world through Adam and Eve, but that God allowed a way of repentance through sacrifice.

The new member is required to believe that Jesus is God's Son, who lived a life of example to others, teaching a way to love. Jesus died for our sins, as a sacrifice for all mankind, and through His Sacrifice all can have forgiveness of sin.

In joining the Christian Israelite Church, one expresses a desire to be led by the same Spirit that influenced Jesus, to conquer the power of death and the grave.

A brief introduction to the laws observed by members is presented in Part 7 in the section called '**How is this Continued Today?**'

CONCLUSION

BIBLE CROSS REFERENCE			
OLD TESTAMENT			
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For further information literature will gladly be supplied without obligation on application to the following addresses.

All enquiries are welcome.

Web Site: www.cichurch.asn.au

Email: cichurch@cichurch.asn.au

AUSTRALIA

Melbourne

Church: 193 Fitzroy Street,
Fitzroy Victoria 3065
Ph: 61 (3) 9416 0807

Sydney

Church: 196 Campbell Street,
Darlinghurst NSW 2010
Ph: 61 (2) 9331 5625

If you would like to visit one of our Churches they are located at the following addresses:

AUSTRALIA

Melbourne

Church: 193 Fitzroy Street,
Fitzroy Victoria 3065
Ph: 61 (3) 9416 0807

Terrigal

Church: Cnr Terrigal Drive &
Serpentine Rd,
Terrigal NSW 2260

Sydney

Church: 196 Campbell Street,
Darlinghurst NSW 2010
Ph: 61 (2) 9331 5625

Windsor

Church: 340 Macquarie Street,
Sth Windsor NSW 2750
61 (2) 4577 2190

Singleton

Church: Cnr Bishopgate Street &
Goulburn Street,
Singleton NSW 2330
Ph: 61 (2) 6571 1269

